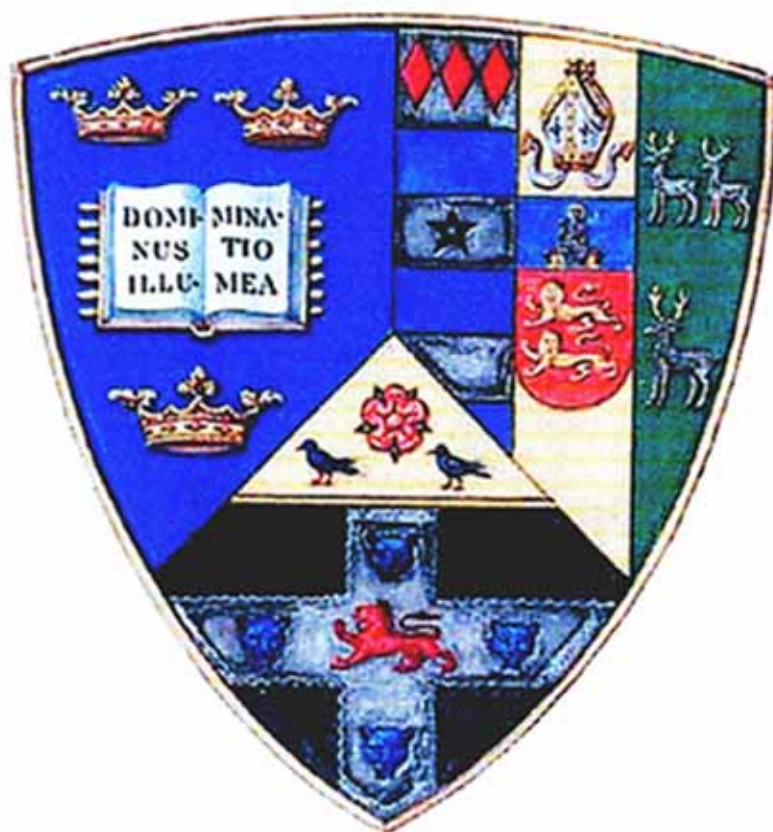


# Electronic Guide to the Foss Collection

1831 - 1909



# DREW



## Foss Collection

1831 - 1909

0.45 cubic feet

drew.ms.2385

The purpose of this finding aid is to help you understand the nature of this collection and to assist you in the retrieval of material from this collection. The following pages contain a brief biographical history of the person, or persons, who created or collected these papers, followed by a general description of the collection in the scope and content note. If more detailed information is warranted then series descriptions also appear. The container listing appears last and is the listing of material in each box, or container, of this collection. To request material you need to turn to the container listing section. It is essentially a listing of file folders, or artifact items, in the collection. Each folder, or item, has a call number associated with it. Each folder also lists the inclusive dates of the material in the folder. On the material request form list both the call number and the folder, or item, title. Use a different line for each folder, or item, requested. When your request sheet is complete, or full, bring it to the archivist and the material will be retrieved.

### Biographical Note

Cyrus Foss (1799-1849), American Methodist preacher, was born in Barrington, New Hampshire. At a young age, he moved to Dover, New York, and taught school in the nearby town of Beekman. Soon after, he received his preacher's license, and worked for the Methodist Episcopal Church on the Goshen circuit. In 1827, as part of the New York Conference, he was ordained deacon, and two years later was ordained elder

That same year, he married Jane Campbell, who gave birth to their five sons, three of whom became preachers (Archibald, Cyrus David and William). In 1842, he was put on the supernumerated list when his health began to fail. Throughout the seventeen years he served as a pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church, he was known to be a man of more than ordinary intellectual power, and of fervent religious spirit.

Cyrus died on February 28, 1849 in Carmel, New York.

Cyrus David Foss (1834-1910), American bishop, was born in Kingston, New York January 17, 1834, the son of Cyrus and Jane (Campbell) Foss. He graduated from Wesleyan University in 1854. He served as an instructor and then as principal at Amenia Seminary. In 1856, Foss married Mary E. Bradley. After her death in 1863 he married Amelia Robertson on May 10, 1865.

Foss became a member of the New York Conference in 1857 and two years later transferred to the New York East Conference. Two years later he returned to the New York Conference, serving a number of churches in these Conferences. He became president of Wesleyan University in 1875.

Cyrus David Foss served as delegate to several General Conferences before being elected a bishop in 1880, serving in Minneapolis until 1888, and then in Philadelphia. As bishop he traveled the world representing and observing Methodist missions. Foss died in Philadelphia on January 29, 1910 and was buried in Pawling, New York.

### Scope Note

This collection is a testimonial to the prodigious preaching of Cyrus Foss, whose intellect and profound sense of spirituality powered his sermons. These traits were evident in three of his children documented here: Archibald and William became pastors, while Cyrus David was consecrated into the episcopacy in 1880. In addition to embracing every part of the Bible, Foss' teachings offer several interpretations of passages, often ending with stimulating conclusions.



The next series contains information on bishop Cyrus Foss. The third series contains information on Bishop Foss' brother, William Jay Foss. The fourth and final series contains papers and information relating to other members of the family.

## Arrangement

Material has been arranged in the following manner.

*SERIES: CYRUS FOSS.*

*SERIES: FAMILY.*

## Access Restrictions

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## Preferred Citation

When citing material from this collection please use the following format: Direct reference to the item or its file folder, Foss Collection, Methodist Collection - Drew University, Madison, New Jersey. Do not make use of the items' call number as that is not a stable descriptor.

## Subject Terms

### *Additional Creators - Personal*

Bangs, Nathan

Fitch, Nathan.

Foss, Cyrus

Foss, Cyrus David

Foss, William J.

### *Subject Names - Personal*

Freeman, William C..

### *Subject Topics*

Bishops

Sermons.

Social action

Social reformers

### *Subject Geographic*

New York (N.Y.).

New York (State)

### *Genre*

Addresses

Church bulletins

Correspondence

Lectures

Memorials

Photographs.

Poetry

Portraits

Sermons

### *Occupations*

Bishop.



Minister

## Table of Contents

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Family.....	4



## Container List

### *Cyrus Foss*

Call Number	Folder Title	Date(s)
2131-5-1:1	Sermon Notes and Fragments	Undated
2131-5-1:2	Sermons	Undated
2131-5-1:3	Sermons	Undated
2131-5-1:4	Sermons	Undated
2131-5-1:5	Letters	1831-1839
2131-5-1:6	Addresses and Lecture Notes	1834
2131-5-1:7	Poems	Undated
2131-5-1:8	Death of William C. Freeman	1835
2131-5-1:9	Memoir of Cyrus Foss	Undated
2131-5-1:10	Cyrus David Foss	1872-1909

### *Family*

Call Number	Folder Title	Date(s)
2131-5-1:11	Archibald Campbell Foss	1856-1863
2131-5-1:12	Portraits and Images	1888-1904

