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Chambliss Collection (MSS 152)

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BIOGRAPHY

Issachar Bates was born on January 29th of 1758 in the town of Hingham, near Boston, Massachusetts. After practicing as a fifer in the American Revolution, Bates served for a time as a Baptist preacher until being converted to the Shaker faith. Shakerism was a religious sect established around 1774 by Ann Lee (1736-1784). The Shakers lived in communal societies and were known for their pacifist and celibate practices as well as superior craftsmanship and astute business practices. Bates, along with John Meacham and Benjamin Youngs, was selected to travel to the southwestern portions of the United States in 1805 in order to take advantage of the religious revivalism that was taking place. From this point onward, Bates spent the majority of his life traveling to different areas of the west, converting people to Shakerism and giving his aid in starting Shaker communities in Kentucky, Indiana and Ohio. Bates passed away March 17th, 1837, at the Mount Lebanon Shaker community at the age of 79.

BIBLIOGRAPHICAL NOTES
The Collection.

THE COLLECTION

This collection is comprised of the memoirs of Issachar Bates, 1758-1837 (120p.); letters copied in a journal by Nancy E. Moore, 1806-1878 (229p.); an interview with Shaker Alice Wintuska, 1934; correspondence of Emma B. Chambliss, pre1937, 1937 (2 items); Shaker prescriptions and remedies, (23 items); newspaper clippings about Shakers, 1936, 1937 (4); and miscellaneous items (4).

The sketch of the life and experiences of Issachar Bates covers most of Bates' life including his experience as a fifer in the American Revolution. Bates also was a frequent traveler for the Shakers and details his many journeys to the different Shaker communities in the West. He meets many important American figures in his life.
including General Horatio Gates, President William Henry Harrison, and revivalist preacher Barton Warren Stone.

The letters copied by Nancy E. Moore cover a variety of topics from fires in New Lebanon, New York and South Union, Kentucky, to visions and dreams, as well as accounts of early Shaker ventures into the west.

**SHELF LIST**

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BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

MSS CHAMBLISS Collection 1806-1937
152

Memoirs of Issachar Bates; Shaker letters; interview with Alice Wintuska; correspondence of Emma B. Chambliss; prescriptions and remedies; newspaper clippings; miscellaneous items. Name index for sketch and letters included.
1 box. 11 folders. 39 items. Originals and photocopies.
1976.78.1

SUBJECT ANALYTICS

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SEE or SEE ALSO CARDS

Bass, Alice (Aiden) Wintuska
See:
Wintuska, Alice

Jeffrey 09/23/2013