



The New York Public Library  
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

**Dorothea Lynde Dix letters**

1848-1858

MssCol 4348

## Summary

**Creator:** Dix, Dorothea Lynde, 1802-1887

**Title:** Dorothea Lynde Dix letters

**Date:** 1848-1858

**Size:** .1 linear feet (1 folder)

**Abstract:** Dorothea Lynde Dix (1802-1887) was an American mental health activist whose efforts culminated in the Bill for the Benefit of the Indigent Insane, one of the first public mental health initiatives in the United States. The collection consists of letters written by Dix to various individuals, with the majority addressed to William W. Hacker and other members of the Hacker family of Philadelphia between 1848 and 1852. Letters relate chiefly to her philanthropy, travels, and family matters

**Physical Location:** MssCol 4348

**Preferred citation:** Dorothea Lynde Dix letters, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

## Custodial History

Some items in the collection were originally received as part of the Ford collection.

## Key Terms

### Occupations

Reformers

### Subjects

Women social reformers -- United States

### Names

Dix, Dorothea Lynde, 1802-1887  
Dix, Dorothea Lynde, 1802-1887  
Ford collection