Summary Information

Creator
Linnaean Society of Lancaster City and County

Title
Linnaean Society of Lancaster, Pa. Records

Dates
1862-1896, 1862-1889 (bulk)

Extent
2 LF (4.5 ms. boxes, plus oversize items)

Arrangement
Collection organized into 5 series: I. Organizational Records and Collection Information-- II. S.S. Rathvon Materials-- III. Memorials---IV. Section Reports--V. Microfilm.

Language of Materials
All materials in English.

Abstract
This collection consists of administrative materials, correspondence, section reports and memorials.

Subjects
Rathvon, S. S. (Simon Snyder), 1812-1891.
Linnaean Society of Lancaster City and County--History.
Learned institutions and societies--Pennsylvania--Lancaster.
Natural history--Pennsylvania--Societies, etc.
Rathvon, S. S. (Simon Snyder), 1812-1891.
Stauffer, Jacob, b. 1808.
Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

Custodial History (Provenance)
These materials were in the possession of the North Museum as part of their natural history collections prior to their transfer to the Archives in 1986. It is presumed that these records were originally transferred to the North Museum in 1953 along with the old College Museum collections formerly housed in Stahr Hall. These collections, in turn, included those of the defunct Linnaean Society, of which these records are presumed to be part.

Access Restrictions
Access unrestricted.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use
Photocopying and publication may be restricted by copyright. Permission to publish must be secured from the repository and copyright holder.

Preferred Citation
Linnaean Society of Lancaster, Pa. Records (MS 13), Archives and Special Collections, Franklin and Marshall College.

Processing Information
Processed by Charlotte Brown, July 1986. Description based on DACS.

Accruals
No further accruals are expected.

Additional Information

Bibliographical Note
See also: Linnaean Bulletin [Bulletin of the Linnaean Society of Lancaster, P.A.] v.1: 1-
Rare books QH1 .L78


For additional information on S. S. Rathvon see:
Records of Franklin and Marshall College (RG 12/06/02)- File on S. S. Rathvon (F&M honorary degree, 1878)

Location of Originals
S. S. Rathvon diary, 1861-1888 copied from photographic negative in collection of: Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, PA

Microfilm of Linnaean Society minutes and manuscripts, 1862-1896 copied from originals held as: Linnaean Society of Lancaster County, PA minute book 1862-1896, American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, PA
Related Materials

[Jacob Stauffer (1808-1880) correspondence, etc.], American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, PA

Linnaean Society of Lancaster County, PA minute book 1862-1896, American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia, PA

Historical/Biographical Information

The Linnaean Society of Lancaster City and County was organized and chartered in 1862 by several local individuals, including S. S. (Simon Snyder) Rathvon (1812-1891) and Jacob Stauffer (1808-1880), who were interested in studying and learning about the natural world. The society was named in honor of Carolus Linnaeus, aka. Carl Linne, (1707-78) a Swedish botanist who developed a system to classify flora and fauna. The society met and housed its collections in various locations in the Lancaster area during its early years. In 1889, at the urging of Prof. John S. Stahr, the Trustees of Franklin and Marshall College provided quarters for the Society in the Academy Building. In 1901-02, the museum, library and collections were moved to the third floor of Stahr Hall. The Society ceased to exist as an active entity in the 1920s, but the collections they accumulated formed the core of the natural history collection of the College Museum (later, North Museum).

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of administrative materials, correspondence, section reports and memorials. The materials were in the possession of the North Museum prior to their transfer to the Archives.

Inventory/Contents

I. Organizational Materials and Collection Information

Box/Folder

1/1 Account Book, nd.
1/2 Constitution and By-Laws, ca. 1862.
1/3 Constitutions, 1862, 1884.
1/4 Committee Reports --- miscellaneous, 1863-89, nd.
1/5 Curators Reports, 1867 - 1885.
1/6 Secretary Reports, 1862 - 92, nd.
1/7 Treasurer Reports, 1862 - 85, 1893 - 94.
1/8 Meeting Minutes, 1873, 1874.
1/9 Petitions, 1863, nd.
1/10 Proceedings, 1877.
1/11 Resolutions, 1878, nd.
1/12 Correspondence, 1858 -78, nd. [2 folders]
1/13 Acquisitions to Museum Collections --- Lists, 1864-89, nd.
1/14 Botanical Collections --- Lists, 1864-89.
1/15 Entomological Collections --- Lists, , 1875, 1877, nd.
1/16 Ornithological Collections --- Lists, 1865, 1869, nd.
2/1 Historical Artifacts, 1878, nd.
Box/Folder
2/2 Library, ca. 1877 - ca. 1893, nd.
2/3 Newspaper Clippings, nd.
2/4 "Linnaean Notes", 1870-83, nd.
2/5 Miscellaneous Items, including
   --- Floor Plan, nd.
   --- Linnaean Society Museum Ticket, nd.
   --- Botany nomenclature booklet, nd.
Oversize "Partial Eclipse of the Moon" – drawing by Miles Rock January 23, 1869

II. S. S. Rathvon Materials
2/6 "My official record" (list of elected offices), 1831 - 87.4
2/7 Diary, 1861-1888, 121pp. (copy taken from photographic negative of
   original (presumed lost) in Academy Natural Sciences Collection
   See Box 5 for negative and digital version on DVD.4)
2/8 Miscellaneous writings, nd.
2/9 ". Origin object and progress of the Linnaean Society.", 1866.
2/10 Remarks,
   --- 23rd Anniversary, 1885.
   --- 25th Anniversary, 1887.
2/11 "Some general views on the ....Linnaean Society." ca. 1862.

III. Memorials
2/12 Agassiz, Louis, 1873.
2/13 Durand, Elias, 1873.
2/14 Gibbons, Pearl Ford, 1893.
2/16 Reinhardt, Joseph Cooper, 1873.
2/17 Rockafield, Henry Alfred, 1870.
2/18 Seitz, [J. M. ?], nd.
2/19 Weaver, Elias B., 1863.

IV. Section Reports
2/20 Archaeology Committee --- Reports, 1864, 1871, 1873, nd.
2/21 Astronomy --- Reports, 1869-79.
2/22 Botany --- "Flowering or Phaenogamous Plants," nd.
2/23 Botany --- Leaf Specimens, collected by Miles Rock, Waterford VA,
   1862.
2/24 Botany --- "Orders, genera and species of Plants noticed by Gray and
   Wood, nd.
3/1 " --- Reports, 1868 - 75.
3/2 " --- Reports, 1876 - 77.
3/3 " --- Reports, 1878 - 96.
3/4 " --- Reports, nd.
3/5 Conchology -- Reports, 1862 - 73, 1879, nd.
3/6 Earthquakes --- Reports, 1865-67, 1889.
3/7 Entomology --- "Coleoptera collection in Museum. Henshaw
   checklist of 1885."
3/8 " --- Nomenclature, nd.
3/9 " --- S. S. Rathvon Reports, nd.

5/2 S.S. Rathvon Diary, 1861-1888, 121pp. 35mm film negative and digital scan on DVD. (see Box 2, folder 7 for printed paper version.) 5