

Guide to the Darrach Family Papers

MS 167



compiled by Staff of Manuscripts and Archives

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
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CALL NUMBER: MS 167

CREATOR: Darrach family

TITLE: Darrach family papers

DATES: 1810-1908

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 5 linear feet (13 boxes, 1 folio)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Correspondence, diaries, record books, school essays, lectures, and other papers of James Darrach, 1806-1889, who established an academy in Fishkill, NY, and from 1855 to 1864 served as superintendent of the New York Hospital. Correspondents include Darrach's wife, Helena White Darrach, and his sons Bartow and William. Additional correspondence is from Mary Darrach Craig, James Darrach, Thomas Raftery, and members of the Craig family. Bartow Darrach is represented by 125 letters to members of his family concerning his medical career in private practice and as a Union Army surgeon during the Civil War. The papers contain material relating to the social history of Quincy, Illinois where he resided from 1859 to 1861; medical procedures used in the army; and the Vicksburg campaign.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0167>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0167>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Lindley Eberstadt, 1957.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Preferred Citation

Darrach Family Papers (MS 167). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical

JAMES DARRACH, son of James and Elizabeth (Bradford) Darrach, was born in Philadelphia, Pa., June 27, 1806.

After graduation he learned the business of a woolen manufacturer at a factory in the village of Glenham, in Fishkill, N. Y., and engaged with his brother in this business in Manayunk, Pa. The hard times of 1836-1837 led to reverses, in consequence of which he left manufacturing in July, 1837, and for the next year was engaged in teaching in Walden, Orange County, N.Y. He was then employed as superintendent of the manufactory where he had learned his business, until in November, 1840, he settled on a farm near Walden. There he was engaged in teaching in an academy which he founded, and in insurance business, until December, 1854, when he was chosen superintendent of the New York Hospital on Broadway, opposite Pearl street. He remained in this position until December, 1864. The rest of his life was spent on his farm near Walden, and with his children. His health was much broken for two years before his death; in the fall of 1888 he settled in Fishkill-on-the Hudson, where he died after a painful illness on May 15, 1889, aged nearly 83 years.

He was an elder in the Presbyterian Church, both in Manayunk and New York City (Rev. Dr. Spring's); he was instrumental in the organization and building up of several churches, and always active in promoting the social and moral improvement of the communities in which he lived.

He was married on April 22, 1830, to Helena, eldest daughter of the Hon. Barlow White, M.D., of Fishkill Village, who survives him, with four of their nine children; of the three surviving sons, one is a graduate of this College in the Class of 1859.

* * * * *

WILLIAM BRADFORD DARRACH, the son of James Darrach (B.A. Yale, 1827) and Helena (White) Darrach, and grandson of James and Elizabeth (Bradford) Darrach, was born September 23, 1836, in Manayunk, Pa., where his father was a woolen manufacturer. Owing to business reverses in 1837 his father removed to Walden, N. Y., and later to Glenham, a village in Fishkill, N. Y., but from 1854 to 1864 he was Superintendent

of the New York Hospital, in New York City, from whence our classmate entered college early in 1855 with the Class of 1858. In September of the same year he joined the Class of 1859.

After graduation he studied theology in Princeton Theological Seminary, where he graduated in 1861. He was appointed, May 8, 1861, Chaplain of the Twentieth New York State Militia, and served until the following August. He was ordained as an evangelist by the Presbytery of New York, October 17, 1862, and was Stated Supply of the Presbyterian Church at Winneconne, Wis., 1863-1865; Missionary at Barnegat, N. J., 1865-1866; Stated Supply at Upper Mount Bethel, Pa., 1868-1871; Pastor at Shickshinny, Pa., 1871-1876; Stated Supply at Orwell, Pa., 1876-1877, at Lehman and North Moreland, Pa., 1878-1879, and at Scott, Pa., 1880-1881; without charge at Walden, N. Y., 1882-1889, except during 1886 when he was Pastor of the Reformed (Dutch) Church at Kerhonkson, N. Y.; without charge at Fishkill, N. Y., 1890-1893; Stated Supply of the Presbyterian Church at Mount Pleasant, Pa., 1894, and without charge at Newark, N. J., 1895. Since 1896, with the exception of the years 1900-1904, when he was at Ambler, Pa., he had resided at Newburgh, N. Y. He had not preached since 1904, the receipt of some legacies having placed him in easier circumstances, and during the later years of his life he had found occupation in selling books new and old, while at Ambler, Pa., and at Newburgh, N. Y.

He died of heart disease, at Newburgh, July 23, 1909, in the seventy-third year of his age. He was never married.

from the *Yale Obituary Record*.

Scope and Contents

The material in this collection is centered around James Darrach (1806-1889) for the period 1810-1880 and Mary (Darrach) Craig (1839-1907) and her family for the period 1880-1908.

The bulk of the collection consists of family correspondence, along with a number of diaries, account books, school essays and lectures, and miscellaneous documents. James Darrach was born in Philadelphia and educated at Yale (1827). After a number of rather unsuccessful years in business and farming, he established an academy in Fishkill, NY, which he headed until 1855 when he obtained the post of Superintendent of the New York Hospital, a position he held until 1864. There are several diaries concerning his life at Yale, and many letters, essays, and lectures, and other material concerning his years as academy principal and hospital administrator. In 1830 he married Helena White. There are about fifty letters from their eldest son Bartow, concerning his stay in Illinois (1847-1849) and his medical studies in Philadelphia (1849-1852). There are a number of letters to him while he practiced in Kansas during the crisis of 1855-1856. There are numerous letters from another son, William, telling of life as a student at Yale (1855-1859), Princeton Theological Seminary, and as a small town minister. There are also a number of letters from a protege of James Darrach, Thomas Raftory, who attended Phillips Academy, Andover and Princeton from 1856 to 1865. After 1880, the bulk of the material is concerned with Mary (Darrach) Craig, James Darrach's eldest daughter, and her family. There are numerous letters written during two European tours (1887-1888 and 1902-1903), as well as letters from tours of the Midwest and California during the same period. There are also a number of genealogical studies of the Darrach, Craig, and White families.

Collection Contents**Inventory, 1810-1908***5 linear feet (13 boxes)*

Correspondence		
b. 1	1810-1951	1810-1951
b. 2	1852-1857	1852-1857
b. 3	1858-1861	1858-1861
b. 4	1862-1868	1862-1868
b. 5	1869-1876	1869-1876
b. 6	1877-1895	1877-1895
b. 7	1896-1908	1896-1908
b. 8	Undated	Undated
b. 8	Craig, Mary (Darrach)	
b. 8	Darrach, Emily	
b. 8	Darrach, Helena (White)	
b. 8	Darrach, James	
b. 8	Darrach, Mary	
b. 8	Darrach, William	
b. 8	White, Barlow	
b. 8	White family	
b. 8	Miscellaneous	
Bartow Darrach		
b. 8	1857-1863	1857-1863
b. 8	Condolences	
Writings		
James Darrach		
b. 9	Autobiographical essay	
b. 9	Speeches	
b. 9	Helena (White) Darrach: "A Talk about the Bible"	
b. 9	William B. Darrach: student essays	

Writings (continued)

b. 9	Thomas Darrach: student essays	
b. 9	Bartow Darrach: student essays	
	Mary (Darrach) Craig	
b. 9	"The Life and Times of Catheryna Rombout, or Madam Brett" English	
b. 9	"An Outline of the History of the Newburgh Home for the Friendless" English	
b. 9	Notes and miscellaneous writings	
b. 9	Notes of chemistry lectures	
b. 9	Unidentified student essays	
b. 9	Unidentified miscellaneous writings	
b. 9	Legal papers	
b. 9	Newburgh, NY, publications related to civic activities	
b. 9	D.A.R. publications	
b. 9	Infant pin	
	Bound volumes	
	James Darrach	
b. 10	Receipt book	1824, 1859
b. 10	Diaries	1826-1834
b. 10	Bank book	1835-1836
b. 10	"Catalogue of books...," English	1889
b. 10	Student notebook	undated
b. 10	Helena (White) Darrach: notebook with diary and commonplace entries	1826-1857
	Thomas Darrach	
b. 10	Penmanship notebook	undated
b. 10	Cash book	1855
b. 10	"Definition Book," English	1855
b. 11	Helena (White) Darrach: receipt books	1886-1893
	Mary (Darrach) Craig	
b. 11	Diary	1878-1890

Bound volumes > Mary (Darrach) Craig (continued)

b. 11	Travel diary, 1896-1897 (U.S.), 1902 (voyage to Naples)	
b. 11	Notebook of compositions	undated
b. 11	Samuel Darrach: student notebook	undated
b. 11	E.D. Buckingham: address book	1903
b. 11	Notebook for Sunday School teaching	1835
b. 11	Recipe books	1863, 1883, undated
b. 11	Sketchbook with notes	1858-1862
b. 11	Maritime diary, n.d. (NY to Wilmington, NC)	
b. 11	<i>Historical Sketch and Directory of the Town of Fishkill</i> , with clippings, notes, and photographs laid in	1866
b. 12	Genealogical material	
	Photographs	
b. 13	Helena (White) Darrach: family album	
b. 13	Unidentified house	
b. 13	Two unidentified women	
b. 13	Engraving plate of [James Darrach (1828-1900)?]	
b. 14, f. 11	Unidentified man and woman	
b. 14, f. 11	"Scene at New York Hospital during Grandfather James Darrach's Superintendency, Civil War days"	

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.

Subjects

Armed Forces
Education
Educators
Families
Medicine
Medicine, Military
Physicians
Shipping
Students

Corporate Bodies

United States. Army (Surgeons)
Yale University -- Students

Geographic Names

Europe -- Description and travel
Illinois -- History -- 1778-1865
Quincy (Ill.) -- History
United States -- Description and travel
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
-- Medical care
Vicksburg -- Siege, 1863

Genres / Formats

Diaries

Occupations

Health services administrators

Names

Craig, Mary Darrach
Darrach, Bartow, 1831-1863
Darrach, Helena White
Darrach, James, 1806-1889
Darrach, William Bradford, 1836-1909
Raftery, Thomas

Families

Craig family
Darrach family