

Avery, Francis Dean, 1876-1940
Diary, 1896, 1897, 1903-06, 1908. Buckland, Mass.; Greenfield, Mass.

7v. manuscript 12.5; 15.5 cm

Early diaries, kept in Buckland, contain brief entries mentioning livestock and "giant" oxen. Later diaries, kept in Greenfield, consist of occasional entries largely pertaining to meetings of the Franklin County Commissioners.

In Avery Family Papers.

Avery, son of James Dean Avery (1848-1922) of Buckland, worked with his father raising and showing oxen. Francis attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and was graduated in 1902. After briefly working for the New York Central Railroad in western New York State, Avery moved to Greenfield where he pursued a career as a civil engineer. His diaries are rather sparse and consist of terse entries. The two early diaries mention trips to show oxen in New Hampshire, New York State and Boston, and note a local murder and Avery's bout with typhoid fever.