

## **Collection 0043: Henry Venn Collection, c. 1975**

### **Administrative Information**

**Title:**

Henry Venn Collection, c. 1975

**Collection Identifier:**

CFT00043

**Creators:**

Venn, Henry

**Size:**

4 boxes, 1.46 linear feet

**Repository:**

David Allan Hubbard Library  
Fuller Theological Seminary  
135 N Oakland Ave  
Pasadena, CA 91182  
archives@fuller.edu

**Provenance:**

Gift of Wilbert Shenk. In September 2018, Shenk's *Bibliography of Henry Venn's Printed Writings with Index* was added to the Henry Venn Collection.

**Conditions Governing Access/Restrictions:**

Scholarly use with parameters of copyright law

**Language:**

English

**Processing:**

Alyson Thomas, September 2018

**Finding Aid Revisions:**

Andrew Wong, June 2018  
Alyson Thomas, September 2018

## Biography

Henry Venn (February 10, 1796 - January 13, 1873) was honorary secretary of the Church Missionary Society from 1841 to 1873. He expounded the basic principles of indigenous Christian missions later addressed and made widespread by the Lausanne Congress of 1974.

Henry Venn and Rufus Anderson of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions were the first to use the term "indigenous church" in the mid-nineteenth century. They wrote about the necessity for creating churches in the missions field that were self-supporting, self-governing, and self-propagating (Venn used the term "self-extending"). Venn is quoted by Wilbert Shenk, among others, as encouraging the "euthanasia of missions," which meant that missionaries were to be considered temporary workers and not permanent.

## Related Collections:

Collection 152: Papers of Wilbert Shenk  
Church Missionary Society Archive. Microfilm. Film MS109. Special Collections, Yale Divinity School Library in New Haven, Connecticut  
Church Missionary Society Archives. Cadbury Special Collections at the University of Birmingham, UK.

## Scope and Content

The Henry Venn Collection, c.1975 consists of 23 bound volumes related to Henry Venn's collected writings. Thirteen volumes contain a bibliographic index of the Church Missionary Society correspondence by Clerical Secretary Henry Venn, dating from 1835 to 1873. The archival collections are available for research at the University of Birmingham, UK.

Nine volumes are photocopies of the Collected Writings of Henry Venn; the materials were collected, photocopied, and bound by Wilbert Shenk. The articles, sermons, etc. are numbered according to the *Bibliography of Henry Venn's Printed Writings with Index* by Wilbert Shenk; Elkhart, Ind.: Institute of Mennonite Studies of the Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminaries, [1975]. Not all materials listed in the *Bibliography* are present in the bound volumes.

All bound volumes were created and donated to the Fuller Theological Seminary Library by Professor Wilbert Shenk. Staff removed the *Collected Writings of Henry Venn* from to the Fuller Seminary Library circulating collection prior to 2016. The call number labels were removed and left a sticky residue.

## Subjects:

American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions  
Church Missionary Society  
Indigenous church administration  
Venn, H. (Henry), 1725-1797

## Box Inventory

### ***Box 1: Index of Henry Venn Materials in the Church Missionary Society Archive at the University of Birmingham, U.K.***

Volumes include photocopies of summary descriptions of the indexed correspondence.

Item	Title	Classification
1	Henry Venn Correspondence – Sierra Leone	C.A1/L3—1835-45 to C.A1/L8—1865-85
2	Henry Venn Correspondence – Yoruba Henry Venn Correspondence – Niger	C.A1/L4—1846-52 to C.A2/L4—1867-80 C.A3/L1—1858-82
3	Henry Venn Correspondence – China Henry Venn Correspondence – East Africa Henry Venn Correspondence – Mediterranean	C.CH/L1 (1834-63) to C.CH/L2 (1863-76) C.A5/L1 (1842-77) CM/L3 (1838-54) to CM/L5 (1854-64)
4	Henry Venn Correspondence – New Zealand Henry Venn Correspondence – N-W America Henry Venn Correspondence – West Indies	CN/L4 (1840-5) to CN/L7 (1862-78) C/C1/L1 (1821-46) to C/C1/L3 (1860-75) CW/L3 (1839-58)
5	Henry Venn Correspondence – North India Missions	CI1/L2-CI1/L7
6	Henry Venn Correspondence – South India Missions	CI2/L3-CI2/L7
7	Henry Venn Correspondence – West India Missions	CI3/L2-CI3/L4

### ***Box 2: Index of Henry Venn Materials in the Church Missionary Society Archive at the University of Birmingham, U.K.***

Volumes include photocopies of summary descriptions of the indexed correspondence.

Item	Title	Classification
1	Henry Venn Correspondence – Ceylon Henry Venn Correspondence – Mauritius	C/CE/L2 – C/CE/L4 G/MA/L1
2	Henry Venn Correspondence – Index to Special Subjects	
3	Missions Misc. – Venn Correspondence	G/AC1/14-G/ACI/18
4	Missions Misc. – Venn Correspondence	G/AC1/11-G/ACI/13
5	Missions Misc. – Venn Correspondence	G/AC1/3-G/ACI/10
6	General Index Missions Misc. – Venn Correspondence	G/AC1/3—G/ACI/18
7	<i>Collected Writings of Henry Venn</i> , Vol. 1, 1825-43	
8	<i>Collected Writings of Henry Venn</i> , Vol. 2, 1843-48	

### **Box 3: Bound Volumes of Collected Writings of Henry Venn**

Volumes consist of photocopies of materials found in Shenk, Wilbert. *Bibliography of Henry Venn's Printed Writings with Index*. Elkhart, Ind.: Institute of Mennonite Studies of the Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminaries, 1975. Not all materials listed in the *Bibliography* are present in the bound volumes.

Item	Title
1	<i>Collected Writings of Henry Venn</i> , Vol. 3, 1848-49
2	<i>Collected Writings of Henry Venn</i> , Vol. 4, 1850-54
3	<i>Collected Writings of Henry Venn</i> , Vol. 5, 1855-58
4	<i>Collected Writings of Henry Venn</i> , Vol. 6, 1859-61
5	<i>Collected Writings of Henry Venn</i> , Vol. 7, 1861-66
6	<i>Collected Writings of Henry Venn</i> , Vol. 8, 1867-69

### **Box 4: Bound Volumes**

Volumes consist of photocopies of materials found in Shenk, Wilbert. *Bibliography of Henry Venn's Printed Writings with Index*. Elkhart, Ind.: Institute of Mennonite Studies of the Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminaries, 1975. Not all materials listed in the *Bibliography* are present in the bound volumes.

Item	Title
1	<i>Collected Writings of Henry Venn</i> , Vol. 9, 1870-72
2	Shenk, Wilbert. <i>Bibliography of Henry Venn's Printed Writings with Index</i> . Elkhart, Ind.: Institute of Mennonite Studies of the Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminaries, 1975.