

**American Antiquarian Society  
Manuscript Collections**

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**NAME OF COLLECTION:**

Sermons Collection, 1640-1875

**LOCATION:**

Mss. boxes "S"  
Octavo vols. "S"

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**SIZE OF COLLECTION:**

3 manuscript boxes; 1 octavo volume (238 leaves)

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**SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON COLLECTION:**

For biographical information, see Frederick Lewis Weis, *Colonial Clergy of New England* (Lancaster, Mass.: s.n., 1936).

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**SOURCE OF COLLECTION:**

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**COLLECTION DESCRIPTION:**

The Sermons Collection contains over two hundred sermons and sermon notes, for the period 1640 to 1875, written mainly by Congregational, Episcopal, and Unitarian ministers in New England, New York, and South Carolina. The subjects generally are explications of specific scriptural passages with occasional sermons devoted to public fasts and historic events, such as the expedition of Gen. William Pepperrell (1696-1759) in 1745, and the death of Connecticut Governor Gurdon Saltonstall (1666-1724). There are also religious essays (e.g., "The Mystery of Godliness" and "Marks of Growth in Grace" (undated), and "On politics ..." written in 1735).

Of special interest is a sermon written in the Mohawk language by an unidentified French priest of the Catholic mission near Quebec, Canada, in 1810, as well as a sermon fragment pertaining to the rights of American colonists, ca. 1770. There is also an octavo volume, kept by an unidentified minister, entitled "Treatises on the Attributes of God." Many of the sermons in this collection were written by notable clergymen, including Mathew Henry (1662-1714), Timothy Edwards (1669-1758), Edward Bass (1726-1803), first Episcopal Bishop of Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island, Jonas Clarke (1730-1805), and Samuel Langdon (1722/23-1797), president of Harvard College.

See Contents List.

12 September 1977  
revised 4 March 1982  
revised 5 March 2010

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Sermons Collection, 1640-1875  
Contents List

The sermons in boxes one, two, and the first eight folders of three are arranged alphabetically by author.

Box	Folder	Author	Place	Date(s)
1	1	Amos Adams (1728-1775)	Roxbury (Mass.)	1765
1	53	Thomas Allen (1743-1810)	Pittsfield (Mass.)	1773
1	1a	Jonathan Ashley (1712-1780)	Deerfield (Mass)	1739-1767
1	2	Joseph Avery (1751-1824)	Holden (Mass.)	1813
1	3	Joseph Bartlett (1762-1827)	Harvard College Chapel	1782
1	4	Edward Bass (1726-1803)	Newburyport (Mass.)	1755-1800
1	5	Joseph Baxter (1676-1827)	Medfield (Mass.)	1727
1	6	Joseph Bean (1716-1784)	Wrentham (Mass.)	1771
1	7	Jacob Bigelow (1742/3-1816)	Sudbury (Mass.)	1774
1	8	Thomas Brockway (1744/5-1807)	Columbia (Conn.)	1780
1	9	Thomas Browne (1773-1797)	Marshfield (Mass.); Strowdwater (Me.)	1772; 1775; 1789
1	10	Joseph Buckminster (1751-1812)	Portsmouth (N.H.)	1784-1793
1	11	Jedediah Bushnell (1767-1846)	Cornwall (Vt.)	1808; 1817; 1825
1	12	Samuel Checkley (1696-1769)	Boston (Mass.)	1744
1	13	John Chandler (1723-1762)	Billerica (Mass.)	1749/50; 1753-1759; 1763
1	14	Reuben Chapin (1778-1834)	Paxton (Mass.)	ca. 1807
1	15	George Thomas Chapman ( - )	Pittsfield (Mass.)	1839; 1845
1	15b	Supply Clap (1771-1747)	Woburn (Mass.) [now Burlington]	1741 Nov 15
1	16	Jonas Clarke (1730-1802)	Lexington (Mass.)	1763
1	17	Benjamin Conklin (1732-1798)	Leicester (Mass.)	1774
1	18	Job Cushing (1694-1760)	Shrewsbury (Mass.)	1733
1	19	John Cushing (1744-1823)	Ashburnham (Mass.)	1789; 1790; 1812
1	20	Samuel Deane (1733-1814)	Portland (Me.)	1765; 1770
1	21	John Devotion (1730-1802)	Saybrook (Conn.)	1769
1	22	Samuel Dexter (1700-1755)	Dedham (Mass.)	1742
1	23	Edward Dorr (1722-1772)	Hartford (Conn.)	1753
1	24	Elijah Dunbar (1773-1850)	Peterborough (N.H.)	1816
1	25	Samuel Dunbar (1704-1783)	Stoughton (Mass.)	1772-1773
1	26	Joseph Eckley (1750-1811)	Old South Church (Boston, Mass.)	1779-1795
1	27	Timothy Edwards (1669-1758)	E. Windsor (Conn.)	1749
1	28	Edward Ellington (fl. 1767-1793)	Beaufort (S.C.)	ca. 1772
1	29	John Elliott (1768-1824)	E. Guilford (Conn.)	ca. 1800
Box	Folder	Author	Place	Date(s)
1	30	Joseph Emerson (1700-1767)	Malden (Mass.)	undated
1	31	Nathaniel Emmons (1745-1840)	Franklin (Mass.) [Wrentham]	1819
1	32	Jesse Fisher (1778-1837)	Scotland (Conn.)	1826
1	33	Francis Gardner (1735/6-1814)	Leominster (Mass.)	1796; 1811
1	34	Joseph Grafton (1757-1836)	Newton (Mass.)	1793-1797
1	35	Zachariah Greene ( - )	Setauket, Hempstead, L.I. (N.Y.)	1842-1848
1	36	Cyrus Pitt Grosvenor (1792-1879)	Holden (Mass.)	1822

1	37	Aaron Hall (1751-1814)	Keene (N.H.)	1792
1	38	David Hall (1704-1789)	Yarmouth (Mass.); Barnstable (Mass.); Sutton (Mass.)	1727-1729
1	39	Mathew Henry (1662-1714)	Chester, England	1687-1712
1	40	John Healy Heywood (1818-1880?)	Unitarian Church (Louisville, Ky.)	ca. 1836
1	41	Abraham Hill (1719-1788)	Shutesbury (Mass.)	1755-1791
1	42	Alonzo Hill (1800-1871)	Unitarian Church (Worcester, Mass.)	c. 1850
1	43	Thomas Hill ( - )	Unitarian Church (Waltham, Mass.)	ca. 1850
1	44	Nathan Holman (1769-1844)	Rhode Island College Chapel	1796
1	45	William Holmes ( - )	no location	undated
1	46	Thomas Holt (1762-1836)	Hardwick (Mass.)	1791
1	47	Elizur Holyoke (1731-1806)	Boxford (Mass.)	1772
1	48	Asahel Hooker (1762-1813)	Goshen (Conn.)	1797-1800
1	49	Nathaniel Hooker, Jr. (1737-1770)	W. Hartford (Conn.)	undated
1	50	Samuel Hopkins (1721-1803)	Newport (R.I.)	1743-1761
1	51	Dr. Hossack ( - )	Johnstown (N.Y.)	1819
1	52	Andrew Judson ( - )	Ashford (Me.)	1787-1800
2	1	Samuel Langdon (1722/3-1797) [written in shorthand]	Portsmouth (N.H.)	1764-1781
2	2	Joseph Lathrop (1731-1820)	W. Springfield (Mass.)	1803
2	3	Nathaniel Lawrence (1766-1843)	Tynsboro (Mass.)	1789-1837
2	4	Amasa Learned (1750-1825)	Killingly (Conn.)	undated
2	5	Andrew Lee (1745-1832)	Lisbon (Conn.)	1780-1784
2	6	Jonathan Livermore (1729-1809)	Walpole (N.H.)	1762; 1770; 1774[?]
2	7	Samuel Lockwood (1721-1791)	Andover (Conn.)	1764-1788
2	8	William Lockwood (1753-1828)	Milford (Mass.)	1784-1796; 1800 [1801?]
2	9	Eliphalet Lyman (1754-1836)	Woodstock (Conn.)	1779-1825
2	10	John McDonald (1770-1828)	Albany (N.Y.)	1809
2	11	John Martyn (1706-1767)	Northborough (Mass.)	1749
2	12	Dr. Mathews ( - )	New York (N.Y.)	1827
2	13	John Mellen (1722/3-1807)	Barnstable (Mass.)	1797-1805
2	14	Henry Messenger (1695-1750)	Wrentham (Mass.)	1741
2	15	Charles W. Morrill ( - )	St. Alban's Church (New York, N.Y.)	1875
2	16	John Nelson (1786-1871)	Leicester (Mass.)	1814 [?]
2	17	Abel Newell (1730-1813)	Goshen (Conn.)	1754-1779
<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Date(s)</b>
2	18	Seth Noble (1743-1807)	Montgomery (Mass.)	1785
2	19	David Osgood (1747-1822)	Medford (Mass.)	1790
2	20	Edward Payson (1763-1827)	Portland (Me.)	1787
2	20	John Payson (1745/6-1804)	Fitchburg (Mass.)	1766
2	20	Phillips Payson (1704/5-1778)	Chelsea (Mass.)	1732
2	21	D. Peabody ( - )	Calvinist Church (Worcester, Mass.)	1836
2	22	James Penn (1727-1800)	Christ Church (Boston, Mass.)	1761
3	9	Samuel Phillips (1691-1771) [?]	Andover (Mass.)	1716
2	23	Reuben Puffer (1756-1829)	Berlin (Mass.)	1814
2	24	Henry Purcell (1742-1802)	St. Michael's Church (Charleston, S.C.)	1788
2	25	Aaron Putnam (1733-1813)	Pomfret (Conn.)	1759; 1762
2	26	Caleb Rice (1712-1759)	Sturbridge (Mass.) [New Medfield]	1736
2	27	Elisha Rockwood (1778-1858)	Westborough (Mass.); Swanzy (N.H.)	1810-1857
2	28	John Rogers (1692-1773)	St. George ([N.Y.?])	1760-1791
2	29	Jonathan Russell (1655-1710/11)	Barnstable (Mass.)	1705
2	30	Archibald Sadlier ( - )	Flushing (N.Y.)	1762

2	31	Ebenezer Sparhawk (1738-1805)	Templeton (Mass.)	1762; 1764
2	32	Samuel Stillman (1737-1807)	First Baptist Church (Boston, Mass.)	1798
2	33	Micah Stone (1770-1852)	Brookfield (Mass.)	1799-1844
2	34	Seth Storer (1702-1774)	Watertown (Mass.)	1737-1771
2	35	Nathaniel Taylor (1722-1800)	New Milford (Conn.)	1759
2	36	William MacKay Tennent (c.1743-1810)	Philadelphia (Pa.)	1773; 1808-1809
2	37	Peter Thacher (1752-1802)	Brattle Street Church (Boston, Mass.)	after 1777
2	38	Ralph (Rudolphus) Thacher (1647-c.1716)	Chilmark, M.V.I. (Mass.)	1690-1710
2	39	Thomas Thacher (1620-1678)	Old South Church (Boston, Mass.)	1672
3	1	William Brigham Wesson (1777-1836)	Hardwick (Mass.)	1795; 1810
3	2	Stephen West (1735-1819)	Stockbridge (Mass.)	1767; 1780
3	3	David White (1710-1784)	Hardwick (Mass.) [Lambstown]	1766
3	4	Samuel Whiting (1633-1712/13)	Billerica (Mass.)	ca. 1663
3	5	George Wallace Whitney ( - )	Beverly (Mass.)	ca. 1870
3	6	Elnathan Wight (1715-1761)	Baptist Church (Bellingham, Mass.)	1750-1761
3	7	John Williams (1664-1729)	Deerfield (Mass.)	undated
3	8	Solomon Williams (1700-1776)	Northampton (Mass.)	1754-1759; 1764; 1769; 1771; 1775; 1776

The sermons in folders nine through twenty-five of box three are arranged by location.

Box	Folder	Place	Miscellaneous
3	9	Andover (Mass.)	sermon; 1716; probably that of Samuel Phillip (1691-1771)
3	10	Arundel (Me.)	sermon; includes fast for Gen. Pepperrell's Expedition, 1745-1856
3	11	Beverly (Mass.); Marblehead (Mass.)	"James 3:13" <u>passim</u> , 1758-1791
3	12	Bolton (Mass.)	"Thess. 9," 1752, 1756, and 1765
3	13	Boston (Mass.)	"On politics . . .," 1735
3	14	Cambridge (Mass.)	"John 14:22-23," 1779-1783
3	15	Charlestown (Mass.)	sermon, 1790
3	16	Chelsea (Mass.)	"Matt. 8:25," 1770-1800
3	17	Eastern River (Me.)	"Mark 10:49," 1775-1776
3	18	Hull (Mass.)	"II Thess. 1:7, 8, 9," 1725 (at Rehoboth[?], 1724)
3	19	Lynn (Mass.)	"Heb. 9:24," 1730
3	20	Middleboro (Mass.)	"the Sum of A Sermon preached by the Rev'd M." based on I John 3:14
3	21	Milford ([Conn.])	"I Corin. 15," 1791 and 1798
3	22	Oxford (Mass.)	"Prov. 27:1," 1732
3	23	Preston (Mass.)	"Hebrews IV:15," 1791-1805
3	24	Rehoboth (Mass.)	fast sermon, 1720
3	25	Waltham (Mass.)	"Proverbs XIV:34," 1798

The sermons in folders twenty-six through sixty-two of box three are arranged chronologically.

Box	Folder	Date	Miscellaneous
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3	26	1640	sermon notes; possibly those of John Pinch (1625- )
3	27	mid-17 <sup>th</sup> cent.	"Notes on Religion" from sermons by Mr. Barnard, Mr. Parris, et al.
3	28	early-18 <sup>th</sup> cent.	"Self-Examination. By Marks of Growth in Grace ..."
3	29	1706	sermons from the Gospels
3	30	1722	"Devotional Collections"
3	31	1723, 1729[?]	"23 Psalm 1 <sup>st</sup> "
3	32	1724	on the death of Rev. Gurdon Saltonstall (1666-1724), late Gov. of Conn.
3	33	1743	"Thanksgiving Sermon ... Victory obtained by English over the French at Battle on the River Mayne in Germany"
3	34	1753	"Judges 10:13," by Crank [?]
3	35	1753-1760	Rev. Matthew Bridge (1721-1775), of Framingham, Mass. [?], 14 sermons
3	36	1755, 1758, 1767	"Job 22:21," "Mark 2:27," "Isaiah 57:20,21"
3	37	1760	Ps. 119:113
		1772	Eph. 4:30
		1780	I Thess. 5:17
			and "Some Observations on works of Lord Bolingbroke by Dr. Leland"
<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Miscellaneous</b>
3	38	1766-1781	"Deut. 9:6"
3	39	1766-1773	sermons on the sacraments, some in shorthand
3	40	1785	"Ezek. 1:16"
3	41	1789-1797	"I Corin. VI:19"
3	42	1790-1811	"Genesis 4:3-5"
3	43	1798	"2 Pet. 1:16"
3	44	1810	Mohawk sermon written in that language by one of the French priests of the Catholic mission near Quebec, Canada
3	44a	1816	on "Matthew 22, 37" in Exeter
3	45	mid-18 <sup>th</sup> cent.	sermons concerning various scriptures
3	46	mid-18 <sup>th</sup> cent.	sermons on "Psalm 73:28"
3	47	late-18 <sup>th</sup> cent.	sermon on "Romans 9:16"
3	48	early-18 <sup>th</sup> cent.	sermon notes on "Mark 1:7"
3	49	early-18 <sup>th</sup> cent.	sermon notes on literary interpretations of various scriptures
3	50	early-19 <sup>th</sup> cent.	"Scripture Topicks"
3	51	mid-18 <sup>th</sup> cent.	religious essay, conservative views
3	52	late-18 <sup>th</sup> cent.	sermon on "The Mystery of Godliness" 1 Tim. 3:16
3	53	mid-18 <sup>th</sup> cent.	sermons on various scriptures
3	54	mid-18 <sup>th</sup> cent.	prayers for various occasions; sermon notes
3	55	mid-18 <sup>th</sup> cent.	sermon on the Holy Sabbath
3	56	early-18 <sup>th</sup> cent.	sermon on a psalm
3	57	early-18 <sup>th</sup> cent.	sermon with sections in code
3	58	early-18 <sup>th</sup> cent.	sermon on "6 Hebrews 1"
3	59	mid-18 <sup>th</sup> cent.	sermon on "3 Romans 14"
3	60	18 <sup>th</sup> cent.	miscellaneous sermon fragments
3	61	mid-18 <sup>th</sup> cent.	scriptural sermon
3	62	late-18 <sup>th</sup> cent.	sermon on "Isaiah 5, 12"