

# Records of the Franklin Harvest Club

## PVMA Library

### Scope and Content:

Founded in 1861, the Franklin Harvest Club provided a social setting for the exchange of news and views on the practice of agriculture. Meetings were originally held monthly throughout the county at the homes of members, the number of whom was at first restricted to twelve, but later increased to 22. By the 1870s, members from Hampshire and Hampden Counties had been admitted to the Club, and meetings often occurred at public venues such as the American House in Greenfield, Mass. At that time women were also admitted to meetings as guests. The Club began holding some joint meetings with the Hampden Harvest Club in the 1880s, and on occasion met outside of Franklin County.

The first record book contains the organization's constitution and by-laws, minutes of meetings, elections of officers, and records topics discussed. A small amount of correspondence is also tipped in. Later volumes provide more detail on essays read or presentations given by members and guests, and include lists of members, some treasurer reports, and newspaper notices that report on meetings. A history of the Club appears in the Jan. 1942 minutes; a number of talks delivered at meetings are attached to minutes in the mid-20th century records.

### Container list:

#### Box 1:

Records, Dec. 1861-Jan. 1868 ; Feb. 1868-Jan. 1873; Jan. 1873- April, 1883; Dec. 1883-Mar. 1897; Dec. 1897-Mar. 1913; 1913-1925; Mar. 1925-Sept. 1937; (bound vols. and binders)

#### Box 2:

Records, Dec. 1937-Mar. 1941; Mar. 1941-Dec. 1944; Dec. 1944-Mar. 1949; Jul. 1949-Mar. 1956; Jan. 1957-March 1964; Jul. 1964-Mar. 1972; Mar. 1972-Mar. 1985 (binders)

#### Box 3:

Folder 1: Correspondence, 1954-1987  
Folder 2: Papers delivered at meetings, 1888-1987  
Folder 3: Receipts  
Folder 4: Memento mori  
Folder 5: Miscellaneous  
*Programmes*, 1906-1988 (lacks 1978-79 season)