

**Title:** Gerald Stanley Lee correspondence with Jennette Barbour Perry Lee

**Creators:** Lee, Gerald Stanley, 1862-1944

Lee, Jennette Barbour Perry, 1861-1951

Lee, Samuel H., 1832-1918

**Dates:** 1917-1918

**Physical Description:** 1 document case (.2 linear feet)

**Collection number:** MS 5025

**Access Restrictions:** None apply

**Copyright:** Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be discussed with the archivist or librarian.

**Language:** English

**Repository:** Congregational Library and Archive

14 Beacon Street

Boston, MA 02108

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<http://www.congregationallibrary.org>

*Collection processed by Cristina Prochilo, March 2012. Description based on DACS*

**Abstract:** Correspondence largely comprises letters written from Gerald to Jennette Lee while he was traveling in New York City and Philadelphia to promote the publication of his book, *The Air-Line to Liberty*. There is one letter from Jennette to Gerald Lee in this collection as well as three written during the same time period by Samuel Henry Lee to Jennette Barbour Perry Lee. All letters in this collection appear to be written from November, 1917 to February, 1918.

**Acquisition Information:** Purchase, 2012 (2012-01).

**Biographical History:** Gerald Stanley Lee was born to Samuel Henry (b. 1832) and Emma Chloe (Carter) (b. 1835) Lee in Brockton, MA in 1861. He had three siblings Christabel (b.1865), Grace (b. 1867), and Theodore Storrs (b. 1873). Samuel Henry Lee was a pastor and moved his family to Greenfield, MA, Cleveland, OH, and Oberlin, OH where Samuel held a position as Professor of Political Economy at Oberlin College. Gerald attended Oberlin College, but graduated from Middlebury College in 1885 after the family moved to Brattleboro, VT where his father was a pastor. Lee attended Yale Divinity School from 1885-1888, but did not graduate. He married Jennette Barbour Perry Lee on June 26, 1886. Gerald Stanley Lee became a pastor of the Congregational Church of Princeton, MN, then Sharon Congregational Church in Sharon, CT. He wrote his first book, *About an Old New England Church* in 1891, traveled Europe in 1892, and became pastor at Park Street Congregational Church in Springfield, MA from 1893-1896. By 1901 the Lees lived in Northampton, MA where Jennette was an instructor and later Associate Professor of English at Smith College until 1913 when she left to focus on her writing.

Over the course of his career, Lee was a pastor, an author, a magazine editor (*Mount Tom*), and a lecturer. His writing career developed in the late 1890s and early twentieth century. Among other articles he wrote the following books:

*The Shadow Christ* (1896)  
*The Lost Art of Reading* (1902)  
*The Voice of the Machines* (1906)  
*The Child and the Book* (1907)  
*Inspired Millionaires* (1908)  
*Crowds: A Moving-Picture of Democracy* (1913)  
*The Air-Line to Liberty* (1918)  
*The Ghost in the White House* (1920)

Gerald Stanley Lee died in 1944; Jennette Barbour Lee died in 1951; and Samuel Henry Lee died in 1918.

**Scope of Collection:** This collection includes thirty-three letters written predominantly from Gerald Stanley Lee to his wife Jennette Barbour Perry Lee from November of 1917 to February 1918. These letters were written mostly from New York City (a few from Philadelphia, PA) while Lee was promoting his new book, *The Air-line to Liberty*, published by Mitchell Kennerley Publishers in 1918. Additionally, there is one letter written from Jennette Barbour Perry Lee to Gerald Stanley Lee as well as three letters written from Samuel H. Lee to Jennette Barbour Perry Lee during the same time period.

**Arrangement:** Letters are arranged by author and then chronological order.

**Related Material:** The Sophia Smith Collection at Smith College, Northampton, MA holds Jennette Barbour Perry Lee's papers which include correspondence with Gerald Stanley Lee and journals from this time period. The collection number is RG 42 and the finding aid may be found at: <http://asteria.fivecolleges.edu/findaids/smitharchives/manosca33.html>.

Necrologies of Gerald Stanly Lee and Samuel Henry Lee may be found in the 1944 edition of the *Yearbook of the Congregational Christian Churches* and the 1918 *Congregational Yearbook*, respectively.

Bush, Gregory Wallace. *Lord of Attention: Gerald Stanley Lee and the Crowd Metaphor in Industrializing America*. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, ©1991.

**Access Terms:** Gerald Stanley Lee

**Detailed Description and Container List:**

**Box 1**

**Folder 1: From Gerald Stanley Lee to Jennette Barbour Perry Lee.**

6 letters from November, 1917

**Folder 2: From Gerald Stanley Lee to Jennette Barbour Perry Lee.**

5 letters from December, 1917

**Folder 3: From Gerald Stanley Lee to Jennette Barbour Perry Lee.**

10 letters from January, 1918 1/6/1918

**Folder 4: From Gerald Stanley Lee to Jennette Barbour Perry Lee.**

8 letters from February, 1918

**Folder 5: From Jennette Barbour Perry Lee to Gerald Stanley Lee.**

1 letter with no date, believed to be from February, 1918

**Folder 6: From Samuel H. Lee to Jennette Barbour Perry Lee.**

3 letters from December, 1917 – February, 1918