

UTS: John Rogers Coe Papers, 1820-1823 4492439

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Summary Information

Repository:	Burke Library Archives, Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary
Title:	UTS: John Rogers Coe Papers, 1820-1823
ID:	4492439
Date [inclusive]:	1820-1823
Physical Description:	0.50 Linear Feet 1 manuscript box
Physical Location:	Onsite storage The Burke Library Union Theological Seminary 3041 Broadway New York, NY 10027
Language of the Material:	English
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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.

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.

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Biographical / Historical

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.”

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Scope and Contents

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.”

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Arrangement

Material is arranged by the number of the sermon or chronologically.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Burke Library Archives, Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary

Conditions Governing Access

Archival papers are available to registered readers for consultation by appointment only.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Presented to the Union Theological Seminary Library on March 7, 1935 by his great nephew, Professor William Adams Brown, D.D.

Processing Information

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.

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Related Materials

Related Materials

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.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Sermons, English--United States

Collection Inventory

Series I: Sermons

Title/Description	Instances
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Sermon 1-3, 5, 7, 9-20, 1820-1823	box 1	folder 1
Sermons 20-34, 1820-1823	Box 1	Folder 2
Sermon 35-38, 40-41, 44, 47-49, 1820-1823	Box 1	Folder 3
Sermons [Dated], 1820-1823	Box 1	Folder 4
Critica Sacra, or Biblical Criticism. Mar. 29, 1819, 1819	Box 1	Folder 5

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