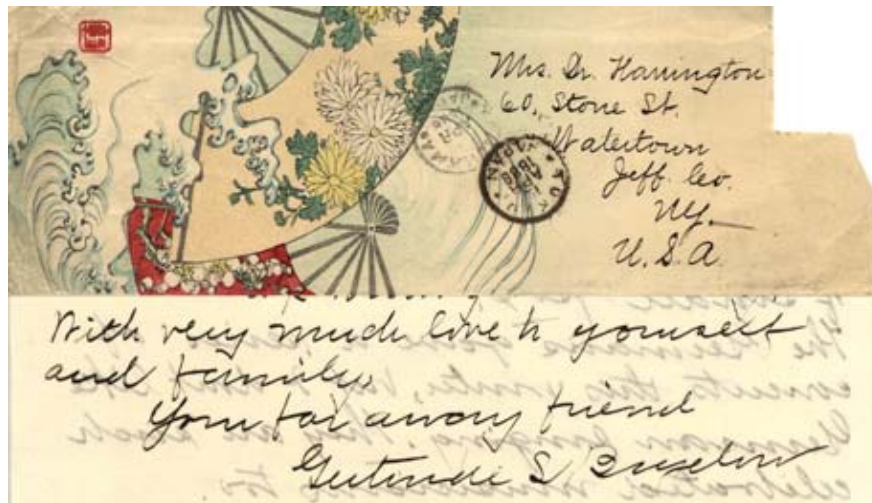


The Burke Library Archives (Columbia University Libraries)
Union Theological Seminary, New York

Missionary Research Library Archives: Section 7

Finding Aid for

Gertrude S. Bigelow Papers, 1887 - 1926



Finding Aid prepared by: Gregory Adam Scott, June 2009

Summary Information

Creator: Fred Harvey Harrington, 1913 - 1995
Title: Gertrude S. Bigelow Papers, 1887-1926
Inclusive dates: 1887 - 1926
Bulk dates: 1906 - 1924
Abstract: Presbyterian Missionary in Japan, Teacher in Mission Schools
Personal correspondence
Size: 1 box, 0.25 linear feet
Storage: Onsite storage
Repository: The Burke Library
Union Theological Seminary
3041 Broadway
New York, NY 10027
Phone: 212-851-5612
Fax: 212-851-5613
Email: archives@uts.columbia.edu

Administrative Information

- Provenance:** The collection was donated by Prof. Fred Harvey Harrington in July, 1944. Prof. Harrington, who died in 1995, was the grandson of Mrs. Cora Harrington, the recipient of the correspondence. In 1976 the records were accessioned to the Burke Library archives with the closure of the MRL.
- Access:** Archival papers are available to registered readers for consultation by appointment only. Please contact archives staff by phone, fax or email archives@uts.columbia.edu, as far in advance as possible.
- Access Restrictions:** The collection is unrestricted to readers. Certain materials however are in a fragile condition, and this may necessitate restriction in handling and copying.
- Preferred Citation:** Item description, MRL 7: Gertrude S. Bigelow papers, series #, box #, and folder #, The Burke Library Archives (Columbia University Libraries) at Union Theological Seminary, New York.

Biography

Gertrude S. Bigelow was born circa 1863 in Batavia, New York. She graduated from the Ladies' Seminary in Hamilton, NY in 1883, and went to Japan to do mission work for the Presbyterian Church in Japan in 1886. Initially she worked at the Graham Seminary (新栄女学校, later known as Joshi gakuin 女子学院) in Tsukiji 築地, Tokyo 東京. From about 1890, she spent 20 years working in Yamaguchi 山口. In 1894 she attended the Second International Convention of the Student Volunteer Movement for Foreign Missions held in Detroit. In 1907 she was joined by her sister, Florence Julia Bigelow, who married Thomas C. Winn in 1917 and died in 1934. In 1909 Gertrude published an article in *The Assembly Herald* entitled "Japan's Daughters and the Missionary Teacher." From around 1913 to around 1929 she worked in Shimonoseki 下関, in a girls' school called Baiko Jogakuin (梅光女学院) that still exists today as a university. She was still active in the church as late as 1935.

Collection Scope and Content Note

The collection is mostly comprised of letters sent by Gertrude Bigelow to Mrs. Cora Harrington, of Watertown, NY. Some items relate to the Graham Seminary in Tsukiji, Tokyo.

The Presbyterian Historical Society in Philadelphia, PA has an archival holding on "United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. Commission on Ecumenical Mission and Relations. Secretaries' files: Japan Mission, 1879-1972 (bulk:1911-1969)" which may contain information related to Bigelow. It is located in Record Group 93.

Processing

Materials were placed in new acid-free folders and boxes. Acidic items were unfolded and separated from one another by interleaving with acid-free paper as needed.

Contents list

Series	Box	Folder	Contents
1	1	1	Provenance Notes
1	1	2	Correspondence, 1887 - 1888
1	1	3	Correspondence, 1889 - 1899
1	1	4	Correspondence, 1900 - 1906
1	1	5	Correspondence, 1907 - 1910
1	1	6	Correspondence, 1912 - 1915
1	1	7	Correspondence, 1917 - 1922
1	1	8	Correspondence, 1923 - 1926
1	1	9	3 Postcards, [191?]
1	1	10	Graham Seminary Commencement Programs, 1887, 1890, 1902
1	1	11	<i>Watertown Daily Times</i> Clipping, 1924