JOSEPH HORACE KIMBALL (1813-1838)

PAPERS, 1831-1838.

½ box (23 items).

Joseph Horace Kimball was born in Pembroke, N.H. in 1836. He suffered from tuberculosis and did not go to college. He taught school, decided against entering the ministry, and became editor of the "Herald for Freedom" in Concord at the request of John Farmer, secretary of the anti-slavery society. (See letter to Moses F. Hoit, Mar 16, 1835). In his journal (p. 43, Nov. 2, 1836) he wrote: "I am going out as an agent of the American Anti-Slavery Society for the purpose of investigating the effects of emancipation in the British portions of those isles. Misconceptions are rife about them, & it is important to the cause of freedom in the United States that the truth should be known." James A. Thome of Kentucky, son of a slaveholder who had freed his slaves accompanied him on this trip. Kimball kept a diary of the trip from Jan. 31 to April 19, 1837, giving a full description of their observations in Antigua, Barbados, and Jamaica. The trip did not improve his health and he died the following year. His companion James A. Thome, was largely responsible for the book containing the results of their investigations, Emancipation in the West Indies (New York, 1838). The copy of the volume in the New Hampshire Historical Society (326.8 - T4654) was presented to Miss Sarah Kimball, 11 July 1838, by John Farmer and contains a mss. tribute to Joseph Horace Kimball on the fly leaf.

The papers consist of correspondence, journals and writings, and are largely concerned with anti-slavery. There are 17 letters, 1833-1838, some to Kimball from friends and some from Kimball to his family. The latter include descriptions of an earlier trip to the West Indies. There is a notebook of quotations and writings, a diary consisting largely of religious observations, and the extremely interesting account of the trip to the West Indies. No accession record.

Cards made for catalogue. Dates of letters given on the cards.

Bradley, Cyrus P.
Garrison, William Lloyd (subject)
Greenwood, Francis W.P.
Hoit, Moses French
Kent, George
Kimball, Caleb
Kimball, Moses W.
Kimball, Thomas
McCullom, James Tomb
Thome, Rev. James A.
Ward, Rev. Nathan
Weld, Theodore D. (subject)