

# NEW HAVEN COLONY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## LIBRARY

Manuscripts

No. 127

Date processed: February 9, 1981

- I. Title Morse-Corbin Family Papers, 1819-1971.
- II. The papers of the Morse-Corbin families deposited in the Library on Oct. 3, 1980, by Mrs. William S. Stewart. In ~~conversion of the deposit to a gift.~~ a gift.
- III. Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 1 1/2 feet.  
Approximate number of items: 995 (incl. 6 vols. and 1 microfilm reel)
- IV. Restrictions: None

V. Literary rights of the unpublished writings of in these papers, and in other collections of papers in the custody of the New Haven Colony Historical Society Library, have been dedicated to the New Haven Colony Historical Society.

VI. Press release was issued on

VII. Biographical note:

The Morse family is one of the oldest in New England. Stephen Morse emigrated from England to Ipswich, Mass. in 1635. Gardner Morse, a direct descendent, was born in Marlboro, Mass. in 1809, and came to New Haven to live in 1825. At first he worked for Stephen Bishop, grocer and wholesaler. Later, with Charles Peterson, he had a wholesale drug and oil business which became Spencer and Mathews. Subsequently, Gardner Morse and his son, Joseph, had a real estate and fire insurance company. He died May 16, 1896 and is buried in the Grove Street Cemetery. Gardner Morse was active in the local militia and was appointed Colonel of the 2nd Connecticut Regiment, a title he retained for life. He also served as Quartermaster of the 3rd Regiment Brigade Artillery and as Major of the 2nd Company of Governor's Foot Guard. (continued next page)

VIII. Analysis:

The collection is contained in three boxes. The papers comprise letters, diaries, genealogical charts, and notes pertaining to the Gardner-Morse family chiefly, and to the Austin, Beals, Corbin, Hamilton, How, Hull, Wilder, and other collateral families.

The order of the arrangement is as follows: genealogy, correspondence arranged chronologically and grouped by writer or addressee; family and New Haven photographs; Gardner Morse memorabilia; copy of tax list of Joseph Morse, Marlboro, 1733; journals, including correspondence concerning publication of Diary of Hezekiah Hull, 1796-1823.

The numbers in parentheses on right indicate the number of items per folder.

Biographical note cont.

Gardner Morse married three times: Julia Ann Austin from 1833-1841; Mary Brigham from 1846-1856, and Margaret Belcher from 1859-1868. His three wives bore him twelve children.

Morse was a prominent citizen of New Haven. His recollections have been published in the Papers of the New Haven Colony Historical Society, Vol. 5, pp.89-108.

Of his many children, several lived in New Haven. Gardner Morse Jr. served in Virginia during the Civil War and then worked in Baltimore for the C.S. Maltby Co., an oyster cannery. In 1869 he returned to New Haven. In 1870 he married Mary Hamilton of Northampton, Mass., and joined the New Haven Gas Light Co where he was Secretary for 35 years.

Gardner Jr. and his brother, William, helped start the Waltonian Club in New Haven, an angler's group. After some time in the midwest, William became an accountant in New Haven. He served first as Sergeant in the New Haven Grays and then as Captain of the 20th Connecticut Volunteers.

Elliot Morse (b.1846) was a Secretary <sup>of</sup> ~~at~~ Connecticut Savings Bank.

Joseph B. Morse (b.1880) attended Yale as an undergraduate and law student and succeeded to the fire insurance business of his father.

Charles Theodore Morse (1853-1889) attended Yale Scientific School and Law School.

Gardner Morse's daughter, Rebekah How Morse Corbin and her daughter, Mary Corbin Bunts Stewart, compiled this collection of family records and donated it to the New Haven Colony Historical Society.

## Box I.

## Folder

- Correspondence concerning the collection (5)
- A. Genealogical notes: Austin, Beals, Bunts, 1902-1938. (18)
- B. Genealogical notes: Hamilton, How, Hull, Reed, Wilder  
1640-1941. (17)
- C. Morse genealogy, 1634-1952. (13)
- D. Abner Morse partial genealogy and correspondence with Gardner  
Morse, 1848 (21)
- D1 Genealogical and historical sketch of Morses in England and  
America from beginnings to 1893, compiled by Media Research  
Bureau. (8)
- D2 Correspondence of Joseph B. Morse and Eleanor Nöffziger  
1969-1970 concerning family genealogy. (6)
- E. Correspondence of Joseph B. Morse and Mary Corbin Bunts 1974. (15)
- F. Genealogical journal of Rebekah How Morse Corbin, partially  
covering family from 1634-1961. 22p. (14.5)
- G. Microfilm of early Morse-How Genealogy. *Missing 4-6-89* (1 reel) ←
- H. Newspaper marriage and obituary notices of Morse family and  
article in New Haven Register, 1833-1952. (7)
- I. Genealogy of Mary Whiting Corbin Bunts and husband, Alexander  
Bunts, beginning with Mayflower, 1620-1930. (5)
- J. Genealogical charts 1688-1872. (9)
- K. " " 1599-1800. (15)
- L. " " 1594-1770 (15)
- M. " " 1638-1799 (15)
- N. " " 1599-1696 (18)
- O. " " 1617-1695 (18)
- P. " " 1583-1684 (20)
- Q. " " 1575-1695 (20)
- R. Copy of letter of Hezekiah Hull from New Orleans to nieces,  
Amelia Hull and Julia Ann Austin, 1821. (2)
- S. Letter from Phoebe Abbott, mother of Sara K. Hull, to  
Mehitable Hull, mother of Hezekiah, upon his death, with  
typescript and hand copy, 1823 (6)
- T. Correspondence of Josiah and Abigail Morse Wilson with  
Gardner Morse, with typescript, 1825-1842. (18)
- U. Letters from Cyrus Shepards and from Truman Morse to Gardner  
Morse with typescript of Truman Morse letter, 1825 and 1828. (4)

## Box I. cont.

## Folder

- V. Typescript of letter of Gardner Morse to parents, Stephen and Rebekah How (no original), 1826. (3)
- W. Letters of Rebekah Morse Warren to her brother, Gardner Morse, with typescript exclusive of 1829 letter, 1826-1836. (18)
- X. Letters of Stephen Morse, Jr. to brother, Gardner Morse, including note from wife, Elizabeth T., 1834 1825-1838. (14)
- Y. Typescripts of Folder X, excluding note of 1825 and letter of April 11, 1830. (17)
- Z. Letters of Elizabeth T. Morse to Gardner and Julia Ann Morse, with typescripts, and typescript of letter of Amelia Hull to cousin, Julia Ann Austin (no original) 1831-1841. (8)

## Box II.

## Folder

- A. Correspondence of Gardner Morse with brother, Stephen Morse; wife, Mary Brigham Morse; and business associates Harpin Lum and Arthur C. Ducat, 1836-1872, also to Abner Morse, cousin. (10)
- B. Typescript of some of Folder A and additional family correspondence having no originals, 1834-1841. (18)
- C. Correspondence of Gardner Morse with his family concerning death of his first wife, Julia Ann Austin, 1841-1842. (9)
- D. Typescript of Folder C.
- E. Correspondence with typescripts of Gardner Morse with family; nephew, I.C. Burrage; brother, Josiah; son, Elliot; wife, Margaret Belcher; invitation to Gardner and wife, Julia Ann Austin; and poem by George Brigham to Sarah Morse, daughter of Gardner and Mary Brigham. No typescript of poem and additional two letters by unknown authors and addresses for which there are no originals, 1842-1862. (17)
- F. Correspondence of Elliot Morse with Aunt Jennie and Aunt Mary Ann, E.R. Fisher, Sam Pease, Lyman Hapgood, Charles S. Brigham, and tax receipt for 1870, 1863-1878. (11)
- G. Correspondence of Elliot Morse with brother, Gardner, Jr. and sister, Addie, 1862-1867. (14)
- H. Correspondence of Elliot Morse with brother, William W. and sister, Sarah, 1863-1877. (13)
- I. Family photographs, including New Haven residence of Gardner Morse II, n.d. (19)
- J. Photographs of Thaddeus (1782-1866) and Almira Hull Austin (1790-1869). (2)
- J<sub>1</sub> Genealogical notes and embroidered bookmarks taken from bible of Thaddeus Austin (7)

## Box II cont.

## Folder

- K. Photographs of New Haven and Yale. (7)
- L. Gardner Morse military papers, deed to land, medical receipt, and signature, 1827-1845, (14)
- M. Copy of tax list of Joseph Morse, Constable of Marlborough, Mass. 1733. (8)
- N. Journal of Hezekiah Hull on trip from New Haven to New Orleans as a missionary, 1819-1820. 173p. (1v.)
- O. Typescript of Folder N with handwritten background notes by Mary Corbin Bunts. (67)
- O<sub>1</sub> Genealogical notes taken from bible of Hezekiah Hull
- P. Diary of Sarah K. Hull of honeymoon trip from Boston to New Orleans with Hezekiah Hull, 1822. [She later married his brother, Sidney] (1v.)
- Q. Typescript of Folder P.
- R. Recollections and memorabilia of Rebekah How Morse Corbin, 1925-26. (35)
- S. Typescript of Folder R.
- T. Diary of Ella Hull, 1859. 72p. (1v.)
- U. Correspondence of Mary Corbin Bunts concerning publication of Diary of Hezekiah Hull, 1939-1971. (8)
- V. Unidentified speech and unidentified letter concerning incident on Broadway, New York City, [era of gaslight] n.d. (3)

## Box III

Addendum 1989

## Folder

- A. Genealogy notebook compiled by Mary Hamilton Morse on Hamilton Family (1 v., 56)
- B. Genealogy notebooks compiled by Mary Hamilton Morse (2 v.)
- C. Letters from Charles Morse to Henry A Munson, Esq. 27 Nov 1849, 22 Nov 1857 (2)
- D. Letter to Gardiner Morse from Henry W Edwards 14 Sep 1836 (1)
- E. Genealogical information on the descendants of Joseph Morse (2)
- F. How-Hubbard-Bulkeley-Wheeler Genealogy (3)
- G. Petition to the General Assembly of the Colony of Connecticut to commission the Governor's Second Company of Guards (1)