## Leonard Bacon Papers



# Guide to the Scholarly Resources Microfilm Edition

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### Acknowledgment

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#### Introduction

This collection provides sermons and theological lectures of this American Congregational minister, antislavery advocate, and professor of theology and church history at the Yale Divinity School. Leonard Bacon graduated from Yale in 1820, attended Andover Theological Seminary, then became minister to the First Church of New Haven, Connecticut, where he served from 1825 to 1866. An early antislavery leader, Bacon organized a society aimed at improving the lives of New Haven Negroes. He was founder and editor of the free-soil paper, the *Independent*. In addition, he served as editor of the *Christian Spectator* and the *New Englander* and wrote *The Genesis of the New England Churches*, published in 1974. At Yale Divinity School, he was acting professor of revealed theology (1866-1871) and lecturer on church polity and American church history (1871-1881).

## **Scope and Content**

The sermons are arranged chronologically, according to the earliest date of delivery. Subsequent revisions of a sermon were filmed with the original, although the revisions may have been written at a much later date. For example, a sermon on John 12:44-48, dated November 11, 1832, was delivered on six occasions from 1835 to 1853. In 1860 . . . Bacon revised the opening pages of the sermon. On the microfilm the 1832 original and the 1860 revision appear together in the 1832 sermons. No cross-reference to the revision appears in the sermons for 1860, nor is there a cross-reference for any of the other six dates on which that particular sermon was used.

For the reasons mentioned above, a reel of microfilm labeled "Sermons, 1830-1836" would contain all of the sermons written during that time period, but it would not contain all of the sermons delivered or revised during that time period.

Insertions, additions, and revisions written on loose pieces of paper were filmed immediately after the last page of the sermon. Very few of these are dated, and some of the sermons are incomplete.

Lectures by Leonard Bacon may be found among the sermons. Dated lectures appear in the proper chronological sequence. Undated lectures and undated lecture fragments were filmed after the undated sermon material.

## **Roll Contents**

Roll No.	Contents
1	1823-1825
2	1826-1827 Jul
3	1827 Sept-1829 Jun
4	1829 Jul-1830
5	1831-1833
6	1834-1836
7	1837-1840
8	1841-1844 (sermons)
9	1844 (four lectures on English history) sermons, 1845-1847
10	1848-1849
11	1850-1853
12	1854-1855
13	1856-1857
14	Sermons, 1858 Lectures on Dogmatic Theology Outline, Introduction, Lectures I-LIV

## **Roll Contents**

No.

- Lectures on Dogmatic Theology
  Lectures on the Decalogue, LV-LXIV
  Decalogue sermons, 1836, 1851-1856, 1863-1864
  Sermons, 1859-1861
- 16 Sermons, 1862-1866
- 17 Discourses, 1869
  Sermons, 1870-1876, 1879
  Memorials, 1880
  Sermons, 1881
  Undated sermons, lectures, and fragments

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