

American Antiquarian Society
Manuscript Collections

Name of collection:

Jarvis, Edward, Letters, 1860

Location:

Misc. mss. boxes "J"

Size of collection:

1 folder (105 items)

N.U.C.M.C. #:

RLIN id:

Sources of information on collection:

For a biographical sketch of Jarvis, see *Dictionary of American Biography*, vol. IX, p. 621-622.

Source of collection:

Unknown

Collection description:

Edward Jarvis (1803-1884) was born in Concord, Mass. He graduated from Harvard in 1826, and from the University of Vermont school of medicine in 1830. He practiced in Northfield, Concord, and Louisville, Ky., before returning to Dorchester, Mass., in 1843 to specialize in the treatment of the insane. Jarvis was also a well-known statistician. His many publications included: History of Progress of Population in the U.S. (Boston, 1877); Insanity Among the Coloured Population of the Free States (Philadelphia, 1844); Physiology and Laws of Health (New York, 1866); Employment For Patients in the British Lunatic Asylums ([n.p., 1862]); and many more.

This collection of letters were written daily to his wife, Almira Hunt Jarvis (-1884) in 1860 while he was travelling in England. He describes in detail his lodgings and surroundings, with particular emphasis on hospitals and asylums he visited. These visits resulted in his book on Employment for Patients in the British Lunatic Asylums.