The Frank Eldredge Collection
Scope and Content
Randall Miles
2005

The Frank Eldredge Collection consists of one diary kept in a bound, 13” x 8” x
¾”, ledger of unknown origin. The volume is covered in green cloth with leather, mostly
missing, corners and a leather spine. The spine is mostly missing from the volume and
many of the 96 pages have come loose from the binding. The first pages, which are loose
from the binding, contain ledger entries for the New York City banking firm “George S.
Robbins & Sons” from 1850 through 1853.¹ The diary, or diaries, consists of two
sections, one from 1863 and one from 1864, in the single bound volume. The 1863
section contains 33 entries and the 1864 section contains 22 entries.

The first section, which is loose in the binding, runs from 16 April, 1864 to 5
May, 1864. This section is completed by two entries, one on 15 September, 1864, and
one on 3 July, 1866. The second section, which is on the last pages of the volume and
still held in the binding, has an entries from 13 February, 1863 to 26 February, 1863, and
then runs from 27 September, 1863 through 18 October, 1863. The entries are not in true
chronological order. There is a note attached to the page with the entry for 1 October,
1863, reading, “Diary for eighteen days of the month of October 1863 kept by Frank W.
Eldredge Eagleswood M A April 26th 1863.” The handwriting in both sections and the
note suggest that all diary entries were made by Frank Eldredge.

From the note and the context of the diaries it appears they were written while
Eldredge attended Eagleswood Military Academy, near Perth Amboy, New Jersey. The
entries detail his day-to-day life at military school. There are several class, and other,
notes scattered throughout the pages along with the diary entries. At Eagleswood,
Eldredge was a contemporary of Louis Comfort Tiffany and mentions him three times in
1863: September 30, October 5, and October 9.

The G. S. Robbins & Son ledger, which is near the front of the volume, consists
of eight pages of entries for loans made to businesses and individuals. The several

columns list the name of the person or business borrowing the money, date borrowed, length of loan, date due, amount, date settled, and other information. Businesses mentioned in the ledger include:

A. A. Mason Co.
A. G. Ralston Co.
Atwater, Knapp, & Woodruff
Bank of Commerce
Boorman Johnston Co.
Canestoga Steam Mills
City Bank
D. S. Brown Co.
Day Owen Co.
Fearing & Hall
Fredrick Stokes Co.
H. Blake Co.
Hoyt & Tillinghast
Hugh Achenicloss Sons
Laurence Clapp Co.
Laurence Fimble Co.
Marvin Spring Co.
Merchants Bank
Miller & Mayhew
Nesmith Co.
Putnam Co.
Richards & Cronkhite
Shepard & Howe
Thomas & Martin
Tiffany Ward Co.
W. C. Langley Co.

The diary has been placed in an acid-free slipcase and housed in one 415 cubic inch archival box.
# The Frank Eldredge Collection

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box #</th>
<th>Folder #</th>
<th>Item #</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FE01</td>
<td>FE01</td>
<td>Diary</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FED01</td>
<td>Frank W. Eldredge</td>
<td>1863 – 1864</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
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