Irah Chase Papers

This is the original finding aid that was prepared by Andover Newton Theological School library staff prior to the collection’s transfer to the Yale Divinity School Library in 2017.

The Chase papers are now Record Group 296 at the Yale Divinity School Library. The finding aid available at http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/divinity.296 should be used to retrieve materials for use. This original finding aid is made available in order to provide additional detail about the collection.

If you have questions, please contact the Yale Divinity Library at divinity.library@yale.edu
TITLE OF COLLECTION:
Irah Chase Papers

DONOR:
See collections file for information on gift of Margaret Chase Perry, 1989.

LINEAR SHELF FEET: 2

LOCATION:
c.s.
Mss.
1986-18
Biography

Irah Chase was born in Stratton, Vermont, in 1793, and spent his childhood in that state. He graduated from Middlebury College in 1814, and from Andover Theological Seminary in 1817. After a year of service as a missionary in Virginia, he became associated with a Baptist ministerial training school in Philadelphia. Chase continued his association with that school when, in 1822, it was transferred to Washington, DC, as the theological department of Columbian College (now Georgetown University). In 1825 he moved to Massachusetts to inaugurate the course of study at Newton Theological Institution. At Newton he taught Biblical theology (1825-1838) and church history (1838-1845). After 1845 he engaged in literary work, and published several tracts and articles for religious periodicals. He died in Newton in 1864.

Scope and Content

The Irah Chase Papers, 1814-1864, primarily document the professional work of Chase. The collection is arranged according to the following categories: correspondence, sermons, addresses, lectures, unpublished literary manuscripts, publications, student lecture notes from Andover Theological Seminary, notes on readings, notes on sermons, miscellaneous papers and unidentified committee reports.

Included in the correspondence are several letters which relate to early Baptist educational work in general and to the ministerial training school in Philadelphia and Washington in particular. The sermon notes were transcribed during his student days at Andover, and provide a record of chapel sermons not available elsewhere. The miscellaneous papers primarily relate to Baptist educational work in the early 19th century.

In addition, there is a small number of items related to Cummings family genealogy, collected by William Leverett Cummings, a descendant of Henry Savage Chase, son of Irah and Harriet Savage.
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>IC to my dear sister; from Philadelphia</td>
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<td>1839</td>
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Correspondence (cont.)

1844
Jun 20 Rev. Dr. Dagg to IC; from Mercer University

1848
Nov 24 IC to dear sir; from Boston

1853
Oct 5 Charles Sumner to IC; from Boston

1855
Mar 10 IC to Brother Henry

1856
May 5 W. B. Hackett to IC; from Newton Centre

1858
Aug 27 IC to Rev. Dr. Wood; from Boston

1860
Jan 30 IC to Rev. Dr. Huntington; from Newton Centre

1861
Apr 15 IC to Rev. James Chrystal; from Newton Centre
Apr 30 IC to Rev. and dear sir; from Newton Centre

1864
May 4 IC to son; from Newton Centre
Jun 9 IC to Rev. Dr. Hansel; from Newton Centre

Sermons
Undated (arranged by biblical text)

Genesis 12:7
Numbers 32:23
1 Samuel 3:10
1 Chronicles 16:25
2 Chronicles 32:25
Proverbs 1:10, 1:17, 6:6, 13:15, 14:32, 22:6, 28:1, 28:26, 29:1, 30:8
Ecclesiastes 7:2, 7:14, 9:10, 12:13
Isaiah 11:31, 40:31 (2)
Jeremiah 3:4, 29:13
Ezekiel 3:18, 33:11
Mark 6:12 (2), 8:2, 16:15
Sermons
Undated (cont.)
John 3:7, 5:39, 7:37, 8:36, 10:11, 16:9, 21:22
Acts 7:59-60, 24:25, 26:25
Romans 1:11, 1:19-20, 2:11, 3:25, 6:3, 6:23, 8:14, 14:12 (2), 15:29
1 Corinthians 7:29-31, 11:26, 14:20
2 Corinthians 10:4
Ephesians 6:4
Philippians 2:21
Colossians 3:12 (3)
1 Thessalonians 5:8, 5:19, 5:25
1 Timothy 1:15
2 Timothy 1:7, 3:15
Box 2
Hebrews 3:7-8, 4:1, 10:10, 10:24-25, 12:11 (2)
James 1:3, 4:8
1 Peter 2:7, 4:6 (3)
2 Peter 2:19 (2)
1 John 3:12
Revelation 2:4, 2:10, 2:17, 22:17

1818
Jan 4 Psalm 90:12

1822
Sep 15 Psalm 100
Dec 8 no text given

1825
Dec 28 Matthew 16:26

1828
Sep 17 Matthew 28

1840
Thanksgiving Psalm 65:11

1846
n.d. Psalm 90:12

Addresses
Undated

Untitled (6)
Communion meditation
Address to graduating class
Farewell to colleagues [Columbian College]
How a theological student is to prosecute his studies
Addresses (cont.)

1830
Sep 9 Address to a class by the Senior Professor at the anniversary

Charges
Undated (3)

1821
May 13 to Jonathan Price, on his designation as a missionary to Burma

1834
Apr 30 to Isaac M. Willmarth

1839
May 26 at the installation of Rev. Mr. Nott
Dec 8 at the ordination of Rev. Prof. Hackett

Lectures (arranged by subject)

Bible
Untitled/on the beast in the book of Revelation
On the authority of the scriptures (13 lectures)
Malachi "about 410 years before Christ"

Theology
Untitled/on Christ as an example
Articles of Christian doctrine
Doctrines
Summary of Christian doctrines

Church History
Untitled/general lecture

Miscellaneous
On the history of the pulpit, as it is to be derived from the choice of subjects for sermons

Lecture Notes
Theology (21 folders)
[Box 3 begins folder 6 of Theology lecture notes]
Church history (3 folders)
Unpublished Literary Manuscripts

Essays

Untitled (4)
Acts 8:37
The acts of Pilate
The announcement which Jesus made of himself as the Messiah
Articles of Christian doctrine
Baptismal tracts for the times
The canons of the apostles
Dr. Hackett's revision of the Epistle to Philemon
Editorial comment (2)
The meaning of Irenaeus
The miracles of Christ
Remarks on the personality and divinity of the holy ghost
The savior's prospective arrangements

Box 4

Drafts of Publications

Book
Infant Baptism an Invention of Men; or Dr. Bushnell's Arguments Reviewed. Philadelphia: American Baptist Publication Society, 1863. [Incomplete manuscript, missing most of section 2 on "The testimony of Origen respecting the baptism of infants."

Articles (periodical source unknown)
incomplete fragments (2 folders)
The baptism of Basil the Great: was it in his infancy?
Basil the Great, an important witness respecting baptism in the fourth century
Dr. Robinson and Dr. Ripley
Faith and works
The meaning of Irenaeus in the phrase, "regenerated unto God"
Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar
Neander
The new reformation in Germany
Our duty, in view of man's increasing dominion over nature
Principles of exposition
Punishment in the future state (2)
[Review of] A commentary on the epistle to the Hebrews by Moses Stuart
Review of Fuller on Communion
The spirit of the Mohammedan religions perceptible pre-eminently in the traditions
Tholuck
Unfounded claims to spiritual illuminations (3 drafts)
A voice from the second century
Who is awake?
Student Lecture Notes
(notes taken while Chase was a student at Andover Theological Seminary)

- incomplete fragments (1 folder)
- untitled (2)
- Psalm 49
- Hints on public prayer
- The resurrection

Subjects in theology

Booklet/November 24, 1814-October 16, 1816:
  Leonard Woods' lectures on theology

Booklet/January 3-February 7, 1815:
  Prefaces to the gospels, The doctrine of accommodation,
  Syllabus of Quintilian on the human voice

Booklet/November 14, 1815:
  Dick on Inspiration of the holy scriptures
  2nd year--Dr. Woods' department

Booklet/November 20, 1815:
  The immutability of God

Box 5
Notes on Readings (12 folders)
(folder 1 includes list of books by subject)

Notes on Sermons

1816
Dec 27  Matthew 18:24 (Holbrook)
Dec 31  Ecclesiastes 20:5 (Parkhurst)

1817
n.d.     Hosea 13:9 (Aiken)
n.d.     Psalm 122:1 (Fitch)
n.d.     Luke 17 (Wilson)
n.d.     Romans 12:1 (Prof. Stuart)
Jan 3    Amos 4:12 (Hooks)
Jan 7    Malachi 3:6 (Taylor)
Jan 10   Matthew 5:16 (Wright)
Jan 12   Luke 22:19 (Prof. Stuart)
Jan 13   Romans 7:12 (Parkhurst)
Jan 17   Psalm 73:28 (Parsons)
Jan 21   Hebrews 7:25 (Calhoun)
Feb 16   Luke 13:3 (Stratton)
Feb 24   1 Peter 4:18 (Dr. Woods)
Jun n.d. 1 Timothy 2:8 (Rockwood)
Jun 18   Ezekiel 33:11 (Taylor)
Jun 20   Hebrews 12:15 (Emerson)
Notes on Sermons
1817 (cont.)
 Jul 4 Psalm 80:14 (Parsons)
 Jul 6 Acts 20:24 (Hawes)
 Jul 8 John 5:22 (Wilcox)
 Jul 11 John 17:17 (Parkhurst)
 Jul 20 James 1:13 (Dr. Woods)
 Jul 25 John 15:22 (Harris)
 Jul 29 Hebrews 2:8 (Aiken)
 Aug n.d. Ezekiel 33:11 (Stratton)
 Aug 3 Acts 13:39 (Mr. Chaplin at Danvers)
 Aug 10 Luke 14:22 (Mr. Emerson)
 Aug 12 John 17:24 (Ely)
 Aug 15 Mark 6:12 (Emerson)
 Sep 5 Ezekiel 33:11 (Holbrook)
 Sep 7 no text (Prof. Stuart)
 Sep 9 Jeremiah 17:9 (Ely)
 Sep 29 1 Thessalonians 5:22 (Wilson)

Miscellaneous Notes (8 folders)

Miscellaneous Papers (3 folders)
Untitled, on theological education
Plan of a theological institution to be connected with Brown
University. Recommended by the trustees of the
Education Societies of the Warren and Boston
Associations, Sept. 1817.
Institution for pious young men called to the gospel
ministry, Aug. 10, 1818 (incomplete)
A brief statement of what occurred in the Philadelphia
Association, on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 6th and 7th
of Oct. 1818, relative to the First Baptist Church in
Philadelphia
Circular letter: The elders and messengers of the Fairfield
Baptist Association, convened at Milton, on the 25th
and 26th days of August, AD 1819, to the churches which
they represent
Newton Theological Institution--Report on semi-annual
examination, no date
Newton Theological Institution--Response to statements in
the Watchman and Reflector on Dr. Hackett's absence
Committee reports:
[On religious tracts]
[On missions]
[On missions to the Indians]
[On a memorial of Dr. Chapin]
[Report to the trustees of Newton Theological
Institution on the subject of a preparatory
department] (incomplete)
[Report to the executive committee of the Missionary
Union on Gammel's History of the American Baptist
Missions], April 21, 1849
Miscellaneous Papers (continued)

On the Book of Job (booklet in German script)

Publications on Life of Irah Chase


IN MEMORIUM, TRIBUTE OF AFFECTION TO THE MEMORY OF PROFESSOR IRAH CHASE. Boston: Geo. C. Rand & Avery, Printers, 1865.


Chase Family Papers

Cummings family genealogy - William Leverett Cummings descended from Henry Savage Chase, son of Irah and Harriet Savage


Box 6
Photographs of the Middle East
Box 7
Correspondence and writings 1834-1836
Correspondence 1838-1843
Correspondence 1847
Correspondence 1854-1858
Published writings:

Bunsen's View of Baptism 1853

The Design of Baptism Viewed in Its Relation to Christian Life 1851

Handwritten notes
Manuscripts, letters to editors
Manuscript: The Life of Bunyan
Manuscript: The Prayers for Infants in the Apostolical Constitutions