

AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

Manuscript Collections

Name of collection:	Location:
Sewall, Edmund Quincy, Diary, 1840	Misc. mss. boxes "S"
Size of collection:	N.U.C.M.C. number:
1 folder with 1 volume, 23 pp., and 2 loose pieces	N.A.
RLIN id: MAAR92-A145	
Finding aids:	
For a study of the diary, see Clayton Hoagland, "The Diary of Thoreau's 'Gentle Boy'," <u>New England Quarterly</u> , 28 (1955), pp. 473-489.	
Source of collection:	
Gift of Mrs. Louise S. Chapman, 1945	
Collection Description:	
<p>Edmund Quincy Sewall Jr. (1828-1908) was the son of Rev. Edmund Quincy Sewall and Caroline Ward Sewall of Scituate, Massachusetts. The younger Sewall attended the private school in Concord, Massachusetts, conducted by Henry David Thoreau (1817-1862) and his brother John Thoreau (1815-1842). Sewall graduated from Harvard College in 1847. He was a distant relative of Joseph Sewall (1688-1769), William Bartlett Sewall (1782-1869), and Joseph Sewall (1795-1851).</p> <p>This brief diary chronicles Sewall's studies with the Thoreaus, March 28-May 16, 1840. The school was noted for its educational innovations and the Thoreaus stressed "learning by doing." Sewall records the numerous field trips the students took and also describes other aspects of school life important to young boys: pranks, meals, and assigned compositions. There are two samples of his compositions included in this collection on the subjects "birds" and "fishes."</p>	
20 Nov., 1990 26 April 1977	
1 June, 2001	