

circa 1834-1872
(bulk dates 1834-1835)

Abstract: Reverend Theodore William Snow's travel journal chronicles three separate trips to the British Isles and Brazil in the 1830s. Snow’s ink and pencil entries fill a marbleized paper-covered account book and detail travel by ship, landmarks and structures seen, events, social customs, and religious practices.
Descriptive Summary

Identification: MSS 097, Item 068


Inclusive Dates: circa 1834-1872

Bulk Dates: 1834-1835

Extent: 1 v. (170 p.) ; 23 cm.

Language: Volume primarily in English with one document in Portuguese.

Administrative Information


Location: Special Collections Department, University of Delaware Library Newark, Delaware 19717-5267 Phone: 302-831-2229 Fax: 302-831-6003 URL: http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec/

Source: Purchase, 1956.


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Biographical Note

Reverend Theodore William Snow was born on December 20, 1810, in Boston, Massachusetts, to Gideon Snow and Ruthy Wilhelmina Snow. He was educated at the Latin School, Boston and received a Bachelor of Arts from Harvard University in 1830. A Unitarian early in life, Snow became a devout member of the Episcopal Church.

From 1839 to 1841 Snow served as rector of Grace Church in New Bedford, Massachusetts. Following this he became an itinerant missionary in southern part of the Massachusetts diocese and inaugurated a church at Plymouth. Snow served as rector of St. Thomas Episcopal Church in Taunton, Massachusetts, for eight years (1847-1855), until he became incapacitated due to health difficulties.

Snow married Susan Frances Andrews in June 1837 and had several children, including a daughter, Elizabeth. Snow died on November 1, 1872, in Jamaica Plain, Boston, Massachusetts. Following his death, Elizabeth dedicated a memorial to her father on the altar at the church where he preached (St. Thomas).

Sources:


Additional information derived from collection.
Scope and Content Note

Reverend Theodore William Snow's travel journal chronicles three separate trips to the British Isles and Brazil in the 1830s. Snow’s ink and pencil entries fill a marbleized paper-covered account book and detail travel by ship, landmarks and structures seen, events, social customs, and religious practices.

The first section of the journal covers Snow's travel through the United Kingdom from March 29 to October 25, 1834. Entries for the first voyage contain brief accounts of the passage across the Atlantic followed by lists of the sights seen and people met as Snow traveled between numerous cities in England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales including Liverpool, London, Portsmouth, Salisbury, Bath, Bristol, Monmouth, Dublin, Belfast, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Leeds, and York. Snow made a complete list of his stops and the distance between them near the back of the volume. Snow's descriptions are very brief. However, he supplemented his accounts with citations from "Leigh."

Samuel Leigh published several guide books to the United Kingdom in the early nineteenth century. It is likely that Snow used an edition of Leigh’s New Picture of London to reference the catalogue of paintings at the National Gallery and an edition of Leigh’s New Pocket Road-Book of England and Wales Containing an Account of all the Direct and Cross-Roads to reference the description of a church in Romsey and to list the distance he traveled between cities. With his religious background, Snow took detailed notes on the churches and abbeys he visited as well as his conversations with other clergy and the religious customs and ceremonies he observed.

The second section of the journal covers Snow's travel in Brazil from December 15, 1835, to May 21, 1836. The entries for this trip are similar to those for the first voyage, but Snow spent more time on the ship and began each entry with the latitude and longitude of the ship’s location. He also made several tables listing the latitude and longitude as well as the distance traveled per day between Rio de Janeiro, Bahia, and Pernambuco.

Snow described the customs and appearance of the people in Brazil as well as current events including an assassination and a prison riot.

There are several loose pieces of paper inserted into this section of the journal including three hand drawn maps of Rio de Janeiro, Bahia, and Pernambuco. The map labeled "Bahia" depicts the area surrounding Salvador, Brazil, and the map labeled "Pernambuco" depicts the area surrounding Recife. There is also a tipped-in document in Portuguese from the American Consulate that lists the name of the ship and its crew.

The final page of the journal concerns another trip to Europe taken "with family" between October 10, 1868, and July 12, 1870. This very brief account lists the stops and the time spent in each place. The handwriting for this entry is different than the rest of the volume, so it may have been completed by either an aged Snow or a different member of his family.

Inserted at the end of the volume is a document giving Snow’s epitaph and death date with the words "given by his daughter Elizabeth."
**Selected Search Terms**

**Personal Names**

Leigh, Samuel.

**Topical Terms**

Religion and culture--Europe--History--19th century.

Travel--Guidebooks--History--19th century.

Voyages and Travels--History--19th century.

Ocean travel--History--19th century.

Travelers--Diaries.

**Geographic Names**

Brazil--Description and travel.

Great Britain--Description and travel.

Ireland--Description and travel.

**Form/Genre Terms**

Diaries.

Sketch maps.

**Occupation**

Clergy.

Travelers.

**Related Materials in this Repository**

This item forms part of MSS 097 Diaries, Journals, and Ships’ Logs collection.
Detailed Description of the Collection


1 volume