

Archives and Special Collections

Dickinson College

Carlisle, PA

**COLLECTION REGISTER**

Name: **Gale, Wakefield (1797-1881)** **MC 1998.11**

Material: Family Papers (1816-1860)

Volume: 1 linear foot (Document Boxes 1-2)

Donation: Purchase, 1964-1966

Usage: There are no usage restrictions on these materials.

**BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE**

Reverend Wakefield Gale, a Congregational clergyman in Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts, was born in 1797. He was the eldest son of Joseph Gale (1768-1851) and Susannah Frye of Pembroke, New Hampshire, who were married November 4, 1794. Besides Wakefield, Joseph and Susannah had five other children: Sally, born in 1795; Susan, born in 1799 (married Calvin Ransom); Lucinda, born in 1803 (married Solomon Kitteridge); John Adams, born in 1807; and Joseph Worcester, Jr., born in 1809.

Wakefield was educated at Phillips Andover Academy in Andover, Massachusetts, between 1816 and 1818. He went on to study at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire between 1818 and 1822, and ultimately completed his studies at Andover Theological Seminary between 1822 and 1825.

In 1826 Wakefield began a missionary position in Eastport, Maine by appointment of the Board of Trustees of the Massachusetts Missionary Society. He later preached for short periods in North Yarmouth, Maine, Gloucester, Massachusetts, and Boston. Wakefield then maintained a more permanent position in Rockport, Massachusetts beginning in 1841.

On September 18, 1828 Wakefield married Miss Mary Louise Bigelow, daughter of Lydia Bigelow of Colchester, Connecticut. Mary Louise had four sisters (Mary Eliza, Mrs. Ann Eliza Safford, Mrs. Abby Jane Safford, Mrs. Ann Elizabeth Turner) and one brother (A.J. Bigelow). Wakefield and Mary Louise had eleven children themselves: Wilton Wakefield, born in 1832; Wilton Turner born in 1833; Ann Eliza Safford born in 1835 (married Lyman Williston); William Turner, born in 1837; Joseph Wakefield, born in 1838 (married Hattie Jewell); Edward, born in 1841; Justin Edwards, born in 1844; Jeremiah Evarts, twin of Justin; Mary Louisa, born in 1846; John Newton, born in 1848; and Newton Bigelow, born in 1850.

Mary Louise Gale died April 12, 1861, and Wakefield passed away in 1881.

## COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The Wakefield Gale collection of family papers consists of the correspondence of the Gale and related families, primarily to and from Reverend Wakefield Gale and his wife Mary Louise between 1816 and 1860. One folder of miscellaneous material is filed at the end of the collection.

In general, the Correspondence are arranged alphabetically by author. Miscellaneous letters received by Wakefield and May Louise, too numerous to warrant individual author identification, are filed after the letters authored by each of them and arranged chronologically. For the most part, the correspondence in this collection concerns the daily activities of the family members, including school, church, callers that may have stopped by, and the occasional excursion to Boston. Those letters to Wakefield from non-family members generally relate to his duties as a minister or missionary.

The single folder of Miscellaneous material contains Wakefield's missionary instructions from the year 1827 that appoint him to a post in Eastport, Maine, a sheet of recommendations for the hymnal "Parish Hymns," and two items regarding the American Temperance Society.

A separate folder containing Gale family genealogical notes can be found within the collection of biographical drop files.

## COLLECTION INVENTORY

### BOX 1 - MC 1998.11

#### CORRESPONDENCE

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| Baily, Lebbius, Jr.   |   |
| Folder 01)            | Letters to Wakefield Gale - 1827-1834                       |
| Bigelow, A., J.       |   |
| Folder 02)            | Letters to Wakefield Gale - 1832-1835                       |
| Bigelow, Mrs. Lydia   |   |
| Folder 03)            | Letters to her daughter, Mary Louisa Bigelow Gale - 1831    |
| Folder 04)            | Letter to Catherine Chester - 1826                          |
| Bigelow, Mary Eliza   |   |
| Folder 05)            | Letters to her sister, Mary Louisa Bigelow Gale - 1823-1830 |
| Brooks, Caroline      |   |
| Folder 06)            | Letters to Mary Louisa Bigelow Gale - 1830-1846             |
| Brown, Titus          |   |
| Folder 07)            | Letters to Wakefield Gale - 1836                            |
| Burley, Paulina R.    |   |
| Folder 08)            | Letters to Wakefield Gale -1825-1828                        |
| Burnham, Rev. Abraham |   |
| Folder 09)            | Letters to Wakefield Gale - 1817-1849                       |

**BOX 1 - MC 1998.11 (cont.)**

CORRESPONDENCE (cont.)

- Chester, S.M.  
Folder 10) Letters to Mary Louisa Bigelow Gale - 1825-1826
- Crossett, Rev. R. & Dorothea F.  
Folder 11) Letters to Wakefield & Mary Louisa Bigelow Gale - 1831-1837
- Cummings, Asa  
Folder 12) Letters to Wakefield Gale -1827
- Frye, Jonathan  
Folder 13) Letters to Wakefield Gale - 1860
- Gale, John A.  
Folder 14) Letters to his brother, Wakefield Gale - 1824-1860
- Gale, Joseph, Sr.  
Folder 15) Letters to his son, Wakefield Gale - 1817-1847
- Gale, Joseph, Jr.  
Folder 16) Letters to his brother, Wakefield Gale - 1829-1838
- Gale, Joseph & Susannah  
Folder 17) Letters to their son, Wakefield Gale - 1834-1847
- Gale, Lucinda  
Folder 18) Letters to her brother, Wakefield Gale - 1816-1832
- Gale, Mrs. Mary Louisa Bigelow  
Folder 19) Letters to her sister, Mrs. Abby Jane Bigelow Safford - 1820-1830  
Folder 20) Letters received - 1825-1829  
Folder 21) Letters received - 1830-1835  
Folder 22) Letters received - 1836-1854 & no date
- Gale, Susan  
Folder 23) Letters to her brother, Wakefield Gale - 1816-1827
- Gale, Susannah  
Folder 24) Letters to her son, Wakefield Gale - 1817-1834
- Gale, Wakefield  
Folder 25) Letter to his brother, John A. Gale - 1824  
Folder 26) Letters to his father, Joseph Gale, Sr. - 1817-1825  
Folder 27) Letters to his brother, Joseph Gale, Jr. - 1819-1837  
Folder 28) Letters to his sister, Mary L. Gale - 1831-1847  
Folder 29) Letters to his mother, Susannah Gale - 1816-1837  
Folder 30) Letters to parents, Joseph & Susannah Gale - 1816-1827  
Folder 31) Letters to parents, Joseph & Susannah Gale - 1828-1848

**BOX 2 - MC 1998.11**

CORRESPONDENCE (cont.)

Gale, Wakefield

- Folder 01) Letter to Mrs. Mosley Mayhew - 1824
- Folder 02) Letters received - 1817-1826
- Folder 03) Letters received - 1827-1836
- Folder 04) Letters received - 1837-1852 & no date

Green, Hannah C.

- Folder 05) Letters to Mary Louisa Bigelow Gale - 1835-1851

Ives, Maria

- Folder 06) Letters to Mary Louisa Bigelow Gale - 1825-1827

Kimball, Otis

- Folder 07) Letters to his mother - 1834

Mayhew, Mrs. Mosely

- Folder 08) Letters to Wakefield Gale - 1824

Mitchell, Mary A.

- Folder 09) Letters to Mary Louisa Bigelow Gale - 1835-1838

Noyes, Julia Ann

- Folder 10) Letters to Mary Louisa Bigelow Gale - 1833

Prince, Ez

- Folder 11) Letters to Wakefield Gale - 1836-1842

Reid, Joseph & Sara

- Folder 12) Letter to Anne E. Safford - 1835

Safford, Mrs. Anne Elizabeth

- Folder 13) Letter to her mother, Lydia Bigelow - 1833
- Folder 14) Letters to her sister, Mary Louisa Bigelow Gale - 1832-1842
- Folder 15) Letter to Wakefield Gale - 1841

Turner, Mrs. Ann Eliza

- Folder 16) Letters to her sister, Mary Louisa Bigelow Gale - 1825-1833

White, Mrs. Mary A. Dodge

- Folder 17) Letters to Mary Louisa Bigelow Gale - 1825-1829
- Folder 18) Letters to Mary Louisa Bigelow Gale - 1830-1840
- Folder 19) Letters to Mary Louisa Bigelow Gale - 1841-1858 & no date

MISCELLANEOUS

- Folder 20) Miscellaneous material