

**Guide to the John Wakefield Francis Papers
Manuscripts & Archives Division
New York Public Library**

Summary

NOTE: COLLECTION IS CURRENTLY BEING REVISED 10/02

Main Entry: Francis, John W.

Title: Papers, 1798-1865; bulk dates (1820-1860).

Size: 2.8 linear ft. (7 boxes)

Source: Purchased

Abstract: John Wakefield Francis (1789-1861) was a physician who cofounded the New York Academy of Medicine. He served as the second president of the Academy, taught at Bellevue Hospital, wrote medical texts, and edited professional journals.

Collection consists of correspondence, financial papers, writings, by-laws and minutes, and related papers of Francis and others. Incoming correspondence, 1809-1861, from colleagues, friends and family members; outgoing correspondence, 1808-1860, contains letters of recommendation, petitions and accounts of medical cases. Correspondence of others include letters to Francis's associates and family members. Financial documents, 1798-1851, are accounts, receipts, receipt books, checks, and collection notices. Writings are speeches, lectures and notes of Francis and others. Also, minutes and by-laws, 1807-1810, of the Medical and Surgical Society of the University of New York State; and printed material. Note: some letters to Francis are in French.

Access: Microfilmed.

John Wakefield Francis Papers

Reel 1. Letters Received, 1809-1858 (boxes 1-3)

Note: Reel 1 is duplicated

Reel 2. Letters Received, 1859-1861; Letters Sent, 1808-1817 (boxes 3-5)

Reel 3. Letters Sent, 1818-1860 (boxes 5-7)

Accounts and Miscellaneous Papers

Addresses and Papers

Series one: Incoming Correspondence 1809-1861, from colleagues, friends and family notably Lewis Gaylord Clark, Joseph G. Cogswell and his brother Henry Francis. There are letters of recommendations, petitions and medical cases. Some letters are in french. This series also contains unidentified correspondents. Series two: Outgoing Correspondence 1808-1860, basically covers the same areas as series one. However, there is a letter of Francis dated 17 November, 1860 to Henry B. Dawson about Francis recollections of Gouverneur^{or} Morris. A transcript of Dawson is also available. Series three: Correspondence of others contains incoming correspondence to Dr. David Hosack, 1815-1829; Eliza Cutler Francis, 1833-1862; Henry Francis acting as Secretary of the New York Humane Society, 1814-1877; and general correspondence, 1812-1839; Samuel Ward, 1861-1876; Sarah Cutler a letter and notebook, 1807-1836; Mrs. Valentine Francis 1865; and assorted letters 1780-1855. Series four: Financial documents 1798-1851, contains accounts, receipts, receipt books, checks and collection notices. Series five: Writings are speeches, lectures and notes of Francis. Some writings are attributed to others. Many of the speeches and lectures refer to medical subjects. There is also an incomplete preliminary draft of "Old New York", along with sheets from early drafts and notes. Series six: The Minutes and By-laws, 1807-1810, of the Medical and Surgical Society. University of New York, volume 1. This volume is handwritten in Francis hand. The remaining papers is printed material.

The John Wakefield Francis Papers contains correspondence; financial documents; writings; by-laws and minutes; and assorted papers in six series. 1) Incoming Correspondence, 1809-1861; 2) Outgoing Correspondence, 1808-1860; 3) Correspondence of others and assorted letters; 4) Financial Documents, 1798-1851; 5) Writings; 6: By-laws and Minutes, 1807-1810.

John Wakefield Francis, physician, was born in New York City on November 17, 1789, the son of Melchior Francis a German immigrant. Francis higher education was at Columbia College (1809) and the College of Physicians and Surgeons, University of the State of New York. Between, 1811-1820, Francis was in partnership with Dr. David Hosack.

Francis attempted to establish the New Rutgers Medical College with four colleagues but the venture failed (1826-1830). On November 16, 1829, he married Maria Eliza Cutler of Boston. In 1846, Francis with Doctors Motts and Stearns founded the New York Academy of Medicine and he was elected to be the second President. As a result of his aid, James Marion was able to establish the Woman's Hospital and Francis help establish the State Inebriate Asylum at Binghamton. Near the end of his career, Francis gave clinical instructions at Bellevue Hospital.

Francis edited "The Medical and Physical Journal" and "Philosophical Register" (1810-1814) and he published Thomas Denmon's "Introduction to the Practice of Midwifery (1821). Francis writings include "Case of Enteritis, accompanied with a Preter-Natural Formation of the Ileum" (1810). Francis died on February 8, 1861, survived by his son Samuel Ward Francis, a physician and surgeon.

JOHN WAKEFIELD FRANCIS PAPERS

Container list

- Box 1. Incoming Correspondence 1809-1827
2. 1828-1847
3. 1848-1861;n.d.
A - Z
Correspondent unidentified
4. Outgoing Correspondence 1808-1825
5. 1826-1860;n.d.
Recollections of Gouverneur Morris in the form of a letter dated 17 November, 1860 to Henry B. Dawson. ALS 26 leaves.
Transcript written by Henry B. Dawson, 16 leaves.

Other Correspondence

- Dr. David Hosack, incoming correspondence 1815-1829.
- Eliza Cutler (Mrs. John W. Francis), incoming corres., 1833-1862;n.d.
- Henry Francis, incoming correspondence 1812-1839; and as Secretary to the New York Humane Society 1814-1817.
- Samuel Ward Francis, incoming correspondence 1861-1876.
- Sarah Cutler, incoming correspondence 1807-1836; notebook
- Mrs. Valentine Mott Francis 1865, March 3.
6. Financial documents, 1798-1851

Writings

- "Old New York" (an incomplete preliminary draft covering the "fair copy" of Emmet # 12,065)
- "Old New York", sheets from early drafts and notes.
- Notes and transcripts from Francis papers for an article about him by V.H. Palsits.
- Address at the opening of the Inebriate Asylum when it was completed.
- Address given at the New York Horticultural Society.
- Sketch of John André (Edinburgh Encyclopedia)
- Bodily and Mental Inferiority of the Negro.
- Remarks of John W. Francis at the Woman's Hospital.

6. Remarks to the Medical Society.
The Improvement of Our Society & Ourselves.
The Memorial of the students attending the medical schools
in the City of New York.
Remarks to the Board of Trustees of Columbia College.
Addresses, papers, notes - assorted.
7. Assorted Papers, 1829-1861
Other Writings
Eulogy of Francis by Augustus K. Gardiner.
An address to Mr. John Moore, student of medicine, written
by a lunatic in the Pennsylvania Hospital.
Printed Material
Sale's catalogue issued by Scott and O'Shaughnessy Inc., 21 Nov.
1917.
Printed material includes engravings

Minutes and By-laws, 1807-1810. Medical and Surgical
Society. University of New York State. Volume 1.
(one volume. brown buckram)