

## GUIDE TO THE AMOS ASHMUN TAYLOR PAPERS

### Collection Description:

The Taylor Papers represent the accounts of a physician in Warwick, Mass. between the years 1816 and 1849. Born in Warwick in 1785, Taylor studied medicine with Elihu Dwight in South Hadley, Mass. In 1813 and 1814, he attended lectures by Eli Ives, Benjamin Silliman, and Nathan Smith at the Yale College Medical Institute. Taylor next settled in Northfield, Mass., where in 1815 he filed an intention to marry Polly Day of South Hadley. In 1816, he returned to Warwick and began a medical practice which would continue until c. 1856. Taylor served as town clerk from 1829-1837, and was for some period surgeon of a regiment of Massachusetts militia, resigning in 1830. Amos Ashmun Taylor died in Warwick on April 28, 1865.

The bulk of the collection consists of seven day books and one account book wherein Taylor recorded treatments of patients and attendant charges. He also was involved with the operation of a general store, possibly a cooperative. Two account books (designated A.A. Taylor & Co. but not kept in Taylor's hand) record the purchases of a variety of individuals – including Dr. Amos Taylor. Part of his medical training is reflected in two notebooks kept while attending lectures at Yale.

### Container List:

#### Box 1

Medical account book: 1828-1848

Medical daybooks: May 6, 1816-Sep 10, 1817; Aug 20, 1817-Dec 30, 1818; Jan 1, 1819-Dec 28, 1819; Jul 14, 1832-Nov 30, 1836 (with 7 pages of weather observations at end of vol.)

#### Box 2

Medical daybooks: Jul 1, 1838-Jul 30, 1839; Aug 1, 1839-Jul 20, 1840; May 1, 1843-Apr 30, 1844

Account book (A.A. Taylor & Co.): Feb 14, 1848-Nov 27, 1848; Dec 1, 1848-March 24, 1849

Single sheet of accounts, May 12-19, 1845

"Materia Medica from Doct. [Eli] Ives Lectures" – indexed vol. of notes on medicine and treatments kept by Taylor at Yale, 1813. Includes medical daybook (Jun 16, 1828-Nov 30, 1829) at end of volume

Untitled volume of notes on lectures of Nathan Smith kept by Taylor at Yale, 1813

Copy of *The Indian Doctor. Dr. Williams' Last Legacy* [Boston, 1789] (title page partially missing)

Admission cards (3) to attend lectures by Ives, Silliman, and Smith at Medical Institution of Yale College

Photograph of Amos Taylor, c. 1850

Certificate of resignation of Amos Taylor as surgeon of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Regt., 2<sup>nd</sup> Brig., 4<sup>th</sup> Div. of Mass. militia, Jan 15, 1830