

A Guide to the Loudoun Valley Academy Collection , 1872-1874, 1914

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A Collection in the Thomas Balch Library SC 0037
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History

Processed by: Emily Hershman

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Descriptive Summary

Collection number

SC 0037

Language

English

Abstract

The Loudoun Valley Academy Collection is comprised of a school ledger and a reunion program booklet, as well as two photocopies of reunion photographs.

Collector

Loudoun County Historical Society

Extent

4 items: 1 ledger, 1 reunion program, 2 photocopied photographs

Repository

Thomas Balch Library

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection open for research .

Use Restrictions

Physical characteristics and conditions affect use of this material. Photocopying not permitted

Acquisition Information

Loudoun County Historical Society, Loudoun County, VA

Processing Information

Processed by Emily Hershman, 18 May 2009.

Formerly filed in NUCMC 66 with Loudoun County Historical Society's records.

Preferred Citation

Loudoun Valley Academy Collection (SC 0037), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA .

Accruals

2004.0001

Alternative Form Available

None

Adjunct Descriptive Data

Related Material

Loudoun Valley Reunion photograph, sleeve 190

Bibliography

America's Obituaries & Death Notices, <http://infoweb.newsbank.com/best/obarticles>.

Ancestry Library Edition, <http://www.ancestrylibrary.com>.

Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, <http://www.bym-rsf.org/quakers/new/Swarthmore.shtml>.

Loudoun Valley Academy Collection (SC 0037), Thomas Balch Library, Leesburg, VA.

Other Finding Aid

None

Technical Requirements

None

Historical Information

The Loudoun Valley Academy was a co-educational institution which operated in Hamilton, VA, from 1869 to 1874. The school's founder, Jonathan K. Taylor (1838-1916), was born in Purcellville, VA, and by 1855 had moved to attend Taylor and Jackson Academy in Wilmington, DE, managed by his brother T. Clarkson Taylor (ca. 1825-1874). Jonathon Taylor graduated from Allen's Normal School, an institution in West Chester, PA, in 1861 and established the Chester Valley Academy in Coatesville, PA. Despite the school's success, health concerns forced him to sell the facility and return to Loudoun County in 1867.

After a brief period as owner of Janney & Slaymaker's store in Hamilton, Taylor was encouraged by local parents to open the Loudoun Valley Academy in 1869. During its five year duration, the institution educated over 150 students. Loudoun Valley Academy closed in 1874 when he returned to Delaware to act as principal of the Taylor Academy in Wilmington. Two years later, Taylor ceased his educational career to pursue business and finance in Baltimore, MD where he died in 1916. His estate currently provides for the Jonathan K. Taylor Scholarship Funds at Swarthmore College, which are administered by the Baltimore Yearly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends, a Quaker organization.

Scope and Content

The Loudoun Valley Academy Collection is comprised of a school ledger and a reunion program booklet, as well as two photocopies of reunion photographs. They are in overall good condition but should be handled carefully.

First, the ledger, labeled as a White's Common School Register for the J.K. Taylor School, accounts for students' presence and performance in a variety of subjects from September 2, 1872 to April 20, 1874. The inner covers and final pages include advertisements for textbooks and instructions for keeping records. The register alternately provides information regarding students' ages, number of absences, and courses of study such as Latin, intellectual and written Arithmetic, Etymology, Spelling, Philosophy, Grammar, Geometry, and Elocution. Its binding is fragile and should be treated with care. Second, the reunion program booklet consists of a brief biographical sketch of Jonathan K. Taylor, photographs of the attendees and the program committee, a listing of surviving and deceased students and instructors, and brief addresses by Taylor and other members of the Loudoun Valley Academy Association. The booklet also contains remarks from various students and brief newspaper articles about the reunion from The Baltimore American, Loudoun Enterprise of Hamilton, Blue Ridge News of Purcellville, The Virginia Call of Lincoln, and The Baltimore Sun.

The school ledger, reunion program booklet, and photograph copies are the only items in this collection.

Contents List

Folder 1: J.K. Taylor School Roll Call and Student Instruction Records, 1872-1874

Folder 2: Loudoun Valley Academy Reunion Program , 1914

Folder 3: Duplicate Reunion Photographs , 1914