

Wells, Joel Benjamin (1877-1960)
Diaries, 1896-1901; 1903-1909; 1911-1925;
1927-1929; 1931.

32 vols. mss. mostly 12 cm.

Wells, the son of George Merritt and Elizabeth Hawks Wells, was born in Deerfield, MA, where his earliest diaries begin. As a young man he worked as a laborer, but at the age of 21 moved to Philadelphia where he eventually worked for the Tabor Manufacturing Co. making engines. His diaries record travel between Deerfield and Philadelphia, and numerous other trips, participation in a choral society, and regular church attendance. Wells married Sydney Evans; the couple are buried in Laurel Hill Cemetery, Deerfield.

Gift of Kay Wilby, 2018