Collection Summary
Title: William Goodell Papers
Span Dates: 1818-1917
ID No.: MSS61775
Creator: Goodell, William, 1792-1867
Extent: 50 items ; 2 containers ; 0.8 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English and Armeno-Turkish
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Summary: Clergyman and missionary to Armenians in the Turkish empire. Correspondence, journals, religious and other writings, Goodell’s translation of the New Testament from Greek into Armeno-Turkish, and other items primarily related to Goodell’s missionary work in the Turkish empire under the sponsorship of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions. Also includes letters of Goodell’s daughter and granddaughter describing conditions at Harput, Turkey, during the massacre of Armenians by the Kurds, 1895-1896.

Selected Search Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People
Barnum, Emma--Correspondence.
Barnum, Mary Goodell--Correspondence.
Goodell family.
Goodell, Abigail--Correspondence.
Goodell, William, 1792-1867.

Organizations
American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions.

Subjects
Armenian massacres, 1894-1896.
Armenians--Turkey.
Cholera--Turkey.
Congregational churches--Missions--Turkey.
Fires--Turkey.
Kurds--Turkey.
Massacres--Turkey.
Plague--Turkey.

Places
Harput (Turkey)--History.
Turkey--History.

Titles

Occupations
Clergy.
Missionaries.
Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of William Goodell, clergyman and missionary to the Turkish empire, were received in the Library of Congress by purchase and gift between 1939 and 2000. A single item was given to the Library in 1939 by E. J. Van Lennep. Additions were given in 1988, 1996, and 2000 by Carmen D. Valentino.

Processing History

The papers of William Goodell were arranged and described in 1996. The collection was expanded and revised with the addition of two items of miscellaneous correspondence in 2003.

Additional Guides


Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of William Goodell is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of William Goodell are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, William Goodell Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of William Goodell (1792-1867) span the years 1818-1917 and consist of correspondence, journals, religious and other writings, Goodell's translation of the New Testament from Greek to Armeno-Turkish, genealogical material, legal papers, autographs, a drawing, and printed material.

The journals, 1831-1849, and correspondence, 1823-1898, pertain chiefly to Goodell's missionary work among Armenians in Turkey under the sponsorship of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions and document the difficulties faced by Goodell's mission, including fire, outbreaks of plague and cholera, the death of a fellow missionary, and the hostility of the ruling government. Correspondence includes letters of his wife, Abigail Goodell, and letters from Mary and Emma Barnum, daughter and granddaughter of William Goodell, who were in Harput, Turkey, during the massacre of Armenians by Kurds in 1895.

Arrangement of the Papers

Arranged alphabetically by type of material.
## Container List

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<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Barnum, Mary and Emma, 1895-1898</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Goodell, William and Abigail, 1823-1867 (2 folders)</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
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<td>BOX 2</td>
<td>Religious exercises, 1818-1819</td>
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<td>BOX 2</td>
<td><em>Historical Sketch of the Missions of the American Board in Turkey</em>, 1878</td>
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<td>BOX 2</td>
<td>&quot;Missionary Work in Turkey,&quot; 1887</td>
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<td>BOX 2</td>
<td>&quot;New Testament&quot; (Armeno-Turkish), 1856</td>
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<td>BOX 2</td>
<td>Sermon on the occasion of the ordination of William Goodell, by Samuel Miller, 1822</td>
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<td>BOX 2</td>
<td>&quot;Three Chapters in the Life of an Armenian Girl,&quot; undated</td>
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