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The Reverend Peter Lowe of Flatbush
Correspondence, 1782-1818

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May, 2005
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Abstract

This collection contains correspondence between the Reverend Peter Lowe, Pastor of the Dutch Church of Flatbush, and various correspondents, many of them fellow clergymen. Includes items in Dutch and Latin. Of slavery interest (see "Unidentified"). The provenance is unclear at the time of this writing. This collection does not appear in either the 1977 Brooklyn Rediscovery inventory, "A Guide to Brooklyn Manuscripts in the Long Island Historical Society", nor in the 1988 New York Historical Resources Center inventory, "Guide to Historical Resources in Kings County (Brooklyn) Vol. III, New York Repositories", [Ithaca, NY: Cornell University]. All of the documents appear to have been cataloged in the Long Island Historical Society card catalog as individual items. (Boxed in A0027 with other materials.)

Biographical Note

The Reverend Peter Lowe was born on April 30th, 1764, in Esopus (now Kingston), New York, where he received his preparatory academic education. From an early age, Lowe displayed a propensity for serious study and a love of reading, particularly of the Holy Bible and other religious texts. He pursued his theological studies in the city of New York under the tutelage of the Reverend Dr. John Livingston, a prominent minister and theological scholar. Upon completing his studies at the age of twenty-four, Lowe accepted a call to serve as Collegiate Pastor over a combination of six churches in Kings County (Long Island), the locations being in Flatbush, Flatlands, Gravesend, New-Utrecht, Brooklyn, and Bushwick. Along with the Reverend Martin Schoonmaker, Lowe faithfully executed his pastoral duties for the next twenty-one years. Lowe lived with his wife and children in Flatbush, and when the union of the six churches was dissolved "by mutual consent, for the sake of a more frequent supply of the word and ordinances,"¹ Rev. Lowe continued to serve the parishes of Flatbush and Flatlands for another nine years, until his death from cancer in June of 1818. Unwavering as a man of faith, Lowe remained committed to serving his parish during his illness, even delivering his last sermon in his own sick room a few days before his death.²

Container List

<u>Correspondent</u>	<u>Date</u>
Austin, [---] (Rev.)	1786
Basset, John	1787, 1788, 1811, 1811 (4 items)
Blauvelt, Isaac (Rev.)	1789, 1789 (2 items)
Bleeker, Leonard	1786, 1786, 1786, 1786 (4 items)
Bogart, David S. (Rev.)	1794

¹ See: Stiles, Henry R. *A History of the City of Brooklyn, Volume I*. Bowie, MD: Heritage Books, 1993.

² See: Vanpelt, Rev. P.I. *A Discourse, Delivered on the 12th June, 1818, at the Funeral of the Rev. Peter Lowe, A.M.* New York: Printed by Daniel Fanshaw, 1818.

Cook, Nehemiah B.	1791
D'Grootd, Samuel	1786, 1786 (2 items)
Doll, Georg J. L. (Rev.)	1784, 1785, 1785, 1786, 1786, 1786, 1787, 1788, 1790 (9 items, in Dutch)
Earle, Marmaduke	1786, 1786, 1787 (3 items)
Ellison, Gabriel	1789
Freligh, Solomon	1792
Hardenberg, Jacob R. (Rev. Dr.)	1786, 1788, 1790, 1790 (4 items)
Janeway, Jacob J. (Rev.)	1797
Kuypers, Gerardus A. (Rev.)	1792
Lansing, Nicholas (Rev.)	1790, 1794 (2 items)
Larzelere, Jacob (Rev.)	1790, 1792, 1799, 1803 (4 items)

Correspondent

Date

Lefferts, Lewis	1785
[Lenaosee], James	1786
Linn, Wiliam (Rev.)	1791, 1797 (2 items)
Lupton, Brandt Schuyler	1782, 1787
Manley, William	1787
McKinny, Matthew	1788
Meier, John N. (Rev.)	1798, 1799 (2 items)
Meyer, H. (Rev.)	1787 (in Dutch)
Miller, Alexander (Rev.)	1791
Post, [H.]	1794 (in Dutch)
Rodgers, John (Dr.)	1796
Roorbach, Frederick	1786
Rysdyk, Isaac	1789 (in Dutch)

Schoonmaker, M. (Rev.)	1787
Slengarde, J. P.	1794 (in Dutch)
Smedes, John (Dr.)	1783, 1783, 1784, 1785, 1785, 1786, 1786, 1786, 1786, 1786, 1787, 1787, 1787 (13 items)
Storm, Thomas	1786, 1786, 1786, 1786 (4 items)
Unidentified/Anonymous	1788 [of Slavery interest], 1793 (2 items)
Van Dalsem, Henry	1786
Van Deusen, William	1792
Van Nest, Ryneir (Rev.)	1788, 1788 (2 items)
Van Sinderen, Ulpianus (Rev.)	1788 (in Latin)
Van Vlierden, Petrus (Rev.)	1792, 1793, ND (3 items, in Dutch)
Van Antwerp, Daniel	1786, 1786, 1786 (3 items)
<u>Correspondent</u>	<u>Date</u>
Vissers, David	1786
Walgrave, Garret	1786, 1786, 1786, 1786, 1787 (5 items)
Westerlo, Eilardus (Rev. Dr.)	1787
Worthington, Erastus	1818
Wright, John	1786, 1786 (2 items)
Yates, Andrew (Rev.)	1800