

Maury Literary Society, Records of

Records of the Maury Literary Society
1873-1928



Title Statement

Maury Literary Society, Records ofRecords of the Maury Literary Society, 1873-1928 RG.31.14.12

Author: Miles Abernethy, Student Worker

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specref@vt.edu
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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

RG.31.14.12

Unit Date

1873-1928

Language

The materials in this collection are in English.

Abstract

This collection includes the written minutes and papers of the Maury Literary Society from 1873 to 1928 and documents related to the personal awards of the society's namesake, Matthew F. Maury. The Maury Literary Society was formed from the split of the Virginia Literary Society in 1873 along with its counterpart the Lee Literary Society. MLS helped create the first student publication, the *Gray Jacket*, in 1875. The MLS folded in 1928.

Creator

Maury Literary Society (1873-1928)

Extent

0.9 Cubic Feet 2 boxes

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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Source of Acquisition

The Records of the Maury Literary Society were acquired by the University Libraries and Special Collections and University Archives in multiple accruals from 1957 to 1985.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the Records of the Maury Literary Society were completed in July 2021. Initial description was completed prior to 2002.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Records of the Maury Literary Society, RG 31/14/12, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Administrative History

The Virginia Literary Society was formed in 1872 as the first student organization at the College. This Society split into the Sophsonian and Philomathian Societies in 1873. In May of that year, the Philomathian Society changed its name to the Maury Literary Society, in honor of Commodore Matthew Fontain Maury of Virginia. The Sophsonian had already become the Lee Literary Society in February. The Maury and Lee Literary Societies joined forces to produce the first student publication, the *Gray Jacket*, in 1875. In 1928, the two societies merged, but then folded one year later.

Scope and Content

This collection includes five volumes of handwritten minutes (1876-1887, 1890-1896, 1896-1903, 1915-1918, 1924-1928), a financial ledger (1891-1893), a membership roll book (1917-1928), constitution and bylaws (1921), programs, announcements, and correspondence. The 1890-1896 minute book contains membership rolls for 1890-1896 and the 1915-1918 minute book contains membership rolls for 1893-1894 and 1915-1918. Also included in the collection is an oratory medal awarded by the Society to M.F. Brown along with notes about Brown and another recipient, Scanland. Photographs of medals, orders of knighthood, and diamond pins given to Matthew Maury (for whom the Society was named) by the Crowned Heads of Europe and an accompanying card presenting these photos to the Society in June 1900 is also included.

Separated Materials

Duplicate copies of the 1921 Constitution and By-laws have been separated to the Rare Book Collection.

Several medals have been separated and are also available for view: Best Orator for W. T. Pennington, 1875; Cochran Medal for Millard F. Brown as Best Debator, 1875; and Best Orator for F. E. Scanland, 1886.

Related Materials

Virginia Tech Special Collections and University Archives also maintains the Records of the Lee Literary Society, RG 31/14/11, and volumes of the *Gray Jacket* in the Rare Book Collection.

Keywords

University History

University Archives

Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College (1872-1896)

Virginia Agricultural and Mechanical College and Polytechnic Institute (1896-1944)

Rights Statement for Archival Description

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Arrangement

The collection is arranged by material type.

Description of Subordinate Components

Invitations to Commencement, Exercises, Debates

Unit Date 1873-1911

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Minutes Record Book

Unit Date 1876-09-15-1887-10-08

box 2

Papers Relating to Oratory Medals and Medal

Unit Date 1877, 1886

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

VAMC Commencement Programme

Unit Date 1887

box-folder 2 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

Society Dues Book

Unit Date 1891-1893

box 2

Minutes Record Book

Unit Date 1890-10-11-1896-03-11

box 2

Minutes Record Book

Unit Date 1896-03-21-1903-05-23

box 1

Minutes Record Book

Unit Date 1915-02-27-1918-05-11

box 2

Papers Found in Record Books

Unit Date 1893/1894-1918

box-folder 1 (box)
Container 5 (folder)

Materials Related to Matthew F. Maury

Unit Date 1900, undated

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 6 (folder)

Roll Book

Unit Date 1917/18-1928

box 2

1921 Constitution and By-laws

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Lee-Maury Play Staff Documents

Unit Date 1926

box-folder 1 (box)

Container 4 (folder)

Photograph of Medals Awarded to Matthew F. Maury

Unit Date undated

box 1