



Winterthur/University of Delaware  
Program in Art Conservation  
Conservation Report



**Accession #:** 2001.0017.0012c

**Object:** [Portrait of a Reverend]

**Object Date:** 1875-1900

**Artist/Author:** Unknown

**Materials:** Letterpress halftone on machine made wove paper

**Owner:** University of Delaware Museums: "The Baltimore Collection"

**Permanent Location:** UD Museums Collections

**Reason for Treatment or Examination:** Examined as part of the photograph conservation block documentation project and aimed to add to the curatorial and conservation body of knowledge

**Examined by:** Karissa Muratore, WUDPAC 2020

**Report Date:** January 13, 2018

## DESCRIPTION

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This is a bust-length portrait of a man who is facing just to the right of the camera. The image space occupies a relatively little percentage of the object's overall area.

## CONDITION

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The image area measures 7.6 x 5.2 centimeters (2.99 x 2.05 inches), and the whole object measures 14.1 x 20.3 centimeters (5.55 x 7.99 inches). These measurements vary from those on Artstor.

The photomechanical image is in fair condition, but the object is in unstable condition. While the ink of the image is very stable, there are some minor losses scattered throughout the image and a slightly larger area of loss along the bottom edge and left corner. These losses are due to abrasion of the paper surface, which is a major issue across non-image areas of the object as well. Areas of abrasion concentration are found along the left side and bottom left corner of the object and within a discolored oval shape at its center. The discoloration seems to be fading of the paper due to exposure to light, while in a mount with an oval window. The object has also suffered much loss, primarily to the corners and at the center of the right edge of the object, in addition to a small puncture near the top left corner. There are many creases found all along the edges, and the object feels thin and flimsy in the hand. In addition, the object has a layer of dirt and grime on both the verso and recto, and there is an unknown oily accretion, which is dark-orange in color, on the figure's proper left cheek and near the bottom edge and left corner of the image.

## TREATMENT

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The object was gently dry cleaned on both its front and back with a soft cosmetic sponge to remove surface dirt.