

# Guide to the William S. Deming Papers

MS 1128



compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz

April 1983

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1128

**CREATOR:** Deming, William Smith, 1815-1839

**TITLE:** William Smith Deming papers

**DATES:** 1833-1837

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.25 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The papers consist of seventy-four letters exchanged between William S. Deming and his family and friends during Deming's years at Yale College (1833-1837). Since Deming was poor, many of his letters discuss the expenses of student life. His father's letters from Newington, Connecticut include advice on maintaining his health, family news, and discussions of monetary problems. Included also is a bill from Yale College (1836).

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1128>

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## 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.1128>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](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

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Benton L. Hatch, 1955.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

William Smith Deming Papers. Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Biographical / Historical

William Smith Deming was born in Newington, Connecticut, on November 27, 1815. He became interested in religion in 1831 and commenced study at Westfield Academy, preparing for work in the gospel ministry. He graduated from Yale College in 1837 and spent the following year at Prospect Hill, Virginia, as a teacher. In August, 1839, he returned to Connecticut in poor health and died on September 14, 1839.

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## Scope and Contents

This small collection consists of seventy-four letters exchanged by William Smith Deming with his family and a few friends between 1833 and 1837, during his study at Yale College. There is also a notice signed by Wyllys Warner (1836 Oct 31) concerning Deming's unpaid college bills. The papers are arranged in a single chronological sequence.

The letters from Deming's father, William Deming of Newington, Connecticut, and others include advice on maintaining one's health through physical labor and proper diet, family news, and monetary problems. Deming's own letters describe his activities at Yale and go into detail about the expenses of student life. He experienced financial difficulties in maintaining himself at Yale, and received money from his family and the citizens of Newington before leaving college in 1836 to raise money by teaching school in Killingworth, Connecticut.

These papers were given to Yale University in 1955 by Benton L. Hatch. They were formerly part of the Yale Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection.

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## Collection Contents

### Correspondence

b. 1, f. 1	1833 Oct-1834 Feb
b. 1, f. 2	1834 Mar-Jul
b. 1, f. 3	1834 Oct-Dec
b. 1, f. 4	1835 Feb-Jul
b. 1, f. 5	1835 Aug-Dec
b. 1, f. 6	1836 Jan-Apr
b. 1, f. 7	1836 Jun-Aug
b. 1, f. 8	1836 Oct-Nov 3
b. 1, f. 9	1836 Nov 10-1837
b. 1, f. 10 - 13	n.d.

## **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.

### **Geographic Names**

Newington (Conn.)

### **Names**

Deming, William, 1792-1865

Deming, William Smith

### **Corporate Bodies**

Yale College (1718-1887). Class of 1837

Yale University -- Students