

Sarah Bulkeley commonplace book

Ms. Codex 1773

Finding aid prepared by Donna Brandolisio.

Last updated on May 09, 2019.

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

September 2016

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Summary Information

Repository	University of Pennsylvania: Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	Bulkeley, Sarah, 1772?-1852
Title	Sarah Bulkeley commonplace book
Call number	Ms. Codex 1773
Date [inclusive]	1797-1821
Extent	1 volume
Language	English
Abstract	A volume comprising poetry, excerpts, and quotations compiled by Sarah Bulkeley spanning the years from 1797 to 1821.

Cite as:

Sarah Bulkeley commonplace book, 1797-1821, Ms. Codex 1773, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts, University of Pennsylvania

Biography/History

Sarah Waln Bulkeley was one of four children born to Jesse and Rebecca Waln, a Quaker family, in

Germantown, Pennsylvania. Sarah's father Jesse Waln (1748-1806) was a Philadelphia shipping merchant in partnership with his brother Robert. On April 26, 1797, Sarah married Thomas Bulkeley (1762-1818) at Christ Church, Philadelphia and soon after their wedding moved to Portugal. Bulkeley, born in Lisbon, was Resident Consul of the United States in Portugal. The Bulkeleys had two sons John Jesse (1798-1878) and George Thomas (1805-1898). Following Thomas Bulkeley's consul position in Lisbon the family resided in London, England.

Scope and Contents

A worn, marbled paper covered volume comprising poetry, excerpts, and quotations compiled by Sarah Bulkeley spanning the years from 1797 to 1821. The writings are from various sources cited by Bulkeley. Some of the authors in the volume include William Shakespeare, Alexander Pope, John Milton, and Ben Jonson. There are also long passages from *The method of teaching and studying the Belles letters* by Mr. Rollin and from works by Madame de Genlis. Included in the volume is one medicinal recipe for whooping cough. Some personal information regarding Sarah Bulkeley's family is recorded in the volume. Bulkeley noted the birth and death dates of her parents Jesse and Rebecca Waln and the date of her marriage to Thomas Bulkeley. One item in the volume by Bulkeley noted Harriet, possibly a friend, arrived in Lisbon in 1807 and was still there in 1812. Sarah Bulkeley is written in ink on the front cover.

Administrative Information

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Access Restrictions

This codex is available for research.

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Source of Acquisition

Sold by Bloomsbury Auctions (London, England), 2016, lot 156.

Controlled Access Headings

FORM/GENRE(S)

- Codices (bound manuscripts)
- Commonplace books
- Excerpts
- Manuscripts, American--18th century
- Manuscripts, American--19th century

SUBJECT(S)

- English literature
- English poetry

Collection Inventory

	Volume
Sarah Bulkeley commonplace book, 1797-1821.	1