

John F. Fenton Day Books
1829-1844
Mss.B.F351

American Philosophical Society
4/2003
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Summary Information

Repository	American Philosophical Society
Creator	Fenton, John F.
Title	John F. Fenton Day Books
Date [inclusive]	1829-1844
Call number	Mss.B.F351
Extent	0.25 Linear feet 2 volumes
Extent	2 vols. (289pp.); 0.25 linear feet
Location	LH-MV-E-1
Language	English
Abstract	<p>Beginning in about 1830, John F. Fenton began a thriving business as a wheelwright in Newtown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. He married Mary Ann Ring, also of Newtown, on November 26, 1834, and was elected a County Commissioner in the late 1850s.</p> <p>These Day Books provide a detailed record of work performed by Fenton between 1830 and 1844, primarily the manufacture or repair of wagons and wheels (double trees, wagon tongues, sideboards, spokes, rims), with very occasional reference to carriages.</p>
Preferred Citation	Cite as: John F. Fenton Day Books, American Philosophical Society.

Background note

Beginning in about 1830, John F. Fenton began a thriving business as a wheelwright in Newtown, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. He married Mary Ann Ring, also of Newtown, on November 26, 1834, and was elected a County Commissioner in the late 1850s.

Scope & content

The Fenton Day Books provide a daily record of work performed by the Bucks County wheelwright and County Commissioner, John F. Fenton, between 1830 and 1844, primarily the manufacture or repair of wagons and wheels (double trees, wagon tongues, sideboards, spokes, rims), with very occasional reference to carriages. Other activities are occasionally recorded by Fenton, including making a plough, mending and painting a hay rake, dressing saws, and providing cord wood, and in 1831, he records going hunting "in the pines" and getting five deer.

Volume 1 consists of three volumes bound together; volume 2 includes 4 pages of work by hired hands for June 1853.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

American Philosophical Society 4/2003

Provenance

Acquisition Information

Gift of Edward H. Barnsley, 1977 (accn. no. 1977-204ms).

Processing Information

Recatalogued rsc April 2003.

Indexing Terms

Genre(s)

- Business Records and Accounts
- Daybooks.

Subject(s)

- Business and Skilled Trades
- Carriage and wagon making--Pennsylvania--Bucks County
- Wheelwrights--Pennsylvania--Bucks County

Other Descriptive Information

The John Fenton Collection consists of daybooks for Fenton's business as a wheelwright. The books contain records of clients, prices charged, and costs for goods and labor for the years 1830-1844.