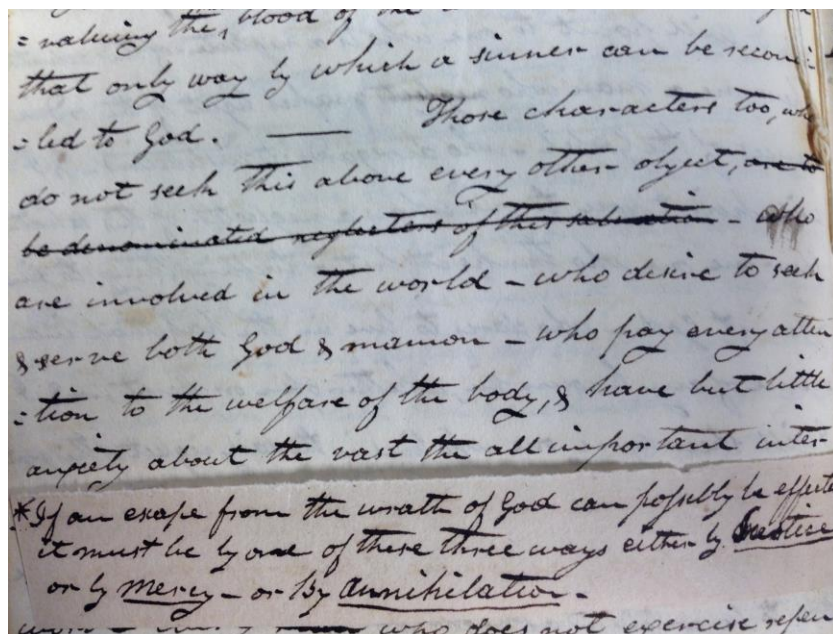


The Burke Library Archives, Columbia University Libraries,
Union Theological Seminary, New York

Union Theological Seminary Archives 1

Finding Aid for

John Rogers Coe Papers, 1820-1823



UTS1: John Rogers Coe Papers, box 1, and folder 1,
The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York

Finding Aid prepared by: Brigette C. Kamsler and Alex W. Black, June 2015
With financial support from the Henry Luce Foundation

Summary Information

Creator: John Rogers Coe, 1800-1823
Title: John Rogers Coe Papers
Dates: 1820-1823
Abstract: Presbyterian missionary, pastor from Whitehall, New York. Son of the Reverend Jonas Coe (1759-1822) of Troy, New York. Collection contains sermons and Biblical scholarship.
Size: 1 box, 0.50 linear feet
Storage: Onsite storage
Repository: The Burke Library
Union Theological Seminary
3041 Broadway
New York, NY 10027
Email: burkearchives@library.columbia.edu

Administrative Information

- Provenance: Presented to the Union Theological Seminary Library on March 7, 1935 by his great nephew, Professor William Adams Brown, D.D.
- Access: Archival papers are available to registered readers for consultation by appointment only. Please contact archives staff by email to 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, UTS1: Jonas Coe Papers, box #, and folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

Biography

John Rogers Coe was born on January 17, 1800 to Jonas Coe (1759-1782) and Elizabeth Hunting Miller (1788-1805) at Troy, New York. Jonas served as pastor of Troy's First Presbyterian Church for three decades. John was his parents' second child to survive infancy, coming after Edward Morris (1796-1828) and before Eliza Maria (1803-1890).

After receiving his A.B. at Union College in 1816, he went on to earn his S.T.B. at the Princeton Theological Seminary in 1820. He was licensed as a preacher by the Presbytery of Troy that same year. Following his service as a missionary, Coe was appointed pastor in Whitehall, New York in July 1822.

He died, unmarried, on September 30, 1823. In his *Annals of the American Pulpit*, the clergyman and biographer William B. Sprague wrote that Coe "inherited many of his father's excellent qualities, and many fond hopes were blasted by his early death."

Source: Sprague, William B. *Annals of the American Pulpit*. New York: Robert Carter & Brothers, 1858.

Collection Scope and Content Note

This collection contains more than 50 handwritten sermons that Coe delivered over the course of his short career. In addition to regular sermons, at least two were composed for a special occasion: one for a child's funeral, another for a Christmas service.

The sermons as a whole are remarkable for the extensive revisions they underwent. Many have new readings written in between lines, in the margins, or on strips of paper that have been sewn into place. Nine of the pamphlets contain small sheets of paper that outline the text of the sermon itself. Other writings include a small notebook of copied out Biblical texts with added commentary ("Text Book") and a 74 page essay (*Critica Sacra*), structured as a series of

questions and answers, on the subject of textual criticism of the Bible, which it defines as “all that learning which is employed in attempting to ascertain the genuine text of the O[ld]. & N[ew]. Testaments.”

Processing

Items that were tied into bundles were separated and filed according to number or date. All materials were placed in new, acid-free folders and boxes.

Further Sources

The Burke Library also houses the [Jonas Coe Papers](#).

The New-York Historical Society holds the [Coe-Brown Family Papers](#), which include a journal of John’s missionary tour.

Contents list

Series	Box	Folder	Contents
			Sermons and Other Writings
1	1	1	Numbered: 1-3, 5, 7, 9-20
1	1	2	Numbered: 20-34
1	1	3	Numbered: 35-38, 40-41, 44, 47-49
1	1	4	Dated: 1820: Aug. 20 1821: Dec. 6 1822: Aug., Aug. 22, Aug. 23, Sep. 8, Oct. 6, Nov. 17, Nov. 24, Dec. 8, Dec. 15, Dec. 22, Dec. 25 1823: Jan. 5, Jan. 19, Mar. 9, Mar. 16, Mar. 30, May 25, Jun. 8, Jun. 22, Jul. 6, Jul. 13 6 Undated Sermons "Text Book"
1	1	5	<i>Critica Sacra, or Biblical Criticism.</i> Mar. 29, 1819