

Notes of Robert Jameson's Lectures
1822-1823
Mss.504.J23

American Philosophical Society
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Summary Information

Repository	American Philosophical Society
Creator	Jameson, Robert, 1774-1854
Creator	Wilson, W. D.
Title	Notes of Robert Jameson's Lectures
Date [inclusive]	1822-1823
Call number	Mss.504.J23
Extent	1.0 Volume(s)
Extent	1 volume, 55 pages
Location	LH-MV-E-15
Language	English
Container	1
Abstract	<p>Born in Leith, Scotland, in 1774, Robert Jameson was a pillar of the scientific establishment at the University of Edinburgh for over fifty years, and was one of Scotland's most important mineralogists and natural historians.</p> <p>Kept by W. D. Wilson, a student at the University of Edinburgh, this volume includes notes of lectures on zoology and meteorology delivered by Robert Jameson in 1822-1823. Wilson wrote that he omitted the introductory lectures, and added: "I do not mean to fill this book with</p>

copious Notes; -- I shall put down merely a few of the general facts, -- and any thing of interest not to be found in the text books of the class."

Preferred Citation

Cite as: Robert Jameson, Notes of Jameson's Lectures, American Philosophical Society.

Background note

Born in Leith, Scotland, in 1774, Robert Jameson was a pillar of the scientific establishment at the University of Edinburgh and one of Scotland's most important mineralogists and natural historians. While studying medicine at Edinburgh, Jameson acquired a taste for natural history, and changed his course in life. After assisting the professor of natural history John Walker for a period, Jameson decided to further his education by doing advanced study at the renowned Bergakademie in Freiberg, and shortly after receiving his degree in 1802, he returned to Edinburgh to assume the position vacated by Walker's death.

For nearly half a century, Jameson figured as one of the most influential educators at Edinburgh, a tenure marked by a distinguished record of scholarship in mineralogy and mineralogical exploration of his native Scotland. For some time, Jameson enjoyed the unusual distinction of being a Scottish disciple of Abraham Gottlob Werner's neptunian system of geology, pitting him against his fellow Scot James Hutton's uniformitarianism. Eventually, however, Jameson came around to renouncing Werner.

Jameson's major publications included *A System of Mineralogy* (Edinburgh, 1816), *Mineralogy of the Scottish Isles* (1800), *Elements of Geognosy* (1809); *Mineralogical Travels through the Hebrides, Orkney and Shetland Islands* (1813); and *Manual of Mineralogy* (1821). With David Brewster, he was a founder of the *Edinburgh Philosophical Journal*, and for thirty years was its sole editor. His mineralogical collections now form the core of the Royal Scottish Museum.

Scope & content

Kept by W. D. Wilson, a student at the University of Edinburgh, this volume includes notes of lectures on zoology and meteorology delivered by Robert Jameson in 1822-1823. Wilson wrote that he omitted the introductory lectures, and added: "I do not mean to fill this book with copious Notes; -- I shall put down merely a few of the general facts, -- and any thing of interest not to be found in the text books of the class."

Administrative Information

Publication Information

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Provenance

Acquisition Information

Acquired from R. D. Gurney, August 1975.

Processing Information

Recatalogued by rsc, April 2003.

Related Materials

Related Material

The APS library possesses the following works by Jameson:

Bibliography

- 1 Jameson, Robert, *Mineralogy of the Scottish Isles* (Edinburgh, 1800). Call no.: **554.1 J23m**
- 2 Jameson, Robert, *Treatise on the External Character of Minerals* (Edinburgh, 1805). Call no.: **549 J23t**
- 3 Jameson, Robert, *System of Mineralogy* (Edinburgh, 1804-1808). Call no.: **549 J23s v.1-3**
- 4 Jameson, Robert, *Manual of Mineralogy* (Edinburgh, 1821). Call no.: **549 J23m**

Indexing Terms

Genre(s)

- Lecture notes

Subject(s)

- Beyond Early America
- Meteorology--Scotland
- Meteorology--Study and teaching
- Zoology--Scotland
- Zoology--Study and teaching

Other Descriptive Information

This manuscript collection falls outside the geographic scope of the Early American guide (British North America and the United States before 1840). It may be of interest to scholars interested in global history, international relations, imperialism, or the U.S. in the world.