

# WORCESTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM

30 Elm Street  
Worcester, Massachusetts

## ARCHIVES

Natural History Society Collection  
2012.FIA.18

Processed by Courtney Allen  
December 2012

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## **Collection Information**

Abstract : The collection contains documents from the Young Men's Rhetorical Society and the Worcester Lyceum which merged together in 1884. Among the documents are submissions for *The Vine* and *The Rhetorical Gazette*, record books, and correspondences from the Young Men's Rhetorical Society. Documents from the Natural History Society include reports and correspondences to the society and to the president W. H. Raymenton

Finding Aid : Finding Aid in print form is available in the Repository.

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Provenance : Found in Archives

MARC Access :

### **Historical/Biographical Notes**

The Worcester Lyceum of Natural History was founded in 1825 to help create a better understanding of the natural world. In 1861, the Worcester Natural History Society was formed. After the Worcester Natural History Society merged with the Natural History Department of the Young Men's Library Association in 1884 and became the incorporated Worcester Natural History Society. Shortly after, in 1885, the Natural History Camp is founded at Lake Quinsigamond, becoming a successful camp for boys and, later, also for girls. The Camp ended in 1890 and was not replaced until 1940 when the Nature Training School was founded.

The Young Men's Rhetorical Society was formed in 1853 to create essays, debates, and other similar exercises meant to improve the mental and moral state of its members. In 1855, the Young Men's Rhetorical Society merged with the Young Men's Library Association. In 1856, the Worcester Lyceum merged with the Young Men's Library Association and became the Worcester Country Lyceum and Library Association which, in turn, later merged with the Worcester Natural History Society. The Young Men's Rhetorical Society separated again in 1858.

### **Scope and Content**

This collection includes documents from the Young Men's Rhetorical Society prior, during, and after the merge with the Young Men's Library Association and the Worcester Natural History Society. Also included in this collection are documents through the Natural History Society under the titles of the Worcester Lyceum of Natural History and the Worcester Natural History Society. A scrapbook of the Nature Training School has pictures, handouts, newspaper clippings, and other documents of the school that replaced the Natural History Society Summer Camp that ended in 1890.

## **Series Descriptions**

### **Series 1: Young Men's Rhetorical Society**

Series description: This series contains newspaper submissions, record books, notes, lists, and formal documents for the Rhetorical Society,

### **Series 2: Worcester Natural History Society**

Series description: This series contains essays, reports, lectures, lesson plans, record books, and correspondences that were presented and used for the meetings and lectures of the Worcester Lyceum of Natural History/ Worcester Natural History Society.

### **Series 3: Worcester Natural History Society Summer Camp**

Series description: This series contains registers and record books, formal papers, and a variation of correspondences. These correspondences include those to and from parents and students, President of the History Society Wh. H. Raymenton, director of the camp E. H. Forbush, and teachers E. D. Pierce and Edward Baker.

### **Series 4: Nature Training School Scrapbook**

Series description: This series contains a scrapbook of the Nature Training School. Included in this are photographs, pamphlets, handouts, notes, and newspaper clippings of field trips, lessons, and activities for the Nature Training School.

Natural History Society Collection  
 Series 1: Young Men's Rhetorical Society  
 Subseries 1: Submissions and Drafts for *The Vine*  
 2012.FIA.18

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	2012.FIA.18.1.1.1a-n	November 30, 1858-June 6, 1884, undated—submissions of poems and stories for <i>The Vine</i>
OVS		2012.FIA.18.1.1.2a-e	January 4, 1853-March 29, 1853—drafts of <i>The Vine</i>
1	2	2012.FIA.18.1.1.2f-.4b	October 19, 1858-March 11, 1862 submissions of poems and stories for <i>The Vine</i>

Natural History Society Collection  
 Series 1: Young Men's Rhetorical Society  
 Subseries 2: Submissions and Drafts for *The Rhetorical Gazette*  
 2012.FIA.18

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	2012.FIA.18.1.2.1a-6b	1863-1867—submissions of poems, stories, and editorial submissions for <i>The Rhetorical Gazette</i>
1	2	2012.FIA.18.1.2.7a-9n	1863, undated—submissions of poems, stories, and editorial submissions for <i>The Rhetorical Gazette</i>
1	3	2012.FIA.18.1.2.10-.14	undated—submissions of poems, stories, and editorial submissions for <i>The Rhetorical Gazette</i>
OVS		2012.FIA.18.1.2.15-.21	July 1, 1851-September 3, 1851—drafts of <i>The Rhetorical Gazette</i>
1	4	2012.FIA.18.1.2.22-.42e	undated, June 21, 1860—submissions of poems and stories <i>The Rhetorical Gazette</i> , including submissions regarding the upcoming election for Abraham Lincoln

Natural History Society Collection  
Series 1: Young Men's Rhetorical Society  
Subseries 3: Record Books  
2012.FIA.18

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
2	BV	2012.FIA.18.1.3.1	September 22, 1849-June 27, 1850—Young Men's Rhetorical Society Record Book
2	BV	2012.FIA.18.1.3.2	August 27, 1850-May 31, 1853—Young Men's Rhetorical Society Record Book
2	BV	2012.FIA.18.1.3.3	December 18, 1852-November 1882—Young Men's Rhetorical Society Record Book
2	BV	2012.FIA.18.1.3.4	August 16, 1853-December 28, 1858—Young Men's Rhetorical Society Record Book
2	BV	2012.FIA.18.1.3.5	October 1, 1853-October 9, 1882—Young Men's Rhetorical Society Record Book
2	BV	2012.FIA.18.1.3.6	April 3, 1855-January 20, 1857—Young Men's Rhetorical Society Record Book
2	BV	2012.FIA.18.1.3.7	January 9, 1859-March 1, 1869—Young Men's Rhetorical Society Record Book
2	BV	2012.FIA.18.1.3.8	March 8, 1869-December 10, 1878—Young Men's Rhetorical Society Record Book



Natural History Society Collection  
Series 1: Young Men's Rhetorical Society  
Subseries 4: Informal notes and lists  
2012.FIA.18

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	2012.FIA.18.1.4.1-.16	September 15-December 1883, undated notes and lists that include meeting notes and member addresses

Natural History Society Collection  
Series 1: Young Men's Rhetorical Society  
Subseries 5: Formal documents and notes  
2012.FIA.18

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	2012.FIA.18.1.5.1-.24	1865-1868, undated—meeting notes, correspondences, blank forms, and loose pages regarding financial issues of the Rhetorical Society

Natural History Society Collection  
 Series 2: Worcester Natural History Society  
 Subseries 1: Essays, Reports and Lectures  
 2012.FIA.18

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
3	BV	2012.FIA.18.2.1.1-6	1883—notebooks containing reports and observations by Alto and Julius Günther
4	BV	2012.FIA.18.2.1.7-12	1826, 1884, undated—notebooks containing essays and observations for the Natural History Society
5	1	2012.FIA.18.2.1.13-.25	December 18, 1854-April 26, 1855—reports sent to the Natural History Society by various composers
5	2	2012.FIA.18.2.1.26-.49	July 13, 1855-June 4, 1858—reports sent to the Natural History Society by various composers
5	3	2012.FIA.18.2.1.50-61	April 26, 1862-1884—reports sent to the Natural History Society by various composers
5	4	2012.FIA.18.2.1.62-.67	undated—reports and notes sent to the Natural History Society by various composers
5	5	2012.FIA.18.2.1.67-.87	undated—reports and notes sent to the Natural History Society by various composers

Natural History Society Collection  
 Series 2: Worcester Natural History Society  
 Subseries 2: Lesson Plans and Record Books  
 2012.FIA.18

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
4	BV	2012.FIA.18.2.2.1	May 24, 1866-January 2, 1882—Worcester Lyceum and Natural History Association record of payments
4	BV	2012.FIA.18.2.2.2	June 1, 1866-April 21, 1877—Worcester Lyceum and Natural History Association record of payments and funds
3	BV	2012.FIA.18.2.2.3	January 4-March 29, 1886—notebook for winter course of Elementary Botany including dates of lectures, members, and lesson plans
3	BV	2012.FIA.18.2.2.4	January 5-March 9, 1886—notebook for evening course for Microscopy including dates of lectures, members, and lesson overviews
3	BV	2012.FIA.18.2.2.5	January 6-March 31, 1886—notebook for winter course for Ornithology including dates of lectures, members, and lesson overviews
3	BV	2012.FIA.18.2.2.6	January 7-March 18, 1886—notebook for winter course of Mollusca including dates of lectures, members, and description of the class
3	BV	2012.FIA.18.2.2.7	January 8-29, 1886—notebook for Comparative Anatomy including dates of lectures, members, newspaper clippings and lesson overviews
3	BV	2012.FIA.18.2.2.8	February 5-26, 1886—notebook for evening course for Zoology including dates of lectures, members, newspaper clippings, and lesson overviews

Natural History Society Collection  
 Series 2: Worcester Natural History Society  
 Subseries 2: Lesson Plans and Record Books  
 Continued

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
6	1	2012.FIA.18.2.2.9	February 11-April 29, 1886—notebook for winter course of Economic Geology including dates of lectures, members, and newspaper clippings
3	BV	2012.FIA.18.2.2.10	May 3-10, 1886—notebook for evening course for Taxidermy including dates of lectures, members, and lesson overviews.
4	BV	2012.FIA.18.2.2.11	November 11, 1886-March 12, 1887—class records for Entomology, Botany, Ornithology, and Comparative Anatomy courses including dates of lectures, members, and lesson overviews.
4	BV	2012.FIA.18.2.2.12	June 5, 1889-November 5, 1891—volume of the Society of Mineralogy including its by-laws, members, and meeting notes
	BV	2012.FIA.18.2.2.13	July 16, 1886-January 1, 1907—visitor register for the Natural History Park at Lake Quinsigamond
7	BV	2012.FIA.18.2.2.14	February 15, 1907-May 15, 1931—record book of meeting notes for the Natural History Society

Natural History Society Collection  
 Series 2: Worcester Natural History Society  
 Subseries 3: Natural History Society Documents and Correspondences  
 2012.FIA.18

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
5	1	2012.FIA.18.2.3.1-.31	1855-1931, undated—documents of the society including attendance lists, meeting notes, newspaper clippings, and financial calculations
5	2	2012.FIA.18.2.3.32-.97	1855-1889, 1912, 1931— correspondences to and from members of the historical society
5	3	2012.FIA.18.2.3.98-.138	undated—documents and correspondences of the historical society

Natural History Society Collection  
 Series 2: Worcester Natural History Society  
 Subseries 4: W. H. Raymenton Correspondences  
 2012.FIA.18

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
6	1	2012.FIA.18.2.4.1-.52	1862, 1878, April 19, 1880-February 2, 1882—correspondences and postcards to W. H. Raymenton
6	2	2012.FIA.18.2.4.53-.101	March 14, 1882-December 15, 1883 correspondences and postcards to W. H. Raymenton
6	3	2012.FIA.18.2.4.102-.163	January 3, 1884-March 30, 1885 correspondences and postcards to W. H. Raymenton
6	4	2012.FIA.18.2.4.164-.218	April 8, 1885-December 28, 1885 correspondences and postcards to W. H. Raymenton

Natural History Society Collection  
Series 2: Worcester Natural History Society  
Subseries 4: W. H. Raymenton Correspondences  
Continued

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
6	5	2012.FIA18.2.4.219-.270	January 3, 1886-May 27, 1887— correspondences and postcards to and from W. H. Raymenton
6	6	2012.FIA.18.2.4.271-.341	June 9, 1887-November 7, 1887, undated— correspondences and postcards to W. H. Raymenton

Natural History Society Collection  
 Series 3: Worcester Natural History Society Summer Camp  
 Subseries 1: Letters of Interest and Application (March 1889-August 1892)  
 2012.FIA.18

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
8	1	2012.FIA.18.3.1.1-.83	March-June, 1889—Correspondences and applications for the summer camp
8	2	2012.FIA.18.3.1.84-.134	July-September, 1889—Correspondences and applications for the summer camp
8	3	2012.FIA.18.3.1.135-.167	February-April, 1890—Correspondences and applications for the summer camp
8	4	2012.FIA.18.3.1.168-.210	May 1890—Correspondences and applications for the summer camp
8	5	2012.FIA.18.3.1.211-.251	June 2-14, 1890—Correspondences and applications for the summer camp
8	6	2012.FIA.18.3.1.252-.290	June 16-30, 1890—Correspondences and applications for the summer camp
8	7	2012.FIA.18.3.1.291-.318	July-October 1890—Correspondences and applications for the summer camp
8	8	2012.FIA.18.3.1.319-.357	January-May 1892—Correspondences and applications for the summer camp
8	9	2012.FIA.18.3.1.358-.405	June 1892—Correspondences and applications for the summer camp
8	10	2012.FIA.18.3.1.406-.429	July-August 1892—Correspondences and applications for the summer camp

Natural History Society Collection  
 Series 3: Worcester Natural History Society Summer Camp  
 Subseries 2: Registers and Record Books  
 2012.FIA.18

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
7	BV	2012.FIA.18.3.2.1	1890—record book of the Natural History Camp including names of attendees and amounts charged
	BV	2012.FIA.18.3.2.2	1890—visitors register of the Natural History Camp
	BV	2012.FIA.18.3.2.3	1907—visitors register of the Natural History Camp
4	BV	2012.FIA.18.3.2.4	undated—index of names for the National History Summer Camp

Natural History Society Collection  
 Series 3: Worcester Natural History Society Summer Camp  
 Subseries 3: Summer Camp Papers (1886, June 1887-September 1892, undated)  
 2012.FIA.18

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
8	1	2012.FIA.18.3.3.1-.62	1886, June 1887-September 1892, undated—Correspondences, postcards, and notes pertaining to the Worcester Natural History Society Summer Camp



Natural History Society Collection  
 Series 3: Worcester Natural History Society Summer Camp  
 Subseries 4: W. H. Raymenton Correspondences (May 1886-October 1892, undated)  
 2012.FIA.18

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
9	1	2012.FIA.18.3.4.1-.76	May 1886-March 1890—correspondences to W. H. Raymenton
9	2	2012.FIA.18.3.4.77-141	January-June 1892—correspondences to W. H. Raymenton
9	3	2012.FIA.18.3.4.142-170	July-October 1892, undated correspondences to W. H. Raymenton

Natural History Society Collection  
 Series 3: Worcester Natural History Society Summer Camp  
 Subseries 5: E. H. Forbush Correspondences (April 1889-December 1890, 1892, undated)  
 2012.FIA.18

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
10	1	2012.FIA.18.3.5.1-.33	April-May 1889—correspondences and postcards to E. H. Forbush regarding the summer camp
10	2	2012.FIA.18.3.5.34-.86	June-July 1889—correspondences and postcards to E. H. Forbush regarding the summer camp
10	3	2012.FIA.18.3.5.87-.116	August-December 1889—correspondences and postcards to E. H. Forbush regarding the summer camp
10	4	2012.FIA.18.3.5.117-163	January-March 1890—correspondences and postcards to E. H. Forbush regarding the summer camp
10	5	2012.FIA.18.3.5.164-.203	April 2-12, 1890—correspondences and postcards to E. H. Forbush regarding the summer camp

Natural History Society Collection  
Series 3: Worcester Natural History Society Summer Camp  
Subseries 5: E. H. Forbush Correspondences (April 1889-December 1890, 1892, undated)  
Continued

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
10	6	2012.FIA.18.3.5.204-.238	April 14-29, 1890—correspondences and postcards to E. H. Forbush regarding the summer camp
10	7	2012.FIA.18.3.5.239-.291	May 1890—correspondences and postcards to E. H. Forbush regarding the summer camp
10	8	2012.FIA.18.3.5.292-.327	June 1890—correspondences and postcards to E. H. Forbush regarding the summer camp
10	9	2012.FIA.18.3.5.328-.376	July-December 1890, 1892, undated correspondences and postcards to E. H. Forbush regarding the summer camp

Natural History Society Collection  
 Series 3: Worcester Natural History Society Summer Camp  
 Subseries 6: E. D. Pierce Correspondences (July-August 1892)  
 2012.FIA.18

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
9	1	2012.FIA.18.3.6.1-.18	July-August 1892—correspondences to Captain E. Dana Pierce of the Summer Camp

Natural History Society Collection  
 Series 3: Worcester Natural History Society Summer Camp  
 Subseries 7: Edward Baker Correspondences (January 1889-August 1892)  
 2012.FIA.18

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
9	1	2012.FIA.18.3.7.1-38	May 1888-December 1889—correspondences from Edward Baker mainly discussing the set up and details of the Summer Camp
9	2	2012.FIA.18.3.7.39-103	May 1889-August 1892—correspondences to Edward Baker

Natural History Society Collection  
 Series 4: Nature Training School Scrapbook  
 2012.FIA.4.1

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
BV		2012.FIA.4.1 (2009.22)	1941-1965, undated—Scrapbook in blue binder containing handouts, notes, photographs, newspaper clippings, pamphlets, and other documents pertaining to the Nature Training School