

Hope College

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**H88-0116. Otte, Frances Phelps (1860-1956). Papers, 1882-1957.  
2.00 linear ft.**

Hope College

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**H88-0116.** Otte, Frances Phelps (1860-1956).  
Papers, 1882-1957. 2.00 linear ft.



### Abstract

Hope College class of 1882, one of the first two women graduates; wife of John A. Otte, medical missionary to Amoy, China. Collection contains two scrapbooks, biographies, correspondence, family photographs, daguerreotypes, a tintype, and an ambrotype. Also includes essays on her husband, China, Japanese students at Hope College, and her student memories. The scrapbooks consist of clippings, programs, poetry, humor, and an essay about the first women graduates of Hope College. Other topics include Christmas, China, Chinese proverbs, the 1930 Hope College *Milestone*, and the Overseas Club.

Accession No.: H88-0116  
Provenance: Frances Phelps Otte  
Donor: Information Unavailable  
Photographs: 7 images  
Processed by: Rebecca A. O'Shesky, September 1991  
Leon Witteveen, June 1994

### Biography

Frances Phelps Otte was born in 1860 in Albany, New York, at the home of relatives. She soon moved to Holland, Michigan, where her father, Philip Phelps, was involved with the Holland Academy (Hope College). She attended Hope College, majoring in History and English, and in 1882 was one of the first two female graduates of the college.

In 1887, Frances Phelps married Dr. John A. Otte. Shortly thereafter, she traveled to the Amoy Mission in China with him and worked there until 1900 when she returned to Grand Rapids, Michigan, with her four school-age children. John Otte died in China in 1910; Frances Otte died in Holland, Michigan, in 1956.

### Container List

#### Box 1

Address Book, 1944  
Biographical, 1887-1957  
Correspondence, 1903-1960  
Diary, 1935-1936, 1939, 1943, 1944, 1947 (with typed transcript)  
Essays  
    "Hope's Japanese Students," 1908, 1954 (2 copies)  
    "Memories," (Hope College years) n.d.  
    "Dr. Philip Phelps," 1952  
    "The Witch of Agnesi," 1882 (2 copies)

Hope College Catalog, 1876 (includes notations)

Hsieh, Tehyi. *Chinese Picked Tales for Children*, 1948

Photographs

Otte, Frances Phelps, n.d., ca. 1884, 1921, 1926 (6 images, 1 ambrotype, 1  
tintype)

Phelps, John Sawyer and Katherine Conine, n.d. (1 image)

Phelps, Phillip, Jr., n.d. (1 daguerreotype)

Phelps, Mrs. Philip, Jr., n.d. (1 daguerreotype)

Reformed Church of North Blenheim (where Frances Phelps Otte and John  
Otte were married), n.d. (1 image)

Family

1910 (1 image)

Unidentified, n. d. (1 image)

Box 2

Scrapbook, 1887-1903

Scrapbook, 1933-1944