

DRYER, CHARLES REDWAY, 1850-1927.

Charles R. Dryer Collection

Dates: 1761-1962

Accession No. Transfer, RBSC-CML

Collection No. FC- 4

Donor: Dr. Warner Wick (1982-1983)
Mary Wick Thompson (1985)

Description: 1.5 cubic feet
professional instruments

Biographical Sketch

The eclectic life of Charles Redway Dryer began in Victor, New York, with his birth on August 31, 1850. The son of Daniel and Precepta (Perry) Dryer, he was raised and educated in upstate New York.

He received a A.B. from Hamilton College in Clinton, New York in 1871. Upon his graduation from Hamilton, Dryer worked as a school teacher in Canandaigua (NY) and as a law clerk in Iowa. He attended medical school at the University of Michigan in 1871 and 1872. Following another stint of school teaching between 1872 and 1875, Dryer returned to medical school and received his M.D. from the University of Buffalo (NY) in 1876.

Dr. Dryer emigrated to Fort Wayne, IN in 1877. For the next sixteen years, he held various positions in that city. He taught at the high school and the local medical college, worked at the Fort Wayne Electrical Works and as a member of the Indiana Geological Service.

In 1893, he accepted an offer from President William Wood Parsons to join the faculty at the Indiana State Normal School. He was a professor of Geography and Geology at the Terre Haute School for the next twenty years. Following his resignation from Indiana State Normal in 1913, Dryer returned to Fort Wayne where he remained active until his death.

Dr. Dryer was most active scholar and wrote over 250 books, articles, and pamphlets. He was well known in professional circles and an active member of various professional organizations. He was a scholar who continually made efforts to further educate himself, as is evident from his post-graduate work at Oxford (where he was also to lecture in 1908). His addition to the faculty helped to raise the prestige of Indiana State Normal.

Dr. Charles Redway Dryer died on May 25, 1927 in Fort Wayne. A memorial to Dr. Dryer was dedicated at Pokagon State Park near Fort Wayne in 1929.

Scope and Content Note

The collection is comprised of materials accrued by Dr. Dryer during his long professional life and some items gathered by his family after his death.

The years spanned by the collection range from an atlas published in 1761 to a 1962 reprint of an article written by Dr. Dryer. The collection includes copies of articles by Dryer, Notebooks and journals, and memorabilia. Also of interest is the collection of photographs and professional equipment that are part of the collection. A complete inventory follows the series descriptions.

Series Descriptions

Personal Journals

Dr. Dryer maintained a journal for much of his life. The series is formed from those journals extant at the time of the donation of the collection to the University Archives. The journals cover the periods of August, 1859 to June, 1864; 1871 to 1878; and August, 1898 to February, 1902. The latter volume is indexed and contains a bibliography of Dryer's works.

Notebooks

Dryer maintained notebooks in which he recorded professional observations and notes dealing with his courses and fieldwork. The series is drawn from those compilations. It includes map work and his lecture notes taken while attending a special course at Oxford, England.

Manuscripts

The series is made up of some of the writings of Dr. Dryer that were retained in manuscript form. It includes typescript copies of his autobiography, a handwritten copy of An Outline of Physical Geography, and a handwritten copy of a volume of his poetry.

Publications

Dr. Dryer was a man of intense scholarly activity. As such, he was widely published in both medical and geographic fields. During his lifetime, he saw over 250 of his books, articles and addresses in print. This collection is made up of some of those articles and pamphlets. Copies of Dr. Dryer's books that accompanied this collection are now housed in the Faculty Collection of the Cunningham Memorial Library.

Personal Materials

The series is comprised of mementos and miscellaneous materials accumulated by or about Dr. Dryer. It includes education certificates, employment appointments, and school catalogues. Also to be found are programs and advertising materials.

Photographs

Photographs and a drawing of Dr. Dryer at various times in his life and a picture of a geology field trip make up this series.

Professional Equipment

Two pieces of equipment representing Dr. Dryer's two careers have survived. There is a small leather medical kit and a surveyors instrument.

Container Inventory

Manuscripts

Autobiography of Charles Redway Dryer (bound)
Autobiography of Charles Redway Dryer (typescript)
An Outline of Physical Geography
Collected Poems

Publications

"A Century of Geographic Education in the United States,"
Annals of the Association of American Geographers, 1924.
"Experimental and Inductive Chemistry," 1883
"Fieldwork in Physical Geography," 1911 (two copies)
"Finger Lake Region of Western New York," 1904
"Genetic Geography," 1921
"Geographic Influences in the Development of Indiana," nd, (two copies)
"The Maumee-Wabash Waterway," 1920 (two copies)
"The Meaning of Education, a Chapel Talk," Normal Advance, nd
"Natural Economic Regions," 1915 (two copies)
"The New Departure In Geography," (two copies)
"Popular Fallacies in Regard to Ventilation," Fort Wayne Medical Journal, 1883
"The Process of Operative Chemistry," 1881
"Regional Geography," 1912
"Report on the Geography of Allen County," Old Fort News, 1962 (reprint)
"Science in the Secondary Schools," 1888 (two copies)
"Studies in Economic Geography," 1916 (two copies) "Wabash Studies," 1913
"What is Geography?," 1903

Box 2

Personal Journals

Volume I-- August, 1859 to April, 1864
Volume II-- April to June, 1864
Volume III-- 1871 to 1878
Volume IV-- August 10, 1898 to February 27, 1902 (contains index)

Box 3

Notebooks

Lecture Notes, Oxford, England
Atlas of Maps
Course Work
Course Work

Book Collection

Abrege de la Nouvelle Introduction A la Geographie (1761)

Box 4

Book Collection

An Atlas Of Ancient Geography for the Use of the King's College (1842)
A Primary Geography (1870)

Personal Materials

School Catalogues, 1861, 1867, and 1868
Employment Appointments, 1867 and 1868
Education Certificates, 1868-1871
Advertising Booklets
Memorial Program

Photographs

Professional Instruments

Timothy R. Crumrin
Spring 1989