

THE WINTHROP MANUSCRIPTS.

A Valuable Addition to the Library.
An Unpublished Letter.

Mr. Robert C. Winthrop, Jr., of Boston, gave to the University Library, a few weeks since, a valuable collection of manuscripts, drawn from the inherited treasures of the Winthrop family, and selected especially with a view to their interest for students of Connecticut history. Of the whole number (sixty-six pieces), about one-third are unpublished. The rest have been printed in the various volumes of "Winthrop Papers" which have been issued in the series of "Collections" of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

As illustrating the character of the collection, it may be noticed that it includes letters or other writings of the Rev. Thomas Hooker, Governors Haynes and Hopkins, and Elder Goodwin, among the most famous of the founders of the Hartford Colony; of the Rev. John Davenport and Governor Eaton, Deputy Governors Goodyear and Jones, and Governor Leete, of the New Haven Colony; of George Fenwick and Lyon Gardiner, of the earlier settlement at Saybrook; of Jonathan Brewster, the commander of the Plymouth trading house on the Connecticut; of Capt. John Mason, the hero of the Pequot War; of Sir Edmund Andros, with reference to his journey into Connecticut to assume the government; of a number of the original Trustees of the College, and of such of its early patrons as Governor Fitz-John Winthrop, Governor Saltonstall and Cotton Mather; of Rector Pierson's father, Governor Yale's father and a group of Mr. Yale's immediate family connections. There are also a few letters of persons less directly associated with Connecticut history, for example, one of Governor John Winthrop, of Massachusetts (a pass given to Ninigret, Sachem of the Niantic Indians, to go to Boston in 1646), and two of Roger Williams (1649 and 1669); of John Winthrop, Jr., of Connecticut, there is an interesting autograph, his proffered resignation of the office of Governor in 1675.

One of the unpublished letters of the collection addressed by one of the Trustees of the College, immediately after its foundation, to the Governor, Fitz-John Winthrop, is as follows:

SAYBROOK, 15.10^{or} [= Dec.], 1701.

HONORABLE SIR:

Considering the countenance it hath pleased your honor to afford unto the designe of founding a Collegiate Schoole within this Government, I have thought it no lesse than my duty to informe your honor what proceedings have been made in that affaire since the Court.

Seven of the Trustees mentioned by the honorable assembly had a meeting at this towne 12. Nov^r last and a very comfortable, unanimous meeting was had, very well agreeing upon the person, who under the name of Rector might preside in and take the charge of sd^d schoole (viz.) the Rev^d Mr. Pierson. Wee also had no great difficultie about the place (viz.) Say-Brook (in case no considerations come in to alter our thoughts), that appearing to be the place for the best accommodation of the Colonie in generall, and adjacent places; whereupon Mr Nathaniel Lynde by subscription engaged a legall deed of his house in the Town plot with eight or ten acres of land adjacent, and three or four other persons subscribed to the value of fifty pounds in money, provided the sd^d Schoole bee at Say Brook.

A letter from the Trustees was left with mee to offer to the people at Killingworth, and I have been there and offered it to them. I the last weeke received their answer, the summe of which is that they do not see it their duty to consent unto the parting with Mr Pierson. I doubt if they should persist in that answer it might bee an occasion to worke some hindrance to and possibly some confusion about that so good and greata worke: yet our God whom we desire to serve is able to make darkness to bee light before us and unto him wee desire to looke.

Sir, this very breife account I thought my duty to offer to your honor, humbly requesting that correction or farther direction that in your wisdom you shall think proper, which with the tender of my humble service, desiring God to bee with and blesse you in all your publick and more personall parts of duty is all at present from, Sir, your honor's very humble servant,

THO. BUCKINGHAM.

"Mose."

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by those who have followed Campus history for a term of years. They have generally characteristics that make them far from uninteresting. A picture of the leader of his kind of the present day is given elsewhere. His name is "Mose." He has, it is quite sure, other parts to his name, but they are not used.

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By the way, Lieutenant-Governor Timothy L. Woodruff, of New York, Yale '79, finished his education with a course at Eastman.

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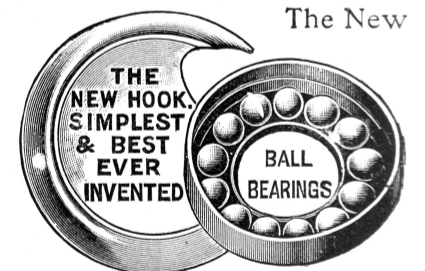
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