

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

Missionary Research Library Archives: Section 8

Finding Aid for

**George Heber Jones Papers, 1898 – 1918**



Credit to: MRL 6: Isaac Taylor Headland Papers, box 1, folder 15-16,  
The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

Finding Aid prepared by: Aram Bae Summer 2007

Reviewed and Updated by Brigette C. Kamsler, August 2014 with financial support from the  
Henry Luce Foundation

**Summary Information**

Creator: George Heber Jones, 1867-1919  
Title: George Heber Jones Papers  
Inclusive dates: 1898 – 1918  
Bulk dates: 1914 – 1918  
Abstract: Methodist pioneer missionary to Korea, superintendent of the Methodist Episcopal Mission Board, member of the Board of Translators of the Bible, editor of the *Korean Repository* and *Sin-hak Wol-po*, and president of the Bible Institute of Korea and Theological Seminary of the Methodist Church. Correspondence, lectures, outlines, seminar notes, news clippings and annotated chapters from his books.  
Size: 2 boxes, 1.00 linear feet  
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:** The papers were deposited in the Missionary Research Library on December 22, 1920 and were moved with the MRL to the Brown Memorial Tower of Union Theological Seminary in 1929. In 1976 the records were accessioned to the Burke Library archives with the closure of the MRL as an independent institution. In May 2004, box 2 was noted missing. It was removed from the finding aid descriptions in 2014.
- 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 8: George Heber Jones Papers, box #, folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

### Biography

Rev. Dr. George Heber Jones, a Methodist pioneer missionary to Korea, was born in Mohawk, NY on Aug 14, 1867. In 1887 the Methodist Episcopal Mission Board appointed him to Korea, where he was connected with Pai Chai High School and College. In 1892 he graduated from the American University in Harriman, TN and then moved to Chemulpo, where he was stationed for the next ten years. In May 1893 he married Margaret Josephine Bengel.

Jones served as superintendent of the M. E. Mission Board for two terms (1897-1899; 1907-1909). Proficient in Korean and member of the Board of Translators of the Bible, he held a number of positions including editor of *Korean Repository*, founder and editor of *Sin-hak Wol-po*, a theological review, and vice-president of the Korea Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society. He played a major role in efforts to encourage the first wave of Korean immigration to Hawaii in 1903. Returning to the U.S. in 1903, he worked as one of the secretaries of the Mission Board, and in 1905 lectured on missions at Morningside College in Iowa. In 1907 Jones returned to Korea and became president of the Bible Institute of Korea and Theological Seminary of the Methodist Church. He returned permanently to the U.S. in 1911 and worked as the editorial secretary for the M.E. mission board and secretary of the Foreign Missions Conference of North America.

After his retirement from the mission field, Jones taught missions at De Pauw University (1911) and Boston School of Theology (1915-1918). He published in Korean a volume of Old Testament studies, a short history of the Christian Church, a hymnbook and a Korean-English dictionary. His works in English include: *Korea, the Land, People and Customs* (1907), *The Korea Mission of the Methodist Episcopal Church* (1910), *Christian medical work in Korea* (1910?) and *Christianity and World Democracy* (1918). Jones died after a long illness on May 11, 1919 in Miami, Florida.

### Collection Scope and Content Note

The papers of George Heber Jones was originally comprised of three boxes which included typed manuscripts, chapter excerpts from his published books, lecture outlines and notes, syllabi, correspondences with M.E. Mission Board members, journal articles, book reviews, newspaper clippings, and one sermon. Most items are typed, some are handwritten. There is a substantial collection of resources and reference materials for his published work *Christianity and World Democracy*.

The collection retains original item numbering from the Missionary Research Library and the numbers are retained thus ( ) in the Finding Aid.

Box two has been noted as missing since May 2004. As part of the update and review of the collection in 2014, box 2 has been removed from the finding aid. What was box 3 has been relabeled.

- **Box 1: Lectures, 1914 – [1918?] (0.50 lin. ft.)**

This box contains full lecture notes on several topics including “The Rise of the Church in Korea,” *Christianity and World Democracy*, fundamental factors in missions, and the missionary and his relationships. Outlines of lectures, syllabi, complete lecture series, and chapter excerpts from his books are included in this box. Almost all items in this collection are typed manuscripts, including several with handwritten editing notes, dating 1914 – 1918.

- **Box 2: Correspondence and World Democracy Papers, 1898 – 1918 (0.50 lin. ft.)**

Within this box there is one sermon and more than twenty pieces of correspondence, including communication with M.C. Harris, Robert E. Spear, Marie Corner, Reverend Benjamin Chappell, members of the M.E. Mission board, and the Clerk of the United States Senate. Two folders contain general items: one regarding the Trans-Siberian route, including pamphlets and news clippings and the other on Korean culture and progress, including articles from the *Seoul Press* (1908 – 1911). The last twelve folders consist of resource and reference materials for *Christianity and World Democracy*, including syllabus, outlines, and chapter themes, as well as journal and book reviews for research purposes of the proposed book.

### 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. Any items in an advanced state of deterioration were placed in Mylar envelopes. Copies of news clippings were made and are preserved with the originals.

In 2004, box 2 containing item numbers 7-52 was reported missing. In 2014, the collection was updated and reprocessed as part of the Henry Luce Foundation Grant. At this time, box 3 became box 2. The folder numbers otherwise remain the same.

**Further Sources**

The Burke Library offers many other sources related to the topics and people in this collection. Examples are the Robert Speer Papers, the Foreign Missions Conference of North America Records, and other collections in MRL8: Korea. For further information, please see the [Burke Library Archives website](#).

## Contents list

Box	Folder	Contents
1	1	8 Chapters of <i>The Rise of the Church in Korea</i> , [1914?], tps with ms annotations, 159p (1)
1	2	Outline of lectures [program], <i>The Rise of the Church in Korea</i> , [1914?], tps, 5p (2)
1	3-4	13 Lectures, <i>Christianity and World Democracy: Studies in the Social and Political Trend of World Life</i> , [1918?], 179p (3)
1	5	8 Chapters of <i>Fundamental Factors in Missions</i> , 117p (4)
1	6-7	13 Lectures on The Missionary and His Relationships, [1915?] 162p (5)
1	8	Lectures 6-10 on missions (6)
2	1	Sermon: "Christianity Will Win," Isa 11:10, [19??], ms, 14p (53)
2	2	Correspondence: J. Hooksey to G. H.J., Bab Saadoun, Tunis, Jul 22, 1913 (54) G.H.J. to Brother Foote (unfinished), Algiers, Jul 25, 1913 (55) G.H.J. to Ezra S. Tipple, Lectures on <i>The Rise of the Church in Korea</i> , New York City, Sep 29, 1914 (56) Rev. W. Arthur Noble to G.H.J., Seoul, Nov 4, 1914 (57) G.H.J. to Bishop M.C. Harris & W.A. Noble, New York City, Dec 30, 1914 (58) H.F. Laflamme to G.H.J., Rochester, N.Y, Feb 20, 1915 (59) G.H.J. to Robert E. Speer, New York City, Jun 6, 1917 (60) George Davis to G.H.J., Peking, Dec 16, 1918 (61)
2	3	Fred B. Fisher to G.H.J., New York City, Jan 5, 1917 (62) Marie Corner to G.H.J., Hingham, MA, Apr 16, 1917 (63) Marie Corner to G.H.J., May 3, 1917 (64) G.H.J. to Marie Corner, New York City, May 9, 1917 (65) G.H.J. to The Clerk (Senate of the U.S), New York City, Jun 28, 1917 (66) J.M. Baker to G.H.J., Washington, D.C., Jun 29, 1917 (67) Springfield Republican to M. Corner, Springfield, MA, Jun 28, 1917 (68) Benjamin Chappell to G.H.J., Hartford, CT., Jan 25, 1918 (69) G.H.J. to B. Chappell, New York City, Jan 26, 1918 (70) B. Chappell to G.H.J., Hartford, CT, Jan 28, 1918 (71) G.H.J. to B. Chappell, New York City, Jan 29, 1918 (72) B. Chappell to G.H.J., Hartford, CT, Feb 15, 1918 (73) William H. Teeter to G.H.J., May 16, 1918 (74)
2	4	E.M. Cable to "Friends," Seoul, Feb 3, 1915 (75) Frank H. Smith to "Home Folks," Seoul, Dec 13, 1916 (76)
2	5	Papers documenting Trans-Siberian route, "Seoul to London via Siberia" from <i>Seoul Press</i> , <i>Overland via the Trans-Siberian Railway</i> pamphlet, Lecture notes on Russia, Dec 20, 1908 - Jul 11, 1909; Feb 15, 1916 (77)
2	6	General news clippings re: trade reports, imperial journeys, and Korean progress from <i>Seoul Press</i> , Dec 27, 1908 – Nov 29, 1911 (78)

**Contents list (Cont'd)**

Box	Folder	Contents
2	7	<p><i>World Democracy</i> papers:</p> <p>Notes on Conference re: proposed book on <i>World Democracy</i>, Richards Villa, Jun 24, 1916, 1p (79);</p> <p>Syllabus for <i>World Democracy</i>, [1917?], 21p (80);</p> <p>Outline of <i>Christianity and World Democracy</i>, [1918?], 6p (81);</p> <p>Outline of Lectures, <i>Missions and the Rise of World Democracy</i>, [1918?], 5p (82)</p> <p>Chapter themes of <i>World Democracy</i>, [1918?], 18p (83)</p>
2	8-18	<p>Research materials for <i>World Democracy</i>, journal and book reviews, 1898-1917 (84)</p>