

American Antiquarian Society

Manuscript Collections

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Name of collection:

Norcross, Grenville Howland, Diaries,  
1860-1876; 1911-1937

Location:

Octavo volumes "N"

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Size of collection:

42 octavo volumes

N.U.C.M.C. number:

62-3066

RLIN id: MAAR92-A116

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Sources of information on collection:

For biographical information see AAS Newspaper Clippings; *Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society*, vol. 47 (1937) p. 12-13.

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Source of collection:

Gift of Grenville Howland Norcross Estate, 1937

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Collection description:

Grenville Howland Norcross (1854-1937), one of eight children of Otis Norcross (1811-1882) and Lucy Ann (Lane) Norcross (1816-1916), was born on 2 February 1854 in Boston, Mass. After graduating from Harvard University in 1875, Grenville acquired his Harvard law degree in 1879 and practiced law in Boston for many years. He was active in numerous historical and literary organizations, including the New England Historic and Genealogical Society, the Massachusetts Historical Society, the American Antiquarian Society, the Bostonian Society (serving as its president, 1911-1932), the Club of Odd Volumes, St. Botolph Club, and the Harvard Club. Grenville died, unmarried, on 12 February 1937 in Boston.

The earlier diaries, for the period 1861 to 1876, contain entries detailing Norcross' daily childhood and adolescent activities. Included are accounts of his grammar school and Harvard experiences and theater performances attended (with several programs attached), a few pencil sketches, records of his expenditures, the curiosity items which he collected and the number of books he read during the year.

The diaries, for the period 1911 to 1937, contain daily entries of Norcross' social and business activities.

In addition, this collection contains Grenville's autograph book, dated 1863-

1871, and two catalogs, dated 1863 and c.1870, of the historical and curiosity items he collected, as well as his father's 1860 passport.

See Contents List.

25 October 1976  
revised 16 June 2010

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Grenville Howland Norcross, Diaries, 1860-1876; 1911-1937

Contents List

Octavo Volumes

- 1 Diary, 2 February 1861 - 6 January 1862
- 2 Diary, 7 January 1862 - 29 July 1863
- 3 Diary, 30 July 1863 - 1 September 1864
- 4 Diary, 2 September 1864 - 6 May 1865
- 5 Diary, 1 June 1866 - 31 December 1866
- 6 Diary, 1 January 1867 - 31 December 1868
- 7 Diary, 1 January 1869 - 31 October 1870
- 8 Diary, 1 November 1870 - 31 August 1873
- 9 Diary, 1 September 1873 - 10 November 1875
- 10 Pocket diary, 1875
- 11 Pocket diary, 1876
- 12 Passport of Otis Norcross, 1860
- 13 Autograph book, 1863-1871
- 14 "Catalogue of the museum of G. H. Norcross . . .," 1863-1871
- 15 "Catalogue of the private museum of Grenville H. Norcross, of  
Boston . . .," 1871
- 16 Diary, 1911
- 17 Diary, 1912
- 18 Diary, 1913
- 19 Diary, 1914
- 20 Diary, 1915

- 21 Diary, 1916
- 22 Diary, 1917
- 23 Diary, 1918
- 24 Diary, 1919
- 25 Diary, 1920
- 26 Diary, 1921

Grenville Howland Norcross, Diaries, 1860-1876; 1911-1937 Contents List  
(cont.)

Octavo Volumes (cont.)

- 27 Diary, 1922
- 28 Diary, 1923
- 29 Diary, 1924
- 30 Diary, 1925
- 31 Diary, 1926
- 32 Diary, 1927
- 33 Diary, 1928
- 34 Diary, 1929
- 35 Diary, 1930
- 36 Diary, 1931
- 37 Diary, 1932
- 38 Diary, 1933
- 39 Diary, 1934
- 40 Diary, 1935
- 41 Diary, 1936
- 42 Diary, 1937