



ArchivesSpace

a community served by †Lyrasis

Ashbel Green Simonton journal 5994399

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on January 14, 2025.
Description is written in: English.

Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary

3041 Broadway

New York, NY 10027

Telephone: (212) 851-5606

burke@library.columbia.edu

URL: <https://library.columbia.edu/locations/burke.html>

Table of Contents

Summary Information	3
Biographical / Historical	3
Scope and Contents	4
Arrangement	4
Administrative Information	4
Related Materials	5
Controlled Access Headings	6
Burke Library record group:	6
Collection Inventory	6
Ashbel Green Simonton journal	6

Summary Information

Repository:	Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary
Creator:	Simonton, A. G (Ashbel Green), 1833-1867
Title:	Ashbel Green Simonton journal
ID:	5994399
Date [inclusive]:	1852 -- 1866
Physical Description:	0.25 linear feet 0.25 linear feet; 1 box
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	This collection contains a transcription of Ashbel Green Simonton's journal covering his years at Princeton Seminary and his first years as a Presbyterian missionary in Brazil, 1852-1866.

Preferred Citation

Item description, MRL9: Ashbel Green Simonton journal, 1852-1866, box #, folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical / Historical

Ashbel Green Simonton (1833-1867) was an American Presbyterian pioneer missionary in Brazil. A graduate of Princeton Seminary, he was sent to Brazil by the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, arriving in Rio de Janeiro in August 1859. In 1860 Simonton organized the first Sunday school with five children, and began evangelistic work in Portuguese. He converted, baptized, and ordained a former Roman Catholic priest, José Manoel da Conceição, the first Brazilian Presbyterian minister. He organized the first Presbyterian Church in Rio de Janeiro and was the founder of the first evangelical newspaper. Simonton returned to the United States in 1862 and married Helen Murdoch. She died in 1864 after giving birth to a daughter. Simonton died in 1867 of yellow fever at age 36.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Scope and Contents

This collection contains a transcription of Ashbel Green Simonton's journal, requested by his wife Helen Murdoch Simonton, covering his years at Princeton Seminary and his first years as a Presbyterian missionary in Brazil.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

This collection is arranged in one chronological series.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary

3041 Broadway

New York, NY 10027

Telephone: (212) 851-5606

burke@library.columbia.edu

URL: <https://library.columbia.edu/locations/burke.html>

Revision Description

XML Instance Created by Sarah Davis. EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. EAD spot checked and corrected and description updated by Leah Edelman. July 1, 2014 2019-05-20 2020-07-09

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

Onsite storage.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Formerly part of the independent Missionary Research Library (MRL), these records were originally donated by Robert E. Speer of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. to Charles H. Fahs, director of the Missionary Research Library, in 1918. The records were accessioned by the Burke Library at the time of the MRL's closure in 1976.

Custodial History

The journal was first sent to Robert E. Speer by A.G. Simonton's daughter who asked that copies of it be made and distributed.

Processing Information

Folded materials were flattened. Staples, rubber bands, and metal clips were removed and replaced with plastic clips. All materials were placed in acid-free folders and boxes. The finding aid was created by Miguel Escobar in 2006, reviewed and updated by Brigette Kamsler in 2014 with the support of the Henry Luce Foundation, and edited by Leah Edelman in 2020.

Conditions Governing Use

Some material in this collection may be protected by copyright and other rights. Information concerning copyright, fair use, and reproduction requests can be consulted at Columbia's Copyright Advisory Office.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Related Materials

Related Materials

The original manuscript journal may be part of a collection on Simonton at Princeton Theological Seminary. Another transcript copy can be found in the Historical Museum of the Presbyterian Seminary in Campinas, Brazil.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Simonton, A. G (Ashbel Green), 1833-1867

Burke Library record group:

Missionary Research Library Archives: MRL9, Latin America

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Collection Inventory

Ashbel Green Simonton journal, 1852 -- 1866

Physical Description: 0.25 linear feet 0.25 linear feet; 1 box

Conditions Governing Access:

Conditions Governing Access

This series is open for research.

Arrangement

This series is arranged chronologically.

Scope and Contents

This series contains a transcription of Ashbel Green Simonton's journal, requested by his wife Helen Murdoch Simonton, covering his years at Princeton Seminary and his first years as a Presbyterian missionary in Brazil.

Title/Description	Instances	
Journal transcript, 1852-11-05 -- 1854-06-06	box 1	folder 1
Journal transcript, 1854-07-12 -- 1858-01-01	box 1	folder 2
Journal transcript, 1858-02-08 -- 1866-12-31	box 1	folder 3

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)