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MS – 230: Young Men’s Christian Association of Pennsylvania College Papers, 1867-1872

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MS – 230: Young Men’s Christian Association of Pennsylvania College Papers, 1867-1872

Description

In 1867, President H. L. Baugher appointed Tutor Henry Eyster Jacobs (Class of 62) to chair a student committee to draw up a constitution for an organization through which students could learn about and support Christian missions. March 16, 1867, the Young Men’s Christian Association of Pennsylvania College was formed with Edward S. Breidenbaugh (Class of 1868) as its first president. With an early membership of 40, the association meet monthly, then quickly moved to weekly programs including prayer meetings, bible study, and lectures. Over the years, they supported the work of the Y. M. C.A. of Pennsylvania, several foreign missions, conducted services in the local poorhouse, held public lectures, and worked for temperance The Y.M.C.A. was the precursor to the Student Christian Association that functioned on this campus until 1965 when it merged with the Chapel Council to become one body.

Chiefly an organization for inquiry concerning missions, the Y. M. C. A. of Pennsylvania College members wrote letters to foreign missionaries requesting details of mission work. Folder 1 contains letters from missionaries in Indian, Japan, Syria, Turkey, and China, as well as a “home missionary” in St. Louis, Missouri. Some respondents wrote of the importance of the work in general and a few wrote details of their personal missionary work.

The rest of the papers contain business correspondence with Executive Committee of the Y.M.C.A. of Pennsylvania and other Y.M.C.A. organizations, as well as letters from local ministers contacted to speak before the group. These records, 1867-1872, are the only extant records of the association until 1946-1965, For those papers, see Record Group 3.4 Office of the Chaplain, Series I: Student Christian Association.

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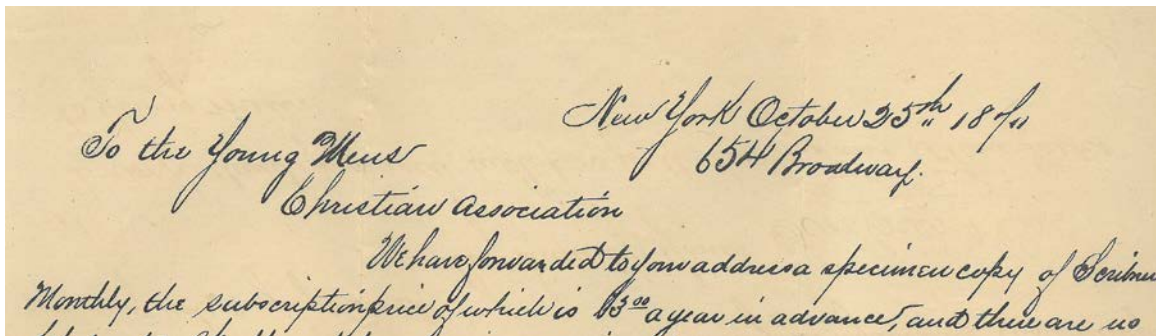
Keywords

Young Men’s Christian Association, Pennsylvania College, 1867-1872, Christian missions, Y.M.C.A.

Disciplines

Christianity | Cultural History | History | Missions and World Christianity | Social History | United States History

**Guide to the
MS-230 Young Men's Christian Association
of Pennsylvania College
Papers, 1867-1872**



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1 box, .25 cu. ft.

Inclusive Dates: 1867-1872

Processed by: Karen Dupell Drickamer, August 2018

Scope and Content Notes:

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Folder 1: Letters from Missionaries:

Rev. Morris Officer, St. Louis, Mo., May 16, 1867, to John B. Blyholder, James W. Richard, Philip H. Bentz. Officer, a “home” missionary, congratulated them on forming a Christian association and responded to their request for information on home missions. ALS, 8 pp.

Rev. John Kistler, Loysvile, Pa., July 16, 1867, to Christian Association of Pennsylvania College. Member of the Class of 1867 and a missionary in Liberia reporting on the state of religion in Africa. ALS, 4 pp.

Rev. Henry Harris Jessup, Beirut, Syria, August 27, 1867, to Franklin R. Feitshans. Presbyterian missionary in Syria writing on the importance of missions. ALS, 4 pp.

Rev. Erias Unangst, Guntur, India, July 22, 1867, to Mr. Charles Stanley Albert. Member of the Class of 1854 and a Lutheran missionary in India writes of lack of missionary spirit in the church and holds the new {Student Christian} Association in high regard. ALS, 8 pp.

Rev. William Frederick Williams, Kharpoot [Harpoot], Eastern Turkey, December 13, 1867, to My Dear Brother. Presbyterian missionary in Lebanon, Syria, and Eastern Turkey writes on the necessary preparation and mindset of the missionary. ALS, 4 pp.

Rev. Elias Riggs, Constantinople, January 15, 1868, to Dear Sir. Presbyterian missionary in Turkey writes of his work with Mohammedans and various Christian sects (Armenians and Bulgarians). ALS, 10 pp.

Rev. Benjamin Schneider, Aintab, Northern Syria, January 15, 1868, to Franklin R. Feitshans, Pennsylvania College, Gettysburg, Pa.. Presbyterian missionary writes of the number of schools, churches and church members in his area and the need for missionaries. ALS, 10 pp.

Rev. Chauncey Goodrich, Peking, March 14, 1868 to Edward Traill Horn. Congregational missionary in China reports on the need for more missionaries.

Rev. John Haskell Shedd, Mt. Seir, Persia, January 30, 1868, to The Christian association of Pennsylvania College. Presbyterian missionary in Oroomiah write of his work among the Assyrians. TLS, 8 pp.

Rev. John Hunter Morrison, Ambala, India to Mr. E. M[ilegible], Sec., Y.M.C.A., Pennsylvania College. Presbyterian missionary writes that much has already by written about mission work, missionary duties, and the need for missionaries, suggests that he has little more to offer and refers him to the many books published on the subject. ALS, 4 pp.

Rev. Edward D. Cornes, Yedo [Tokyo], Japan, June 20, 1870, to Young Gentlemen of the Y.M.C.A., Pennsylvania College. Presbyterian missionary in and teacher at Kaisei Gakko, Tokyo, writes detailed letter about what Presbyterian missionaries are in Japan and what they are doing currently. ALS, 6 pp.

Folder 2: Addresses delivered before Monthly Meetings of the Y.M.C.A. 1867-1869:

“The Dignity and Importance of the Work of Missions,” Rev. H. L. Baugher, June 6, 1867. Ms., 12 pp.

“Missions in the Sandwich Islands,” James William Richard (Class of 1868), August 3, 1867. Ms, 4 pp.

“Our Work, What It Is and How to Do It,” George Frederick Behringer (Class of 1870), June 6, 1868. Ms. 4 pp.

“Missions,” John Wilson Rumble (Class of 1870), June 26, 1868. Ms, 5 pp.

“Foreign Missions,” William Edwin Parson (Class of 1867), February 6, 1869. Ms., 21 pp.

“How Can We Make Our Association More Successful?” Jacob Abraham Clutz (Class of 1869), March 6, 1869. Ms. 4 pp.

Folder 3: Addresses delivered before Monthly Meetings of the Y.M.C.A 1869:

“Report on the Labors of David Brainerd,” Jacob Abraham Clutz (Class of 1869), April 4, 1869. Ms., 10 pp.

“Learn a Lesson,” John Toms Gladhill (Class of 1870), June 5, 1869. Ms., 4 pp.

“Jesuitism,” Samuel Edwin Busser (Class of 1871), June 5, 1869. Ms, 14 pp.

“Rev, Ezra Keller,” Frederick George Knapp (Class of 1871), November 6, 1869 Ms, 9 pp.

“Duty,” Unknown, n.d., Ms, 17pp.

Folder 4: Committee Reports, 1867-1870

Luther A. Swope and Lee M. Heilman, reporting for the Committee of Inquiry on The State of Religion in Educational Institutions, June 1, 1867. Ms, 1 p.

Chester H. Traver, George W. Fortney, Jacob A. Koser, reporting for the Executive Committee concerning temperance, December 3, 1870. Ms, 2 pp.

Edward F. Bartholomew, Samuel E. Busser, George W. Fortney, reporting for the Devotional Committee, n.d., Ms, 4 pp.

Folder 5: Correspondence, 1867-1870

Rev. Samuel Sprecher, Springfield, Ohio, May 31, 1867, to Luther A. Swope, Pennsylvania College. Sprecher, President of Wittenberg College, writes that they do not have a missionary society. Swope, Class of 1868, left Pennsylvania College for Wittenberg. ALS, 2 pp.

Charlie to Young Men's Christian Association, Pa. College, Care of Luther Wile. An envelope with the following notes: "Luther Wile [Class of 1869] will be kind enough to give the note to the chairman of the Foreign Missions Committee of the Y. M. C. A. By so doing he will confer a favor on the C. S. A." "Give my respects to all the boys wish you a good times yours Charlie". "Sent to Luth. & Missionary for publication Oct. 27th 1867." Envelope is empty.

Henry S. Meyers, York, Pa., November 30, 1869 to Y. M. C. Assoc. Requesting on behalf of the State Committee, reports on their Association. ALS, 2 pp.

Rev. Joel Swartz, [St. James Lutheran] Carlisle, Pa., February 11, 1870 to Samuel Palmer, Cor. Sec., Y. M. C. A. Agreeing to deliver an address at the next commencement and requesting details. ALS, 2 pp.

Rev. William H. Hillis, Gettysburg, Pa., February 12, 1870 to Mr. Samuel Parker. Rev. Hillis, of the Gettysburg Presbyterian Church, agrees to address the Y.M.C.A. at their next meeting. ALS, 1 p.

Rev. James Allen Brown, Gettysburg, March 12, 1870, to M. Samuel Palmer. Brown, Professor of Didactic Theology at the Lutheran Seminary, reports that he cannot address the Association at this time. ALS, 1 p.

Henry S. Meyers, York, Pa., May 3, 1870, to Mr. Samuel Palmer. Meyers, a member of the State Y.M.C.A. Committee for the International Convention to be held in Indianapolis, recommends sending delegates and asks for a report on the Association. ALS, 2 pp.

Rev. Joel Swartz, [St. James Lutheran] Carlisle, Pa., June 20, 1870, to Francis H. Weaver. Swartz states that he is coming to town on the 25th to address the Y.M.C.A. ALS, 1 p.

James Strathmore, Philadelphia, Pa., October 8, 1870, to President of Y.M.C.A. Strathmore puts forth the name of s. M. Godfrey as a lecturer and dramatic reader. ALS, 2 pp.

Scribner & Co., New York, New York, October 25, 1870, to the Young Men's Christian Association. Sending a copy of Scriber's Monthly and soliciting a subscription. L, 1 p.

Charles Albert Wiley, Ithaca, New York, November 14, 1870, to the Sec., Committee of Lecture Course. Wiley sends his flyer and mentions that he is at liberty to accept engagements. ALS, 1 p.

Thomas K. Cree, Chairman, State Executive Committee, Pittsburgh Pa., to President, Gettysburg Y. M. C. A. Requesting support for their general State work by subscribing to a report of the Convention, "Our Work and How It Is Done." ALS, 2 pp.

Cephas Brainerd, Executive Committee of the Y.M.C.A. of United States and British Provinces, New York, December 23, 1870. Appeal for special cooperation for extension of subscription list – need more subscribers. ALS, 1 pp.

Folder 6: Correspondence, January – June 1871

Thomas K. Cree, Chairman, State Exec. Comm., Pittsburgh, Pa., January 6, 1871, to Dear Bro. Announcing 10,000 copies of reports of the Germantown Convention and requesting the number required. ALS, 1 p.

Thomas K. Cree, Chairman, State Exec. Comm., Pittsburgh, Pa., January 11, 1871, to Frederick G. Knapp. Inquiring about what action their Association has taken in regards to the Temperance question. ALS, 2 pp.

Thomas K. Cree, Chairman, State Exec. Comm., Pittsburgh, Pa., January 17, 1871, to Francis H. Weaver. Acknowledging receipt of the Association's remittance and sending 75 reports. ALS, 2 pp.

Thomas K. Cree, Chairman, State Exec. Comm., Pittsburgh, Pa., February 11, 1871, to Frederick G. Knapp. Sending the Act to accompany petition previously sent and requesting a large amount of signatures before forwarding to Harrisburg. ALS, 1 p.

Thomas K. Cree, Chairman, State Exec. Comm., Pittsburgh, Pa., February 14, '87, to Francis H. Weaver. Requesting the petitions sent to George W. Fortney to be forwarded to Harrisburg immediately. ALS, 1 p.

Frederick W. Conrad, Office of the Lutheran Observer, Philadelphia, Pa., March 15, 1871, to Francis H. Weaver, Corr. Secy., YMCA, Penna College. Accepting invitation to address the Association. ALS, 1 p.

F. W. Bratt, Rooms of the Y.M.C.A., Washington, D.C., 27 April, 1871, to Francis H. Weaver, Corr. Secy. Sending Washington DC Convention circular. ALS, 1 p.

Thomas K. Cree, Chairman, State Exec. Comm., Pittsburgh, Pa., May 12, 1871, to F. H. Weaver. Requesting representatives from Pennsylvania College to the International convention in Washington D.C. May 26-28. ALS, 1 p.

Anna E. Watts for Mr. Thomas K. Cree, Executive Committee, Y. M. C. A., Pittsburgh, Pa., June 6, 1871, to J. A. Singmaster. The Convention at Erie will be held September 2, 1871. ALS, 1 p.

Rev. Jesse B. Young, [Gettysburg Methodist Church] Gettysburg, Pa., June 19, 1871, to Mr. J. A. Singmaster, Corr. Secy. Y.M.C.A., Accepts honorary membership and will comply with request to deliver an address. ALS, 1 p.

Folder 7: Correspondence, August – October, 1871

John Morrow for Thomas K. Cree, Chairman Exec. Comm. Y.M.C.A., Pittsburgh, Pa., August 1, 1871, to John A. Singmaster. Requesting current report on their Association. ALS, 1 p.

Rev. Jesse B. Young, [Gettysburg Methodist Church] Gettysburg, Pa., September 11, 1871, to John A. Singmaster, Corr. Secy., Y.M.C.A., Pa., College. Apologizes for the late response regarding failure to show for his talk to the Association, but he is confined to bed. ALS, 1 p.

Thomas K. Cree, Chairman, Exec. Comm. Y.M.C.A., Pittsburgh, Pa., September 11, 1871, to George W. Fortney. Requesting subscription for fund to hire secretary, payable by October if possible. ALS, 2 pp.

R. C. Morse, Office of the *Association Monthly*, New York, New York, October 6, 1871, to John A. Singmaster. Requesting return of any August issues you not needed as stock has dwindled. ALS, 1 p.

Anna E. Watts for Thomas K. Cree, Chairman, Exec. Comm. of the Y.M.C.A., Pittsburgh, Pa., October 10, 1871, to John A. Singmaster. Acknowledging receipt of and thanking for pledge of \$5. ALS, 1 p.

W. M. Howell, West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia, October 16, 1871, to Secretary of Y. M. C. A., Penna. College. About to organize a Young Men's Christian Association at their college and request suggestions that will help them. ALS, 1 p.

Folder 8: Correspondence, 1872

B. Sailor Weindle, Theological Seminary, February 8th, 1872, to Mr. John A. Singmaster. Received notices of election to address the Y.M.C.A., but cannot make the date of March 2nd and request another day. ALS, 1 p.

Rev. W. S. Vancleve {Lower Marsh Creek and Great Conewago Presbyterian Churches} Gettysburg, Pa., February 12, 1872, to J. A. Singmaster. Honored by the request to address the association and will endeavor to be present. ALS, 1 p.

Rev. W. S. Vancleve, Gettysburg, Pa., February 22, 1872, to J. A. Singmaster. Regrets that things have changed and he will not be able to address the group, but requests another time. ALS, 2 pp.

Rev. S. W. Owen [St. John's Lutheran] Hagerstown, March 19, 1872, to Mr. J. Alden Singmaster, Corr. Secy. Y. M. C. A., Penna College. Must decline the honor of addresses the Y.M.C.A. at Commencement as he will be out west. ALS, 1 p.

Lewis W. Detrich, Waynesboro, Penna, April 12, 1872, to the Y.M.C.A. of Penna College. Reporting a Convention of the Y.M.C.A. to be held April 18-19 at Waynesboro, and requesting a delegation. ALS, 1 p.

Rev. George F. Stelling [First Lutheran Church] Harrisburg, April 22, 1872, to J. Alden Singmaster. Will cheerfully accept your request to deliver an address before the Association and requesting details. ALS, 2 pp.

S. B. Barnitz, Wheeling, West Virginia, May 8, 1872 to J. Alden Singmaster, Corr. Secy. Y. M. C. A., Penna College. Member of the Class of 1862 and missionary Samuel Bacon Barnitz will comply with their request. ALS, 1 p.

Rev. Jesse Bowman Young, [Gettysburg Methodist Church], Gettysburg, September 30, 1872 to Chester H. Traver, Corr. Secy., Y.M.C.A., Penna. College. Will meet with the Association next Saturday, October 5, and address them. ALS, 1 p.

Folder 9: Executive Committee Young Men's Christian Association of Pennsylvania

Form letters on policy and/or announcement. 1870-1871 6 items.

Folder 10: Rooms of the Young Men's Christian Association

Form letters on policy and/or announcements. 1871. 8 items.

Folder 11: Executive Committee of the Young Men's Christian associations of the United States and British Provinces.

Form letters on policy and/or announcements. 1871-1872. 2 items.

Folder 12: Solicitations, Invoices and Receipts

Solicitations for publications, invoices, and receipts for tracts, reports, and pledges, 1869-1872. 12 items.

Folder 13: Flyers for Lectures and Circulars

Mr. Russell R. Dorr, "The Second Warfare, 1870
Mrs. Celia Burleigh, "Woman's right to be a Woman," "The Right of Children,"
"Houses and Homes," and "Enchantments". 1870-1871 Season.
Rev. W. H. Milburn, the Blind Preacher, 9 lectures. 1870-1871 Season.
S. M. C. Godfrey, Esq. "Self-Made, or the Secret of Success." n.d.
Miss Maud Ernest, "The Other Side, or the True Rights of Woman." n.d.
Du Chaillu's Lectures, "Explorations in Equatorial Africa – Hunting Adventures
– The Warrior Ants – Journey to the Cannibal Country," plus three more
Series. n.d.
Rev. E. P. Roe, "The Great Actors in the Franco-Prussian War, Their Antecedents
and Personal Appearance, Racy Characteristic Anecdotes, Scenes,
Incidents and Sketches, Tragic and Humorous, Illustrating the Most
Wonderful Chapter in History." n.d.
Rev. E. P. Roe, "The Romance of Cavalry Life: Kilpatrick's Great Raid to
Richmond to Release Our Prisoners." n.d.
Rev. E. P. Roe, "History of the Secret Service at the Front: The Comic and Tragic
Experiences of Union Scouts and Rebel Guerillas." n.d.
American Literary Bureau, Names of Lecturers and Readers. n.d.
Pitman's Phonography or the Art of Shorthand. Lessons by Letter.
Lyceum Magazine. A Special Circular. Boston Lyceum Bureau, August 1871.

Subjects:

Young Men's Christian Association of Pennsylvania College
Student Christian Association of Pennsylvania College
Pennsylvania College – History
Gettysburg College – History
Missionaries – 19th century - correspondence
Knapp, Frederick G., 1845-18873
Busser, Samuel E., 1850-1926
Clutz, Jacob A., 1848-1925
Baugher, Henry L., 1804-1868
Richard, James W., 1843-1909
Gladhill, John T., 1846-1902
Parson, William E., 1845-1905
Rumple, John W., 1839-1920
Behringer, George F., 1846-1909
Kistler, John, 1834-1910
Jessup, Henry Harris, 1832-1910
Unangst, Erias, 1824-1903
Williams, William Frederick, 1818-1871
Riggs, Elias, 1810-1901
Schneider, Benjamin, 1807-1877

Goodrich, Chauncey, 1836-1925
Shedd, John Haskell, 1833-1895
Morrison, John Hunter, 1806-1881
Cornes, Edward D., 1841-1870
Young, Jesse Bowman, 1844-1914
Officer, Morris, 1823-1874
Sprecher, Samuel, 1810-1906
Swartz, Joel, 1827-1914
Brown, James A., 1821-1882
Cree, Thomas Kirby, 1836-1912
Brainerd, Cephas, 1831-1910
Conrad, Frederick W., 1816-1898
Vancleve, William S, 1835-1901
Detrich, Lewis W., 1840-1883
Barnitz, Samuel Bacon, 1838-1902
Stelling, George F., 1827-1884
Owen, Stephen W., 1837-1916