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Jonathan Edwards and Joseph Bellamy correspondence, 1757. MS4862

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Summary Information

Repository:	Congregational Library & Archives
Creator:	Edwards, Jonathan, 1703-1758
Title:	Jonathan Edwards and Joseph Bellamy correspondence, 1757.
ID:	MS4862
Date:	1757
Physical Description:	1 Folder
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	Rev. Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758) was born in East Windsor, Connecticut on October 5, 1703. He became pastor in Northampton, Massachusetts in 1726. Jonathan Edwards was an influential revivalist minister and Stockbridge experienced a major revival between 1733 and 1734. Joseph Bellamy was one of Johnathan Edward's protégés and learned theology from Edwards in Northampton before his ordination in 1740 as pastor of the Congregational Church in Bethlehem, Connecticut. Joseph Bellamy remained the minister in Bethlehem until his death in 1790. Bellamy remained a close friend of Johnathan Edwards throughout his life. This collection contains a single letter written by Johnathan Edwards, and dated February 12, 1757, for Joseph Bellamy.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], in the Jonathan Edwards and Joseph Bellamy correspondence, 1757, MS4862. The Congregational Library & Archives, Boston, MA.

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Biographical Note

Rev. Jonathan Edwards (1703-1758) was born in East Windsor, Connecticut on October 5, 1703 to Rev. Timothy and Esther Edwards. He attended Yale for both undergraduate and

graduate studies, graduating in 1722. He became pastor in Northampton, Massachusetts in 1726, succeeding his grandfather Solomon Stoddard. Johnathan Edwards died on March 22, 1758.

Jonathan Edwards was an influential revivalist minister; his first public attack against Arminianism, a philosophy which moderated Calvinism's views on predestination, was delivered in Boston in 1731. Under his pastorate, Northampton underwent a major revival between 1733 and 1734. Joseph Bellamy was one of Johnathan Edward's protégés and learned theology from Edwards in Northampton before his ordination in 1740 as pastor of the Congregational Church in Bethlehem, Connecticut.

Joseph Bellamy remained the minister in Bethlehem until his death in 1790. Bellamy remained a close friend of Johnathan Edwards throughout his life. Bellamy published 22 books during his lifetime, the most famous of which was True Religion Delineated, published in 1750. Bellamy, much like Edwards, became a significant voice in the First Great Awakening.

A more complete [biography](#) and [timeline of Jonathan Edwards' life](#) is available from the [Jonathan Edwards Center](#) at Yale.

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Scope and Contents

This collection contains a single letter written by Johnathan Edwards, and dated February 12, 1757, for Joseph Bellamy. The letter contains personal correspondence and covers topics such as book collecting, future trips, and events in Stockbridge.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Restrictions on Access

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Acquisition Information

Materials were donated to the Congregational Library & Archives by Albert R. Brown in 1938; no accession number. Materials were originally cataloged MS 11 Ms. Case 3.

Digital Copies

Records within this collection were digitized as part of the New England's Hidden Histories project. Digital reproductions may be accessed online through our [digital archive](#).

Accruals

Additional accruals are expected for this collection in the form of full-text transcription. There is no anticipated date for this accrual.

Custodial History

Albert R. Brown came into possession of the correspondence from David Dudley Field who was the great-grandson of Rev. David Dudley Field. Rev. Field was pastor at the Congregational church in Stockbridge, Mass from 1819 to 1837.

Processing Information

Processed by Zachary Bodnar, November 2021, according to DACS 2019.0.3.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Book collecting.
- Clergy -- Correspondence.
- Bellamy, Joseph, 1719-1790
- Edwards, Jonathan, 1703-1758

Technical Requirements

To access digital user's copies via online-interface, a java-enabled web browser is required. Internet Explorer 8.x and later, Firefox 5.x and later, Opera 12 and later, Safari 5.x and later, or any version of Google Chrome are recommended.

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Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances
Letter from Jonathan Edwards to Joseph Bellamy, 1757	box NEHH- folder 35 Small