

AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

Manuscript Collections

<p>Name of collection:</p> <p>Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, Society of Friends, Record Book, 1818-1879</p>	<p>Location:</p> <p>Octavo volumes "B"</p>
<p>Size of collection:</p> <p>1 octavo volume, 97 leaves</p>	<p>N.U.C.M.C. number:</p> <p>N.A.</p>
<p>Finding aids:</p> <p>See John Blair Linn, <u>History of Centre and Clinton Counties, Pennsylvania</u>, (Philadelphia: Louis H. Everts, 1883), p. 239.</p>	
<p>Source of collection:</p> <p>Gift of Charles C. Goodspeed, 1932</p>	<p>Copies available:</p> <p>Electrostatic <u>  X  </u></p> <p>Microfilm <u>     X     </u></p> <p>No copies <u>      </u></p>
<p>Collection description:</p> <p>In 1832 the Society of Friends of Bellefonte, Centre County, Pennsylvania built a meeting house on the property of Bond Valentine, part owner of the town iron works, and at the expense of the Valentine brothers and William A. Thomas. In 1837 the Bellefonte Friends united with the body of Orthodox Friends and began holding regular monthly meetings.</p> <p>This record book is divided into two sections: minutes of monthly meetings and vital records. The minutes cover the period 1843-1867 and are a meticulous record of the Friends way of life. Entries include testimonies of disowment, acknowledgements of sorrow for deviation, requests for membership, and applications for permission to marry. A section titled "Answer to Queries" sets down a code of behavior: no liquor, tale bearing, military service, or ownership of slaves. Many entries are signed by William A. Thomas and others acting as clerks for the meetings.</p> <p>The vital records section covers the period 1818-1879 and includes births, deaths, and certificates of marriage signed by witnesses present.</p>	