

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION
ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # 85 M 79

Location 4-J-4 (L)

Title Maria Silliman Church Papers

Approximate inclusive dates 1775 - 1862 Bulk 1830's

Date of receipt June 20, 1944 Received from Miss Marian C. Coffin

Volume on arrival Two Boxes

Number of boxes (after reboxing) Two AB

Condition Fair

Restrictions None POSITIVE MICROFILM AVAILABLE

Description

Maria Silliman Church (1810-1880) was the daughter of Professor Benjamin Silliman Sr., widely known physicist who founded "The American Journal of Sciences and Arts." Miss Silliman married a large landowner in Conn., Mr. John Barker Church, in the year 1830. She spent her time rearing and educating her seven children.

The collection consists mainly of correspondence written during the years 1829-1858. Approximately half the letters are to and from her parents, Harriet and Benjamin Silliman Sr. of New Haven. Another quarter is correspondence with her husband and the rest are to and from a wide range of other family members. Maria maintained a close ~~and up-to-date~~ relationship with family and friends even though there was always distance between them and personal problems were not always easy to phrase on paper. In spite of this the letters offer a detailed portrayal of how difficult day-to-day life could be. We learn of the many moments of happiness, the births, illnesses and deaths this family endured during these years.

BOX 1- MARIA CHURCH CORRESPONDENCE 1829 - 1838
BOX 2- MARIA CHURCH CORRESPONDENCE 1839 - 1858
CHURCH FAMILY DOCUMENTS 1775 - 1862

Special Formats ☐ Photographs ☐ Maps ☐ Audio Tapes ☐ Films ☐ Graphics
☐ Artifacts ☐ Machine-readable records
☐ Other (list) _____

Temporary catalog card added entries

Church Family; Connecticut - New Haven;
~~Letters~~; Silliman Family; Women -
Social Conditions; 1776-1800; 1801-
1825; 1826-1850; 1851-1875.

Accessioned by L. Bailey

Date Oct. 18, 1985