

Potter, Alonzo, 1800-1865
Ravenscroft, John Stark, 1772-1830
Schenck, Noah Hunt, 1825-1885
Seabury, Samuel, 1729-1796
Smith, B. B. (Benjamin Bosworth), 1794-1884
Sparrow, William, 1801-1874
Stevens, William Bacon, 1815-1887
Wainwright, Jonathan Mayhew, 1792-1854
Wharton, Charles Henry, 1748-1833
Williams, J. (John), 1817-1899
Whittingham, William Rollinson, 1805-1879
Wylie, Andrew, 1789-1851

Subject Topics

Episcopal Church--Middle West--History--19th century--Sources
Episcopal Church--Southern States--History--19th century--Sources
Episcopal Church--Clergy--United States
Clergy, Writings of

Document Types

Letters
Sermons--18th century

Related Collections

The Library Company's Print Department holds portraits of American clergymen in both prints and photographs. The John A. McAllister Papers (McA MSS 001) contain many letters to McAllister from clergymen of all denominations.

Biographical/Historical Notes

The material in this small collection was isolated from the McAllister Manuscript Collection based on content and association with leaders of the Episcopal Church, also known as the Protestant Episcopal Church. Nearly all of the authors of the letters and documents were at the time, or later became, bishops in the church, including the first American bishop, the Right Reverend Samuel Seabury (1729-1796). Collecting the autographs of the divines was a popular pastime in the nineteenth century, as was the collecting of their small portrait photographs, or cartes de visite, which were published and distributed by the Brady, Gurney, and Anthony studios in New York, as well as by McAllister and Brother in Philadelphia.

In addition to retailing portraits of clergymen, the McAllister firm commissioned and sold photographs of Philadelphia churches, and it is likely that John A. McAllister's collecting conduit included men who made contact with him or the company for that reason. McAllister's own papers (Library Company collection McA MSS 001) include letters from several clergymen, who wrote to acknowledge the receipt of a photograph. He developed further relationships