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## **Bourne family papers**

Finding aid prepared by Brooke M. Black

Manuscripts Department

The Huntington Library

1151 Oxford Road

San Marino, California 91108

Phone: (626) 405-2191

Fax: (626) 449-5720

Email: [reference@huntington.org](mailto:reference@huntington.org)

URL: <http://www.huntington.org>

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## **Descriptive Summary**

**Title:** Bourne family papers

**Inclusive Dates:** approximately 1799-1918

**Bulk Dates:** 1845-1865

**Collection Call Number:** mssBournepapers

**Creator OR Collector:** Bourne, George, 1780-1845

**Extent:** 119 items in two boxes

**Repository:** The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Manuscripts Department

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**Abstract:** The papers of American abolitionists and clergymen George Bourne and Theodore Bourne, including correspondence, sermons, essays, notes, ephemera and copies of genealogical materials.

**Language of Material:** The records are in English.

### **Access**

Collection is open to qualified researchers by prior application through the Reader Services Department. For more information, please go to following [web site](#).

### **Publication Rights**

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### **Preferred Citation**

[Identification of item], Bourne family papers, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.

### **Acquisition Information**

Gift of Curtis L. Taylor, September 2013.

### **Biographical Note**

George Bourne (1780-1845), English-born American clergyman and abolitionist. Bourne was born on June 18, 1780 in Wesbury, Wiltshire, England. He studied at the seminary at Homerton, London. In 1802, he came to the United States for a brief visit. Upon his return to England in 1804, he married Mary Stibbs and shortly sailed for New York. The Bournes then moved on to Baltimore where George Bourne became the editor and co-owner of the Baltimore Daily Gazette. In 1809, Bourne left Maryland for Virginia. He first went to New Glasgow, then to Port Republic to become the minister to the town's new Presbyterian church, and then to Harrisonburg, Virginia, where he became one of the founders and the secretary of the Religious Tract Society. In 1815, Bourne, invoking the condemnation of "man-stealers" in I Timothy 1:10, queried the General Assembly demanding a formal ruling on the question of whether or not it was permissible for Presbyterians to own slaves. The Assembly refused to act, and Bourne's own presbytery voted to expel him from the ministry. In 1816, Bourne published The book and slavery irreconcilable that identified slaveholding as a sin. The General Assembly retroactively removed Bourne's reference to I Timothy 1:10 from his protest on procedural grounds. Bourne appealed again in 1817, but in 1818, the General Assembly upheld his presbytery's decision to defrock him.

Bourne then left Virginia for New England, and in 1824, accepted a call from Mount Pleasant, Quebec, to take charge of the Congregational church there. In the late 1820s, his alarm at the danger that the influx of Catholic immigrants from Europe supposedly posed to the American Protestantism and the Republic, prompted him to return to the United States. Bourne settled in New York, joined the Reformed Dutch Classis of New York. He served as the pastor to the churches in Provost, Huston and Forsyth Streets, and then at West Farms. He also edited the Christian Intelligencer, the organ of the Reformed Dutch Church. On January 1, 1830, Bourne began the publication of The Protestant, the first magazine devoted entirely to exposing the dangers of "Papism." In collaboration with William Craig Brownlee, Bourne launched the Protestant Vindicator, a successor to The Protestant. Bourne was also the founder the Protestant Reformation Society, an antecedent of the Christian Alliance and the American and Foreign Christian Union. In 1831, Bourne was one of the founders of the American

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Antislavery Society and was a frequent contributor to Lloyd Garrison's *Liberator*. Bourne was a prolific writer known particularly by his antislavery and anti-Catholic writings. He also published works of evangelical controversialists, including Luther, Fulke, Baxter, and others.

George Bourne died on November 20, 1845. He was survived by four sons – George Melksham (b. approx. 1806), twins Christopher Stibbs (1812-1860) and Rowland Hill (1812-1886), and Theodore (1822-1910). In 1852-1853, George M. Bourne went from New York via Panama; he described his travels in a series of articles published in the *New York Tribune*. He settled in San Francisco, established himself as a water-cure physician with a successful health clinic. In 1869, he sold the business to move to Lake Tahoe and in the spring of 1871, opened Dr. Bourne's Hygienic Establishment, a health spa in Carnelian Bay of Lake Tahoe that he renamed the Cornelian Bay Sanatoria three years later. He was known for his book *The home doctor: a guide to health* (San Francisco, 1878), numerous articles on abstinence, temperance and vegetarianism, and meteorological and hydrographic data on Lake Tahoe.

Theodore Bourne, educated at the Union Seminary, was ordained Presbyterian minister but had to leave the ministry due to health problems. He was later Professor of Languages at the Huguenot Institute in New York, secretary of African Colonization Society, and was one of the founders of the Society for the Prevention and Suppression of Crime. In 1857, he married Emeline Johnson (1828-1908); the couple had three children - Charles Rogers Bourne (b. 1859), Leila Madeline Bourne (b. 1861), and Theodore Frederick Bourne (b. 1863).

#### **Arrangement**

The collection is arranged alphabetically by author.

#### **Scope and Content**

The collection consists primarily of writings and letters by George Bourne and his son Theodore Bourne. There are a few items written by Emeline Johnson Bourne.

The majority of the collection is made of sermons, notes for sermons, essays, etc., on various subjects including: the Catholic Church, Christianity, the Reformed Dutch Churches, Protestantism, religion and its role in the world, the Bible, specific Bible verses, as well as slavery. Many of the sermons and essays are undated drafts, and often incomplete.

The collection also contains several poems and some family correspondence. Other authors include: Sir Culling Eardley, Andrew Fernando Holmes, Ezra Stiles Ely and William Lloyd Garrison.

There is ephemera, printed material, and photocopies of genealogical information at the end of the collection.

Many items in the collection are in fragile condition.

#### **Personal Names**

Bourne, George, 1780-1845

Bourne, George Melksham, 1806-1887

Bourne, Theodore

Eardley, Culling Eardley, Sir, 1805-1863

Ely, Ezra Stiles, 1786-1861

Garrison, William Lloyd, 1805-1879

Holmes, A. F. (Andrew Fernando), 1797-1860

#### **Corporate Names**

Catholic Church

Reformed Protestant Dutch Church (U.S.)

#### **Subjects**

Abolitionists -- United States -- Archives

Presbyterian Church

Protestantism

Slavery -- United States -- Religious aspect

#### **Geographic Areas**

United States -- Church history -- 19th century -- Sources

#### **Genre**

Ephemera

Essays -- United States -- 19th century

Letters (correspondence) -- United States -- 19th century

Box 1	<b>Anthony - Bourne, George Melksham</b>
Folder 1	<b>Anthony, W. C. Letter to Theodore Bourne (1890, Dec. 2)</b> 1 item.
Folder 2	<b>Bourne, Emeline Johnson. A Mutual Benefit [approx. 1870]</b> 1 item. By "Minnie Mignonette."
Folder 3	<b>Bourne, Emeline Johnson. Autobiography of a Baby [approx. 1870]</b> 1 item. By "Minnie Mignonette."
Folder 4	<b>Bourne, Emeline Johnson. Charles Carrington or Getting Customers: A Tale for Commercial Men [1871]</b> 1 item. By "Jessie Jessamine." Fragile.
Folder 5	<b>Bourne, Emeline Johnson. Charles Carrington or Treating Customers: A Tale for Commercial Men (1871)</b> 1 item. By "Jessie Jessamine."
Folder 6	<b>Bourne, Emeline Johnson. Copy of Review of Charles Carrington [1871]</b> 1 item.
Folder 7	<b>Bourne, Emeline Johnson. Fannie Garner or the Lost Child (1891)</b> 1 item. By "Jessie Jessamine."
Folder 8	<b>Bourne, Emeline Johnson. Perseverance Rewarded [approx. 1870]</b> 1 item. By "Minnie Mignonette."
Folder 9	<b>Bourne, Emeline Johnson.(?) The Representative Man [approx. 1870]</b> 1 item.
Folder 10	<b>Bourne, Emeline Johnson. Untitled manuscript beginning "Charlie dear...." [approx. 1871]</b> 1 item. Incomplete?
Folder 11	<b>Bourne, George, 1780-1845. Address to the Members of the Reformed Dutch Churches [before 1845]</b> 1 item.
Folder 12	<b>Bourne, George, 1780-1845. Agreement with Craighead and Allen (1835, June)</b> 1 item. Fragment.
Folder 13	<b>Bourne, George, 1780-1845. Anecdotes of Popery [before 1845]</b> 1 item.
Folder 14	<b>Bourne, George, 1780-1845. Christianity is a System of Grace [before 1845]</b> 1 item.
Folder 15	<b>Bourne, George, 1780-1845. Ecclesiastical Arithmetic [before 1845]</b> 1 item.



- Folder 33                    **Bourne, George, 1780-1845. Social Duty [before 1845]**  
1 item.
- Folder 34                    **Bourne, George, 1780-1845. To Mary: poem [before 1845]**  
1 item. Fragile. Torn.
- Folder 35                    **Bourne, George, 1780-1845. Transubstantiation [before 1845]**  
1 item.
- Folder 36                    **Bourne, George, 1780-1845. The War which the Beast and his Ten Horns make with  
the Lamb: Revelation 19:19 [before 1845]**  
1 item.
- Folder 37                    **Bourne, George, 1780-1845. Writings on Canadian Priests (1836, Sep. 6)**  
1 item. Fragile.
- Folder 38                    **Bourne, George, 1780-1845. Letter to Jean-Jacques Lartigue, 1777-1840 (1837, Mar.  
8)**  
1 item.
- Folder 39                    **Bourne, George, 1780-1845. Letter to Christopher Stibbs (1816, Oct. 19)**  
1 item. Incomplete?
- Folder 40                    **Bourne, George Melksham, 1806-1887. Reminiscences of Rev. George Bourne,  
1780-1845 [before 1887]**  
3 items. Two copies. With late note, 1900, Nov.
- Folder 41                    **Bourne, George Melksham, 1806-1887. Letter to George Bourne, 1780-1845 (1840,  
June 17)**  
1 item. Following the above is letter to "Dear Mary."
- Box 2                        **Bourne, Mary Stibbs - Stibbs, Christopher, unknown authors and ephemera**
- Folder 1                    **Bourne, Mary Stibbs. Letter to ----- Stibbs (1808, Dec. 8)**  
1 item. Fragile. Torn.
- Folder 2                    **Bourne, Theodore. The Downfall of Babylon: notebook [1850s]**  
1 item.
- Folder 3                    **Bourne, Theodore. His Eminence Cardinal McClosky, His Pre-Eminence Cardinal  
Diotrephes [approx. 1875]**  
1 item.
- Folder 4                    **Bourne, Theodore. In Memoriam: Rev. R. H. Bourne [1886]**  
1 item.
- Folder 5                    **Bourne, Theodore. Notes for Bible Class: notebook (1851)**  
1 item. Most of the notebook is blank.
- Folder 6                    **Bourne, Theodore. Notes on Church and State by Democritus [1854?]**  
2 items. Following: Appeal to the Citizens of New York.
- Folder 7                    **Bourne, Theodore. Picture of Slavery [1850s]**  
1 item.
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Folder 8	<b>Bourne, Theodore.(?) Popish Auricular Confession Disclosed... [between 1847 and 1853]</b> 1 item. Fragile. Torn.
Folder 9	<b>Bourne, Theodore.(?) Popish Auricular Confession Disclosed... [between 1847 and 1853]</b> 1 item.
Folder 10	<b>Bourne, Theodore. The Principal Characteristics of Roman Apostasy: notebook [1850s]</b> 1 item.
Folder 11	<b>Bourne, Theodore. Restoration of the Jews [1850s]</b> 1 item.
Folder 12	<b>Bourne, Theodore. The Right of the Bible as a Book of History to be Read in the Public Schools (1876)</b> 1 item.
Folder 13	<b>Bourne, Theodore. Titles of Proposed Books, Letters and Pamphlets: notebook [1850s]</b> 1 item.
Folder 14	<b>Bourne, Theodore. To the Friends of Law and Order [approx. 1877]</b> 1 item.
Folder 15	<b>Bourne, Theodore. The Vow of Washington: Response of Patriotic Americans (1895, July 4)</b> 1 item.
Folder 16	<b>Cardall, William. Letter to "My dear Sir" (1860, May 21)</b> 1 item.
Folder 17	<b>Cardall, William. Letter to "Dear Sir" (1860, June 4)</b> 1 item.
Folder 18	<b>Collins, W. Russell. Letter to Mrs. R. H. Bourne (1892, Nov. 11)</b> 1 item.
Folder 19	<b>Eardley, Culling Eardley, Sir, 1805-1863. Letter to "Dear Sir" (1860, May 17)</b> 1 item. Incomplete. Last page is cut.
Folder 20	<b>Ely, Ezra Stiles, 1786-1861. Christ Wounded: poem (1844, Jan. 14)</b> 1 item. Handwritten copy.
Folder 21	<b>Garrison, William Lloyd, 1805-1879. To a Friend: poem (1843)</b> 1 item. Handwritten copy.
Folder 22	<b>Holmes, A. F. (Andrew Fernando), 1797-1860. Letter to George Bourne, 1780-1845 [before 1845]</b> 1 item.
Folder 23	<b>L----, W. H. Note re: Slavery [before 1845]</b> 1 item.

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- Folder 24                    **Montizambert, C. W. Letter to Theodore Bourne [1870s?]**  
1 item.
- Folder 25                    **Stibbs, Christopher. Letter to George Bourne, 1780-1845 (1837, Feb. 12)**  
2 items. Contains account information about Christopher Stibbs' estate.
- Folder 26                    **, Mary. Letter to Theodore Bourne and Emeline Johnson Bourne (1857, Sep. 8)**  
1 item.
- Folder 27                    **[Unknown author]. Betty: A Story of My Life [1900]**  
1 item. Fragile. Unbound.
- Folder 28                    **[Unknown author]. The Daguerreotype: poem [1843]**  
1 item. By M. J. B. First published in Dublin University Magazine, a Literary and Political Journal (American Edition: New York), Vol. 21, March 1843: 306.
- Folder 29                    **[Unknown author]. For Emeline: On Her Twent [sic] Birthday: poem [1848]**  
1 item.
- Folder 30                    **[Unknown author]. Fragment beginning "Of What consequences is the little outward embellishments even in this life? (1899, Oct. 20)**  
1 item. Incomplete.
- Folder 31                    **[Unknown author]. Heathen and Hebrews and Jews, Catholics & Nuns [undated]**  
1 item.
- Folder 32                    **[Unknown author]. On a Tombstone: poem [1840s]**  
1 item. "Copied by Mrs. Mary S. Bourne (Mother)." On verso: There is an Hour: poem. In two pieces. Torn.
- Folder 33                    **[Unknown author]. Poem beginning "One day at..." [undated]**  
1 item.
- Folder 34                    **[Unknown author]. Poem beginning "Time is hastening fast away..." [undated]**  
1 item.
- Folder 35                    **[Unknown author]. Poem on the Union Victory [1865]**  
1 item.
- Folder 36                    **[Unknown author]. Prayer for the Opening of Bible Class [undated]**  
1 item.
- Folder 37                    **[Unknown author]. Sermon in French [between 1847 and 1853]**  
1 item. In the hand of Theodore Bourne?
- Folder 38                    **[Unknown author]. To \_\_\_\_: poem [undated]**  
1 item. "Written for Belle Elsworth to send to her friend Mr. Lottner." Fragile. Torn.
- Folder 39                    **[Unknown author]. Written for E. B.: poem [approx. 1843]**  
1 item.
- Folder 40                    **Ephemera [undated]**  
1 item.
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|-----------|---|
| Folder 41 | <b>Newspaper Clippings (1830-1918)</b><br>11 items. |
| Folder 42 | <b>Photocopies re: Bourne family</b><br>10 items.   |
| Folder 43 | <b>Printed Items (1837-1885)</b><br>5 items.        |