

Benjamin Rush commonplace book, 1792-1813
1792-1813
Mss.B.R89c

American Philosophical Society
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Summary Information

Repository	American Philosophical Society
Creator	Rush, Benjamin, 1746-1813
Title	Benjamin Rush commonplace book, 1792-1813
Date [inclusive]	1792-1813
Call number	Mss.B.R89c
Extent	1.0 Volume(s) 1 volume, 373 p.
Location	LH-MV-E-6
Language	English
Container	1
Abstract	<p>This item contains entries about prominent people (primarily accounts of their deaths); Philadelphia events and gossip; the Pennsylvania Hospital; questions for Meriwether Lewis on Indian physical history, medicine, morals, and religion; and his views on marriage, religion, physicians, etc. Also includes meeting with Captain Wells and Little Turtle; speculations on Indian skin color at the equator.</p>

Background note

Benjamin Rush was a physician, patriot, and humanitarian. He graduated from the College of New Jersey (Princeton), 1760, and from the University of Edinburgh, 1768. He was a member of the staff at the Pennsylvania Hospital and was a professor at the University of Pennsylvania.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

American Philosophical Society

Provenance

Acquisition Information

Purchased from Biddle (pt. 3, no. 200; \$2050.00) and accessioned, 1943 (1943 84467).

Alternative Form Available

Parts of this item are also available on microfilm (Film 813), and there is a photographic copy of this microfilm available in the repository.

Indexing Terms

Corporate Name(s)

- Pennsylvania Hospital (Philadelphia, Pa.).

Family Name(s)

- Priestley, Joseph, -- 1733-1804. -- Unitarianism explained and defended.

Genre(s)

- Commonplace Book
- Diaries

Geographic Name(s)

- Philadelphia (Pa.) -- Social life and customs -- 19th century.

Occupation(s)

- Physicians.

Personal Name(s)

- Drinker, Henry, 1734-1809
- Hamilton, Alexander, 1757-1804
- Hay, John
- Lewis, Meriwether, 1774-1809
- Woodhouse, James, 1770-1809

Subject(s)

- Business and Skilled Trades
- Early National Politics
- Hospitals -- Pennsylvania -- Philadelphia.
- Indians of North America
- Land and Speculation
- Marriage.
- Medicine
- Medicine.
- Philadelphia History
- Religion.
- Science and Technology

Other Descriptive Information

The commonplace book is better described as Benjamin Rush's diary of events from 1792. Rush recounts in great detail the spectacular failure of William Duer and other investors in Philadelphia and New York, noting the panic and uncertainty that swept elite society in those months. The second portion of the volume contains a range of Rush's thoughts and observations on society, making this portion more like a traditional commonplace book.

Other Descriptive Information

This item was printed in George W. Corner, ed., "The Autobiography of Benjamin Rush: His Travels through Life, together with his Commonplace Book for 1789-1813," *American Philosophical Society Memoirs* 25 (1948).

Collection Inventory

Rush, Benjamin, 1746-1813

March, 1792 - February,

[Commonplace book]

1813

A.D. pp.7-373. Collation: pp.17-18 - bottom torn off pp.19-20 - top cut off

pp.31-38,43-44,53-54,63-76,99-104,107-114, 121-126,129-146,151-154,157-158,209-214,
