

## GUIDE

### Burr Collection

**HISTORY OF THE COLLECTION:** Enoch Fitch Burr (1818-1902) became minister of the Lyme Congregational Church in 1848, where he remained until 1902. In 1851 he married Harriet Angeline Lord (1829-1909), youngest daughter of Major Peter (1774-1833) and Mehitabel Miner Gillet Lord (1790-1871). The collection consists of the family papers of Rev. Burr, Mrs. Burr and her family, particularly her sisters Caroline Phoebe (Phebe) Lord (Mrs. Joseph Selden) (b. 1824) and Sarah Wade Lord (Mrs. Edward G Hyde) (1826-1896). There is also a group of letters from Daniel Miner Lord (1800-1861) of Boston and Shelter Island, NY. The papers remained in the Burr family until given to the Society in 1964 by Harold Saxton Burr.

**SCOPE OF THE COLLECTION:** There are four major groups within the Collection. The first is family papers of Major Peter Lord (1790-1833), consisting of letters and deeds. These are typical, dwelling on deaths, marriages, and the letters written home from school at all times.

The second group consists of letters involving Rev. Daniel Miner Lord and his family (1828-1849). Rev. Lord's mother, Dorcas Miner Lord, was in Lyme throughout this period, first at the house of her nephew, John Smith Lord (1805-1838) and then at Mehitabel Lord's. The letters from Daniel and his sister Almira (b. 1802) describe Daniel's career at the Boston Seamen's Friends Society and Almira's brief career as a school teacher, giving descriptions of the Boston Bethel and of typical schools of the period.

The third group, by far the largest, is the correspondence between the three sisters, Caroline Lord Selden, Sarah Lord Hyde, and Angeline Lord Burr. Beginning with letters home from school in New London, all three, though particularly Sarah, who lived much of the time in New York, New Orleans, and Cincinnati, well away from her family, were frequent writers, and through these letters their lives, and the role of a woman in the period become clear.

Finally are the papers of Enoch Burr, involving his finances and his publications.

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