Title: Hill, Clara Mossman and Elsie M. Hill. Collection

Collection #: Ms B84

Dates: 1812-1968

Size of Collection: 6 boxes

Accession Number: L1997/10

Donor: Leslie Latham

Restrictions: Must be kept together as a collection

Processed by: Barbara Austen

Date: April 1997

Biographical/ historical note:

Ebenezer J. Hill, Congressman from Norwalk, Connecticut, for 22 years, married Mary Ellen Mossman, daughter of Abner Goodale Mossman and Emily Rice. Mary Ellen Mossman Hill was an organizing regent of the Norwalk chapter of the DAR. Ebenezer and Mary’s children were Frederick Asbury Hill, who served in Puerto Rico; Clara Mossman Hill, genealogist and educator; Helena Charlotte Hill Weed; and Elsie Mossman Hill, suffragist, politician, wife of activist Albert Levitt and mother of the donor, Leslie Hill Levitt Latham. For more information on the family, see the copy of the DAR Ancestral Chart in the collection folder.

Scope and content note:

The collection primarily consists of genealogical research notes and charts compiled by Clara Mossman Hill, aunt of the donor, and by Elsie M. Hill, the donor’s
mother, between 1900 and 1967. The genealogical materials include correspondence, extracts and transcripts of records, articles, pamphlets, and family charts. Clara kept the bulk of these records in notebooks and manila envelopes, organized by family name or type of record, and these were kept intact when the collection was transferred to acid-free folders. The titles Clara gave to the binders and envelopes were copied onto the new folders, which were then arranged in alphabetical order. Newspaper clippings were copied onto acid-free paper and the originals discarded.

Clara and Elsie’s collections of local history and genealogy books contain numerous annotations and corrections and the bulk were therefore kept as part of the collection. Both women also applied for membership in several heritage societies, or helped others apply, and records of those applications are also included. To supplement her genealogical research, Clara gathered family manuscripts such as sermons, correspondence, wills, speeches, and photographs, which became part of her collection. Of particular note are manuscript sermons prepared by Moses Hill in 1839-1840 and a deposition he made in 1882 about his family history in reference to the French Spoliation Claims; the published memoirs of Lucy Goodale Thurston, one of the first missionaries to Hawaii; a copy of the speech delivered in Congress by Ebenezer J. Hill in support of women’s suffrage; photographs and a Life magazine story about Elsie M. Hill aboard the first commercial airline flight to Moscow in 1968 and a scrapbook about the suffrage movement in Connecticut kept by Elsie, 1912. Family materials are organized in alphabetical order.

The contents of box 12 are items added to the collection after the original organization and could not be interfiled. These include additional Hill-Barlow genealogical materials, Platt family charts, correspondence to Clara from a relative named Hal, and a hand drawn genealogical chart of the Goodale family.

A secondary collection consists of correspondence, printed material, photographs, and student gifts related to Clara’s work as a teacher at the Colegio Ludlow (Colegio Hijas de Allende), a boarding and day school for girls in Pachuca, Mexico, dating from 1927-1934, 1955.

Items which were received with the collection but cataloged individually are enumerated in the separation list appended to this finding aid. Note that portions of the records from this family have been donated to Vassar College, Harvard University, and the Maine Historical Society, and family textiles have been added to the collections of the Wilton Historical Society, Wilton, Conn.
HILL, CLARA MOSSMAN,  
and ELSIE M. HILL,  
COLLECTION, 1812-1968  

Box 1  

Series A. Genealogy notebooks

Folder 1. Barlow--John of Fairfield, Line of Samuel (4)  
Folder 2. Barlow--John of Fairfield, Collateral and unplaced  
Folder 3. Barlow-Hill lines  
Folder 4-5. Charts, ancestral  
Folder 6. English ancestral data  
Folder 7. Goodale, Howe and allied families  
Folder 8. Hill  
Folder 9. Hill and Barlow  
Folder 10. Hill collateral  
Folder 11. McLellan, Ilsley, allied families (2)  
Folder 12. Miscellaneous family  
Folder 13. Mossman--James of Edinburgh and New England--Timothy (3)  
Folder 14. Mossman--James of Edinburgh and new England--George (3)--includes Uncle Emory’s diary  
Folder 15. Revolutionary records  
Folder 16. Temple, Wilder, Merchant, Call  
Folder 17. Unlabeled

Series B. Genealogy envelopes

Folder 1. Abbott, Parker, Green, Coffin  
Folder 2. Barlow, Joel  
Folder 3. Barlow, Joel and Ruth--copies of wills, etc.  
Folder 4-5. Barlow letters and papers  
Folder 6. Clark Bible records  
Folder 7. Dutch and Gilbert  
Folder 8. Founding of Norwalk  
Folder 9. Goodale-Rice  
Folder 10-11. Heritage Societies
HILL, CLARA MOSSMAN,  
and ELSIE M. HILL,  
COLLECTION, 1812-1968

Box 2

Series B. Genealogy envelopes (cont.)

Folder 12-13. Hill--letters to and from Grace A. Hill, 1892-1942
Folder 14. Hill records--typed, manuscript chart  
Folder 15. Hill genealogy (bound)  
Folder 16. Howe, Whitney, White, Hosmer  
Folder 17. “Marguerite”--DAR application  
Folder 18. McLellan  
Folder 19. McLellan and allied families  
Folder 20. McLellan, Ilsley and allied families  
Folder 21. Miscellaneous Fairfield County  
Folder 22-23. Mossman  
Folder 24. Mossman charts (bound)  
Folder 25. National Society of Colonial Dames  
Folder 26. Norwalk town proceedings  
Folder 27. Notes on Maine, and on the Barlow celebration  
Folder 28. Pamphlets, historical  
Folder 29. Redding DAR lines  
Folder 30. Requests for information, 1880-1938  
Folder 31. Rice, Call, et al.  
Folder 32. Rice-Mossman genealogy  
Folder 33. Royalty

Box 3

Folder 34-35. Thomas and allied families  
Folder 36. Thomas and allied families--Norwalk chapter DAR books  
Folder 37. Turney and Sanford  
Folder 38. Weed genealogy; notes on royal ancestry  
Folder 39. Family charts, rolled--Barlow, Hill, McLellan, Mossman, Rice  
Folder 40. Magna Carta (copies)

Box 4

Series C. File Cards

Series D. History and genealogy books (see attached list)
HILL, CLARA MOSSMAN,
and ELSIE M. HILL,
COLLECTION, 1812-1968

Box 3 (cont.)

Series E. Family photographs, 1841-1968

Folder 1. Hill, Frederick A., ca. 1865
Folder 2. Hill, Mary Ellen Mossman, ca. 1860
Folder 3. Hill, Moses Asbury, ca. 1865
Folder 4. Hill, Mossman, Rice family members, 1855, 1898-1968
Folder 5. Mossman, Abner Goodale and Emily Rice, 1833, 1883
Folder 6. Mossman, Silas, 1841, 1846
Folder 7. Family homesteads in Maine and Massachusetts, ca. 1845, 1885
Folder 8. Cartes de visite identified as “from album,” ca. 1870

Box 5

Folder 9. Family photograph album
Folder 10. Moses A. Hill album, inscribed “Wesleyan University, Class of

Box 6

Series F. Family Papers, 1812-1968

Folder 1. Hill, Charlotte Ilsley, insurance certificate, 1839
Folder 2-6. Hill, Ebenezer J., special passports, 1897, 1901; article, 1902;
Folder 7. Hill, Elsie, membership certificates, 1909, 1934; correspondence,
Folder 8. Hill, Frederick A., diploma, 1888
Folder 9-10. Hill, Mary Ellen Mossman, “chap book” with poems and
Folder 11. McLellan, Mary Ann, The Seasons and Letters on the
improvement of the mind (books)
Ms B84

HILL, CLARA MOSSMAN,  
and ELSIE M. HILL,  
COLLECTION, 1812-1968

Box 7

Series F (cont.)

Folder 12-17. Hill, Moses, sermons, temperance addresses and meditations,  
ca. 1839-1843; family Bible; deposition, 1882
Folder 18. Hill, Moses A., military appointment, 1866; US Constitution,  
Folder 19. Mossman, Abner G., deeds, 1856
Folder 20. Mossman, Betsey and Mary, correspondence, 1847; acrostic,  
Folder 21. Mossman, Emory, transcripts of letters, 1862-63
Folder 22. Mossman, Emory, letters from command officers to family,  
1863, 1882
Folder 23. Thurston, Lucy Goodale, article about Hawaiian missions, 1873
Folder 24. Ebenezer J. Hill Newspaper Notices, ca. 1915

Series G. Personal Papers, 1899-1939

Folder 1. Membership certificates, 1904-1905
Folder 2. Correspondence with missionaries and students in Mexico, 1924-

Box 9

Folder 3. Printed material from Mexico, 1923-1939
Folder 4. Gifts from Mexican students, n.d.
Folder 5. General missionary material, 1925-1930
Folder 6-7. Photographs (numbered and identified), 1928-1931
Folder 8-9. Photographs (dated), 1925-1937
Folder 10-12. Photographs (no identification), ca. 1925-1930
Folder 13. Negatives and prints, ca. 1925-1930
Folder 14. Negatives and printed materials, ca. 1925-1930
Folder 15-20. Negatives and prints, ca. 1925-1930

Folder 21. Album of photographs of Clara’s trip to California, Alaska and

Box 8, 10, 11 Oversize materials
HILL, CLARA MOSSMAN,
and ELSIE M. HILL,
COLLECTION, 1812-1968

Box 12

Folder 1. Clara M. Hill genealogical notebook, Hill-Barlow
Folder 2. Clara M. Hill genealogical notes in folder, Hill/Weed/Barlow/Albin
Folder 3. Clara M. Hill genealogical notes, Platt family
Folder 4. letters to Clara Hill from “Hal,” ca. 1945
Folder 5. hand drawn family chart, Goodale family
Separation list (books to be cataloged as part of the FHS library collection):

Address to a child. American Tract Society. Inscribed in pencil “Hattie B. Hill”


Beard, Augustus Field. Historical address in commemoration of the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Norwalk, September eleventh, 1651. Norwalk, Conn.: Norwalk Historical Association, 1901.


By-laws of the Fairfield Historical Society, 1932.


Dufewa, Thamar E. The Viking laws and the Magna Charta: a study of the Northmen’s laws. Ms B84

HILL, CLARA MOSSMAN, and ELSIE M. HILL, COLLECTION, 1812-1968

Separation list (cont.)


Fairfield County Historical Society. *Annual report for 1890-1891.*


*Jacobus, Donald Lines*. *History and genealogy of the families of old Fairfield, Vol. II, part IV.* [Fairfield, Conn.: Eunice Dennie Burr Chapter, DAR].

Separation list (cont.)

Journal of the proceedings of the convention of delegates, convened at Hartford, August 26, 1818, for the purpose of forming a constitution . . . . Hartford : Case, Lockwood & Brainard, 1901.

Kamisar, Yale, Fred E. Inbau and Thurman Arnold. Criminal justice in our time. Charlottesville.


Separation list (cont.)


300th Anniversary, Norwalk, Connecticut, Program . . . [Norwalk, Conn. : Connecticut Circle, 1951]


(Map) Fairfield County, Conn. 1855 (photostatic copy)

(Map) The town of Redding, 1912, with some revisions to 1930. n.d.
HILL, CLARA MOSSMAN, 
and ELSIE M. HILL, 
COLLECTION, 1812-1968

Series D. History and genealogy books


The hundredth anniversary of the organization of the Third Congregational Church and Society, 1834-1934. Chicopee, Mass. : the Church, [1934].


M[ossman], M[ary] H[ill]. Steppings in God : or, the hidden life made manifest. Buffalo, N.Y. , 1885.
HILL, CLARA MOSSMAN,  
and ELSIE M. HILL,  
COLLECTION, 1812-1968

Series D (cont.)


Register of the Connecticut Society of the Colonial Dames of America, 1893-1939. The Society, [1939].

Register of the officers and members of the Society of Colonial Wars in the state of Maine . . . Portland : Marks Printing House, 1905.


The Sixth sanctuary of the First Church of Christ, Fairfield, Conn. : the laying of the cornerstone; the dedication. Fairfield, Conn., 1893


HILL, CLARA MOSSMAN,
and ELSIE M. HILL,
COLLECTION, 1812-1968

Series D (cont.)

Subject headings:

Barlow, Joel
Chicopee (Mass.)--history
Colonial Dames of America. Connecticut Society
French Spoliation Claims
Genealogy
Goodale family
Heraldry
Hill family
Ilsley family
Legislators--United States--Biography
Maine--genealogy
Massachusetts--genealogy
McLellan family
Magna Carta
Marlborough (Mass.)--history
Missionaries--Hawaii
Missionaries--Mexico
Missions--Mexico--educational work
Mexico--social conditions
Mossman family
National Society of Daughters of Founders and Patriots of America
Photographs
Platt family
Public records--Massachusetts
Redding (Conn.)--history

Ms B84

HILL, CLARA MOSSMAN, and ELSIE M. HILL,
COLLECTION, 1812-1968

Subject headings (cont.):

Rice family
Ridgefield (Conn.)--history
Sanford family
Society of Colonial Wars in the State of Maine
South Salem (New York)--cemeteries
Sunderland (Mass.)--history
U.S.--History--Civil War, 1862-1865
West (U.S.)--description and travel--1880-1950
Women educators--Mexico
Women missionaries
Hill, Ebenezer J., 1845-1917
Hill, Mary Ellen Mossman, 1846-1918
Hill, Moses, 1804-1882
Mossman, Emory, d. ca. 1863
Thurston, Lucy Goodale
List of items donated 6 April 1997 by Leslie Latham

Jane Bradley’s 1793 Bible with notes by Clara M. Hill
Town history of Sunderland and Marlborough, Mass, with notes by Clara M. Hill
Schenck, Elizabeth. History of Fairfield, 2 vol.
Memorial address on the death of Ebenezer J. Hill
photographs of Emily Rice and Abner Goodale Mossman
Mary Hill Mossman book Steppings in God, dedicated to Mary Ellen Mossman (2 copies)
Harriet Sturges Goulden genealogy, with notes by Clara M. Hill
box of family photographs
Constitutions of Connecticut
Journal of the Constitutional Convention
Fairfield Historical Society annual reports, 1915, 1916
Monhegan the cradle of New England
Good Old Times by Elijah Kellogg
100th anniversary booklet, Third Congregational Church, Chicopee, Mass, 1934
Hill family photograph album
The Hon. John Read Gentleman
Speeches delivered in the House by E.J. Hill
National Geographic magazine, February 1902, with article about E.J. Hill’s trans-Siberian train trip
photograph of Elsie Hill in Russia, 1968
Mossman/Hill photograph album
envelope of historical pamphlets
Report on the public records of parishes, town & counties, 1885
Salem Witchcraft
Connecticut Chapter, National Society Daughters of Founders and Patriots, Roster, 1968
History of Connecticut by Timothy Dwight
Fairfield County Historical Society annual report, 1892
Connecticut Society Colonial Dames of America, Register, 1907 (2 copies), 1940
National Society of Daughters of the Founders & Patriots, Lineage Book
Protestant Church in America
Magna Carta lineage books (4 vols.)
Ridgefield, Connecticut, 1708-1908
Old Churchyard Inscriptions, South Salem, NY
Joel Barlow pamphlet (2 copies)
12 Magna Carta pamphlets
Norwalk Tercentenary program
Jacobus Van Etten genealogy
Weed genealogy notes by Clara M. Hill
box of index card files
list of Colonial Dames
biography of Lucy G. Thurston
Moses Hill diary
rolled family charts:
English ancestry of Mr. and Mrs. William Hill (3 copies)
first draft of English ancestry
Hill-Barlow-Sanford charts
Magna Carta (2 copies)
Hill documents (3)
2 parts of large chart of Sherman-Hill genealogy
photographs of family houses in Maine
1867 maps of Fairfield and Redding
History and Genealogy of the Families of Old Fairfield, vol. 2, part IV, Donald L. Jacobus
photograph album of Clara’s trip to California, Alaska, and Banff
2 photographs of the Goodale farm, Marlborough, MA
tintypes of Rice family
Betsy Mossman/Lucy Thurston manuscript
Moses Hill sermons
4 framed photographs--3 houses, 1 family group
Clara’s Andrew Ward Family Assoc. certificate
photographs of Clara’s educational work in Mexico
Confession of Faith . . . of the churches in the colony of Connecticut . . . 1708. 1810.
Life magazine article about Elsie Hill in first commercial air flight to Moscow, 1968
membership certificates, Mary Ellen Mossman
1930 blueprint map of Redding
Clara’s certificate from the Colonial Dames
carton of 15 notebooks kept by Clara M. Hill
8 folders/envelopes of genealogical notes and newspaper clippings
2 books on heraldry
one suitcase of Clara’s genealogical notes
book on how to make protective boxes for rare books

retained by donor:  Hill-Barlow notebook and folder (transferred to Historical Society September 22, 1997)
Additional items donated by Leslie Latham on September 22, 1997

Platt genealogical charts and notes
deposition by Moses Hill, 1882
extract of Albert Levitt’s military record
scrapbook of suffrage clippings kept by Elsie M. Hill
Clara M. Hill’s notebook and folder on Hill-Barlow families
Elsie M. Hill’s annotated copy of The Short History of the English People
framed genealogical chart of the Goodale family
Grumman, William Edgar.  The Revolutionary soldiers of Redding, Connecticut, and
their record of services.
Woodward, Percy Emmons, comp.  Some descendants of Nathaniel Woodward,
   mathematician.
Report of the proceedings at the unveiling of the Andrew Ward monument. Fairfield,
   Connecticut, June 13, 1907.
Connecticut Public Expenditure Council.  Local public school expenses and state aid in

Items to be exchanged:

Association of Descendants of Andrew Ward (pamphlet)
Islands of Boston Harbor (pamphlet)
Notes on Jamaican Ethnobotany
The New England Historical and Genealogical Register, January, July 1947; January
   1948

Item to be sent to Maine Historical Society:

Additional materials donated 16 May 1997 by Leslie Latham

carbon copies of estate papers of Mary Ellen Mossman Hill
M.E.M. Hill chap book, 1862-1867
book The Complaint belonging to M.E.M. Hill
carbon copies of estate papers of Ebenezer J. Hill
1873 edition of The New York Times
Yale Class of 1865 alumni publications
2 books that belonged to Moses A. Hill: Constitution of the United States, 1850 and Horatio
2 books that belonged to Mary Ann McLellan: The Seasons, and Letters on the improvement of the mind.
Bible with family birth, marriage and death records, and a family history copied by Moses Hill
2 deeds, 1856, of Abner G. Mossman
transcriptions of letters home written by Civil War soldier Emory Mossman, 1862-1863
letters written by Emory Mossman’s commanding officers about his disappearance, 1863, 1882
article from Harper’s New Monthly about the Hawaiian mission and Lucy Thurston
5 issues of the Connecticut Quarterly, 1897-1898
4 pamphlets from the Association of Descendants of Andrew Ward
dedication program of the sixth sanctuary, First Church of Christ, Fairfield
Falmouth Neck in the Revolution
The Handbook of American Genealogy
genealogy notebook of Clara Hill
article from Harper’s New Monthly about the town of Sudbury, Mass.
Address to a child owned by Hattie B. Hill
The doctrine of the law and grace unfolded with manuscript notes on flyleaf, owned by Elsie M. Hill
Transcription of family records in the Moses Hill Bible:

MARRIAGES
[written in pen]
Moses Hill was married to Phebe Minerva Rockwell in Ridgefield Conn May 25/31
Moses Hill was married to Charlotte Ilsley McLellan in Portland, Me Oct 5. 1836
Moses Hill was married to Minerva S. Purinton in Ridgefield Ct Mar 31st 1856
Charlotte Ilsley Hill was married to Elbert L. Miller of Redding Ct July 3/67

This Bible came to Elsie Mary Hill, grand daughter of Moses Hill and Charlotte Ilsley McClellan[sic] Hill from Charlotte Ilsley Hill Miller who was sister to Ebenezer (J) Hill who married Mary Ellen Mosman. June 15th 1868.

Elsie Mary Hill married to Albert Levitt, December 24, 1921

BIRTHS (page 1)
[written in pen]
Parents
Moses Hill was born in Redding Conn Oct 7th. 1804
Phebe Minerva Hill was born in Ridgefield Conn. Jan 15th 1804
Charlotte Ilsley Hill was born in Portland, Me. Oct 28. 1810
Minerva S. Hill was born in Ridgefield Ct Jan 14th 1816
Children
Richard Watson Hill was born in York Me Mar 25th 1832
Mary Augusta Hill was born in Redding Conn. Mar 20. 1838
Sarah Jane Hill was born in Gardiner Me July 2. 1840
Charlotte Ilsley Hill was born in Bucksport Me Jan 22. 1842
Moses Asbury Hill was born in Saurappa (?) Me Oct 9 - 1843
Ebenezer J. Hill was born in Reding [sic] Connecticut Aug 4th 1845
Minerva Rockwell Hill was born in Gardiner Me Aug 3rd 1847
Harriet Benson Hill was born in Winthrop Me Dec 20th 1849

BIRTHS (page 2)
[in different colored pen and in different hand]
Elsie Hill-Levitt, Washington D.C. November 15th 1924
Transcription of family records in the Moses Hill Bible:

DEATHS
[written in pen]
Phebe Minerva Hill died in York, Me of puerperal fever Mar 30th 1832
Richard W. Hill died in York, Me [Mar 30th 1832]
Minerva Rockwell Hill died of Diarhea in Saco Me Sept 29th 1848
Mary Augusta Hill died of Consumption in Hartford Ct Sept 5th 1852
Harriet Benson Hill died of inflammation of the Brain in Hartford, Ct Aug 22nd 1852
Charlotte Ilsley Hill died of Consumption in Norwalk Ct Dec 26th '54 at 11 o’clock PM
Sarah Jane Hill died of Consumption in Norwalk Ct May 30th 1860 at 1/2 past 12 o’clock A.M.
Moses Asbury Hill died of Consumption in Norwalk Ct at 6 1/2 o’clock A.M. July 11th 1867

[written on a blank page after the printed family record, in pencil]
Record of my father’s family copied from the old family bible April 12th 1846 by me, Moses Hill

Ebenr Hill was born Feb 20th 1768
Sarah Hill was born Jan 16th 1770 and they were married
May -- 1791

Children births of
Mabel Hill was born Dec 17th 1791
Nathl B. Hill was born Oct 23rd 1793
Gershom Hill was born Mar 10th 1796
Ebenr Hill was born Oct 11th 1797
Moses Hill was born Oct 7th 1804
Jabez Hill was born Mar 5th 1808

Deaths
Jabez died at Key West Florida Jan 27th 1831
Ebenr Hill Senior at Redding May 5th 1842
Sarah H. Hill died at Redding April 11th 1845
Mabel Hallet died at Redding Dec 16 1845 (?)
Gershom Hill died at Redding Jan 4th 1871 [the date was added later, with a darker and heavier pencil]
[the next two entries were added at the same time as Gershom’s death date]
Ebenr Hill died of inflammation of lungs at Norwalk Conn Jun 10th - 75 1/2 past 11 A.M.
Moses Hill died of paralysis at Norwalk June 22nd/82