

**The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary,
Columbia University in the City of New York**

Union Theological Seminary Archives 1

Finding Aid for

Edwards Amasa Park Lectures, [184?]-1868



Portrait of Edwards Amasa Park, undated. Credit: *Hymntime* [online].

Finding Aid prepared by: Rebecca Nieto, January 2018
With financial support from the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation

Summary Information

Creator: Edwards Amasa Park, 1808-1900
Title: Edwards Amasa Park Lectures, [184?]-1868
Inclusive dates: [184?]-1900
Bulk dates: 1866-1868
Abstract: American Congregationalist minister, Brown University Class of 1826; professor of doctrinal theology and sacred rhetoric, Andover Theological Seminary. Materials consist of lectures given by Park at Andover between 1866 and 1868, with three additional bound volumes outlining Park's lectures circa 1846. Materials transcribed by Henry Stimson and presented to W.W. Rockwell, April 1941.
Size: 1 box, 0.5 linear feet
Storage: Onsite storage
Repository: The Burke Library
Union Theological Seminary
3041 Broadway
New York, NY 10027
Email: burkespecial@library.columbia.edu

Administrative Information

- Provenance:** The Edwards Amasa Park Papers were among a large group of unprocessed archival material that was organized with the support of the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundations. The bound volumes holding these lectures were acquired by the Burke following their receipt by Union professor William Walker Rockwell in 1941.
- Access:** Archival papers are available to registered readers for consultation by appointment only. Please contact archives staff by email to burkespecial@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. Bound volumes are extremely fragile with some rust, which necessitate gloves and care when handling.
- Preferred Citation:** UTS1: Edwards Amasa Park Lectures, [184?]-1868, series #, box #, and folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

Biography

Edwards Amasa Park was an American congregational theologian. He was born on December 29, 1808 in Providence, Rhode Island, the son of Congregational minister Calvin Park. Park attended Brown University (where his father was a professor), graduating in 1826. He entered Andover Theological Seminary after Brown, graduating in 1831. In the early 1830s Park preached throughout Massachusetts, notably with pastor R.S. Storrs of the Congregational Church in Braintree, Massachusetts, from 1831 to 1833.

Following his coursework, Park was a professor at Amherst College from 1836 to 1847, serving initially as professor of of mental and moral philosophy, then Bartlett Professor of Sacred Rhetoric. Concurrently, Park began teaching at Andover as professor of sacred rhetoric and Christian Theology, positions he held from 1847 to 1881.

Due to his popularity in this role, Park was promoted as chair of systematic theology at Andover, a position he occupied until 1881. Of Park's tenure at Andover, Frank Hugh Foster wrote, "Andover Seminary was in those days the chief seminary of the Congregational churches, and Professor Park made the New England Theology of which he was a consummate master and the greatest representative, the dominant school of thought in the Congregationalism of his time". A rigorous teacher in systematic theology, Park published amply, including, following a European tour and encounter with Professor B.B. Edwards, the *Bibliotheca Sacra*, over which Park would serve as editor for forty years beginning in 1852.

Other of Park's published writings include:

Memoirs of friends and theologians including Samuel Hopkins (Boston, 1852), Nathaniel Emmons (Boston, 1861)

The Sabbath Hymn Book (in connection wwith Prof Austin Phelps and Lowell Mason, NY 1858)

The Atonement

Discourses and Treatises etc. with an Introductory Essay (1860)

Discourses on some theological doctrines as related to the religious character (Andover, 1885)

Park retired in 1881, remaining in Andover until his death in 1900.

Collection Scope and Content Note

The Park Lectures consist of bound manuscript lectures delivered at Andover Theological Seminary from 1867 to 1868. These lectures were transcribed by clergyman and Union Theological Seminary student Henry Albert Stimson (whose [class notebook](#) is also held in the Burke Archives), bound and presented to W.W. Rockwell in Andover, Massachusetts on October 16, 1867.

Book 3 handwritten note reads: *A handwritten note on the first leaf of Book 3 reads: "Delivered at the Andover Theological Seminary in Andover, Massachusetts by the eloquent and dominant professor of Christian Theology, 1847-1881, the Rev. Dr. Edwards Amasa Park, DD LLD (1808-1900) – Professor Park never published his lectures on systematic theology, so these lecture notes are significant. See also Frank Hugh Foster (1851-1935), A Genetic History of the New England Theology (1907) and his Life of Edwards Amasa Park (New York, 1936) (Feb 29, 1868)*

Book 1 handwritten note reads: *The Continuation of Notes on Professor Henry Boynton Smiths lectures at UTS (1866-1867), also Notes on Professor Edward Amasa Park's lectures at Andover Theological Seminary 1867-1868 (book 1). The rest of this set of lectures by Prof. Park are contained in two additional volumes of Stimson's notebooks (presented to W.W. Rockwell on May 8, 1921)*

Also included are three bound volumes of outlines of lectures given on theology by Professor Park, each volume comprising approximately 225 handwritten pages.

Insert in vol. 1 reads: *As far as p.102 of volume 1, these are copies of notes made by Edmund Kimball Alden of the class of 1848 in the Andover Theological Seminary. They represent Park's thoughts at the commencement of his career as professor of Christian theology. Dr. Alden was one of Dr. Park's staunchest supporters and a leader in the fight against Park's successors. The rest of the notes were taken (see vol. 1 p. 102) by Zephaniah Moore Humphrey (1824-1881) of the class of 1849 in Andover TS. The entire three volumes are in Humphrey's handwriting. W.W. Rockwell April 19, 1941.*

Processing

Materials were rehoused in acid-free folders and archival document boxes. Rusty paperclips were removed and replaced with plastic clips.

Further Sources

"Park, Edwards Amasa". entry in *The New Schaff-Herzog Encyclopedia of Religious Knowledge*, volume 8. Ed. Samuel Macauley Jackson. 1810. eBook also available [here](#).

Foster, Frank Hugh. *The life of Edwards Amasa Park*, (S.T.D., LL.D., Abbott Professor, Andover Theological Seminary). 1936. Citation and full text viewable online at [Hathi Trust Digital Library](#).

Contents list

Series	Box	Folder	Contents
1	1	1	Notes on Henry Boynton Smith's Lectures and Notes on E.A. Park's Lectures at Andover Theological Seminary – Book 1, 1866-1868
1	1	2	Andover Theological Seminary Lectures – Book 2, 1867
1	1	3	Lectures on Doctrinal Theology – February 29, 1868
1	1	4-6	Outlines of Lectures on Theology by Professor Park – volumes 1-3 [184?]