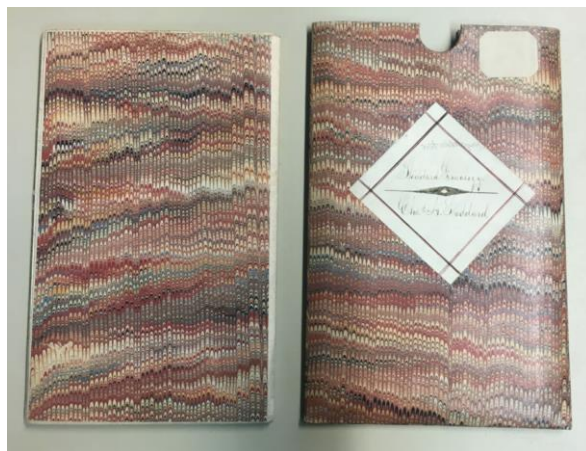


**The Burke Library Archives, Columbia University Libraries,
Union Theological Seminary, New York**

Union Theological Seminary Archives 1

Finding Aid for

Charles Augustus Stoddard, 1854-1916



Credit: UTS1: Charles Augustus Stoddard Papers, 1854-1916, box 1, folder 7, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

Finding Aid prepared by: Rebecca Nieto, June 2016

With financial support from the Henry Luce Foundation and the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation

Summary Information

Creator: Charles Augustus Stoddard Papers, 1833-1920
Title: Charles Augustus Stoddard Papers, 1854-1916
Inclusive dates: 1833-1920
Bulk dates: 1854-1894
Abstract: Presbyterian clergyman, editor, and writer. Newspaper clippings and religious service bulletins, sermons and prayers, professional correspondence, genealogical materials including family trees and photographs, personal correspondence, a journal and diary.
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 provenance of this collection is unknown. It was part of a large group of unprocessed material that was organized in 2015 during an archival processing project funded by the Henry Luce Foundation and the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation.
- Access:** Archival papers are available to registered readers for consultation by appointment only. Please contact archives staff by email at burkespecial@library.columbia.edu, or by postal mail to the Burke Library's address on the first page of this finding aid, as far in advance as possible. [Burke library staff](#) are available for inquiries or to request appointments to conduct archival or special collections research.
- Access Restrictions:** The collection is unrestricted to readers. Certain materials, however, are fragile and this may necessitate care or restrictions in handling and copying.
- Preferred Citation:** UTS1: Charles Augustus Stoddard Papers, 1854-1916, box #, folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

Biography

Charles Augustus Stoddard was born in Boston, Massachusetts on May 28, 1833 to parents Charles and Mary Noble (nee Porter) Stoddard. He was educated at Williams College in 1854 and went on to pursue divinity studies, at first at the University of Edinburgh and the Free Church of Scotland Theological Seminary before completing his graduate work at Union Theological Seminary in 1859. He was ordained in the Presbyterian ministry and installed at Washington Heights Presbyterian Church in New York later that year, where he would remain until 1883. Also in 1859, Stoddard married Mary Elizabeth Prime, the daughter of Reverend Samuel Irenaeus Prime, whose affiliation with the *New York Observer* would aid Stoddard in joining the editorial staff of the paper, eventually becoming editor-in-chief and publisher in 1873. Charles Augustus and Mary traveled extensively together, and had two children, Charles Prime Leslie in 1861, and a daughter Ethel born in 1864.

Stoddard's spent most of his life in New York City, but his career and personal life allowed him to travel extensively, inspiring a number of books recounting his journeys alone, with his wife, and others, notably *Beyond the Rockies: A Spring Journey in California*, a travel piece recounting Stoddard's train travel through burgeoning cities and the frontiers of the American West in 1893.

In addition to his extensive editorial work in his lifetime, (his byline was often given simply as "Augustus"), Stoddard wrote a number of travel and commemorative monographs, including:

- Across Russia, from the Baltic to the Danube* (1891)
- Spanish Cities* (1892)
- Beyond the Rockies: A Spring Journey in California* (1894)
- The Centennial Celebration of Williams College* (ed., 1894)
- Cruising Among the Caribees* (1895)

His papers assembled here gesture both toward Stoddard's religious work through sermons, writings, and clippings, as well as his non-ecumenical affiliations, including tenures as Director of the American Seamen's Friend Society (based in New York), a tenure as Director and Vice-President of the then-named New York Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb, member of the American Oriental Society, and President of the Williams Alumni Association. Additional genealogical and biographical materials reflect Stoddard's interests in personal genealogy through his father's side.

In 1857, Stoddard was retroactively conferred with an A.M. from Williams College, as well as a D.D. in 1871. Charles Augustus Stoddard died in New York City on June 3, 1920.

Collection Scope and Content Note

The Stoddard papers consist of 0.5 linear feet of textual and some photographic materials. Materials consist generously of clippings from the late 19th-early 20th century, mostly regarding Stoddard's colleagues in the New York ecumenical community, some clippings of President Lincoln's fast day declarations in the 1860s, obituaries, and religious notices. Also included are a number of handwritten and typescript sermons given in institutional and recreational settings on subjects such as charity, reflections on faith following the Civil War, fasting, the state of Jews in New York at the turn of the century, forgiveness, and death. Also of interest are three bound and one loose sermon, all unattributed and deriving from the 18th century, and interfiled among Stoddard's papers.

Other materials include family trees, correspondence with community and family members, and other materials relating to Stoddard genealogy dating back to the family's arrival in Massachusetts from England in 1630; annotated Presbyterian bulletins and service programs; correspondence and bulletins relating to the Seamen's Friend Society and the *Observer*, sermons given as part of his activities with the New York Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb, photographs of Stoddard family ancestors, a bound typescript biography of Stoddard's paternal grandfather, family trees and genealogical materials, a bound notebook and Stoddard's personal diary.

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.

Further Sources

Additional readings relating to Stoddard's life and his first-person accounts of traveling in California can be found in the Library of Congress' American Memory Project, found here: [http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/h?ammem/calbkbib:@field\(NUMBER+@od1\(calbk+016\)\)](http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/query/h?ammem/calbkbib:@field(NUMBER+@od1(calbk+016)))

"Charles Augustus Stoddard". In Appleton's *Cyclopaedia of American Biography, Volume 7*. New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1901.

Contents List

Box	Folder	Contents
1	1	Newspaper Clippings, 1910
1	2	Fast Day and Antebellum Sermons, 1861-1865
1	3	Sermons and New York Observer Materials, 1867-1916
1	4	Sermons and Correspondence, 1892-[1903]
1	5	Unattributed Sermon, [18 th c.]
1	6	Biography of Arthur Francis Stoddard, 1910
1	7	Stoddard Genealogy – Correspondence, Photographs, and Family Trees, 1854-[1914]
1	8	Diary, 1855
1	9	Journal, 1854-1857