

BURNS, SUSAN.
Susan Burns diary, 1848

Emory University
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Burns, Susan.
Title: Susan Burns diary, 1848
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 367
Extent: 1 microfilm reel (MF)
Abstract: Microfilm copy of the travel journal of Susan Burns. Burns travelled from Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to Salisbury, North Carolina via Charleston, South Carolina.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Source

Loaned for microfilming, 1961.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Susan Burns diary, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Processing

Processed by EK, 1961.

Collection Description

Biographical Note

Miss Susan Burns came originally from Salisbury, North Carolina, but later she and her brother, Mr. James W. Burns, had a school in Philadelphia. She was the great-great-aunt of Mrs. W. C. Mallard, owner of the journal. Miss Burns also apparently lived at one time in Baltimore, Maryland.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of a microfilm copy of a fourteen page journal describing a trip made by Miss Burns from Philadelphia to Salisbury, North Carolina probably in 1848. She was accompanied by her cousin Maria and niece Julia. Written as a continuous narrative, the journal was evidently intended to record the events of the trip for her brother, James W. Burns of Chambersburg, Pennsylvania. The first part of the trip, to Charleston, South Carolina, was made by steam ship. From Charleston they traveled by train to Camden, North Carolina, and from there by stage to Lancaster Court House and on to Charlotte. They were unable to get seats on the stage from Charlotte to Salisbury and did not want to wait for the next one, so they hired a conveyance and driver to take them the rest of the way. Miss Burns describes conditions of travel and accommodations and makes occasional comments on the appearance of places and things. The trip was made in July and the cabins on the boat were so hot that many of the passengers slept on deck, Miss Burns among them. She says that though she was not as sick as many other passengers she was not able to eat nor was she able to sleep much on the boat. A severe storm struck as they were preparing to enter Charleston harbor on July 15, and Miss Burns tells of the skill with which the boat bringing the pilot to the ship was handled in the rough seas. She describes some of the houses they saw as they drive from Camden to Lancaster Court House and the appearance of an old battlefield. Filmed with the journal is a letter from Miss Burns to her nephews, John and Louis H. Beard of Salisbury, written May 26, 1849, in which she refers to her visit to them "last summer." This letter was written from Baltimore.

