

The Logan family was prominent in Philadelphia from the start of the province, serving the people in many capacities, including political, medical and literary. This is a collection of manuscripts obtained by the Library Company of Philadelphia that relates to the Logan family. The collection includes papers of the Logan family members Albanus Charles, Algernon Sydney, Deborah Norris, William Jr., and James as well as family materials collected by Frances A. Logan and William Logan Fox. The collection dates from 1684 to 1925 and consists of family papers, correspondence, diaries, writings, medical texts, lecture notes, financial records, poetry, visiting cards, and invitations. The collection is divided into seven series and arranged in the following order: "Albanus Charles Logan papers," "Algernon Sydney Logan papers," "Deborah Norris Logan papers," "Frances Armat Logan collection," "James Logan papers" and "William Logan Fox collection of papers relating to the Library Company of Philadelphia v. William Logan Estate."

Many of the items within this collection were previously cataloged. In an effort to maintain an original system, items that are cataloged retain the number within the finding aid.

The first series is the "Albanus Charles Logan papers." This series dates from 1831 to 1834. The series is arranged in chronological order and consists of four volumes of almanac and diary materials. Most of the entries within the volumes are brief and contain information about weather conditions. The series has one marriage certificate with an unknown provenance that dates from 1856 and is from Richard Piers and Eliza Nevins. There are two letters addressed to Albanus within the series "Frances Armat Logan collection."

The second series, "Algernon Sydney Logan papers," consists of Algernon Sydney's manuscripts and typescripts of his works. The works include poems, plays, novels and diaries. Most notable in the series include hand written manuscripts of *Saul: a Dramatic Poem*, *Messalina, a Tragedy in Five Acts*, *The Image of Air and Other Poems* and *The Mirror of a Mind*. Also in this series are seventeen diaries containing Algernon Sydney's writings and reflections titled "Glimpses of Vistas from the Stream." The diaries contain Algernon Sydney's reflections on government, man and womankind. These volumes were later published by Algernon Sydney's son, Robert Restalrig Logan, in two volumes titled *Vistas on a Stream*. These volumes portray Algernon Sydney as a reflective man with a variety of interests, which are also revealed through his other writings and undertakings, including a book about clock making and violin and piano sheet music. The numerous writings expose Algernon Sydney's longing to become a successful writer and poet while the diaries, "Glimpses of Vistas from a Stream," reveal his frustration with his lack of success in this undertaking. Many of the manuscripts are edited and this gives a glimpse into Algernon Sydney's writing process, and the document titled "List of misprints in books," gives an idea of the meticulousness of Algernon Sydney. The series is arranged in chronological order and the diaries, "Glimpses of Vistas from a Stream," are placed in chronological order at the end of the series.

The third series, "Deborah Norris Logan papers," contains her diaries, her writings and an obituary letter for Deborah probably written by Maria Logan Dickinson. The series dates from 1808 to 1839. Deborah's diary (1808 to 1814) contains Norris and Logan family history, reflections on meeting George Washington, and memorials for friends and family. The diary entries include comments on national and world events. The remaining papers from Deborah give a glimpse into her education and her skills as a historian and writer. The papers contain biographical sketches about her husband and a copy of the "Memoir of James Logan." The biographical sketches of George Logan are what would become a volume titled *Memoir of George Logan from Stenton*, which was published by the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, written by Deborah Norris Logan and edited by her great granddaughter, Frances Armat