

**American Antiquarian Society
Manuscript Collections**

NAME OF COLLECTION:

Brigham, Cephas, Diary, 1887-1890

LOCATION(S):

Octavo vols. "B"

SIZE OF COLLECTION:

seven octavo volumes

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON COLLECTION:

SOURCE OF COLLECTION:

Gift of Waldo G. Leland, 1959

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION:

Cephas Brigham (1821-1890), the son of Joel and Elizabeth (Brown) Brigham, was a schoolteacher and, later, a lawyer. He started teaching school in North Leverett, Mass., in the winter of 1841-1842 and met his wife, Lucy Elmira Graves (1827-1887, while teaching there the following winter. They were married in May 1846. The Brighams lived in Montague, Mass., where Brigham taught school. He also taught school in Ashland, Mass., and manufactured brooms for a time. In 1854 they moved to West Dedham, Mass., where Brigham continued teaching until 1861 when they moved to Auburndale, Mass. In 1868 Brigham became a lawyer.

This series of seven notebooks, evidently incomplete, begins with entries on 1 July 1887 (ten days before the death of Lucy) and continued to 26 July 1890. They are a mixture of diary entries and reminiscences in the form of a sketch of Lucy. The theme is the sense of loss felt by Brigham after the passing of his wife and his efforts to recapture their relationship in a rambling reminiscence from 1843 to 1861 which constitutes many of the diary entries. Brigham enters copies of forty-one letters between his wife and himself.

See Contents Lis.

**American Antiquarian Society
MANUSCRIPTS DEPARTMENT**

CEPHAS BRIGHAM, DIARY, 1887-1890
CONTENTS LIST

Octavo Volume

- 1 Notebook 1, Reminiscences of November 28, 1842-November 30, 1843
- 2 Notebook 2, December 1, 1887-May 14, 1888
- 3 Notebook 3, May 14, 1888-December 12, 1888
- 4 Notebook 4, December 13, 1888-March 19, 1890
- 5 Notebook 5, April 1890
- 6 May 1, 1890-June 10, 1890
- 7 June 12, 1890-July 26, 1890