

NEW HAVEN COLONY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LIBRARY

Manuscripts
No. 103

Date processed: July, 1979.

- I. Title Baker, Christina (Hopkinson), 1873 - 1959.
Papers, 1932 - 1963.
- II. The papers of Christina Hopkinson Baker
deposited in the Library on _____, by _____
In _____ converted the deposit to a gift.
- III. Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 6 inches
Approximate number of items: 900
- IV. Restrictions: None
- V. Literary rights of the unpublished writings of
in these papers, and in other collections of papers in the custody of
the New Haven Colony Historical Society Library, have been dedicated
to the New Haven Colony Historical Society.
- VI. Press release was issued on -----
- VII. Biographical note:

See page 2.
- VIII. Analysis: The papers consist of one box containing approximately
850 3" x 5" reference cards and 50 letters and documents. There
are three 8 1/2" x 11" pages of interesting information about
the arrival and settlement of the Acadians in New Haven, Guilford,
and other Connecticut towns in 1755.

Arrangement of the papers is as follows:

- 1 - Papers and notes concerning certain New Haven buildings,
their architecture and their history.
- 2 - Papers and notes on general subjects.
- 3 - 3" x 5" reference file cards, undated.

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VII Biographical note:

Mrs. George Pierce (Christina Hopkinson) Baker was born in Cambridge, Mass. on August 2, 1873. She was married to and the widow of Yale Professor George Pierce Baker (1866 - 1935), renowned drama teacher and critic. In 1925, Yale built its University Theatre to entice Professor Baker away from Harvard. A Department of Drama was established at Yale for the first time, with Baker as its Chairman. The Bakers were married in 1893 and had four children.

Christina Baker became an amateur historian and genealogist, researching and writing on New Haven buildings, institutions, families, and men of prominence. Five of her books or monographs are on the shelves of the NHCHS library, to wit:

"The Tontine Hotel, 1825 - 1913." (Church Street), 1940?

"The Townsend - Beers House." (22 High Street), 1932.

"A Porringer of Cockiney." (35 Elm Street), 1930.
(Visiting Nurse Association).

"The Arnold House," (Water Street below Olive), undated.

"Benedict Arnold," undated.

Christina Hopkinson Baker also wrote a monograph (No copy in the NHCHS library.)* and gave prepared talks on the Hillhouse family. She kept copious notes for her manuscripts on undated 3" x 5" file cards that are virtually undecipherable, and these are the core of these papers.

In New Haven, the Bakers lived at 594 Prospect Street, and enjoyed a summer home at Silver Lake, New Hampshire. After her husband's death in 1935, Christina Hopkinson Baker took up residence in a third floor apartment at the Yale Faculty Club. She died on November 30, 1959.

* Referred to in George Dudley Seymour letter to Mrs. Baker of April 8, 1943.

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Box I

Folder A - The Bradley House, State Street, with notes on the (13)
genealogy of the Bradley family, undated.
A.L.S. from F. B. Allen, Santa Barbara, Calif. to
Mrs. Baker concerning the Bradley and Beers
houses, and the Tontine Hotel, New Haven,
December 6, 1934.
Newspaper clipping on the Beers house, undated.
"The Old Morris House," printed brochure, 1936.
Note on the Morris and Hunt houses, New Haven, undated.
Newspaper clipping on the Hillhouse mansion,
New Haven, undated.
A.L.S. from George Dudley Seymour, New Haven, to
Mrs. Baker concerning the house at No. 22 High
Street, New Haven, February 24, 1932.
A.L.S. from J. Frederick Kelly, Architect, to Mrs.
Baker concerning the house at Temple and Wall
Streets, New Haven, January 21, 1945.
Note on the house at Temple and Wall Streets, undated.
Paper on the (Yale) Faculty Club, four pages,
typescript, undated.
Notes on the Tontine Hotel, New Haven, undated.

Folder B - The Annisted (Amistad) captives, undated. (15)
c. of excerpt from the historical collections of the
State of Pennsylvania concerning the Hon. Judge
Henry Baldwin, by Sherman Day, 1843, one
page, typescript.
The Franklin Elm at Church and Chapel, undated.
The Atlantic Cable, undated.
A.L.S. from C.M.A. [sic], New Haven, to Mrs. Baker
concerning the Rev. John March of Wethersfield,
and the naming of St. Ronan Street, New Haven,
October 26, 1942.
Notes on the Rev. John Marsh, undated.
Samson Occum, a Connecticut tragedy, by William Gibbs,
article from the "Connecticut Circle," December,
1951.
A.L.S. from Elizabeth G. Harris to Miss Foster
concerning the Acadians in New Haven and other
Connecticut towns, with attachment, January 27,
1946.
New Haven and Yale, 1779 - 1919, clipping of newspaper
column, New Haven "Journal Courier", 1952.
Same, New Haven and Yale in 1832.
Note on Brissot de Warville, undated.
" " Moser Atwood, undated.
" " Connecticut River canals, undated.
" " William G. Munson, dentist and painter of
New Haven circa 1760, undated.
" on William Watson (1773 - 1836), of Hartford,
undated.

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Box I (cont'd.)

- Folder C - c. of letters from Moses Stuart to Noah Webster, March 16, 1810, and Mrs. Noah Webster to Noah Webster, October 11, 1824. (12)
- c. "Travels into the interior of America," by an (British) officer in 1777, London, 1789.
- c. "The Ordinary," undated.
- T.L. from George Dudley Seymour, New Haven, to Mrs. Baker concerning the Hillhouse family of New Haven, April 8, 1943.
- c. of unaddressed letter from George Dudley Seymour in his old age, undated.
- Paper on Isaac Allerton, 6 pages, undated.
- Note on Jehudi Ashmun, New Haven, (1794 - 1828).
- Note on James Bishop's Inn on the Turnpike at Watertown, undated.
- Notes from, "Navigation on the Connecticut River," by L. S. Haynes, Vermont Historical Society, 1 page, 1915 - 1918.
- Notes on the journals of B. Silliman's two trips to England, Scotland and Holland, 1805 and 1806.
- NHCHS "Journal," September, 1955.

3" x 5" reference file cards, undated. Notes on:

(850)

- Folder D - Women's rights.
Easier life in the colonies.
- E - Roger Sherman
The Stonington Chronology.
Nathan Hale
- F - Arrival of John Brockett
The New Haven Green
- G - The Aldrich House
J. Frederick Kelly, Architect.
Mrs. Eaton's daughter.
- H - Rev. James Pæerpont.
Norwalk, settled 1650.
- I - Ezekiel Cheever.
- J - Gardens in Colonial New Haven.
James Hillhouse.
Susan B. Anthony.