American Antiquarian Society

Manuscript Collections

NAME OF COLLECTION: LOCATION:

Dodge, Pickering, "A Tribute to the Memory of the Infant Dead," 1842 Octavo vols. "D"

SIZE OF COLLECTION:

1 octavo volume, (106 leaves)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON COLLECTION:

Dodge, Joseph Thompson, Genealogy of the Dodge Family of Essex County, Mass. (Madison, Wisc., 1894), 143, 210.

SOURCE OF COLLECTION:

Bequest of Michael Papantonio, 1978

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION:

Pickering Dodge (1804-1863) was born in Salem, Mass., the son of Pickering Dodge (1778-1833) and Rebecca Jenks Dodge (1781-1851). Dodge graduated from Harvard College in 1823 and was a merchant. In 1826 Dodge married Anna Storer Colman (1808-1849), the daughter of Rev. Henry Colman (1785-1849), of Salem. The Dodges had five children, including George Storer Dodge (1838-1840), the subject of this memorial volume.

This elaborately bound volume contains Dodge's transcriptions of poems by various authors on the subjects of children and death. The authors appearing most frequently are Lydia Sigourney (1791-1865) and Felicia Hemans (1793-1835). Also transcribed is "A Discourse delivered at Boston on the death of children" by Rev. Chandler Robbins (1810-1882).

In a preface dedicated to his wife Anna and dated March 28, 1841, Dodge writes that the volume is a present for the couple's fifteenth wedding anniversary and "a monument, which may perpetuate to our children the recollection of the many endearing charms which were daily developing themselves in the character of our lost loved one."

The volume is illustrated with seven engravings depicting children.