Guide to the Makepeace Family Papers

MS 977

compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz

July 1983

Yale University Library
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New Haven, CT 06520-8240
mssa.assist@yale.edu
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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Manuscripts and Archives
Yale University Library
P.O. Box 208240
New Haven, CT 06520-8240
mssa.assist@yale.edu
http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/

CALL NUMBER: MS 977

CREATOR: Makepeace family

TITLE: Makepeace family papers

DATES: 1773–1925

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 3.5 linear feet

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Account books and autograph albums kept by various members of the Makepeace family of Connecticut. One, kept by Orlando Porter, relates to the clock manufacturing company of Samuel Harrison and Company. Another, kept by Ward Peck between 1818 and 1842, records his farming activities in Waterbury. The four autograph albums (1827-1885) contain the signatures of such notables as John Burroughs, Leonard Bacon, Timothy Dwight, James A. Garfield, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Wendell Phillips, Henry Ward Beecher, Catherine Beecher, and Horace Greeley. Also in the collection is an account book kept successively by two members of the Burtch family of Stonington, Connecticut. The first part (1773-1787) was kept by Thomas Burtch, a cooper and the second by his grandson, also Thomas Burtch, a day laborer. Their accounts deal largely with work on ships. Diplomas and certificates of Walter D. Makepeace and genealogical material make up the remainder of the collection.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0977

Requesting Instructions
To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at http://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0977.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html. The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder
Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition
Gift of LeRoy M. Makepeace, 1945, and Mary M. Kenway, 1946.

Conditions Governing Access
The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use
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Preferred Citation
Makepeace Family Papers (MS 977). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

Biographical / Historical
Walter Dunham Makepeace, B.A. 1897
Born April 27, 1875, in Gloucester, Mass.
Died August 27, 1942, in Waterbury, Conn.

Father, Rev. Frank Barrows Makepeace (grad. Hartford Theological Seminary 1873), a Congregational minister; son of Lysander Otis and Esther Eliza (Dunham) Makepeace of Norton, Mass. Mother, Helen Mary (Viets) Makepeace; daughter of James Rollin and Cordelia Tryphena (Rouse) Viets of East Granby, Conn. Yale relatives include four nephews, Frank B. Makepeace, 3d, ex-'35 E., Mark L. Sperry, 2d, '35, Lloyd B. Makepeace, '37 S., and Leavenworth S. Sperry, Jr., '45 W.

Phillips-Andover, Springfield (Mass.) High School, and Williston Academy, Easthampton, Mass. First Berkeley Premium in Latin Composition Freshman year; first English Composition Prize and second Lucius F. Robinson Latin Prize Sophomore year; philosophical oration appointment Junior and Senior years; second Henry James TenEyck Prize Junior year; Townsend Premium and one-year honors in political science and law Senior year; contributed dedicatory poem to Class Book; member Yale Union, Chi Delta Theta, and Phi Beta Kappa. Attended Yale Graduate School 1897-1898 (M.A. 1899) and Yale School of Law 1898-1900 (LL.B. 1900; Junior Class honors; Townsend Prize and Kent Club diploma Senior year; University Debating Team; business manager Yale Law Journal; registrar of the Law School 1899-1900; member Corbey Court).

Admitted to practice in New York 1900 and Connecticut 1907; lawyer in New York City 1900-1907 (associated with his brother in firm of Makepeace & Makepeace 1904-1907) and Waterbury 1907 until retirement 1939 (member Makepeace & Ells 1912-1916); deputy coroner for Waterbury district 1907-1916; chairman Republican Town Committee 1914-1916; deputy judge District Court of Waterbury 1916-1923 and judge 1924-1927; enlisted as seaman, Connecticut Naval Reserve, June 15, 1898; assigned to U.S.S. Minnesota; promoted Quartermaster (1st class) and transferred to U.S.S. East Boston; discharged September 5, 1898; commissioned Captain, Ordnance, April 22, 1918, and Major, Judge Advocate General’s Department,
October 16, 1918; served in Washington until discharge December 14, 1918; Major Judge Advocate, Officers Reserve Corps, 1919-1925 and Lieutenant Colonel 1925-1934; an incorporator Black Hall School 1912; an organizer Associated Charities (Lincoln House Association) 1909 and trustee 1909-1913; secretary American branch International Migration Service, 1932-1939; president Yale Club of the Naugatuck Valley 1924-1927 and Associated New England Yale Clubs 1925-1926 (representative on Alumni Board); on Class reunion committees; member State Bar Association of Connecticut, American Bar Association, Mattatuck Historical Society, Mental Hygiene Society of Waterbury, United Spanish War Veterans, American Legion, Military Order of Foreign Wars, Elizabethan Club, Masonic order, and First Congregational Church, Waterbury.

Married June 19, 1906, in Waterbury, Ethel Meliscent Sperry (B.A. Wellesley 1900), daughter of Mark Leavenworth and Julia Sherman (Porter) Sperry, granddaughter of Corydon S. Sperry (B.A. 1832), great-great-granddaughter of Jesse Leavenworth (B.A. 1759), great-great-great-daughter of Mark Leavenworth (B.A. 1737), and sister of Leavenworth P. Sperry, ’02 S., and Roger S. Sperry, ‘10 S. Children: Roger Sherman, ’29; Melicent Porter (diploma Sarah Lawrence Coll. 1932); LeRoy McKim, ’37; Evelyn Sperry, the wife of Douglas George Cochrane (B.A. Princeton 1939); and John Viets, ’43.

Death due to terminal bronchopneumonia. Ashes interred in Riverside Cemetery, Waterbury. Survived by wife, children, a sister, Helen M. Lillie (B.A. Smith Coll. 1899), the wife of Ralph Stayner Lillie, Sc.D. (B.A. Univ. of Toronto 1896; Ph.D. Univ. of Chicago 1901), of Chicago, and a brother Frank B. Makepeace, Jr., ’01 (died September 23, 1942).

[From the Yale University Obituary Record, 1940-1943, pages 58-59.]

For a chart outlining the genealogical relations of the Makepeace family, please consult the [Genealogical Chart](#).
The account books were donated to Yale University by LeRoy M. Makepeace from the library of his father, Walter D. Makepeace, in 1945, and the autograph albums by Mary M. Kenway in 1946.

**Arrangement**

Arranged alphabetically by personal name.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 1</td>
<td>Andrews, Sarah: autograph album</td>
<td>1827–1834</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 2</td>
<td>Andros, Sophy M[akepeace?] : ALS to town Clerk of Preston, Ct., and genealogical notebook</td>
<td>1896, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 3</td>
<td>Burtch, Thomas: account book</td>
<td>1773–1787, 1806–1835</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 1, f. 4</td>
<td>Makepeace, Frank Barrows: 2 autograph albums</td>
<td>[ca. 1871–1918]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 5</td>
<td>Makepeace, Helen Mary (Viets): autograph album</td>
<td>1870–1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 3</td>
<td>Diploma from Williston Academy, Easthampton, Mass.</td>
<td>1892 June 28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 3</td>
<td>Certificate of admission to Yale Kent Club, Yale School of Law</td>
<td>1900 June 25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 3</td>
<td>Commission of appointment as 1st lieutenant in the Home Guard of the State of Connecticut, signed by Gov. Marcus H. Holcomb</td>
<td>1917 October 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 3</td>
<td>Appointment as major in the Judge Advocate General’s Department, U.S. Army</td>
<td>1918 October 18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 3</td>
<td>Appointment as judge of District Court of Waterbury, Ct., signed by Gov. John H. Trumbull</td>
<td>1925 March 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 7</td>
<td>Porter, Orlando: account book</td>
<td>1809–1814</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 2, f. 8</td>
<td>Unidentified: address book</td>
<td>[ca. 1898–1899]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Selected Search Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library’s online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects
Agriculture
Business
Businessmen
Clock and watch making -- Connecticut
Cooper and cooperage -- Connecticut
Families
Farm income -- Connecticut
Farmers
Labor -- Connecticut
Labor movement -- Connecticut
Law
Shipping -- Connecticut
Working class -- Connecticut

Geographic Names
Connecticut
Stonington (Conn.)
United States -- History -- Revolution, 1775-1783
Waterbury (Conn.)

Genres / Formats
Account books
Autographs

Names
Burtch, Thomas, fl. 1773-1787
Burtch, Thomas, fl. 1806-1835
Peck, Ward, 1784-1847
Porter, Orlando, 1787-1836?

Families
Makepeace family