



## Michigan Conference United Methodist Archives

Shipman Library, Adrian College  
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## Henry Warren Hicks

### Personal Papers, 1855-1920

#### **Biographical Note:**

Henry Warren Hicks (whose name appears in most publications simply as H. W. Hicks) was born on 21 November 1837 in Genesee County, New York and came to Michigan with his foster parents, Mr. and Mrs. Warren Hicks, at the age of five. He entered the ministry in the Methodist Protestant Church in 1858, transferred to the Methodist Episcopal Church with his long-time friend Robert Lanning ten years later, and served various charges mostly in rural areas and small towns. Hicks left Michigan briefly to serve as associate editor of the *Pacific Christian Advocate* magazine in Oregon from 1890 to 1892, but then returned.

In 1859, he married Ellen A. Gilbert of Owosso, Michigan. Their two sons were Gilbert H. Hicks, a botanist in the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and Frederick C. Hicks, professor of economics and president of the University of Cincinnati. H. W. Hicks died on 1 April 1912 in Pinckney, Michigan.

#### **Scope Note:**

Although the bulk of the collection consists of letters he or his wife received from family members, fellow clergymen and their families, members of current and past churches, and friends; there are occasional drafts of outgoing letters, a subject file (including one diary), and copies of public addresses and sermons. The collection documents both professional and personal matters. Of special note are the many letters he received from fellow ministers Elisha E. Caster and Robert C. Lanning. Hicks kept in touch with several of his former Methodist Protestant colleagues after transferring to the Methodist Episcopal Church, so the collection is useful for studying both branches of Methodism.

#### **Extent:**

8.8 linear feet (ca. 17,600 pages)

#### **Access Restrictions:**

The collection is open to research.

**Restrictions on Use:**

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.

**Related Materials:**

The published journal of the Detroit Conference for 1912 (p. 47) contains a memoir for Hicks describing his career and the journal for 1921 (p. 238) contains one for his wife Ellen. See

- <http://books.google.com/books?id=KVTiAAAAMAAJ&dq=editions%3AciDkZikQI7YC&pg=PA47#v=onepage&q&f=false>
- <http://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015071475878;view=1up;seq=110>

James Dodd, former director of the Adrian College Library, conducted extensive research in the Hicks Papers and presented research papers in 1986 and 1987 focusing on the letters written by ministers Robert Lanning and Elisha Caster. The Archives has copies of both papers. An edited version of the Lanning paper appeared in the April 1987 issue of the journal *Methodist History* (to download, see <http://archives.gcah.org/xmlui/handle/10516/5681>)

The Burton Historical Collection of the Detroit Public Library has another major collection (11 feet) of Hicks letters and volumes. The finding aid for their Hicks Papers can be found at <http://dplbibdiv.pbworks.com/f/bhc01203.html>.

The Bentley Historical Library of the University of Michigan has 2 volumes and 2 folders of Hicks Papers described as "Diaries containing descriptions of his travels, reflections on the Bible, records of sermons preached and letters sent and received; also a membership record of the Allmont Circuit, 1861-1862, a record of marriages solemnized, 1862-1879, letters to his niece (1910-1911), including family news and reminiscences of his boyhood on a farm near Holly, Michigan, in the 1840's and 1850's, and a photograph."

*The Detroit Society for Genealogical Research Magazine* (Vol. 51, p. 88) reproduced some vital records from churches that Hicks served.

Finding aid created by William H. McNitt, August 2014

## Appointments List

### Methodist Protestant Church, Michigan Conference

- 1858-1859: Middlebury Circuit (Shiawassee County)
- 1859-1860: Marathon (Lapeer County)
- 1860-1861: Adrian (Lenawee County)
- 1861-1863: Almont (Lapeer County)
- 1863-1864: Lapeer (Lapeer County)
- 1864-1865: Flint (Genesee County)
- 1865-1867: Livingston Circuit (Livingston County)
- 1867-1868: Berlin (St. Clair County)

### Methodist Episcopal Church, Detroit Conference

- 1868-1869: Goodrich (Genesee County)
- 1869-1871: Chesaning (Saginaw County)
- 1871-1873: Hartland (Livingston County)
- 1873-1876: Grand Blanc (Genesee County)
- 1876-1878: Corunna (Shiawassee County)
- 1878-1880: West Haven (Shiawassee County)
- 1880-1881: Bennington (Saginaw County)
- 1881-1882: Mayville (Tuscola County)
- 1882-1883: Midland (Midland County)
- 1883-1890: Oxford (Oakland County)

### Methodist Episcopal Church, Puget Sound Conference (Oregon)

- 1890-1892: Associate Editor, *The Pacific Christian Advocate*

### Methodist Episcopal Church, Detroit Conference

- 1892-1896: Munith (Jackson County)
- 1896-1899: Whitmore Lake and Hamburg (Washtenaw & Livingston Counties)
- 1899-1900: Dexter (Washtenaw County)
- 1900-1903: Pinckney and Unadilla (Livingston County)
- 1903-1905: Grass Lake (Jackson County)
- 1905-1906: Dixboro (Washtenaw County)
- 1906-1907: Lambertville (Monroe County)
- 1907-1908: Carleton and Scofield (Monroe County)
- 1908-1909: Carleton (Monroe County)
- 1909-1912: Marion (Livingston County)

## Genealogy

The following information may be useful in showing relationships among the close relatives of Henry and Ellen Hicks whose names appear frequently in the collection.

### Hicks Family

1. **Warren HICKS** was born on 22 Sep 1802 in Massachusetts. He died on 2 Aug 1872 in Highland, Oakland, Michigan. He was buried in Rose Center Cemetery, Rose, Oakland, Michigan. Warren married **Lucy A. ADELIN**. Lucy was born on 18 Jun 1813 in Massachusetts. She died on 9 May 1898 in Highland, Oakland, Michigan. She was buried in Rose Center Cemetery, Rose, Oakland, Michigan.

They had the following children.

- 2 M i. **Henry Warren "H. W." HICKS** was born on 21 Nov 1837 in Genesee County, New York. He was a foster son of Warren and Lucy Hicks. The names of his parents are not known. Henry married **Ellen Asenath GILBERT**. See below for more information about their family.
- 3 F ii. **Lucy Ann HICKS** was born in 1841/1842 in New York. She died on 21 Jun 1899 in Rose, Oakland, Michigan. Lucy married **Edgerton HIGHFIELD**. Edgerton was born on 1 Jul 1840 in Canada. He died on 25 Aug 1891 in Rose, Oakland, Michigan.
- 4 F iii. **Sarah Jane HICKS** was born in 1846/1847 in Michigan. She died on 13 Apr 1896 in Highland, Oakland, Michigan. Sarah married **Edgar M. POPE** on 22 Feb 1866 in Oakland County, Michigan. Edgar was born on 12 Mar 1844 in Michigan. He died on 29 Jun 1925 in Detroit, Wayne, Michigan.
- 5 F iv. **Mary J. HICKS** was born on 1 Mar 1857 in Michigan. She died on 23 Aug 1929 in Saginaw, Saginaw, Michigan. She was buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Saginaw, Saginaw, Michigan. Mary married **Charles H. BATES** on 29 Dec 1875 in Oakland County, Michigan. Charles was born on 12 May 1850 in Victor, Ontario, New York. He died on 15 Mar 1926 in Saginaw, Saginaw, Michigan. He was buried in Forest Lawn Cemetery, Saginaw, Saginaw, Michigan.

## Genealogy

### Gilbert Family

1. **Heber Hurlbut GILBERT** was born on 17 Jul 1806 in Warren, Litchfield, Connecticut. He died on 26 Jan 1871 in Shiawassee County, Michigan. He was buried in Mount Hope Cemetery, Shiawassee County, Michigan. Heber married **Anna Bryant COLLINS** on 5 Jan 1826 in Portage County, Ohio. Anna was born in 1809 in Hartford, Connecticut. She died on 15 Apr 1890 in Owosso, Shiawassee, Michigan.

They had the following children.

- 2 F i. **Fidelia G. GILBERT** was born on 1 Mar 1828 in Ohio. She died on 22 Dec 1912 in Owosso, Shiawassee, Michigan. She was buried on 24 Dec 1912 in Oak Hill Cemetery, Owosso, Shiawassee, Michigan. Fidelia married **George W. ESSIG** on 11 Apr 1850 in Ohio. George was born in 1827 in Pennsylvania. He died in 1910 in Shiawassee County, Michigan. He was buried in Oak Hill Cemetery, Owosso, Shiawassee, Michigan.
- 3 M ii. **Alter GILBERT** was born in 1829/1830 in Ohio.
- 4 F iii. **Melissa Mary "Mary" GILBERT** was born on 27 Nov 1832 in Ravenna, Portage, Ohio. She died on 10 Apr 1914 in Owosso, Shiawassee, Michigan. She was buried on 14 Apr 1914 in Oak Hill Cemetery, Owosso, Shiawassee, Michigan. Mary married **James Barnes WILLOUGHBY** on 21 Dec 1850 in Wyandot County, Ohio. James was born on 6 Sep 1829 in Tuscarawas County, Ohio. He died on 30 Apr 1911 in Owosso, Shiawassee, Michigan. He was buried on 3 May 1911 in Oak Hill Cemetery, Owosso, Shiawassee, Michigan.
- 5 F iv. **Tirzah Bates GILBERT** was born in Jan. 1835 in Ohio. She died on 29 Aug 1908 in Manistee, Manistee, Michigan. She was buried on 1 Sep 1908 in Oak Grove Cemetery, Manistee, Manistee, Michigan. Tirzah married Lyman C. HITCHCOCK on 25 Sep 1855 in Portage County, Ohio. Lyman was born in 1826 in Ohio and died on 27 Aug. 1867 in Ravenna, Portage, Ohio.
- 6 F v. **Ellen Asenath GILBERT** was born on 28 Jun 1838 in Ravenna, Portage, Ohio. Ellen married **Henry Warren HICKS**. See below for more information about their family.
- 7 F vi. **Esther Elva GILBERT** was born in May 1841 in Ohio. She died on 28 Jul 1919 in Detroit, Wayne, Michigan. She was buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, Owosso, Shiawassee, Michigan. Esther married **Martin Winfield WILLOUGHBY** on 19 Apr 1861 in Wyandot County, Ohio. Martin was born on 28 Feb 1839 in Seneca County, Ohio. He died on 6 May 1908 in Jeffersonville, Clark, Indiana. He was buried in Oak Grove Cemetery, Owosso, Shiawassee, Michigan.
- 8 M vii. **Edward P. GILBERT** was born in 1845/1846 in Ohio. Edward married **Alice DUTCHER** on 25 Dec 1868 in Shiawassee County, Michigan. Alice was born in Nov 1849 in New York.

## Genealogy

### Descendants of Henry Warren Hicks and Ellen Asenath Gilbert

1. **Henry Warren "H. W." HICKS** was born on 21 Nov 1837 in Genesee County, New York. He died on 1 Apr 1912 in Pinckney, Livingston, Michigan. He was buried on 3 Apr 1912 in Pinckney Cemetery, Pinckney, Livingston, Michigan. Henry married **Ellen Asenath GILBERT** in 1859. Ellen was born on 28 Jun 1838 in Ravenna, Portage, Ohio. She died on 7 Jun 1920 in Dexter, Washtenaw, Michigan. She was buried<sup>1</sup> on 9 Jun 1920 in Pinckney Cemetery, Pinckney, Livingston, Michigan.

They had the following children.

- + 2 M i. **Gilbert Henry HICKS** was born in 1860/1861.
- + 3 M ii. **Frederick Charles HICKS** was born on 1 Jan 1863.

2. **Gilbert Henry HICKS** was born in 1860/1861 in Rush, Shiawassee, Michigan. He died on 5 Dec 1898 in Washington, District Of Columbia. He was buried on 8 Dec 1898. Gilbert married **Elva ETSCHMANN** on 23 Sep 1882 in Owosso, Shiawassee, Michigan. Elva was born in Aug 1859 in Corunna, Shiawassee, Michigan.

They had the following children.

- 4 M i. **Gilbert H. HICKS** was born in Apr 1896 in Washington, DC.
  - 5 M ii. **Harold W. HICKS** was born in Feb 1898 in Maryland.
3. **Frederick Charles HICKS** was born on 1 Jan 1863 in Capac, St. Clair, Michigan. He died on 7 Sep 1953 in Cincinnati, Hamilton, Ohio. He was buried on 10 Sep 1953 in Rosehill Cemetery, Chicago, Cook, Illinois. Frederick married **Verna E. SHELDON** on 18 Sep 1890 in Chicago, Cook, Illinois. Verna was born in Oct 1862 in Illinois.

They had the following children.

- 6 M i. **Louis Lowell HICKS** was born on 17 Sep 1891 in Ann Arbor, Washtenaw, Michigan.
- 7 F ii. **Madeline HICKS** was born in Oct 1896 in Missouri.

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<b>Box 1</b>	<b>Correspondence File</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Abbott, Mary E. (Dexter, MI), 1898</li><li>• Ackerman, G. E. (U.S. Grant University, Chattanooga, TN), 1890</li><li>• Adair, A. C. (Flint, MI)</li><li>• Adams, Eliza J., 1869</li><li>• Adams, Laura A. (Holly), 1876</li><li>• Allen, V. A. (Lansing, MI), 1871</li><li>• Allen, Willard L. (Boston, MA), 1889</li><li>• Alliton, S. H. (Corunna, MI), 1883-1885</li><li>• Ally, T. J.</li><li>• Andrews, Adelia E. (Grand Blanc, MI)</li><li>• Andrews, Frank (wedding invitation for daughter Florence)</li><li>• Angell, Marcus S. (Methodist Protestant minister, druggist, Newaygo County treasurer; lived in Vernon, Plainfield, New Baltimore, Pontiac, Berlin, Almont, Newaygo, and Grand Rapids, MI), 1860-1888 (6 folders)</li><li>• Armstrong, Melissa A., 1858</li><li>• Atchison, Harriette (Holly, MI), 1882-1884</li><li>• Babcock, C. A. (Detroit, MI), 1886</li><li>• Bailey, Stella D. (Grand Rapids, MI), 1887</li><li>• Bailey, W. H. (Darien Centre, NY), 1895</li><li>• Baker, Franc, 1888</li><li>• Baldwin, C. N. (Superannuated Preacher's Aid Society), 1918</li></ul>
<b>Box 2</b>	<b>Correspondence File</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bancroft, Edward B. (Methodist minister, Ann Arbor, MI), 1904-1905</li><li>• Banfill, Reuben and Laura (Capac, MI), 1877-1899</li><li>• Bare, J. S. (East Saginaw, MI), 1891</li><li>• Barns, A. T., 1889</li><li>• Bassett, A. H. (Publishing agent of the <i>Methodist Recorder</i>, Springfield, OH), 1861-1878</li><li>• Bates, E. D. (Pawnee, OK), 1893-1897</li><li>• Bates, Mary Hicks (Sister of Henry Hicks, Highland and Saginaw, MI), 1867-1870 and 1899</li><li>• Beardslee, M. (Holly, MI), 1890</li><li>• Bell, Myrtie H. (Chesaning, MI), 1871-1873</li><li>• Benadon, W. O. (Davenport), 1891</li><li>• Bennett, Isaac (Methodist minister, Quincy, MI), 1881-1887</li><li>• Bentley, Jane L. (Chesaning, MI), 1874-1876</li><li>• Benton, H. E. (Dexter, MI), 1912</li><li>• Benton, Willis (Dexter, MI), 1911-1912</li><li>• <a href="#">Berry, Joseph F.</a> (Associate Editor, <i>Michigan Christian Advocate</i>, Detroit, MI; Editor, <i>The Epworth Herald</i>, Elmira, NY), 1889-1895</li><li>• <a href="#">Bigelow, Andrew J.</a> (Methodist minister, Flint, MI), 1892</li></ul>

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<b>Box 3</b>	<b>Correspondence File</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Call, Jacob (Munith, MI), 1894-1903</li><li>• Campbell, D. D. (Seattle, WA), 1890</li><li>• Campbell, William J. (Port Huron, MI), 1886-1887</li><li>• Cansen, A. M. (Owosso, MI), 1862</li><li>• Carlton, C. J. (Des Moines, IA and Greenville, MI), 1884-1886</li><li>• Case, W. W. (Adrian, MI), 1886</li><li>• <a href="#">Caster, Elisha E.</a> (Methodist minister in various Michigan towns), 1858-1912 (8 folders)</li><li>• Caster, E. W. (Medina), 1905</li><li>• Castle, W. D. (Shandon and Boulder Creek, CA), 1890-1892</li><li>• Cevil, C. D., 1867</li><li>• Chaffee, Ed (Judd's Corners, MI), 1890</li><li>• Chase, L. F. and O. H. (Fenton, MI), 1876</li><li>• Cherrington, C. W. (Zainax, OR), 1891</li><li>• Church, Jennie E. (Pontiac, MI), 1898</li></ul>
<b>Box 4</b>	<b>Correspondence File</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clark, Alexander (Editor, <i>The Methodist Recorder</i>, Pittsburgh, PA), 1876</li><li>• Clark, Herman W. (Portland, MI), 1890</li><li>• Clark, Rev. (Buffalo, NY), 1889</li><li>• Clark, W. A. (Mayville, MI &amp; Los Angeles, CA), 1891</li><li>• Clegg, E. (Adrian, MI)</li><li>• Clegg, Sara J. (Roxbury, MA), 1886</li></ul>



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<b>Box 12</b>	<b>Correspondence File</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lanning, Robert C., 1871-1896 (6 folders)</li><li>• Lathrop, Mary T. (Jackson, MI), 1878</li><li>• Leach, J. (Kirksville, MO), 1865</li><li>• Lee, Anne Maria, 1866-1871</li><li>• Lee, Alvina W. (Leslie, MI), 1896</li></ul>

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- McBride, Robert (Corunna, MI), 1905
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- McCausland, B. W. (East Saginaw, MI), 1878
- McDowell, J. L. (Ellensburg, WA), 1890-1891
- McEldowney, John (Methodist minister in Bay City, Detroit, & St. Clair, MI), 1882-1899
- McIlwain, John Alexander (Methodist minister in Weston & Wayne, MI), 1889-1890
- McIntyre, Carrie (Cousin of Henry Hicks - includes a few letters from his Aunt Mary, Portage, WI), 1889-1912
- McMullen, Thomas E. (Elma, WA), 1892
- McNaught, A. J. (Capac, MI), 1896
- McTaggart, Eliza (Grand Blanc, MI), 1876-1882
- McTaggart, Harriet (Burton, MI), 1875-1879
- Mealley, John (Secretary, Detroit Conference Board of Stewards, Port Huron, MI), 1918-1919
- [Millar, David B.](#) (Methodist minister, Almont, MI), 1905
- Miller, E. M. and Hattie (Owosso, MI), 1898
- Mitchell, Carrie (Oxford, MI), 1886
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<b>Box 17</b>	<b>Correspondence File</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Saigeon, Mical R. (Fostoria, MI - letter concerning Methodist Protestant appointments of Robert C. Lanning), 1902</li><li>• Sayles, Edith M. (Ypsilanti, MI), 1906</li><li>• Schram, Mary A. Smith (Grand Blanc &amp; Burton, MI), 1864</li><li>• Schultz, Ethel (Niece of Ellen Hicks, Owosso, MI), 1916-1920</li><li>• Shank, John M. (Clarkston, MI), 1889</li><li>• Shier, William H. (Methodist minister, East Saginaw, MI), 1888</li><li>• Shearer, Herman A. (Pescadero, CA), 1903</li><li>• Sheldon, C. Augusta (Washington, DC), 1903-1905</li><li>• Shook, William H. and Mina (Tyrone), 1893-1895</li><li>• Shultz, J. D. (Durand, MI), 1902</li><li>• Sidney, Maggie (Corunna, MI), 1897</li><li>• Silliman, D. M. and Ella (Hobart &amp; Jefferson, NY), 1892-1897</li><li>• Simpson, Charles (Methodist minister, Pinckney, Mt. Clemens &amp; Detroit, MI), 1899-1903</li><li>• Slocum, Emily (Owosso, MI), 1887-1903</li><li>• Smith, Ann (Windsor), 1868</li><li>• Smith, Dean T. (Ann Arbor, MI), 1905</li><li>• Smith, I. L. (Forest Grove, OR), 1891</li><li>• Smith, Susan (Aunt of Henry Hicks, Pontiac, MI), 1861-1890</li><li>• Spencer, Claudius B. (<i>Rocky Mountain Christian Advocate</i>, Denver, CO), 1893-1898</li><li>• Squire, G. C. (Wayne, MI), 1890</li><li>• Staley, John J. (Belding, MI), 1900</li><li>• Stalker, Thomas (Whittier, CA), 1890</li><li>• Staver, G. W. (Portland, OR), 1890-1891</li><li>• Stevens, A. (Whitmore Lake, MI)</li><li>• Stevens, Dora (Holly, MI), 1899</li><li>• Steward, Elata W. (Berville, MI), 1871-1882</li></ul>

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