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**Biographical note**

Susanna Forsythe Sharpless (1815-1907) was born May 1, 1815, the daughter of James Forsythe and Ann Truman. She married Aaron Sharpless and died October 8, 1907.

Isaac Sharpless (18481920) was the president of Haverford College from 1887 until his resignation in 1917. He was the son of Aaron and Susanna (Forsythe) Sharpless and was born in Birmingham Township, Chester Co., Pa. In 1876 he married Lydia Trimble Cope. Sharpless taught at Westtown Boarding School from 186768 and 187375. He taught mathematics and astronomy at Haverford College from 187584. In 1884 he was named Dean of the faculty and in 1887 he was named president of the College. During his tenure as president, the College saw improvements in the areas of enrollment, academic standards, endowments and facilities.

**Scope and Content note**

This collection is composed of the single volume letterbook of Sharpless family letters. The personal correspondence included acted as a circulating "family letter" and was added to by each family member, with the goal of assembling the letters at the end of the year and binding them together for the use of future generations. Letters generally provide news of each letter writer, as well as comments on past letters. The family letters often discuss the state of religion in Colorado, where Thomas Sharpless resides, and how Thomas should strive to maintain his Quaker principles and beliefs in the west.


**Administrative Information**

**Publication Information**

Haverford College Quaker & Special Collections August 2015

**Use Restrictions**

Standard Federal Copyright Law Applies (U.S. Title 17).
Acquisition
Unknown.

Processing Information
Processed by Kara Flynn; completed August 2015.

Related Materials

Related materials
- MC 1111 Sharpless-Kite family papers
- MC.950.163 Sharpless family papers
- MC.906 Isaac Sharpless papers

Controlled Access Headings

Genre(s)
- Correspondence.

Subject(s)
- Quakers
- Quakers – Family relationships
- Quakers--History
### Collection Inventory

| Letterbook 1883 |