



The New York Public Library
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

John Griscom correspondence

1804-1851

MssCol 1251

Summary

Creator: Griscom, John, 1774-1852

Title: John Griscom correspondence

Date: 1804-1851

Size: .3 linear feet (1 box)

Source: Transfer, Ford collection

Abstract: John Griscom (1774-1852) was the first American educator to teach chemistry in 1803. He taught at Queens College (now Rutgers University) from 1812 to 1828 and at Columbia College; organized the New York High School for Boys in 1825; was principal of the Friend's School in Providence, R.I.; and founded the New York Society for the Prevention of Pauperism, the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents, and the House of Refuge which was the first reformatory in the United States. Collection consists of letters to Griscom, with a few by him, concerning education, chemistry, pauperism, juvenile delinquency, and the medical properties of cod-liver oil and iodine. Some letters relate to personal and family matters.

Access: Advance notice required.

Preferred citation: John Griscom correspondence, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Language of the Material: Materials in English, with some letters in French

Creator History

John Griscom (1774-1852) was the first American educator to teach chemistry in 1803. He taught at Queens College (now Rutgers University) from 1812 to 1828 and at Columbia College; organized the New York High School for Boys in 1825; was principal of the Friend's School in Providence, R.I.; and founded the New York Society for the Prevention of Pauperism, the Society for the Reformation of Juvenile Delinquents, and the House of Refuge which was the first reformatory in the United States.

Scope and Content Note

Collection consists of letters to Griscom, with a few by him, concerning education, chemistry, pauperism, juvenile delinquency, and the medical properties of cod-liver oil and iodine. Some letters relate to personal and family matters.

Key Terms

Subjects

Chemistry -- Study and teaching (Higher)
Cod-liver oil -- Therapeutic use
Education -- New York (State) -- New York
Iodine -- Therapeutic use
Juvenile delinquency -- New York (State) -- New York
Poor -- New York (State) -- New York
Quakers -- Rhode Island -- Providence
Reformatories -- New York (State) -- New York

Occupations

Chemists
Educators

Geographic Names

New York (N.Y.) -- Social conditions

Names

Griscom, John, 1774-1852
Griscom family