

SIDGWICK FAMILY.

Sidgwick Family papers, 1854-1898

Emory University
Pitts Theology Library
1531 Dickey Drive, Suite 560
Atlanta, GA 30322
404-727-4166

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Sidgwick Family.
Title: Sidgwick Family papers, 1854-1898
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 208
Extent: 0.2 cubic ft. (2 folders)
Abstract: Consists of one handwritten letter and a handwritten manuscript.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Sidgwick Family Papers, Archives and Manuscript Dept., Pitts Theology Library, Emory University.

Processing

Processed by Anne Graham, 2001.

Collection Description

Biographical Note

Mary Crofts Sidgwick (ca. 1811-1879) was married in 1833 to the Reverend William Sidgwick (d. 1841), headmaster of Skipton grammar school in Skipton, Yorkshire and a cleric in the Church of England. She had four surviving children: William Carr Sidgwick (1834-1919), a Lecturer at Merton College, Oxford; Henry Sidgwick (1838-1900), celebrated Professor of Philosophy at Cambridge and instrumental in the admission of women to university examinations in 1881; Arthur Sidgwick (1840-1920), Assistant Master of Rugby

Emory Libraries provides copies of its finding aids for use only in research and private study. Copies supplied may not be copied for others or otherwise distributed without prior consent of the holding repository.

School, 1864-1879 and Fellow of Corpus Christi College, Oxford, 1882; and Mary "Minnie" Sidgwick (1841-1919), who was married in 1859 to her second cousin, Edward White Benson (1829-1896). Benson held the office of Archbishop of Canterbury from 1883 until his death. Among their children were the authors Arthur Christopher Benson (1862-1925) and Edward Frederic Benson (1867-1940).

Sarah Isabella Thompson (d. 1918) was married in 1872 to William Carr Sidgwick and was the daughter-in-law of Mary Crofts Sidgwick. She grew up in the Belgravia section of London, the daughter of John Vincent Thompson (1785-1856), Serjeant-at-Law. Mrs. Sidgwick lived with her husband in Rugby, Warwickshire. She had one child, Nevil Vincent Sidgwick (1873-1952), Fellow of Lincoln College, Oxford and Professor of Chemistry at Oxford University.

Scope and Content Note

This collection consists of one handwritten letter and a handwritten manuscript. The eleven page letter is dated October 6, 1854 and was sent from Mrs. E. Attersoll to Mary Crofts Sidgwick in Rugby, Warwickshire. Mrs. Attersoll relates the current events, which include news from her niece's husband, who is fighting in Sevastopol during the Crimean War (1854-1856); the planning of a Roman Catholic school by Robert Isaac Wilberforce (1802-1857) and his brother, Henry William Wilberforce (1807-1873); and frictions between the Wilberforce brothers and the local Anglican Rector of Westport.

The manuscript is entitled "A Grandmother's Tales" and was published in MacMillan's Magazine in 1898. It was written by Mrs. William Sidgwick, wife of William Carr Sidgwick, and recounts her youth in early Victorian London and brief experiences with great figures of nineteenth-century Britain. In many cases these include mere glimpses of prominent personalities: the state visit of Nicolas-Jean de Dieu Sault, Minister of War under King Louis-Philippe (1830-1848) of France; Italian lessons from Napoleon's former private secretary, the Marchese di Moscati; and a piano concert by composer Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847). Mrs. Sidgwick also presents insightful descriptions of the poet Matthew Arnold (1822-1888) falling in love; the poet Robert Browning (1812-1889) relating his adventures in Florence with fellow writer Walter Savage Landor (1775-1864); the funeral of Arthur Wellesley, the first Duke of Wellington (1769-1852); and the debate regarding the theory of evolution sponsored by the British Association for the Advancement of Science meeting in 1860 between Thomas Henry Huxley (1825-1895) and Samuel Wilberforce (1805-1873), then Bishop of Oxford. Of interest to researchers will be Mrs. Sidgwick's recounting of mannerisms and customs prevalent in early Victorian society, as well as her descriptions of public ceremonies. The manuscript is twenty-seven pages, and includes marks and alterations made before publication.

Container List

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Letter from Mrs. E. Attersoll to Mrs. Sidgwick, 1854 October 6
1	2	"A Grandmother's Tales" manuscript, 1898
