

American Antiquarian Society

Manuscript Collections

NAME OF COLLECTION:

Jamaica Debating Society (Jamaica, N.Y.), Records,
1838-1848

LOCATION:

Octavo volumes "J"
Misc. mss. boxes "J"

SIZE OF COLLECTION:

1 octavo box; 1 folder (15 items)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON COLLECTION:

SOURCE OF COLLECTION:

Gift of Calvin Otto, 1990

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION:

The Jamaica Debating Society was organized in Jamaica, Queens County, N.Y., in 1838 "...for the purpose of debating upon different subjects...." A. P. Leech (-) was a member and, for a time, the secretary of the Society.

This collection contains business papers of the Jamaica Debating Society, as well as notes on various debates. The folder contains an undated, four-page original constitution and by-laws; two quarterly reports [dated: 1 February 1839 and 3 May 1839]; a partial, undated deed of Warren Delancy (-) and Sarah R. Delancy (-), for land in Flushing, Queens Co., N.Y.; and a newspaper clipping about the "Theatrical Triumph" of a "Miss Landon, now Mrs. MacLean." There are also notes on six debates.

The collection contains two addresses by A. P. Leech, as well as many of his debates and notes on debates.

See Contents List.

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Jamaica Debating Society (Jamaica, N.Y.), Records, 1838-1848

Contents List

Debates, Notes on Debates, Addresses, 1838-1848; n.d.

Octavo Box

- Folder 1 Is the discovery of the mariners compass greater than the discovery of the art of printing, 1838 May 11
- Folder 2 Is slavery a greater evil than intemperance, 1838 May 25
- Folder 3 Is war ever justifiable, 1838 June 1
- Folder 4 Is agriculture of greater importance than the arts, 1838 June 8
- Folder 5 Are men capable of disinterested actions, 1838 June 15
- Folder 6 Which is more conducive to happiness: poverty or riches, 1838 June 22
- Folder 7 Which has been productive of the more bloodshed: ambition or superstition, 1838 June 29
- Folder 8 Has eloquence a greater influence on society than music, 1838 July 27
- Folder 9 Was the career of Napoleon Bonaparte productive of more good than evil, 1838 August 31
- Folder 10 Has the discovery of steam power been beneficial to the world, 1838 September 7
- Folder 11 Does the pulpit offer a wider field for eloquence than the bar, 1838 September 14
- Folder 12 Ought capital punishment to be abolished, 1838 September 28 and 1839 June 7
- Folder 13 Ought dueling to be considered murder, 1838 October 5
- Folder 14 Were our forefathers justifiable in extirpating the Indians, 1838 October 19
- Folder 15 Does Washington deserve more honour for defending his country than Lafayette for leaving his country and espousing ours, 1838 November 16
- Folder 16 What are the best means for perpetuating our present political freedom, 1838 November 23
- Folder 17 Is it right for our civil government to punish a person for breaking the Sabbath, 1838 November 30
- Folder 18 Have the Negroes received more injury from the whites in this country than the Indians, [1838?] December 7
- Folder 19 Are the minds of women as capable of improvement as those of men, 1838 December 14
- Folder 20 Which are of the most service to our country: seamen or soldiers, 1838 December 21

Jamaica Debating Society (Jamaica, N.Y.), Records, 1838-1848, Contents List (cont.)

- Folder 21 Are political newspapers as they are now conducted productive of more good than evil, 1838 December 28
- Folder 22 Was Cinque justifiable in pursuing the course he did, [1839?]
- Folder 23 Has money more influence than talent, 1839 January 25
- Folder 24 An address on the beauty, necessity, and advantage of order, 1839 April 5
- Folder 25 Are mankind more indebted to mechanism than literature, [1839?] August 30
- Folder 26 A few remarks on the power & influence of habit, 1840 January 1
- Folder 27 Fourth of July, 1840 July 4
- Folder 28 Will the present republican form of government of the United States continue 100 years longer, [1848?]
- Folder 29 Ought common schools to be aided by government, n.d.
- Folder 30 Is revenge as strong a passion as love, n.d.
- Folder 31 Is public life more conducive to happiness than private, n.d.
- Folder 32 Is the reading of fictitious works productive of more good than evil to community, n.d.
- Folder 33 Ought imprisonment for debt to be generally abolished, n.d.
- Folder 34 Are the morals of the community under the control of females, n.d.
- Folder 35 Would the immediate abolition of slavery be advantageous to us as a nation, n.d.
- Folder 36 Has hope as strong an influence as fear, n.d.
- Folder 37 Is the old world better calculated to amuse & interest the traveler than the new, n.d.
- Folder 38 Has ambition contributed more to the overthrow of civil government than luxury, n.d.
- Folder 39 Has the art of printing been beneficial to the morals of mankind, n.d.
- Folder 40 Has utility more influence than fashion among mankind, n.d.
- Folder 41 Is respectability more sought after by mankind than riches, n.d.
- Folder 42 Has our legislature a right to allow the banks under its charge to suspend specie payments and not forfeit their charters, n.d.
- Folder 43 Would the passage of the sub treasury bill secure the prosperity of the country, n.d.
- Folder 44 Pleasure of youth vs. pleasure of manhood

Jamaica Debating Society (Jamaica, N.Y.), Records, 1838-1848, Contents List (cont.)

Folder

Does knowledge increase happiness, n.d.

Is every nation capable of sustaining a republican form of government, n.d.

Ought the colonization society to be patronized, n.d.

Has the French Revolution been productive of more good than evil, n.d.

Is infidelity a greater evil than intemperance, n.d.

Does early education have a controlling influence on our actions in afterlife, n.d.