TITLE OF COLLECTION:
Irah Chase Papers

DONOR:
See collections file for information on gift of Margaret Chase Perry, 1989.

LINEAR SHELF FEET: 2

NUMBER OF ITEMS:

LOCATION:
c.s.
Mss.
1986-18
Biography

Irah Chase was born in Stratton, Vermont, in 1793, and spent his childhood in that state. He graduated from Middlebury College in 1814, and from Andover Theological Seminary in 1817. After a year of service as a missionary in Virginia, he became associated with a Baptist ministerial training school in Philadelphia. Chase continued his association with that school when, in 1822, it was transferred to Washington, DC, as the theological department of Columbian College (now Georgetown University). In 1825 he moved to Massachusetts to inaugurate the course of study at Newton Theological Institution. At Newton he taught Biblical theology (1825-1838) and church history (1838-1845). After 1845 he engaged in literary work, and published several tracts and articles for religious periodicals. He died in Newton in 1864.

Scope and Content

The Irah Chase Papers, 1814-1864, primarily document the professional work of Chase. The collection is arranged according to the following categories: correspondence, sermons, addresses, lectures, unpublished literary manuscripts, publications, student lecture notes from Andover Theological Seminary, notes on readings, notes on sermons, miscellaneous papers and unidentified committee reports.

Included in the correspondence are several letters which relate to early Baptist educational work in general and to the ministerial training school in Philadelphia and Washington in particular. The sermon notes were transcribed during his student days at Andover, and provide a record of chapel sermons not available elsewhere. The miscellaneous papers primarily relate to Baptist educational work in the early 19th century.

In addition, there is a small number of items related to Cummings family genealogy, collected by William Leverett Cummings, a descendant of Henry Savage Chase, son of Irah and Harriet Savage.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>From/To</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>no date</td>
<td>Joseph Grafton to IC</td>
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<tr>
<td>1815</td>
<td>IC to Rev. Luther Rice</td>
<td>from Andover</td>
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<tr>
<td>1818</td>
<td>IC to Rev. Thomas Baldwin</td>
<td>from Philadelphia</td>
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<tr>
<td>1819</td>
<td>IC to Rev. Thomas Baldwin</td>
<td>from Philadelphia</td>
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<tr>
<td>1819</td>
<td>IC to Rev. William Stoughton</td>
<td>from Baltimore</td>
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<tr>
<td>1819</td>
<td>IC to Rev. Thomas Baldwin</td>
<td>from Philadelphia</td>
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<tr>
<td>1820</td>
<td>IC to Rev. Thomas Baldwin</td>
<td>from Philadelphia</td>
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<tr>
<td>1820</td>
<td>IC to my dear sister</td>
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<td>1821</td>
<td>IC to Rev. Thomas Baldwin</td>
<td>from Philadelphia</td>
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<td>1821</td>
<td>IC to Rev. D. B. Brown</td>
<td>from Columbian College</td>
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<td>1821</td>
<td>D. B. Brown to IC</td>
<td>from Washington, DC</td>
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<td>1821</td>
<td>IC to Rev. Dr. Stoughton</td>
<td>from Columbian College</td>
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<td>1821</td>
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<td>IC to Rev. Thomas Baldwin</td>
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<td>IC to Rev. Luther Rice</td>
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<td>1822</td>
<td>IC to Rev. Thomas Baldwin</td>
<td>from Columbian College</td>
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<td>1823</td>
<td>Trustees of Columbian College</td>
<td>to IC</td>
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<tr>
<td>1823</td>
<td>William Stoughton to IC</td>
<td>from Philadelphia</td>
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<td>1824</td>
<td>IC to Dr. Sewall</td>
<td>from Gottingen (summary)</td>
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<td>1824</td>
<td>IC to my very dear brother</td>
<td>from London</td>
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<td>1824</td>
<td>IC to Herr Diaconus Hesekiel</td>
<td>from Liverpool</td>
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<td>1824</td>
<td>IC to my very dear brother</td>
<td>from Liverpool</td>
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<td>1824</td>
<td>IC to [P.] Fotts</td>
<td>from Liverpool</td>
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<td>1824</td>
<td>IC to dear sir</td>
<td>from Liverpool</td>
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<tr>
<td>1824</td>
<td>IC to Rev. J. H. Hinton</td>
<td>from Liverpool</td>
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</table>
Correspondence
1824 (cont.)
Aug 25 IC to Rev. and dear sir; from Liverpool
Dec 13 IC to Dr. Baldwin; from College Hill

1826
Dec 12 IC and H. J. Ripley to Rev. E. Nelson; from Newton
(included is undated letter of IC to Rev. E. Nelson)

1827
Nov 21 IC and Henry Ripley to Rev. Henry Jackson and Rev.
James D. Knowles; from Newton
James D. Knowles; from Newton

1828
Feb 11 IC and H. J. Ripley to editor of Christian
Watchman; from Newton

1830
Jan 27 L. Wayland to IC; from Providence
Feb 8 J. Johnson to IC; from Georgetown, KY
Mar 7 R. M. Johnson to IC; from Washington
Mar 13 IC to Rev. Dr. S. M. Noel; from Newton
May 22 IC to Rev. Dr. Chaplin; from Newton
Jul 26 IC to whom it may concern, re Joel Smith Bacon

1832
Jan 9 Rev. Peter Chase to IC; from Franklin
Feb 3 IC to very dear sir; from Newton
May 10 IC to President Bates; from Newton

1833
Aug 6 IC to Samuel B. Swain; from Newton
(includes draft of Aug 8 letter)

1836
Aug 24 IC to President of Board of Trustees; also
addendum of Aug 26
May 19 IC to Albert Day, Henry Burgess and James Burt;
from Newton
Sep 17 IC to Nicholas Brown; from Newton

1837
Mar 2 Silas Ilsley to IC; from South Berwick, ME

1839
[Jan] Summary of a letter "in reply to inquiries made by
a dear brother"
**Correspondence (cont.)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>From/To</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1844</td>
<td>Jun 20</td>
<td>Rev. Dr. Dagg</td>
<td>to IC; from Mercer University</td>
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<tr>
<td>1848</td>
<td>Nov 24</td>
<td>IC</td>
<td>to dear sir; from Boston</td>
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<tr>
<td>1853</td>
<td>Oct 5</td>
<td>Charles Sumner</td>
<td>to IC; from Boston</td>
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<tr>
<td>1855</td>
<td>Mar 10</td>
<td>IC</td>
<td>to Brother Henry</td>
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<td>1856</td>
<td>May 5</td>
<td>W. B. Hackett</td>
<td>to IC; from Newton Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>1858</td>
<td>Aug 27</td>
<td>IC</td>
<td>to Rev. Dr. Wood; from Boston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1860</td>
<td>Jan 30</td>
<td>IC</td>
<td>to Rev. Dr. Huntington; from Newton Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>1861</td>
<td>Apr 15</td>
<td>IC</td>
<td>to Rev. James Chrystal; from Newton Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Apr 30</td>
<td>IC</td>
<td>to Rev. and dear sir; from Newton Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>1864</td>
<td>May 4</td>
<td>IC</td>
<td>to son; from Newton Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Jun 9</td>
<td>IC</td>
<td>to Rev. Dr. Hansel; from Newton Centre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sermons**

Undated (arranged by biblical text)

- Genesis 12:7
- Numbers 32:23
- 1 Samuel 3:10
- 1 Chronicles 16:25
- 2 Chronicles 32:25
- Proverbs 1:10, 1:17, 6:6, 13:15, 14:32, 22:6, 28:1, 28:26, 29:1, 30:8
- Ecclesiastes 7:2, 7:14, 9:10, 12:13
- Isaiah 11:31, 40:31 (2)
- Jeremiah 3:4, 29:13
- Ezekiel 3:18, 33:11
- Mark 6:12 (2), 8:2, 16:15
Sermons
Undated (cont.)
John 3:7, 5:39, 7:37, 8:36, 10:11, 16:9, 21:22
Acts 7:59-60, 24:25, 26:25
Romans 1:11, 1:19-20, 2:11, 3:25, 6:3, 6:23, 8:14, 14:12 (2), 15:29
1 Corinthians 7:29-31, 11:26, 14:20
2 Corinthians 10:4
Ephesians 6:4
Philippians 2:21
Colossians 3:12 (3)
1 Thessalonians 5:8, 5:19, 5:25
1 Timothy 1:15
2 Timothy 1:7, 3:15

Box 2
Hebrews 3:7-8, 4:1, 10:10, 10:24-25, 12:11 (2)
James 1:3, 4:8
1 Peter 2:7, 4:6 (3)
2 Peter 2:19 (2)
1 John 3:12
Revelation 2:4, 2:10, 2:17, 22:17

1818
Jan 4 Psalm 90:12

1822
Sep 15 Psalm 100
Dec 8 no text given

1825
Dec 28 Matthew 16:26

1828
Sep 17 Matthew 28

1840
Thanksgiving Psalm 65:11

1846
n.d. Psalm 90:12

Addresses
Undated

Untitled (6)
Communion meditation
Address to graduating class
Farewell to colleagues [Columbian College]
How a theological student is to prosecute his studies
Addresses (cont.)
1830
Sep 9 Address to a class by the Senior Professor at the anniversary

Charges
Undated (3)
1821
May 13 to Jonathan Price, on his designation as a missionary to Burma
1834
Apr 30 to Isaac M. Willmarth
1839
May 26 at the installation of Rev. Mr. Nott
Dec 8 at the ordination of Rev. Prof. Hackett

Lectures (arranged by subject)

Bible
Untitled/on the beast in the book of Revelation
On the authority of the scriptures (13 lectures)
Malachi "about 410 years before Christ"

Theology
Untitled/on Christ as an example
Articles of Christian doctrine
Doctrines
Summary of Christian doctrines

Church History
Untitled/general lecture

Miscellaneous
On the history of the pulpit, as it is to be derived from the choice of subjects for sermons

Lecture Notes
Theology (21 folders)
[Box 3 begins folder 6 of Theology lecture notes]
Church history (3 folders)
Unpublished Literary Manuscripts

Essays

Untitled (4)
Acts 8:37
The acts of Pilate
The announcement which Jesus made of himself as the Messiah
Articles of Christian doctrine
Baptismal tracts for the times
The canons of the apostles
Dr. Hackett's revision of the Epistle to Philemon
Editorial comment (2)
The meaning of Irenaeus
The miracles of Christ
Remarks on the personality and divinity of the holy ghost
The savior's prospective arrangements

Box 4
Drafts of Publications

Book

Infant Baptism an Invention of Men; or Dr. Bushnell's
Arguments Reviewed. Philadelphia: American Baptist
Publication Society, 1863. [Incomplete manuscript, missing
most of section 2 on "The testimony of Origen respecting the
baptism of infants."

Articles (periodical source unknown)

incomplete fragments (2 folders)
The baptism of Basil the Great: was it in his infancy?
Basil the Great, an important witness respecting baptism in
the fourth century
Dr. Robinson and Dr. Ripley
Faith and works
The meaning of Irenaeus in the phrase, "regenerated unto
God"
Gesenius' Hebrew Grammar
Neander
The new reformation in Germany
Our duty, in view of man's increasing dominion over nature
Principles of exposition
Punishment in the future state (2)
[Review of] A commentary on the epistle to the Hebrews by
Moses Stuart
Review of Fuller on Communion
The spirit of the Mohammedan religions perceptible pre-
eminently in the traditions
Tholuck
Unfounded claims to spiritual illuminations (3 drafts)
A voice from the second century
Who is awake?
Student Lecture Notes
(notes taken while Chase was a student at Andover Theological Seminary)

incomplete fragments (1 folder)
untitled (2)
Psalm 49
Hints on public prayer
The resurrection
Subjects in theology
Booklet/November 24, 1814-October 16, 1816:
  Leonard Woods' lectures on theology
Booklet/January 3-February 7, 1815:
  Prefaces to the gospels, The doctrine of accommodation,
  Syllabus of Quintilian on the human voice
Booklet/November 14, 1815:
  Dick on Inspiration of the holy scriptures
  2nd year--Dr. Woods' department
Booklet/November 20, 1815:
  The immutability of God

Box 5
Notes on Readings (12 folders)
(folder 1 includes list of books by subject)

Notes on Sermons

1816
Dec 27  Matthew 18:24  (Holbrook)
Dec 31  Ecclesiastes 20:5  (Parkhurst)

1817
n.d.  Hosea 13:9  (Aiken)
n.d.  Psalm 122:1  (Fitch)
n.d.  Luke 17  (Wilson)
n.d.  Romans 12:1  (Prof. Stuart)
Jan  3  Amos 4:12  (Hooks)
Jan  7  Malachi 3:6  (Taylor)
Jan 10  Matthew 5:16  (Wright)
Jan 12  Luke 22:19  (Prof. Stuart)
Jan 13  Romans 7:12  (Parkhurst)
Jan 17  Psalm 73:28  (Parsons)
Jan 21  Hebrews 7:25  (Calhoun)
Feb 16  Luke 13:3  (Stratton)
Feb 24  1 Peter 4:18  (Dr. Woods)
Jun n.d.  1 Timothy 2:8  (Rockwood)
Jun 18  Ezekiel 33:11  (Taylor)
Jun 20  Hebrews 12:15  (Emerson)
Notes on Sermons
1817 (cont.)
Jul 4 Psalm 80:14 (Parsons)
Jul 6 Acts 20:24 (Hawes)
Jul 8 John 5:22 (Wilcox)
Jul 11 John 17:17 (Parkhurst)
Jul 20 James 1:13 (Dr. Woods)
Jul 25 John 15:22 (Harris)
Jul 29 Hebrews 2:8 (Aiken)
Aug n.d. Ezekiel 33:11 (Stratton)
Aug 3 Acts 13:39 (Mr. Chaplin at Danvers)
Aug 10 Luke 14:22 (Mr. Emerson)
Aug 12 John 17:24 (Ely)
Aug 15 Mark 6:12 (Emerson)
Sep 5 Ezekiel 33:11 (Holbrooke)
Sep 7 no text (Prof. Stuart)
Sep 9 Jeremiah 17:9 (Ely)
Sep 29 1 Thessalonians 5:22 (Wilson)

Miscellaneous Notes (8 folders)

Miscellaneous Papers (3 folders)

Untitled, on theological education
Plan of a theological institution to be connected with Brown University. Recommended by the trustees of the Education Societies of the Warren and Boston Associations, Sept. 1817.

Institution for pious young men called to the gospel ministry, Aug. 10, 1818 (incomplete)

A brief statement of what occurred in the Philadelphia Association, on Tuesday and Wednesday, the 6th and 7th of Oct. 1818, relative to the First Baptist Church in Philadelphia

Circular letter: The elders and messengers of the Fairfield Baptist Association, convened at Milton, on the 25th and 26th days of August, AD 1819, to the churches which they represent

Newton Theological Institution--Report on semi-annual examination, no date

Newton Theological Institution--Response to statements in the Watchman and Reflector on Dr. Hackett's absence

Committee reports:
[On religious tracts]
[On missions]
[On missions to the Indians]
[On a memorial of Dr. Chapin]
[Report to the trustees of Newton Theological Institution on the subject of a preparatory department] (incomplete)
[Report to the executive committee of the Missionary Union on Gammel's History of the American Baptist Missions], April 21, 1849
Miscellaneous Papers (continued)
  On the Book of Job (booklet in German script)

Publications on Life of Irah Chase
IN MEMORIUM, TRIBUTE OF AFFECTION TO THE MEMORY OF PROFESSOR IRAH CHASE. Boston: Geo. C. Rand & Avery, Printers, 1865.

Chase Family Papers
Cummings family genealogy - William Leverett Cummings descended from Henry Savage Chase, son of Irah and Harriet Savage