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Charles Peck Bush papers9503896

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary
Creator:	Bush, Charles P. (Charles Peck), 1813-1880
Title:	Charles Peck Bush papers
ID:	9503896
Date [inclusive]:	circa 1800 -- 1880
Physical Description:	0.25 linear feet 0.25 linear feet; 1 box
Language of the Material:	Tamil .
Abstract:	Charles Peck Bush was the District Secretary of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions for New York and alumnus of Union Theological Seminary, class of 1840. The collection contains a stylus from an Indian Hindu scribe, along with Indian palm leaf correspondence.

Preferred Citation

Item description, MRL3: Charles Peck Bush papers, circa 1800-1880, box #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

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Biographical / Historical

Charles Peck Bush was born in Brighton, NY on November 11, 1813 to David and Laura Peck Bush. In 1835 he served as a delegate to the State Anti-Slavery Convention in Utica, NY. He attended New Haven Theological Seminary from 1837-1839, and completed his Masters of Divinity degree at Union Theological Seminary in 1840. Bush served a number of appointments as pastor, including Tenth Presbyterian Church in New York, NY, Fourth Congregational Church in Norwich, CT, New England Congregational Church in Chicago, IL, and First Presbyterian Church in Beloit, WI. Rev. Dr. C. P. Bush married Elizabeth Bradford Homer and they had a daughter in 1847, Caroline C. Bush, who went on to serve as a missionary in Harpoot, Turkey for over thirty years. In 1860, Bush became District Secretary of the American Tract Society in New York City until 1863 when he moved to Rochester. He then served as District Secretary for the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions

(ABCFM), a position he held for the remainder of his life. In 1867 Hamilton College conferred upon him an honorary Doctorate of Divinity degree. Bush returned to New York City in 1871, where he continued to serve as District Secretary to the ABCFM until his death in 1880. Dr. Bush's keen interest in history and mission work is evidenced by his numerous biographical publications and speeches.

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Scope and Contents

This collection contains a stylus, including a knife, from an Indian Hindu scribe, along with Indian palm leaf correspondence in Tamil, and former gallery tags. Also included are two cards describing the materials and explaining their significance. (Palm leaf manuscripts date back as early as the 5th century BCE. The palm leaves were cut to size, traditionally 1 by 1.5 inches, and the text was inscribed with the metal stylus. Soot or coal powder was then mixed with oil and rubbed into the inscriptions so that the letters could be seen more easily. The material was wrapped and had specific meaning in the manner in which it was wrapped.)

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Arrangement

This collection is arranged in one series in original order.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

PDF converted to EAD and description updated by Leah Edelman. 2021-01-08

Conditions Governing Access

This collection may contain some restricted material. Restrictions related to specific material are listed in the detailed contents list.

Onsite storage.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Formerly part of the independent Missionary Research Library (MRL), these records were accessioned by the Burke Library at the time of the MRL's closure in 1976. This collection was donated by Charles Peck Bush.

Processing Information

Materials were placed in new acid-free folders and boxes. Any items in an advanced state of deterioration were placed in Mylar envelopes. Preservation department created a custom box for stylus and other items. The finding aid was created by Kristen Leigh Southworth and Brigitte C. Kamsler in 2013 with the support of the Henry Luce Foundation, and edited by Leah Edelman in 2021.

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.

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Related Materials

Related Materials

MRL 12: American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions records, 1878-1958, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Missions -- India
- South Asia
- Missionaries
- Bush, Charles P. (Charles Peck), 1813-1880

Burke Library record group:

Missionary Research Library Archives: MRL3, South Asia

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Collection Inventory

Charles Peck Bush papers, circa 1800 -- 1880

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

Language of the Material: Tamil.

Conditions Governing Access:

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Scope and Contents

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Title/Description	Instances
Stylus and palm leaf correspondence, circa 1800 -- 1880	box 1

Language of the Material: Tamil.

Conditions Governing Access:

Conditions Governing Access

This file is open for research, but contains items that are extremely fragile, necessitating great care in handling. Please contact Burke Library staff for more information.

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