

GODARD COLLECTION

Introduction

157 unidentified glass plate negatives and 19 glass slides were found in a box in Vault 12, which, according to an accompanying note (reproduced below), was brought to the Library from George Godard's home. Mr. Godard was State Librarian from 1900-1936.

CONNECTICUT STATE LIBRARY, HARTFORD

This box and contents was brought to the Library from Mr. Godard's home February 24, 1936 at Paul Godard's suggestion as it was nothing wanted by the family and he thought we might want it for the G.A.R. records. Upon showing it to Mr. Hale, it was decided to put it with the G.A.R. material in Vault 12, although part of the "slides" seem to be missing, namely, "The Song," which is mentioned.

LGG

Examination of the contents and of 118 prints made from the negatives in 1977 disclosed that the material could be grouped in several categories - Grand Army of the Republic, Hartford scenes, family pictures (possibly of Mr. Godard, his family and friends), Connecticut Magazine, and Miscellaneous. The fact that many of the pictures could be identified in the Connecticut Magazine

(published 1895-1908) resulted in the decision to catalog the contents of the Godard box in the 380's with the Randall collection, which contains many Connecticut Magazine photographs. As stated above, Mr. Randall was closely associated with Connecticut Magazine. Mr. Godard's connection with it is presumed to be in his capacity as State Librarian. (See appended material here and in PG 380)

Arrangement

1. The 118 prints are arranged as follows. "G" preceding each number refers to "Godard." Negatives are stored separately.

Connecticut Magazine G1-G30 --- Box 1

Includes pictures of Slater Memorial/Norwich Free Academy interiors, Windsor, and several other Conn. towns. Identifications on reverse.

Hartford G31-56

Rooftop and scenic view of Hartford buildings and parks. Identifications on reverse.

Family pictures G57-G86

Photos. presumed to include pictures of Mr. Godard as a young man. A few tentative identifications based on Conn. Magazine (See appended material.)"

Miscellaneous G87-G113

Probably views of Conn. shore, lakes, houses.

One of an organ loft, probably a Hartford Church.

Grand Army of the Republic G114-G118

- 5 prints made of Civil War officers presumed to be members of the G.A.R. 2 negatives of Jeff Davis were not printed. The negatives are in poor condition and are stored separately.

- Original Song - The Lone Sentinel. Dedicated to the G.A.R. in honor of the unknown dead.

Set of 7 slides.

- 12 Civil War pictures - some M. Brady photos?

In wooden holders.

*Godard Family. 5 prints of Harvey, George and sons of Harvey.
Donated in June 1986 by William S. Hart*

Related Materials

PICTURE
GRP. 80

Civil War Collection

PICTURE
GRP. 386

Randall Survey of New Haven - Other Randall

Photographs - unprinted - Connecticut Magazine

PICTURE
GRP. 570

Connecticut Military Portraits



GEORGE S. GODARD.

GEORGE S. GODARD, STATE LIBRARIAN.

BY H. PHELPS ARMS.

The Committee of the State Library, which consisted of Governor Lounsbury, Huber Clark, Secretary of State, and Judge William Hamersley of the Supreme Court, held a meeting on November 28, 1900, and unanimously elected George S. Godard State Librarian to succeed the late Dr. Charles J. Hoadly. Mr. Godard had been acting librarian since the death of Dr. Hoadly.

George Seymour Godard was born in North Granby, Conn., June 17, 1865. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harry Godard. Mrs. Godard's maid-

en name was Sabra Lavinia Beach. Mr. Godard is descended in both lines from early New England ancestry. William Spencer of Hartford and John Case of Windsor and Simsbury, Conn., were his ancestors.

Mr. Godard prepared for college at Wesleyan Academy, Wilbraham, Mass. He was graduated from Wesleyan University in 1892. In 1893-4 Mr. Godard was a student at the Northwestern University at Evanston, Ill., and during the vacation season in 1893 he was a sergeant in the guide corps at the World's Fair, serv-

ing a part of the time as an orderly to Col. Edward Rice, U. S. A., the commandant of the Columbian Guard.

In 1895 Mr. Godard received the degree of B. D. from Yale. He was engaged in post-graduate work at Yale in 1896 for the degree of Ph. D., when he was called home by the death of his father. In August, 1898, he was appointed assistant to Dr. Hoadley, the librarian. Dr. Hoadley and Mr. Godard had a previous acquaintance of several years' standing, and the Doctor was sensible of his young friend's fitness for the duties of assistant State Librarian.

When the Cossitt Library at Granby was established, in 1890, Mr. Godard was appointed on the building committee, and later he arranged and catalogued the books in the library. In 1897 Mr. Godard married Miss Kate E. Dewey, a sister of County Commissioner Edward W. Dewey of Granby. They have one son, George Dewey.

The new librarian has always, even from his early days, shown a taste for library work. His practical work as a librarian began when he was at Wilbraham, and he has been actively engaged in such work ever since.

Until Dr. Hoadley's failing health forced him to relinquish the work of the library, Mr. Godard, from the date of his appointment as assistant secretary, was in close touch with him; and this intimate association with Dr. Hoadley proved to have been a most exceptional training for Mr. Godard for his new position.

Mr. Godard brings to the duties of his new office a well-rounded personality that readily adapts itself to the exacting demands that daily confront him; and his quick and clean-cut answers to those who make inquiries of him argue well for the government of the library. The committee is to be congratulated upon making so excellent a choice of a successor to Dr. Hoadley.

AMBITION.

FRANK BURNHAM BAGLEY.

Thou secret, fatal fever, self-induced
 By hoping man and nourished as a germ
 Of thought, until the sole desire a firm
 Command assumed and every sense seduced !
 Did thy contagion ever visit soul
 That would not for thy shimm'ring fantasies
 Relinquish friends, forget affection, cease
 All laws to heed and strive for thee, its goal?
 Thy slaves give all to thee for one dear end ;
 That end attained, its poorness is a goad.
 Their virtues, disappeared beyond the bend
 That's ever just behind them on this road,
 Will not be called ; they must press on and spend
 Their last few values for a hated load.

from Connecticut Magazine
 Vol. 6, Nov.-Dec. 1900