

**The Burke Library Archives, Columbia University Libraries,  
Union Theological Seminary, New York**

**Missionary Research Library Archives: Section 3**

**Finding Aid for**

**Hervey DeWitt Griswold Papers, 1893 – 1941**



Passport Application, February 4, 1919, page 2; Credit to: National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), Washington D.C.; Emergency Passport Applications, Argentina thru Venezuela, 1906-1925; ARC Identifier 1244183 / MLR Number A1 544; Box #4665; Volume #3.

Finding Aid prepared by: Brigette C. Kamsler, December 2011  
With financial support from the Henry Luce Foundation

**Summary Information**

Creator: Hervey DeWitt Griswold, 1860 – 1945  
Title: Hervey DeWitt Griswold Papers  
Inclusive dates: 1893 – 1941  
Bulk dates: 1897 – 1925  
Abstract: Presbyterian missionary in Lahore, Punjab, India (now Pakistan) for thirty-six years, 1890 - 1926. Collection includes Griswold's diaries, sermons, published essays, council notes, prayer books and Bible studies.  
Size: 2 boxes, 1.00 linear foot  
Storage: Onsite storage  
Repository: The Burke Library  
Union Theological Seminary  
3041 Broadway  
New York, NY 10027  
Email: [burkearchives@library.columbia.edu](mailto:burkearchives@library.columbia.edu)

### Administrative Information

- Provenance:** Originally part of the independent Missionary Research Library, these records were received by Union Theological Seminary librarian Robert F. Beach and MRL archivist Laura Person in 1961 from Hervey DeWitt Griswold's daughter, Mrs. Frances Griswold Ballantine. In 1976 the records were accessioned to the Burke Library archives with the closure of the MRL.
- Access:** Archival papers are available to registered readers for consultation by appointment only. Please contact archives staff by email to [burkearchives@library.columbia.edu](mailto:burkearchives@library.columbia.edu), or by postal mail to The Burke Library address on page 1, as far in advance as possible. Burke Library staff is available for inquiries or to request a consultation on archival or special collections research.
- Access Restrictions:** The collection is unrestricted to readers. Certain materials, however, are in a fragile condition, and this may necessitate restriction in handling and copying.
- Preferred Citation:** Item description, MRL 3: Hervey DeWitt Griswold Papers, series #, box #, and folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

### Biography

Hervey DeWitt Griswold was born May 24, 1860 in Dryden, New York to Benjamin and Laura Eliza (Hurd) Griswold. He attended Union College in Schenectady, New York 1881 – 1885, and then attended Union Theological Seminary in New York City 1885 – 1888. For the next two years, he had a fellowship at Oxford and Berlin Universities. Griswold began his service for the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church in India 1890 as a local missionary in Jhansi. That same year, he also married Frances S. Sheldon. Together they would have three children: Laura Katharine; Arthur Sheldon; and Frances Louise.

In 1894, Griswold became Professor of Philosophy at Forman Christian College in Lahore, India, also teaching History and English. Griswold built the Foreman Christian College Library as its Librarian, adding greatly to the selection of books on philosophy and religion. He served as secretary of the India Council of the Presbyterian Missions. Griswold continued his own education, earning a PhD from Cornell University in 1900 with his thesis on Indian Philosophy, *Brahman*. He obtained his Doctor of Divinity in 1910. Griswold was a prolific writer, penning a number of pamphlets and other literary works throughout his life.

Griswold retired from missionary work in India in 1926 and died May 11, 1945.

### Collection Scope and Content Note

The collection is organized in three series:

- **Series 1: Notebooks, 1893 – 1925 (2 boxes, 0.75 lin. ft.)**

This series contains the personal handwritten notebooks by Griswold arranged in chronological order. The notebooks function as diaries where they discuss the everyday thoughts of Griswold.

There are also books that Griswold called “studies” which focus on one passage and expound upon its meaning. The final type of notebook is the prayer books, also handwritten. These books are dated and include what Griswold was thankful for or prayed about on a specific day.

- **Series 2: Correspondence, 1925 – 1941 (1 box, 0.125 lin. ft.)**

Within this series is correspondence between various people in India, and Griswold. Mr. Ray H. Carter was of the Presbyterian Mission in Lahore, India writing to Griswold in Philadelphia. Daniel J. Fleming was writing from Union Theological Seminary in New York to the Griswold's in Bridgeport, Connecticut. Other letters from Reverend E. Morris Wherry and Union graduate C. H. Mattison are also included. Mattison included a copy of a letter to a Dr. Beattie imploring for financial support. The final letter is from Sir Manohar Lal, finance minister of the Punjab Province in India.

- **Series 3: Sermons and Essays, 1897 – 1925 (1 box, 0.125 lin. ft.)**

Within this series are two essays and four published sermons written and delivered by Griswold.

### Processing

Metal clips and staples were removed from materials and folded items were flattened. Materials were placed in new acid-free folders and boxes. Acidic items were separated from one another by interleaving with acid-free paper as needed. Notebooks were wrapped in acid-free tissue and tied with acid-free cotton tying tape.

An inventory was compiled by Paul A. Byrnes, Spring 1977. The full finding aid was created with an updated inventory by Brigette C. Kamsler, December 2011.

### Further Sources

Many of Griswold's published works are available for research, including *India Awakening*, 1912; *Catechism on Christian Giving*, 1912; and *India, After the War, in India*, 1919.

Cornell University Library's Division of Rare and Manuscript Collections have a Griswold Collection which includes Dr. Griswold's "Autobiographical Notes, prepared for his descendants" (247 pp., 1938-40); two printed copies of Griswold's studies of Hinduism; five typed or printed items pertaining to his career as a missionary at Forman Christian College, Lahore, India (now Pakistan); pamphlet "Sketches of My Indian Childhood" by Frances Griswold Wooddell (116 pp.,

n.d.); genealogical pamphlet on the Griswold family of Dryden, New York; and typescript poems by Hervey De Witt Griswold (28 pp.). The guide can be located here:  
<http://resolver.library.cornell.edu/cgi-bin/EADresolver?id=RMM02124>.

Griswold's daughter, Frances Griswold Ballantine, transcribed his diaries from his time at Union College, 1881 – 1885. More information on this biography can be found on their website:  
<http://www.union.edu/library/about/departments/archives/index.php>.

## Contents list

### Series 1: Notebooks, 1893 – 1925

Series	Box	Folder	Contents
1	1	1	Diary, December 2, 1893 – October 29, 1894 [f.7]
1	1	2	Diary, Lahore Conference, January 1896 Diary, September 24, 1922 – December 13, 1922 [f.12]
1	1	3	Bible Study, Psalms, 1897 [f.2]
1	1	4	Notes on Bible Studies [1897? – 1898?] [f.1]
1	1	5	Studies in Mark [1898?] Studies in 1 Samuel [1898?] Studies in 2 Samuel, August 19, 1898 Studies in 1 Kings, September 10, 1898 Studies in 2 Kings, October 1, 1898 Studies in 1 Chronicles, 1898 [f.3]
1	1	6	Studies in 1 Chronicles, November 1898 – January 3, 1899 [f.4]
1	1	7	Diary and Gospel Studies, 1902 – 1903 [f.8]
1	1	8	Prayer Book, November 11, 1903 – January 22, 1906 [f.5]
1	1	9	Bibles Studies and Diary, 1905 – 1909 [f.9]
1	1	10	Prayer Book and Diary, January 25, 1906 – May 24, 1910 [f.6]
1	1	11	Account Book, 1911 – 1929 [f.20]
1	1	12	Diary and Prayer Book, 1915 – 1916 [f.10]
1	1	13	Diary and Prayer Book, January 17, 1917 – January 30, 1917 [f.11]
1	1	14	India [Missionary] Council Notes, January 13, 1923 – February 3, 1923
1	1	15	India [Missionary] Council Notes, March 6, 1923 – April 18, 1923
1	2	1	India [Missionary] Council Notes, May 1923 – October 1923 [f.15]
1	2	2	Account Book, September 17, 1923 – May 25, 1924 [f.21]
1	2	3	Diary and Council Notes, March 1924 [f.16]
1	2	4	Diary and Council Notes, September 15, 1924 – December 28, 1924 [f.17]
1	2	5	Diary and Notes, December 31, 1924 – September 1, 1925 [f.18]
1	2	6	Notes, February 1925 [f.19]

### Series 2: Correspondence, 1925 – 1941

2	2	7	Ray H. Carter to H. D. Griswold, Philadelphia, PA, December 30, 1925 Ray H. Carter to H. D. Griswold, Philadelphia, PA, March 14, 1926 Ray H. Carter to H. D. Griswold, Philadelphia, PA, July 29, 1926 Ray H. Carter to H. D. Griswold, [Philadelphia?], September 1 [1926?]
2	2	8	Daniel J. Fleming to Mrs. Griswold, New York, NY, July 9, 1926 Daniel J. Fleming to H. D. Griswold, New York, NY, October 21, 1927 Daniel J. Fleming to H. D. Griswold, New York, NY, November 9, 1927
2	2	9	E. Morris Wherry to H. D. Griswold, Cincinnati, Ohio, March 16, 1926 E. Morris Wherry to H. D. Griswold, Richmond, Ill, July 4, 1926 E. Morris Wherry to H. D. Griswold, Cincinnati, Ohio, May 21, 1927

**Series 2: Correspondence (Cont'd)**

Series	Box	Folder	Contents
2	2	10	C. H. Mattison to H. D. Griswold, Tanakpur, India, October 7, 1938 C. H. Mattison to Dr. Beattie Tanakpur, India, September 29, 1938
2	2	11	Sir Manohar Lal to H. D. Griswold, Lahore, India, November 6, 1941; Enclosure: newspaper clipping, Sir Manohar Lal, <i>Civil and Military Gazette</i> , Lahore, India, January 19, 1941

**Series 3: Sermons and Essays, 1897 – 1925**

3	2	12	<i>The Dayanandi Interpretation of the Word "Deva" in the Rig Veda</i> , by H. D. Griswold, Lodiana, 1897, 23p. [2 copies] <i>Repentance as Illustrated from the Old Testament Psalms and from the Varuna Hymns of the Rig Veda</i> , by H.D. Griswold, Madras, 1919, 15p.
3	2	13	Sermons, by H.D.Griswold, Landour, 1925, 39p
3	2	14	Biographical Material and Donation Information