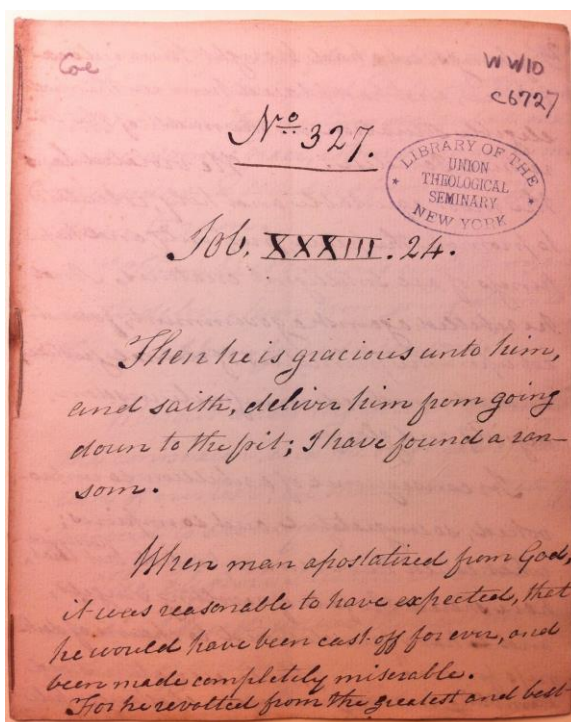


The Burke Library Archives, Columbia University Libraries,  
Union Theological Seminary, New York

Union Theological Seminary Archives 1

Finding Aid for

Jonas Coe Papers, 1786 – 1822



UTS1: Jonas Coe Papers, box 7, and folder 7, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

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

### Summary Information

Creator: Jonas Coe, 1759-1822  
Title: Jonas Coe Papers  
Inclusive dates: 1786-1822  
Bulk dates: 1791-1822  
Abstract: Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Troy, New York. Collection contains sermons and manuscripts.  
Size: 7 boxes, 3.50 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: Presented to the Union Theological Seminary Library March 7, 1935 by his great grandson, 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](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, UTS1: Jonas Coe Papers, box #, and folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

**Biography**

Jonas Coe was born on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 1759 in Haverstraw, Orange County, New York, to John Coe (1719-1782) and Hannah Halstead (1722-1804). John Coe was a Presbyterian Church Elder and civil servant; he served as Orange County's Delegate at the Provincial Congress in 1775 and Orange County Assemblyman to New York.

Jonas Coe was a Revolutionary War Veteran and was the pastor of the First Presbyterian Church of Troy, New York for nearly thirty years. He attended Rutgers College and received his A.B. in 1789, became a licensed Presbyterian Minister in 1791, and graduated with his A.M. in 1792. The Presbyterian Church of Troy, formally organized in 1791, chose Jonas Coe to be its first pastor in 1792. He was ordained in the first church meeting house there and served as pastor until his death in 1822.

In 1794, Jonas Coe married Elizabeth Hunting Miller. They had four children before Elizabeth's death in 1805: Burnett M. Coe (1795, died in infancy), Edward Morris Coe (1796-1828), John Rogers Coe (1800-1823), whose papers are held as the John R. Coe Papers in the archives of Union Theological Seminary at the Burke Library, and Eliza Maria Coe (1803-d. unknown). Eliza Maria Coe would marry James Brown (1791-1877), a great banker and generous donor to Union Theological Seminary, in 1831. Their son John Crosby Brown (1838-1909) would have many connections to Union; he would join Union's Board of Directors in 1866, his father-in-law William Adams was a professor and became president of Union Theological Seminary in 1873, and his son William Adams Brown became a well-known and beloved professor who became involved with many outreach ministries and political projects in his years on the faculty.

Jonas Coe wed his second wife, Abigail Wallace (1771 – d. unknown), in 1810.

Jonas Coe died in 1822.

### Collection Scope and Content Note

This series includes Jonas Coe's professional papers related to his study and pastoral leadership of the First Presbyterian Church of Troy, New York from 1792-1822. Boxes 1-6 contain his numbered sermons. These sermons are numbered by sequence, but the file is far from complete.

Apart from the original numbering system, a number were taken out years ago and presented to the First Presbyterian Church of Troy, New York. A group of sermons originally housed separately from the main numbered sermons is labeled "other" and contains both numbered and numbered sermons.

Box 7 contains other numbered and unnumbered sermons and some of Jonas Coe's professional documents—including addresses on particular occasions as well as form speeches for occasions such as ordinations and excommunications—and also one personal place-book dated 1786.

### Processing

This collection has been handled by many people over the years. 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. In 2015, it was updated as part of the Henry Luce Foundation grant. At this time, materials were placed in new acid-free folders and boxes.

### Further Sources

The Burke Library has a copy of the *Annals of the American Pulpit* of William B. Sprague, which contains a brief biography of Jonas Coe along with reprinted letters about Jonas Coe by the Hon. John Woodworth; the Rev. Eliphalet Nott, D.D.; Thomas W. Blatchford, M.D.; and the Rev. Mark Tucker, D.D. The record [can be viewed here](#).

There is a painting of Jonas Coe at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Massachusetts, which [can be viewed online here](#).

The Columbia University Libraries also possess archival materials related to Jonas Coe. The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary holds the letters of John M'Donald addressed "to the Friends of Religion" in its Union Rare Pamphlets (Non-Circulating) division. The record [can be viewed here](#). Also of interest are the sermons of Jonas Coe's son, John Rodgers Coe, also a Presbyterian minister, held at the Burke Library Archives. The record [can be viewed here](#).

Additionally, Butler Library holds microforms of some letters between Jonas Coe and John M'Donald. The record [can be viewed here](#). Butler also has an address on Calvinism by Benjamin Gorton along with a letter from him to Jonas Coe in microform. The record [can be viewed here](#). Additionally, Butler has a sermon delivered by Jonas Coe at the installation of the Reverend Samuel Tomb in 1806 in microform. The record [can be viewed here](#).

**Contents list**

Series	Box	Folder	Contents
			<b>Sermons</b>
1	1	1	1, 10, 14-16, 18, 58, 89, 108
1	1	2	118, 147-152, 159, 167
1	1	3	168-172, 174, 177, 183-184
1	1	4	185-189, 191, 206, 229, 231
1	1	5	233, 235-236, 238, 243, 245-246, 248, 255
1	1	6	256, 259, 263-264, 276, 279, 282, 289, 298, B, C
1	1	7	321, 326, 328-331, 332, 334-335
1	2	1	336-337, 339-342, 344-347
1	2	2	348-359
1	2	3	360-361, 364-370, 374, 377, 380
1	2	4	381-384, 386-392
1	2	5	393, 395-396, 398-399, 401-403, 408-411
1	2	6	412-421
1	3	1	422, 423, 425-428
1	3	2	437-444, 446-449
1	3	3	451, 453-454, 456-460, 462-465
1	3	4	466-472, 474-478
1	3	5	480-481, 483-484, 487-494
1	3	6	495, 497-499, 501-502, 504, 506-508
1	4	1	509, 511, 514, 517-521, 523-526
1	4	2	527, 529, 532-533, 535-536, 540, 542, 544-547
1	4	3	548-552, 554-560
1	4	4	561, 563, 565, 567-570, 572-576
1	4	5	577-579, 581-584, 587, 588, 591
1	4	6	592-593, 597, 599-605, 608-609
1	5	1	610, 611, 614, 616-624
1	5	2	626, 629, 630-631, 634, 636-642
1	5	3	643-650, 652-653, 657-658
1	5	4	659-660, 662-669, 671-672
1	5	5	673-676, 678-683
1	5	6	684-686, 688-689, 691, 693, 694-696
1	6	1	697-703, 708-709
1	6	2	711-716, 718, 720-722
1	6	3	724, 727-728, 730, 732-737
1	6	4	738-741, 743-746
1	6	5	747-749, 751-752, 754-756, 758-759
1	6	6	760-767

Series	Box	Folder	Contents
			<b>Manuscripts: Special Sermons</b>
1	7	1	Orientation and installation of a minister-notes of persons, places, dates, 1816-1818 Ordination of church officers- notes on places and dates, 1818-1821 Installation of Mr. Nathaniel Prime, July 14, 1813, Cambridge
1	7	2	Address on sacred music delivered at a concert, Feb. 8, 1820, Troy Address to Sagana missionaries, Oct. 17, 1821 Address on sacred psalmody. Concert, July 11, 1821, Troy
1	7	3	Excommunication Notes in book titled, "Theological School" with some unbound/inserted manuscript note sheets
1	7	4	Exegesis Adversaria, or a Common Place Book, Dec. 10, 1789 Place Book, June 24, 1786
1	7	5	Contents of different chapters in Old Testament (2 v.)
1	7	6	Introduction to expounding the New Testament, June 2, 1793, with four sermons
1	7	7	Other numbered sermons 325, 327
1	7	8	Other numbered sermons 5, 13, 14, 21, 38, 51, 88 (2 copies), 95, 107, 108, 113, 136, 167, 214, 236, 247, 253, 270, 277, 295, 307, 363, 374, 404, 418, 421, 423, 444, 433, 435, 473, 476, 486, 487, 496, 505, 511, 506
1	7	9	Other sermons, unnumbered