

Society of Inquiry on Missions

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BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

The Society of Inquiry on Missions was a student organization at LTSG that existed from 1824 to the 1890s. The organization focused on expanding missionary interest among students of theology. The organization also solicited funds and corresponded with other mission societies, such as Princeton Seminary in New Jersey and Pittsburg Seminary in Pennsylvania.

Sources Consulted:

Erling, Maria E. "Introduction to the Collection." *Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg*. Accessed April 29, 2016. <http://www.ltsg.edu/resources-services/library/seminary/archives/society-of-inquiry-on-missions>

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection documents the activities of the student organization, Society of Inquiry on Missions from 1827-1922. It contains records such as a constitution, meeting minutes, reports, correspondence, student memoirs, and student papers. The majority of the handwritten documents are in English, while some are in German. Mostly are handwritten, very few are typed. While the majority of the student papers includes the writer's name, some do not. A subseries has been created to distinguish these unknown authors.

The records are arranged in 2 series. Series include General Records and Student Papers. Series 1 is divided into two subseries: Constitution, Minutes, Treasurer's Records, Reports, and Student Memoirs and Correspondence. Series 1 is arranged chronologically. Series 2 is arranged alphabetically by last name. Unknown authors appear after the alphabetized authors and are arranged alphabetically.

RESTRICTIONS

This collection is open for research.

REPRODUCTION

Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured A.R. Wentz Library Archives. Contact the archivist for more information.

SERIES DESCRIPTION AND CONTAINER LIST

Series 1. General Records

This series contains the Society of Inquiry on Missions' constitution, by-laws, and proceedings; meeting minutes, rules of election; treasurer's records; student benevolence; reports; address; pamphlet, note, student memoirs, and correspondence. This series is divided into two subseries: Constitution, Minutes, Treasurer's Records, Reports, and Student Memoirs and Correspondence.

Subseries 1. Constitution, Minutes, Financial Records, Reports, and Student Memoirs

This subseries is arranged in order of the record's significance starting with the Constitution and then in chorological order.

Box Folder

1	1	Constitution, By-Laws, and Proceedings	1827-1856
1	2	Minutes, Constitution, By-Laws, and Rules of Election	1867-1886
1	3	Proceedings	1868-1873
1	4	Treasurer's Record	1886-1919
1	5	Treasurer's Report	1873
1	6	Missionary Benevolence (from Seminary students)	1915-1922
2	1	Reports: Wittenberg	1833
2	2	Reports: Executive Committee of Missionary Society	September 2, 1835
2	3	Reports: English Report of Executive Committee (In English and German)	September 3, 1836
2	4	Reports: Committee Report	188?
2	5	Reports: Report of the Committee of the Theological Missionary Society	
2	6	Address of the Executive Committees of the Parent Missionary and Education Societies (typed)	
2	7	Pamphlet: Hermansburg Mission and Louis Harms	1889
2	8	Note: India-Missionary	Undated

Subseries 2. Correspondence

This subseries includes handwritten letters and one drawing with a note from Seminary students, Corresponding Secretaries (unknown names), and the Committee of Society of Inquiry on Missions of Andover Theological Seminary. The subseries is arranged in alphabetical order by last name of student who wrote the letter, by Corresponding Secretaries, the Committee of Society of Inquiry on Missions of Andover Theological Seminary. The unknown authors are arranged chronologically. There is one bound book of compiled letters. All other letters are loose leaf papers. One letter is written in German and is noted in the container list.

Box	Folder		
2	10	Answers to Letters <i>Bound book</i>	1827-1839
2	11	Correspondence <i>Bound book of letters</i> <i>One in German</i> <i>Includes index</i>	1827-1844
2	12	Honor of Edgar Hildebrand from Rev. James Oosterling	1931
3	1	Charles F. Bansemer	August 27, 1839
3	2	Walter Gunn <i>Sent to corresponding secretary of Lutheran Foreign Missionary Society of Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio</i>	November 7, 1848
3	3	Das Rheinsche from Charles Hay <i>drawing</i>	1832
3	4	W.G. Heil <i>Senacaville, Guernsey County, Ohio</i>	September 18, 1832
3	5	Jacob Neff <i>From Franklin County, Green Township to Wittenburghe, Germany</i>	July 27, 1839
3	6	Joseph Rosenkrans	July 5, 1841
3	7	David P. Rosenmiller	September 25, 1830
3	8	Matthias Sheeleigh	September 6, 1848
3	9	J.W. Starman (damaged) <i>In pieces, name missing but in 1831 NY Synod meeting first mentions Starman as pastor</i>	May 8, 1830
3	10	Robert B. Walker <i>Western Theological Seminary</i>	February 3, 1836
3	11	Corresponding Secretary	November, 1833
3	12	Corresponding Secretary, Wittenberg College, Lutheran Foreign Missionary Society	undated
3	13	Unknown	August 8, 1835
3	14	Committee of Society of Inquiry on Missions of Andover Theological Seminary <i>Contains typed questions about monthly concert</i>	September 30, 1835
3	15	Unknown	1835
3	16	Unknown	1837
3	17	Indiscernible <i>German</i>	June 27, 1842

Series 2. Student Papers

This series includes handwritten essays by Seminary students. They are arranged in alphabetical order by last name. The container list contains the title of the folder (author's name) and the title of the essay. For untitled papers, the introductory sentence was used. Brackets were used to distinguish papers' subjects that have been discerned by the processor. Some papers are written in German, while the majority are in English. Circa dates have been deduced based upon the years the student attended the Seminary. This series is divided into two subseries: Identified Authors and Unknown authors.

Subseries 1. Identified Authors

This subseries includes papers with identified authors. They are arranged alphabetically by last name. Unknown authors are arranged chronologically.

Box Folder

3	18	Daniel Smith Altman <i>"The Present Religious Condition of Turkey"</i>	c. 1843-45
3	19	John Anspack <i>"German Language?"</i> In German Subject: Accounting of Muhlenberg's early work in PA	c. 1827
3	20	John George Anspack <i>"What Method of Instruction Is Best Calculated to Recommend the Religion of Jesus to the Heathen"</i>	January 6, 1830
3	21	Peter Anstadt <i>"Missionary Essay on S. America"</i> Subjects: John C. Brigham and Theophilus Parvin	July 2, 1845
3	22	Benjamin Arey What God Has Seen Fit...	July 2, 1834
3	23	William Artz <i>"Superstition-Its Various Significations-some of the causes that produce it-as it prevailed in the ancient gentile world-as it prevails in modern times as in the island of Ceylon"</i>	January 10, 1828
3	24	William Artz <i>"A Dissertation on the Wants of the Lutheran Church in the Country"</i> Bound in old page of published book on borough regulations	c. 1829
3	25	Henry Bishop Subject: Greek and Latin churches	c. 1838
3	26	George Capito <i>"Following is an account of a Mission to Caffraria, of the Settlement at Algoa Bay, and of a Missionary Establishment"</i>	1827

		<i>at Bethelsdorf”</i> <i>Bound in German newspaper</i>	
3	27	Jno [John] P. Cline <i>“A short history of the Missionary labors of that truly eminent servant of the Lord Mr. Grube”</i>	April 7, 1824
3	28	John Philip Cline <i>“Danish Mission to Tranquebar”</i>	October 6, 1824
3	29	John Philip Cline <i>“Life & Adventures of Mrs. Harriet Newell. Missionary to India.”</i> <i>Wife of Rev. Samuel Newell</i>	March/April 1825
3	30	George. W. Crist <i>“Our African Mission”</i>	November, 1876
3	31	Philip Columbus Croll <i>“Our Home Missions”</i>	December 3, 1878
3	32	Archibald Edwin Deitz <i>“Missions, Theoretically Considered”</i>	November 4, 1891
3	33	Michael Diehl <i>Missionary Operations of the United States Brethren in South Africa</i>	c. 1844-46
3	34	Samuel S. Diehl <i>“Gettysburg Seminary in Foreign Missions”</i>	October 7, 1891
3	35	Jacob C. Duey <i>“Gutzlaff”</i>	March 1, 1835
3	36	Jacob C. Duey <i>“An Abstract of the Life of Felix Neff”</i>	April 1, 1836
3	37	Hans Egede <i>Subject: Danish and Moravian Mission Work In Greenland</i>	January 3, 1827
3	38	Louis Gustavus Eggers <i>Subject: Johann Frederick Oberlin</i>	1832
3	39	Louis Gustavus Eggers <i>[Life of Joseph Barr, missionary to Africa]</i>	August 5, 1834
3	40	George Frederick Ehrenfield <i>“Sketch of the Life of Hermann Francke”</i>	July 1, 1840
3	41	Lewis Eichelberger <i>“By What Arguments Can We Best Convince the Mohammedan of the Falsity of His Religion”</i>	April, 1827
3	42	Johann G. Ellinger <i>In German</i>	July 5, 1837
3	43	John G. Ellinger <i>In German</i>	c. 1836-37

3	44	Michael Eyster <i>Subject: J.F. Oberlin in France</i>	c. 1836-38
3	45	Peter Born Fasold <i>"The First Missionary" (Moses)</i>	February 3, 1892
3	46	Samuel DeVin Finckel <i>In German</i>	1828
3	47	Henry Herman Flick <i>"The Missionary Outlook"</i>	March, 1893
3	48	Leonard Gerhardt <i>"Inducements to Zeal and Activity in the Propagation of the Gospel"</i>	March 1, 1837
3	49	Charles C. Guenther <i>Missionary Address</i>	1834
3	50	Charles C. Guenther <i>[Light of the World]</i>	1834
3	51	Jacob Goering Harris <i>"China"</i>	July 1, 1840
3	52	Washington C. Hauer <i>"Africa"</i>	February 8, 1845
3	53	Charles A. Hay <i>"The Armenian Church"</i>	July 1, 1840
3	54	John Heck <i>"Madagascar"</i> <i>Subject: Slave trade</i>	September 2, 1840
3	55	John P. Hiester <i>"An Inquiry into the Advantages of the Present Over the Apostolic Age for Evangelizing the World"</i>	August, 1840
3	56	Jesse Hoover <i>"Missionary Essay read before the First September of 183?"</i>	183?
3	57	John C. Hope <i>"1. Question. Does the home missionary field afford an equal of greater opportunity for usefulness than that among the infidel or heathen nations. 2nd Question. Is it desirable that a man who intends to devote himself..."</i>	January 27, 1830
3	58	John C. Hope <i>"When Has a Christian Discharged his Duty to the Heathens?"</i>	March 1, 1830
3	59	Samuel K. Hoshour <i>"A Missionary Account of a mission sent from Denmark to Tranquebar in the beginning of the 18th century"</i>	c. 1885

4	1	Ezra Keller <i>[Use of Biography in Educating]</i>	c. 1836
4	2	Abraham Kempfer <i>"Should a Missionary pursue a complete course of theological education previous to his departure to heathen lands?"</i>	August, 1828
4	3	Daniel Kohler <i>"Whence came all these? And how were they all wisely arranged?"</i>	August, 1836
4	4	William Gottlieb Laitzle <i>"The Character and Missionary Labours of Brainerd" [David Brainerd]</i>	August 12, 1839
4	5	John C. Lehman <i>"What is the Present Condition and Prospect of Missionary Success Among the Jews?"</i>	August 7, 1839
4	6	John Lehman <i>"Polynesia"</i>	November 26, 1840
4	7	Samuel James McDowell <i>"History of the Guntoor Mission"</i>	December 2, 1891
4	8	Joannis G. Morris (John Gottlieb Morris) <i>"Mission to Tranquebar and Madras"</i>	June 29 and July, 1824
4	9	John Gottlieb Morris <i>"A short history of the missionary labors of that truly eminent servant of the Lord David Zeisberger of the ?"</i>	February, 1824
4	10	John Gottlieb Morris <i>Subjects: Ziegenbalg, Swartz, Schultz, Jaenicke, and Gericke</i>	February, 1825
4	11	Daniel Moser <i>"On the Question: What are the advantages or benefits, which accrue to a people engaged in the missionary cause"</i>	August, 1828
4	12	Benjamin Oehrle <i>"Missionary Address"</i> <i>Subject: Moravian mission to North American Indians, Georgia)</i>	1826/1827
4	13	Henry Reck <i>"A Short Sketch of the Life of Matthew Stack"</i>	c. 1850-1852
4	14	John Reck <i>"Christian researchers into Asia by the Rev'd Claudius Buchanan, L.L.D."</i>	February 28, 1825
4	15	William Morton Reynolds <i>"Missionary Address: History of Missions, Continuations of the History of the Labours of the United Brethren in South America"</i>	September 3, 1828
4	16	William Morton Reynolds	c. 1828-1830

		<i>“Facilities of the Present World over the Apostolic Age for Evangelizing the World”</i>	
4	17	David P. Rosenmiller <i>“On the Importance of Missions”</i>	September 5, 1827
4	18	David P. Rosenmiller <i>“On the Crosses of a Missionary Life and he Manner in Which They are to be Borne”</i>	September 3, 1828
4	19	S <i>“Essay on the Importance of Home Missions”</i>	Undated
4	20	Samuel <i>Subject: Africa</i>	Undated
4	21	Simeon Scherer <i>“The Relation Which the Lutheran Church in the United States Sustains to Foreign Missions. Should She at Present Do More Comparatively Than She Has Done?”</i>	April 7, 1847
4	22	W. Scull <i>“Missionary Address: Read Novb [sic] 1829</i>	November, 1827
4	23	Soloman Sentman <i>“Missionary Effort in the Christian World”</i>	January 2, 1839
4	24	Nicholas G. Sharretts <i>“Is a Learned Education as Necessary for the Missionary Among the Heathen, as for the Minister of the Gospel in a Christian Country?”</i>	March 7, 1827
4	25	William Shull <i>The Design of God...</i>	Undated
4	26	Jeremiah Milton Snyder <i>“A Sketch of the Missionary Life and Labors of Rev. John Scudder, M.D. for Thirty-Six Years Missionary in India”</i>	May 2, 1877
4	27	Daniel H. Steck <i>“NY Baptist Advocate 1840”</i>	1840
4	28	Daniel H. Steck <i>“The Nestorians”</i>	Undated
4	29	John Ulrich <i>“The Life of Eliod” [Rev. John Eliod]</i>	1832
4	30	Jesse Volger <i>“A Concise Narrative of the Life and Travels of Reginald Heber”</i>	1830
4	31	William A. Wadsworth <i>“Nestorians”</i>	December 4, 1839
4	32	Samuel Wagner <i>“Why Is It That Such a Comparatively Small Number of the Human Family Have the Gospel?”</i>	January 3, 1838

4	33	Reuben B. Weiser <i>"On the Question: Should the Civil Government Take Any Part in the Extension of the Redeemer's Kingdom?"</i>	c. 1830-1831
4	34	Reuben B. Weiser "Missionary Essay or Sketch of Rev. Dr. Edward Payson"	May 4, 1831
4	35	Joseph Welker <i>"Motives to Missionary Efforts"</i>	July, 1847
4	36	Charles G. Weyl <i>"History of the American Colonists of Liberia"</i>	January 2, 1828
4	37	Philip Willard <i>"What Is the Present Moral Condition of the World?"</i>	February 5, 1840
4	38	John T. Williams <i>Subject: Reasons for missionary work</i>	1838
4	39	Jacob Ziegler "The Duty of Spreading the Gospel"	January 31, 1837

Subseries 2. Unknown Authors

This subseries includes student papers by unknown authors. They are arranged chronologically with undated papers falling at the end.

4	40	The Reason Why Every Minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ Should Pcess [sic] a Missionary Spirit	July, 1822
4	41	[The Memory of Swartz, Gernicke, Schultz, and ?]	September, 1825
4	42	The Pleasures of the Missionary	September, 1828
4	43	Missionary Work in Lahaina, Maui, Sandwich Islands	1828
4	44	Missionary Address On the Life and Exertions of Mr. David Brainard Missionary to the Indians	August 5, 1829
4	45	The Life and Missionary Labours of that Holy Man Francis Xavier	December 2, 1829
4	46	Memoir of the Life of Reverend Samuel Bacon [Africa]	May 5, 1830
4	47	An Essay Upon the Conversion, of Henry Martin...	September 1, 1830
4	48	[By what means can the amelioration of the heathen be effected?]	1830
4	49	Life of Mrs. Ann H. Judson	April 6, 1831
4	50	Is it desirable, that a man who intends to devote himself to missionary labours, should have acquired some trade or ? by	Undated

		which he might maintain himself like a Paul in case of ?	
4	51	[Missionary Labours in the Sandwich Islands]	Undated
4	52	[Professing to go to heathens and really doing it?]	Undated
4	53	The Majority of This...(NEEDS SCANNED) <i>Subject: Dr. Payson and other American mission society efforts; illness</i>	Undated
4	54	[Polycarp]	Undated
4	55	[In German]	Undated
5	1	[The Heathen and Popery]	Undated
5	2	[The Forming Missionary Societies]	Undated
5	3	Reasons Why the World Should Assist in Spreading the Gospel	Undated
5	4	What Has Presented a More Beneficial Effect of the Gospel Among the Indians?	Undated
5	5	What is the Best Plan to be Adopted for the Conversion of the Jews	Undated
5	6	Biography of Joseph Alleine	Undated
5	7	The Life of John Arndt	Undated
5	8	Biography of Catharine Brown, A Christian Indian of the Cherokee Nation	Undated
5	9	[Claudius Buchanan-India]	Undated
5	10	A Sketch of the Life and Martyrdom of Ignatius	Undated
5	11	Memoirs of Joshua Marsden	Undated
5	12	Memoirs of the Rev. Samuel J. Mills	Undated
5	13	A Speech on the Principal Traits of the Character and Incidents of the Life of Mrs. Harriet Newell	Undated
5	14	Clemenno Romanus	Undated
5	15	Life of the Rev. William Tennent	Undated
5	16	[August Hermann Franke Biography] <i>In German</i>	Undated

5	17	? <i>In German</i>	Undated
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