

Guide to the Lizzie Chase Diaries, 1874-1888

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:

Lizzie Chase Diaries, 1874-1888

Repository:

New Hampshire Historical Society
30 Park Street
Concord, NH 03301
603-228-6688
<http://www.nhhistory.org/>

Collection Number:

2012.038

Author of Finding Aid:

Sandra L. Wheeler

Creator:

Chase, Elizabeth "Lizzie," 1855-1904

Language:

The materials in this collection are in English.

Extent:

1 box ; 0.21 linear feet

Abstract:

The Lizzie Chase Diaries consist of twelve tiny bound diaries in which she entered one or two lines a day between 1874 and 1888 (a few years are missing). Elizabeth "Lizzie" Chase (1855-1904) lived in Chester, New Hampshire, and the diaries recount her daily activities from her school days through working in a local store and then marrying and having her first child.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:

The New Hampshire Historical Society purchased the Lizzie Chase Diaries in June 2012.

Processing Information:

This collection was processed by Sandra L. Wheeler in October 2021. The finding aid was written by Sandra L. Wheeler in October 2021. This finding aid follows the standards set forth by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

Access Restrictions:

Available for research.

Location:

The collection is housed at the New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord, New Hampshire.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:

The materials in this collection are paper based and have no special technical requirements for use. The diaries are very small; some bindings are frayed.

Copyright/Conditions Governing Use:

For permission to reproduce or publish materials from this collection, please contact the New Hampshire Historical Society. Users are responsible for following all copyright and intellectual property laws.

Preferred Citation:

Item title, Lizzie Chase Diaries, 2012.038. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH.
Date accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information

Elizabeth "Lizzie" Chase was the sixth of ten children of George (1823-1891) and Lydia (Dickey) Chase (1825-1893). The family lived on a farm in Chester, New Hampshire, that was surrounded by others belonging to the Chase extended family. Lizzie attended a local school, after which she worked in a store. In 1886, she married George S. Webster (1856-1944) who owned a grocery store in Chester with his brother, John Webster; she occasionally helped in that store after her marriage. She and George had three daughters: Lena (1888-1956), Ruth (1890-1977) and Blanche (1894-1973). Lizzie died of pernicious anemia on May 3, 1904.

Collection Scope and Content Note:

The 12 small volumes that comprise the Lizzie Chase Diaries were kept between 1874 and 1888 and take her from the end of her school years, through working in a local store, then marrying at age 30, and having her first child. Entries are very brief but note her activities with friends and family, whether the store was busy or not, and her purchases.

The entries are short and factual and do not discuss her state of mind or feelings. What store she worked in (presumably in Chester) is unknown, and where she lived while working there is also unstated.

The collection includes typewritten transcriptions of excerpts of the diaries. These were done by an unknown person at an unknown date, but seem to be generally accurate. The transcriber occasionally commented on the diary contents, but whether the comments are accurate is unknown.

Arrangement:

The diaries are in chronological order.

Contents List

Box 1

Folder 1	Diary 1, 1874 Diary 2, 1875 Diary 3, 1876
Folder 2	Diary 4, 1877 Diary 5, 1881 Diary 6, 1882
Folder 3	Diary 7, 1883 Diary 8, 1884 Diary 9, 1885
Folder 4	Diary 10, 1886 Diary 11, 1887 Diary 12, 1888
Folder 5	Transcription of excerpts, 1874-1888

Subject Terms

People:

Chase, Elizabeth "Lizzie," 1855-1904
Webster, George S., 1856-1944

Subjects:

Diaries
Stores, Retail
Women clerks (Retail trade)

Locations:

Chester, NH

Occupations:

Clerks (Retail trade)
Students