Descriptive Summary

Creator: Kitto, John, 1804-1854.
Title: John Kitto correspondence, 1804-1854
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 270
Extent: 0.02 cubic ft. (2 folders)
Abstract: Consists of 23 letters written to or by John Kitto during the period from 1840 to 1850.
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)], John Kitto Correspondence, Archives and Manuscript Dept., Pitts Theology Library, Emory University.

Processing
Processed by Courtney Williams, 2003.

Collection Description

Biographical Note
John Kitto, the author of the “Pictorial Bible,” was born in Plymouth on December 4, 1804. As a child, he was often ill and tended to be bookish, despite his lacking access to a formal education. At the age of ten, he began working alongside his stonemason father. An accident at work occurred in 1817 that left Kitto totally deaf. He then served as an apprentice to a shoemaker, and later as a dentist’s pupil. During this period, he experienced a religious conversion. In 1825,
Kitto attended the Missionary College at Islington to train to be a printer in a foreign mission setting. From 1829 to 1832, Kitto worked in the missionary field in Baghdad. In 1834, Kitto began a series of narrative illustrations of the blind, deaf, and mute, which was collected and published in 1845 as “The Lost Senses.” He also edited the *Cyclopedia of Biblical Literature*, published in 1845. He was the editor of the *Journal of Sacred Literature* from 1848 to 1853. Kitto was awarded a D.D. from University of Giessen in 1844, despite his layman status. Always given to sickness, Kitto passed away in 1854.

**Scope and Content Note**

This collection consists of 23 letters written to or by John Kitto during the period from 1840 to 1850. Most of the letters concern articles to be submitted to Kitto for his various publications. The collection includes five letters written by Samuel Davidson to John Kitto dating from 1845 to 1854. They discuss Davidson’s articles for the *Cyclopedia of Biblical Literature*. Article topics include the Septuagint, the Samaritan Pentateuch, the Talmud, the Targums, Polyglots and Revelation and its authenticity. Two letters written by Kitto discuss his presentation to the King of Prussia. Personal matters are also addressed in three of the letters.
## Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>Letters from John Kitto, 1840-1850</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Letters to John Kitto from Samuel Davidson, 1845-1854</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>