

AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

Manuscript Collections

<p>Name of collection:</p> <p>Reed, Abner, Diaries, 1798-1802</p>	<p>Location:</p> <p>Misc. mss boxes "R"</p>
<p>Size of collection:</p> <p>1 folder, 4 items</p>	<p>N.U.C.M.C. number:</p> <p>N.A.</p>
<p>Finding aids:</p> <p>For biography of Reed, see Henry R. Stiles, <u>History and Genealogies of Ancient Windsor, Conn.</u>, (Hartford, Conn.: Case, Lockwood, and Brainard Co., 1892), vol. 2, pp. 634-37.</p>	
<p>Source of collection:</p> <p>Photocopies gift of Connecticut Historical Society, 1975</p>	
<p>Collection Description:</p> <p>Abner Reed (1771-1866) of Windsor, Connecticut, was an engraver, copper-plate printer, painter, teacher, and author. He was largely engaged in the designing and engraving of bank-note plates, for which he received orders from many banks in the United States and Canada. Reed also executed several excellent decorative portrait, historical, and map engravings on wood and copper plate. He taught school in Windsor and was deacon of the Congregational Church in addition to producing several books, including a novel, a sketchbook of engravings, and text-books.</p> <p>This collection contains electrostatic photocopies of three diaries, 1798-1802, and a printed biographical sketch. The original diaries are in the possession of the Connecticut Historical Society. They consist of brief entries concerning Reed's daily interests, including detailed weather records, the costs of keeping school, a few vital town records, references to church sermons and his duties as deacon, visits, club meetings, and purchases for home and school. Several incidents mentioned include an outbreak of yellow fever and the winning of a Negro's "independence" in Hartford, and a riot in Windsor. Reed's diary for the period 1801 to 1802 is divided into columns, including the weather, daily employment, earnings, and expenses, vital records, remarks, and account lists of his engraving orders and their cost. The "employment" column is a record of his engraving, printing, and painting work.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">25 January 1977</p>	