About the Collection

This collection of papers was given to Historic Deerfield when a painting by Ruth Pease was bought at an auction, circa 1981. The papers were transferred to the library in 1988. Additional materials (correspondence of Orrin Sage and William Hyde) were given to the Library by the Springfield Museums in June 2022. The Collection includes letters written by Ms. Pease to members of her family, letters written to friends but never sent and rough drafts of letters. There are also letters she received from friends, family and her husband, when he traveled on business to New York State and as far west as Cleveland, Ohio.

Ruth Pease was born in Blandford, Massachusetts in 1789. In 1817 she married Orrin Sage of that town, a merchant dealing in cheese. He also served as its postmaster, town clerk, state representative (1830-1831), and state senator (1835-1836). In 1848, they moved to Ware, Massachusetts where their daughter Harriet Newell Sage Hyde lived with her husband William Hyde. There are two diaries written by William’s father, the Reverend Alvan Hyde and a journal written by William’s oldest brother, also named Alvan. Ruth Pease died in 1858. The collection contains approximately 375 pieces.

Pease-Hyde Genealogy

Rev. Alvan Hyde (1768-1833) m. Lucy Fessenden (b. 1770) |
| m. Chloe Viets (b. 1765)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alvan, Jr. (b. 1794)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charles Backus (b. 1796)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harriet (1798-1825)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stephen (b. 1800)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexander or Joseph (b. 1802)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lucy (1804-1825)</td>
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<tr>
<td>William (b. 1806) m. Harriet Newell Sage (b. 1818)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward (b. 1808)</td>
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<td>Alexander or Joseph (b. 1808?)</td>
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Ruth Pease married Orrin Sage at Blandford, Massachusetts on May 4, 1817. In 1848, they moved to Ware because their daughter was married to William Hyde (presumably from Lee) and living in Ware. Ruth Pease Sage died in 1858 and Orrin married again. He died after 1873.
Box and Folder List

**Box 1—Papers of Ruth Pease**
1. Letters written by Ruth Pease, 1800-1805 (21 items)
2. Letters written by Ruth Pease, 1806-1813 (16 items)
3. Letters written to Ruth Pease, no date, 1802-1808 (32 items)
4. Letters written to Ruth Pease, 1809-1848 (24 items)
5. Letters written to Ruth Pease, no date, 1821-1836, from Orrin Sage (13 items)
6. Letters written to Ruth Pease, 1837-1852, from Orrin Sage (17 items)
7. Boarding House Rules, Misses Patten’s School, Hartford, 1804 (1 item)
8. Account of Conversion, 1801 and diary, 1812 (2 items)
9. Cook Book (1 item)
10. Notebooks—notes and extracts from various books (4 items)
11. Miscellaneous Extracts & essays (21 items)
12. Miscellaneous Extracts & essays (20 items)
13. Poetry Collection (14 items)
15. “Rules to be observed in Drawing” by Ruth Pease, c. 1800.

**Box 2—Miscellaneous Family Papers**

**Papers of Levi Pease**
17. Manuscript Music Book & loose music (1 item)
18. Miscellaneous documents (6 items)

**Papers of Orrin Sage**
20. Miscellaneous documents (autobiography) (5 items)
21. Miscellaneous members of Sage family—correspondence, bills, etc. (6 items)

**Papers of Hyde Family**
22. Miscellaneous correspondence, no date, 1835-1858 (7 items)
24. William Hyde Correspondence, no date, 1833-1858 (29 items)
25. “Lizzie” Pitt Correspondence, no date, 1855-1859 (4 items)
26. Miscellaneous documents—photographs, legal document, letter, etc. (8 items)

**Related Collections**

S  
Account book of Rev. Alvan Hyde, from 1793-1833, detailing farm produce, labor, household goods, ministry accounts, family records and personal notes and experiences in his ministry in Lee, Massachusetts.

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H993a

Manuscript
HD 81.012  
Flight into Egypt—painting by Ruth Pease.