

Ulysses Sumner Milburn Illustrated Lecture Photograph Collection

Mss #52

2.5 linear feet

Biographical

Ulysses Sumner Milburn was born in Black Lick, Ohio in 1865 and attended St. Lawrence University, graduating from the Theological School in 1891. He served 47 years in active Universalist ministry in Ohio, Maryland, New York, Missouri and Massachusetts. He married Alice Dinsmore Milburn in 1910 and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Divinity degree from his Alma Mater in 1927. U.S. Milburn was most famous for his large collection of books, manuscripts, letters and other items of the 19th century American novelist Nathaniel Hawthorne, which was donated to the University in 1949. Milburn was also a traveler, photographer and lecturer. Following his retirement from the ministry, Milburn concentrated not only on building his Hawthoriana collection, but busied himself giving a variety of “illustrated travel lectures” to associations and community groups in New England. Many of the illustrations (slides) used in these lectures were of photos taken himself during his years of foreign travel or others he acquired. Other slides represented lectures on Hawthorne and the prominent New England abolitionist and writer John Greenleaf Whittier. For more on Ulysses S. Milburn, his work at a Universalist minister and his relationship with St. Lawrence University, see University Archives, record group 10 (RG 10—Alumni).

Scope and Content

The majority of items in this collection consist of hand-colored photo glass slides, glass slide negatives and gel negatives of scenery, buildings and people in England, Scotland, Ireland, Switzerland and other European countries; Mexico, Central and South America, and Africa. Other slides and negatives deal with pre-Columbian native burial mounds in the United States, Hawthorne and Whittier-related lecture material, religious images, songs and hymns. The collection is organized into two series, with series 1 being glass slides (photographs) and series 2 glass and gel photographic negatives. Most images were taken between 1910 and 1940.

Provenance

Correspondence in Milburn’s alumni folder indicates that the collection was donated to St. Lawrence University by Dr. Milburn shortly after his Hawthorne collection was donated; ca. 1950/51.

Series 1—Glass slide photographs/illustrations

<u>Container/Box</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1 Folder	Misc. slides; papers accompanying slides in Milburn’s handwriting; pamphlets describing Milburn lectures
1 1	Portraits of U.S. & Alice Milburn (negatives); Religious content; Statements on Universalism Bible verses, Sacred songs; one photograph students at SLU playing field hockey
2	Sacred songs, Religious images
3	Religious images
4	Religious images; secular songs; North American Indians
5	Secular songs, Christmas songs
2 6	Pre-Columbian native burial mounds; British Guiana
7	Pre-Columbian burial mounds; East Africa
8	Mexico; South America
9	Mexico; Brazil

<u>Container/Box</u>	<u>Contents</u>
2 10	Egypt; North Africa;
3 11	Egypt
12	Holland; Scandinavia; Misc. Europe
13	Switzerland; France; Italy
14	Italy
15	England
4 16	England
17	England
18	England
19	Ireland

Series 2—glass plate and gel photographic negatives

<u>Container/Box</u>	<u>Contents</u>
4 20	Pilgrims; Misc. Europe
5 21	Nathaniel Hawthorne presentation
22	John Greenleaf Whittier presentation
23	Whittier presentation
24	Whittier presentation
25	Scotland
26	England
27	England; Italy