

# Walter Peter Jayne Papers

1838-1904



# DREW



## Walter Payne Jayne Papers

1838-1904

0.36 cubic feet

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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

Walter Peter Jayne (1810-1894), American Printer and Missionary, was born on January 18, 1810 in Islip, Long Island, New York. Jayne married Eleanor Ferguson on April 16, 1832. By 1834, the Jaynes' moved to New York City where Walter set up a printing shop. In 1838, the Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church hired Jayne to set up a printing press in Monrovia, Liberia. Jayne left his family on December 12, 1838 to sail across the ocean to his new employment. The ship finally docked at its destination on January, 19, 1839 and began offloading all the necessary equipment and supplies to start printing the Africa Luminary, a mission paper. Jayne spent a little more than two years at Monrovia while setting up the press on solid footing. By the time he set sail back to New York City on May 17, 1841, there were two well trained indigenous Liberians to take over the mission's printing shop. On June 30, the ship docked in New York City where Walter resumed his life. He moved his family to Medina, Ohio, for one year before returning to New York City where Jayne successfully established his own printing firm. Walter Jayne died in his home in Williamsbridge section of New York City on January 27, 1894

### Scope and Content Note

The biggest part of the collection is two journals Walter Jayne created while serving in Monrovia, Liberia. He writes in frank, detailed prose about serving as a missionary printer during the formative years of Methodist Episcopal Church work in the area. Most entries give reach detail on a variety of topics which include African culture, topography, daily hardships along with the joys of mission work of all attached to the Monrovia station, his faith, etc. The one true gem, however, is how a nineteenth century mission printing press gets started and then runs a successful enterprise under trying circumstances. There is a typed transcript of the journals as well. Loose documents from the inside cover of the first journal volume covering a variety of topics are separated out for the researcher's convenience. Correspondence from the 1860s reveals how Jayne maintained a business contact with the mission by importing dry goods to his New York City office.

### Arrangement

Material has been arranged in the following manner. Material arranged by record type.

### Related Material

Africa's Luminary, 1839-1841 - Microfilm

S. M. E. Goheen Journal



John Seys Correspondence

## **Access Restrictions**

There are no restrictions regarding this collection. Copyright still owned by Drew. Permissions to publish must be directed to Drew.

## **Use Access**

Detailed use restrictions relating to our collections can be requested from the office of the archivist at the General Commission on Archives and History. Photocopying is handled by the staff and may be limited in certain instances. Before using any material for publication from this collection a formal request for permission to publish is expected and required.

## **Preferred Citation**

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

## **Index Terms**

### ***Subject Terms***

Missions-Africa

### ***Geographic Terms***

Liberia

### ***Subject Names - Corporate Bodies***

Methodist Episcopal Church

### ***Genre Terms***

Clippings

Correspondence

Journals

Maps

Transcripts

## **Table of Contents**

## Container List

Call Number	Folder Title	Date(s)
2143-4-4:1	Journal	1838-1840
2143-4-4:2	Journal	1841
2143-4-4:3	Correspondence	1860-1885
2143-4-4:4	Clippings and Maps	1904
2143-4-4:5	Transcripts	1838-1841

