

AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY
MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

NAME OF COLLECTION:

Diaries (unidentified) Collection, 1760-1832

LOCATION(S):

Octavo vols. "D"
Almanacs Collection

SIZE OF COLLECTION:

16 octavo volumes

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON COLLECTION:

SOURCE OF COLLECTION:

The 1779 Stamford, Conn., diary the gift of John Kuppenheimer, 1974; the 1852-1855 Andover, Mass., diary purchased from Aiglatson, 2003.

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION:

This collection of twenty unidentified diaries covers the period 1760 to 1855 and includes several interleaved almanacs. There is a set of six Philadelphia diaries, for the period 1822 to 1830, written by the same person, concerning events in the city, weather records, and sundry "cures."

There are diaries written in Boston, Mass., also detailing weather, travels, local records, and court cases.

The collection contains a diary kept by a South Carolina plantation owner in 1760, with references to family matters, general musters and Indian troubles during the French and Indian War, as well as financial records of the plantation.

Another diary provides many descriptive passages concerning Lake George, N.Y., in 1819, while the diary of a young girl in Worcester, Mass., for the period 1828 to 1832, refers to visits, local records, and town celebrations.

The diary of a young female schoolteacher in Andover, Mass., details her teaching jobs and comments on bible passages she's heard preached upon. The 31 December 1854 entry mentions her going to hear "Rev. Antinette Brown" (i.e., Antoinette Louisa Brown Blackwell (1825-1921)). She comments, in her 20 January 1855 entry, that this is the "25th anniversary of my birthday."

There are also two diaries pertaining to the American Revolution: one is a three-page fragment dealing with American troop movements and the capture of an American general near Stamford, Conn., in 1779; the other refers to American and British troop movements near Philadelphia and the arrival of the French fleet in 1778.

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AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY
MANUSCRIPTS DEPARTMENT

DIARIES (UNIDENTIFIED) COLLECTION, 1760-1855
CONTENTS LIST

OCTAVO VOLUME	DATE	LOCATION	ITEM
1	1760	South Carolina	Diary of a plantation owner detailing family matters, business concerns, financial records, and reports of Indian attacks during the French and Indian War.
2	1773	Boston, Mass.	Interleaved almanac detailing weather records. Kept in <i>An Astronomical Diary; or, Almanack ... 1773 ... by Nathanael Low ...</i> (Boston: J. Kneeland, [1772]).
3	1778	Boston, Mass.	Interleaved almanac detailing teaching duties, trips, and movements of British and American troops, as well as French fleet during the Revolution. Kept in <i>An Astronomical Diary or, Almanack ... 1778 ... by Nathanael Low.</i> (Boston: J. Gill, [1777]).
4	1779	Stamford, Conn.	Fragment of three pages containing references to the capture and imprisonment of Gen. Gold Selleck Silliman (1732-1790) by the British, as well as movements of Revolutionary troops.
5	1783	Boston, Mass.	Interleaved almanac detailing expenses of trips to New York, Philadelphia, Nantucket, etc., as well as sundry accounts. Kept in <i>A Pocket Almanack for the Year ... 1783 ...</i> (Boston: T. & J. Fleet, [1782]).
6	1783- 1786	Boston, Mass.	Diary detailing records of death dates of notable people, number of people buried and baptized in Boston for each month of 1784, as well as details of courts cases and a cure for consumption. The diary also includes verse and anecdotes of earlier times, and lists of executions.
7	1788	New Salem, Mass.	Interleaved almanac containing brief, intermittent entries concerning town events and visits. Kept in <i>Thomas's ... Almanack ... 1788 ...</i> (Worcester: Isaiah Thomas, [1787]).

OCTAVO VOLUME	DATE	LOCATION	ITEM
8	1793	Worcester County, Mass.	Interleaved almanac containing records of a physician's house calls and charges, and trips to Boston and Worcester. Kept in <i>An Astronomical Diary: or Almanack ... 1793 ... by Amos Pope ...</i> (Boston: John W. Folsom, [1792]).
9	1794	Wilmington, Del.	Interleaved almanac containing book list, family notes, travels, and financial notes. Kept in <i>McCulloch's Pocket Almanac, for the Year 1794 ...</i> (Philadelphia: John McCulloch, [1793]).
10	1817	Philadelphia, Pa.	Interleaved almanac containing records of weather, town marriages and deaths, and plantings. Kept in <i>Poor Will's Almanac, for the Year 1817 ...</i> (Philadelphia: Joseph Hakestraw, [1816]).
11	1819	Boston, Mass., to New York State	Diary of a journey from Boston to Lake George, N.Y., with detailed descriptions and record of mileage.
12	1822- 1830	Philadelphia, Pa.	Six interleaved almanacs, written by one person, containing records of city events, weather, medical cures, and sundry recipes for repair of articles. Kept in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) <i>Poor Robin's Almanac ... 1822 ... Calculated by Joshua Sharp ...</i> (Philadelphia: D. Dickinson, [1821]); b) <i>Bioren's Town and Country Almanack ... 1824 ... Calculated by William Collom ...</i> (Philadelphia: John Bioren, [1823]); c) <i>Langstroth & M'Dowell's Almanack ... 1825 ... Calculated by Joshua Sharp ...</i> (Philadelphia: Griggs & Dickinson, [1824]); d) <i>Poor Robin's Almanack ... 1826 ... Calculated by Joshua Sharp ...</i> (Philadelphia: D. Dickinson, [1825]); e) <i>Kite's Town and Country Almanac, for the Year 1827 ... Calculated by William Collom ...</i> (Philadelphia: Benjamin and Thomas Kite, [1826]); f) <i>Columbian Almanac, for the Year 1830 ... by William Collom ...</i> (Philadelphia: Joseph M'Dowell, [1829]).

OCTAVO VOLUME	DATE	LOCATION	ITEM
13	1823	Philadelphia, Pa.	Interleaved almanac containing records of weather, plantings, and planting experiments. Kept in <i>The Agricultural Almanac ... 1823 ...</i> (Philadelphia: Solomon W. Conrad, [1822]).
14	1828- 1832	Worcester, Mass.	Diary of a young girl with brief entries concerning visits, town marriages and deaths, 4 th of July and Worcester County Centennial celebrations.
15	1852- 1855	Andover, Mass.	Diary of a young woman with sporadic entries concerning teaching school and attending church. Kept in <i>Jewett's Economical Writing Book ...</i> (Salem, Mass.: John P. Jewett & Co., [1844]. [purchased from Aiglatsen, 2003]
16	1847	Hartford, CT	Diary of a Hartford man (possibly Thomas Welles) travelling to the Western Reserve in Ohio. Purchased from Daryl Perch, Shelf Life Antiques, 2011

There are also diaries filed in the Almanacs Collection:

1788: Sturbridge, Mass. Farmer's diary records farming activities, meteorological observations, marriages and deaths, and other events. Kept in Isaiah Thomas' *Almanack* (Worcester, Mass.) for the 1788.

1799: Portland, Me. Three inserted leaves containing diary of unidentified minister, chiefly recording baptisms, deaths, weather, in Poor Robin's *Farmer's, Merchant's, and Mechanic's Almanack, or the Register of Maine* (Portland, 1799).