



Maine Historical Society

Coll. 196

Portland Society of Natural History (Me.)

Records

1852-1946

Accession #: MS76-46; 1996.7

Access: Unrestricted

Copyright: Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be discussed with the MHS Images Services Coordinator.

Size: 2.5 linear ft (5 boxes & 1 volume)

Dates: 1852-1946

Administrative Note: The Portland Society of Natural History, founded in 1843, prided itself on its interesting and rare collections. Many famous Portland figures were members, including Neal Dow and Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. Devoted to knowledge and featuring lectures on all types of curiosities, the majority of the Society's early collections and papers were destroyed as a result of the fires of 1854 and 1866. It was absorbed into the Maine Audubon Society in 1971.

Scope and Content: General correspondence, including letters of Elizabeth Akers Allen, Sylvester B. Beckett, Admiral George Henry Preble, and others; membership lists, treasurers' reports and bills and receipts; correspondence and journals of Herbert M.W. Haven, confectioner and amateur mineralogist and naturalist of Portland, Maine; a catalogue of the personal collection of Arthur H. Norton, curator of the Portland Society of Natural History; and newspaper clippings and scrapbooks relating to the activities of the society and containing biographical data on James Phinney Baxter, Percival Proctor Baxter, Charles Lewis Fox, Fred A. Gilbert, Charles C. Harmon, Aurelius Stone Hinds, Thomas Hamlin Hubbard, Charles Wyman Morse, George Frederick Morse, Augustus Freedom Moulton, John Neal, Sarah Payson Willis Parton (Fanny Fern), William Willis and others; also contains photographs. See also Coll. 901.

Provenance: Gift of Maine Audubon Society, February 1976. Additional materials given in 1996 from William B. Jordan Jr. (1996.7), and properly added in 2022.

Processing Note: When processed, the original inventory ended with Box 5 containing "photographs." These are, in actuality, news clippings, photos and other information that is kept in multiple files. The finding aid has been updated to reflect these newspaper clippings, alphabetically organized, are relabeled as Box 5, Folders 7-15.

Inventory:

Box 1

Folder 1: Correspondence, 1852-1859

Folder 2: Correspondence, Jan-June 1862

Folder 3: Correspondence, July-Dec 1862
Folder 4: Correspondence, 1863-1865
Folder 5: Correspondence, 1866
Folder 6: Correspondence, 1867
Folder 7: Correspondence, Jan-June 1868
Folder 8: Correspondence, July-Dec 1868
Folder 9: Correspondence, Jan-March 1869
Folder 10: Correspondence, April 1869
Folder 11: Correspondence, May-Dec 1869
Folder 12: Correspondence, 1870
Folder 13: Correspondence, 1871-1872
Folder 14: Correspondence, 1873-1876
Folder 15: Correspondence, 1877-1878
Folder 16: Correspondence, 1879

Box 2

Folder 1: Correspondence, 1880-1882
Folder 2: Correspondence, 1883-1886
Folder 3: Correspondence, 1887-1889
Folder 4: Correspondence, 1890-1891
Folder 5: Correspondence, 1892
Folder 6: Correspondence, 1893
Folder 7: Correspondence, 1894
Folder 8: Correspondence, 1895
Folder 9: Correspondence, 1896-1899
Folder 10: Correspondence, 1900-1901
Folder 11: Correspondence, 1910-1916
Folder 12: Correspondence, 1920-1928
Folder 13: Correspondence, 1929-1940
Folder 14: Correspondence, 1946-1954 and undated
Folder 15: Bills and receipts, 1868
Folder 16: Bills and receipts, 1869
Folder 17: Bills and receipts, 1870-1878

Box 3

Folder 1: Library accessions and holdings
Folder 2: Membership certificates
Folder 3: Membership lists, ca. 1850
Folder 4: Programs, etc.
Folder 5: Reports, agreements, etc., ca. 1859-1941
Folder 6: Treasurer's reports, 1852-1941
Folder 7: Specimens donated elsewhere

Folder 8: Memorials

Folder 9: A brief resume of the history and culture of ancient Egypt by Carl Emerson Roberts

Folder 10: Glacial erosion in Maine by Scott Stone

Folder 11: Report on mineralogy

Folder 12: Some of the terrestrial and aquatic crustations [sic] of the state of Maine by Arthur H. Norton

Folder 13: George Henry Preble misc.

Folder 14: George Henry Preble correspondence, 1852-1870.

Folder 15: H.M.W. Haven correspondence, 1929-1931

Folder 16: H.M.W. Haven correspondence, 1932-1933

Folder 17: H.M.W. Haven correspondence, 1934-1935

Folder 18: H.M.W. Haven correspondence, 1938-1956

Folder 19: H.M.W. Haven misc.

Folder 20-21: Misc., inc. floor plan

Box 4

Folder 1: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1918-1920

Folder 2: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1921

Folder 3: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1922-1924

Folder 4: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1925-1926

Folder 5: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1927

Folder 6: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1928

Folder 7: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1929

Folder 8: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1930-1931

Folder 9: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1933

Folder 10: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1934

Folder 11: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1936

Folder 12: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1937

Folder 13: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1938

Folder 14: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1939

Folder 15: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1940

Folder 16: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1940

Folder 17: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1941

Folder 18: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1941

Folder 19: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1942

Folder 20: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1943

Folder 21: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1944

Folder 22: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1945

Folder 23: H.M.W. Haven journal, 1946

Folder 24: H.M.W. Haven journal, misc.

Box 5

Folder 1: Biographies, A-G

Folder 2: Biographies, H-W

Folder 3: Percival P. Baxter

Folder 4: The Saunterer

Folder 5: Portland Society of Natural History newspaper clippings

Folder 6: Misc. newspaper clippings

Folder 7: Articles and Clippings A-F

- Achorn, Edgar O.
- Akers, Benjamin Paul
- American Association of Science
- Andrews, Charles G.; Samuel Richards; David B. Woodbury
- Ants
- Bald Eagle
- Barrett, Franklin R.
- Bats
- Beaver
- Beckett, S. B.
- Bees
- Beetles
- Blue goose
- Boston
- Boyd, Charles Harrod
- Brock, Dr. Henry Herbert
- Brownson, William H.
- Brown-tail moth
- Bugs
- Butterflies
- Cats
- Clarke, Charles Bailey from Dr. W. E. Elwell
- Cod
- Cumberland County Angling Association
- Craig, Rev. Arthur T.
- Deer
- Doe
- Fellows, Dr. Dana W.
- Flies
- Fox
- Freeport Poultry Show

Folder 8: Articles and Clippings G-K

- Girl Scouts/Garsoe, Josephine
- Great Blue Heron
- Great Pond Case—attempted murder trial
- Gulick, Mrs. Charlotte V.

- Gypsy moth
- Haeckel, Prof. Ernest
- Hansen, Johannes C.
- Hardy, Manly
- Heath Hen
- Hill, Rev. Thomas
- Hinckley, G.W.
- Horton, Harold E.
- Ingraham, Hon. Darius H.
- Jones, T.K.
- Katahdin

Folder 9: Articles and Clippings L-O

- Laughlin, Frederick J.
- Leavitt, Capt. George B.
- Lee, Kenneth Fuller
- Lewis, Mrs. Charles R.
- Licenses
- Littlefield, Louise
- Locusts
- Lynx
- MacMillan, Donald B.
- Mathews, Edward Bennett
- May, James
- McCord, Capt. Percy B.
- McGlauflin, Mrs. Clifford E.
- McLellan, Isacc, Jr.
- Meyer, Lieut. G. Ralph
- Mindling, George W.
- Mosquitos
- Moths
- Moulton, Mrs. Willis B.
- Mushrooms
- Newman, Benjamin T.
- Norton, Arthur H.
- Norton, Dr. Charles E.
- O'Malley, Henry
- "On the Air"
- Optical Phenomena
- Osgood, E. S.
- Owl Club

Folder 10: Articles and Clippings P-W

- Palmer, R.S.
- Parson, Hon. Willis E.
- Passamaquoddy tribe seal hunters
- Pearson, George H.
- Pequawket Indians
- Perkins, Edward H.
- Perkins, Dr. John Carroll
- Perley, Dr. Thomas Fitch
- Petrels
- Pheasants
- Philbrook, Major E. E.
- Rackliff, Evan D.
- Reindeer
- Seabirds
- Spiders
- Thayer, John E
- *Turcoman* ship's bird
- Typhoid fever
- Wasps
- Wheeler, G. C.
- Wyman, Jeffries

Folder 11: Walter D. Miller—In Memoriam; PSA exhibit, George F. Morse; Thomas K. Jones taxidermy certificate

Folder 12: "Notes of Game Afield" by Kenneth Fuller Lee (column) and assorted game clippings, PPH & PST, ca. 1929-1930.

Folder 13: A. H. Norton articles and writings

Folder 14: Photographs: portraits and group shots

Folder 15: Photographs: animal/nature/Native Americans

Folder 16: "An appeal to the friends of science," 1836 broadside (1996.7)

Volume 1: Accession Book containing the accession and donor information for collections within the Portland Society of Natural History's care.

Oversized items located in O.S. Box 18 (on top of flat files in Garden Level Compact Storage)

-1857 proposal to lease apartments in the Merchant's Bank Building, and a signed list of subscribers

-Blank 19th century diploma