

Archives and Special Collections

Dickinson College

Carlisle, PA

**COLLECTION REGISTER**

Name: **Hargis, James Hepburn (1847-1895)** **MC 2003.2**

Material: Papers (1861-1874)

Volume: 0.25 linear feet (1 Document Box)

Donation: Gift of Dr. Milton E. Flower, 1978

Usage: These materials have been donated without restrictions on usage.

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

James "Jesse" Hepburn Hargis was born May 7, 1847 in Fairmont, Indiana, but his family moved to Oak Hill, Virginia sometime before 1866. Little else is known of his early life. At the age of 19, Hargis entered Dickinson as a member of the Class of 1870. While at the College he excelled in oration and religious studies. He was a member of the Union Philosophical society as well as the Phi Kappa Sigma fraternity. After graduating Hargis worked in education for several years before becoming a clergyman; he earned a doctorate of divinity in 1888. Most of his congregations were in the Philadelphia area, specifically Germantown, where he eventually settled. In a post that foreshadowed Dickinson's own study abroad programs, Hargis revived and solidified a Methodist mission in Rome. He served as a Dickinson trustee from 1880 to 1883. Hargis married Florence Woodward of Carlisle in 1874 and the couple had four children: Lucia C., Jesse W., Harry, and James. James Hepburn Hargis died of a heart attack and acute kidney failure on August 7, 1895 at his home in Germantown.

**COLLECTION DESCRIPTION**

The James Hepburn Hargis collection is housed in one document box. The collection is organized into two series, Essays and Orations and Miscellaneous. The first series, Essays and Orations, contains the manuscripts of essays and orations written by Hargis. Most of these essays appear to be sermons, but a few are identified as essays for school. The materials in this series are arranged alphabetically by title.

The second series, Miscellaneous, consists of materials dealing mostly with Hargis's involvement with the Belles Lettres Literary Society and oratorical contests while at Dickinson. These items include programs from dinners and commencement ceremonies, newspaper

clippings, and a school notebook. These materials are arranged chronologically, with undated materials preceding those with dates.

## COLLECTION INVENTORY

### BOX 1 - MC 2003.2

#### ESSAYS AND ORATIONS

- Folder 01) "Address Delivered at Eighty Fourth Anniversary of Belles Lettres Society, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1870"
- Folder 02) "Analysis of Butler's Analogy"
- Folder 03) "The Bible"
- Folder 04) "Christmas Chopsticks"
- Folder 05) "Church Organizations and Government"
- Folder 06) "Doctrines of the Bible"
- Folder 07) "Ecclesiastical History"
- Folder 08) "Personal Religious Life and Habits"

#### MISCELLANEOUS

- Folder 09) Note from Theodore Appel - undated
- Folder 10) Calling card to Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Woodward and Family - undated
- Folder 11) School Notebook - May - Nov. 1861
- Folder 12) Sophomore Oration Prize Notification - 1867-1868
- Folder 13) Dickinson College Catalogue - 1867-1868
- Folder 14) Page from *Carlisle Herald* - June 26, 1868  
[Dickinson Commencement, 1868]
- Folder 15) Program from Junior Oratorical Prize Contest - June 21, 1869
- Folder 16) Program from the 84th Anniversary of Belles Lettres - Feb. 22, 1870
- Folder 17) Newspaper clippings  
"College Prank"  
84th Anniversary of Belles Lettres - Feb. 22, 1870
- Folder 18) List of "Books to be Read" - Apr. 25, 1870
- Folder 19) Program for President's Dinner - June 6, 1870  
Program for the 87<sup>th</sup> Commencement - June 9, 1870 (2)
- Folder 20) *Dickinsonian* - May 5, 1874  
[Hargis's wedding announcement]

This collection register was prepared by John "J.T." Thompson, March 2003.