A FORGOTTEN NAME: LYMAN DRAPER, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS, AND THE WISCONSIN HISTORICAL SOCIETY, 1854-1886

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Abstract

The purpose of this paper is to discuss Lyman Copeland Draper as a man, the history of collection development in the United States, Draper's collection development methods, his time at the Wisconsin Historical Society, and some of his influences. This paper will conclude with an argument of how Draper has been an influence in Wisconsin in many ways that have previously been explored, but never put together to inform readers of all of his successes and influences.

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Figure 1. Portrait of Lyman Draper at age 66.

Source: N.P. Jones, “Lyman Draper”, Wisconsin Historical Society: 1881.

Introduction

Lyman Draper is a name that has long since been forgotten. He was, however, a very important man. Draper gathered and recorded the history of the American West and famous frontiersmen such as Daniel Boone and George Rogers Clark.

Draper collected and gathered these histories during the mid to late 19th century, when collection development in the United States was not up to par with collection development in other countries. There are many factors that could have excused his failure in collecting and preserving these important histories, mainly his poor health. However, Draper overcame all obstacles in his way and let no detail go unnoticed no matter how small it may have been. Draper was an extravagant man that set new and higher standards of collection development in American society.

This paper will explore Draper's background and the history of library collection development in the United States. It will also look at Draper's collection development methods, his techniques for interviewing and oral histories, and his manuscript collection. This paper will discuss Draper's time at the Wisconsin Historical Society and his influences. Lastly, this paper will conclude with an argument of how Draper brought a new energy and determination to preserving history, the impact he has had on Wisconsin through his time at the Wisconsin Historical Society and as State Superintendent of Public Instruction, his influence on interview/oral history techniques, and why is name should be remembered among the citizens of Wisconsin and historians nationwide.

Literature Review

Draper has not been a subject that has been widely written about. As a matter of fact, the last time anyone wrote about him was in 1982. The secondary works that have been written primarily focus on his time at the Wisconsin Historical Society and were around the time of his centennial celebration in 1954.

Reuben Gold Thwaites was the first person to write about Draper. Thwaites wrote a memoir after Draper's death that was published in 1892. The memoir is basically a short biography and outlines Draper's life and unusual character. It also briefly discusses the works that Draper managed to write, for example, Madison, the Capital of Wisconsin: Its Growth, Progress, Condition, Wants and Capabilities (1857) and King's Mountain and Its Heroes (1881). Thwaites sums up Draper's legacy and lasting influences at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. Draper's services to the Society are again addressed in 1922 by Louise Kellogg in the article "The Services and Collections of Lyman Copeland Draper." Kellogg provides an overview of the beginnings of the Society and how Draper became its secretary. The bulk of the article discusses how Draper extensively built up the Society's library collection, and also includes information on how Draper built up his personal manuscript collection.

In 1954, William B. Hesseltine wrote a more detailed biography of Draper, titled *A Pioneer's Mission: The Story of Lyman Copeland Draper*. This biography provides an in-depth look at Draper's early life, his influences, and his extensive research of pioneers in America. Additionally, Hesseltine provides many details about Draper's time at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin and briefly discusses his appointment of State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Hesseltine is the only author to write about Draper that

does so without putting labels on him. A discussion of labels will come at the end of this section. Also in 1954, G.H. Doane wrote "Lyman Draper, Founder of a Great Library" in which Draper's passion for collecting historical information before coming to Wisconsin is discussed. This is followed by a discussion of Draper's expansion of the Society's library on American, Western, and European history. Additionally, Doane declares that the Draper Manuscripts are one of the most notable historical collections in the United States.

As mentioned earlier, 1954 was the centennial celebration of Draper's time at the Society and as a result, many authors chose to address Draper's legacy and historical contributions. As such, John Guy Fowlkes took a different approach than other authors and wrote an article specifically about Draper's time as State Superintendent of Public Instruction. The article, "The Educators' Debt to Lyman Copeland Draper" points out specific characteristics that Draper possessed while Superintendent and how those characteristics should be implemented in the methods of current educators. Fowlkes provides details of Draper's achievements as Superintendent and argues that Wisconsin should express gratitude to Draper for the changes in education he diligently fought for.

Other works about Draper include "A Southerner's Defense of Lyman Draper" (1955) by Lucius Bryan Dabney and *The American Collector* (1955), edited by Donald R. McNeil. Both of these works are a result of the centennial celebration of Draper. Dabney's article was originally an address he made at the Annual Society meeting in 1954 and was put into print in 1955. Dabney, like most others, discusses Draper's early interests before Wisconsin, how he reorganized the Society, and the expansion of the library's collection. He too, discusses Draper's influence in historical research and preserving American History. *The American Collector* is a compilation of essays published by the Wisconsin Historical Society. These

essays contain information on the history of collection development in the United States, Draper's predecessors and followers, and his influence on the Society.

Draper was not written about again until 1966 when Charles Conaway wrote "Lyman Copeland Draper, 'Father of American Oral History.' This was a new approach to Draper's legacy. Conaway declares that Draper's methods of collecting oral histories and interviews were the prelude to developing modern policies for the two. Lastly, Carolyn Mattern took a different approach to Draper in 1982 with her article "Draper, Lyman Copeland-An Archivists Reappraisal." Mattern gives an in-depth account of Draper's organizational methods within the Society and his personal manuscript collections. She compares his methods to those used by modern archivists, and discusses how Draper himself would never have viewed himself as an archivist.

Almost every single work written about Draper includes a title. The authors of these works have referred to him as a historian, librarian, educator, archivist, "Father of Oral History", and attempted biographer. There is one thing that has consistently been overlooked or only briefly discussed, and that is Draper's primary goal: preserving pioneer history. This paper will tie all of these author's titles for Draper together to gain a better understanding of Draper as a collective whole. Regardless of titles, this paper will also show how Draper's one goal was always prevalent and at the forefront of all of his ambitions.

Lyman Draper's Background

> There can never be another Draper, but we can all be his disciples.
> -Lucius Bryan Dabney, "A Southerner's Defense of Lyman Draper"

Luke and Harriet Draper gave birth to their first son, Lyman Copeland Draper, on September 4, 1815. Lyman was born on his father's farm in Eighteen Mile Creek, New York.

Luke's ambitions to prosper forced him to uproot his family and move them around Pennsylvania and New York quite frequently. In 1818, Charles Richard Draper was born, followed by Warren Hoisington Draper in 1820.[1]

In 1821, Luke moved his family once again, this time to Lockport, New York. Luke Draper held many different jobs, such as, grocer, tavern-keeper, and farmer. Lyman was expected to help with the family labor as soon as he was old enough.[2] Lyman and his brothers spent their childhoods in Lockport, running errands for the townspeople and watching as the town thrived and flourished.[3]

It was in Lockport that young Lyman Draper began to develop his love for history of the frontiers. Lyman listened to thousands of stories in his father's home about revolutionary heroes, the Continental army, and the War of 1812 in general.

Lyman inherited his mother's build as he only grew to be about five feet tall and weighed less than one hundred and twenty pounds. Lyman also suffered from a delicate immune system. This prevented young Lyman from enduring in many activities that his brothers so enjoyed. Lyman soon developed an intense passion for reading. He read, bought, and borrowed any books that he could get his hands on.

As Lyman developed his love for books, his friends began to encourage him to write. In February, 1833, the *Rochester Gem* published Lyman's first piece. The article was a "… memoir of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, [the] last surviving Signer of the Declaration of

[1] William B. Hesseltine, *A Pioneer's Mission: The Story of Lyman Copeland Draper,* (Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1954), 8.

[2]Reuben Gold Thwaites, *Lyman Copeland Draper-A Memoir,* (Madison: Wisconsin Historical Collections, 1892), 2.

[3] Hesseltine, *A Pioneer's Mission,* 9.

> Independence … who had recently died."[4] At seventeen years old, Lyman began reading about American history and he continued to write and publish articles in the *Rochester Gem*.
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> When Lyman reached the age of eighteen, he headed off for Mobile, Alabama, to work for his cousin's husband, Peter A. Remsen. Remsen was a cotton factor. He gave Draper a job for one year, and then, in 1834, he sent Draper to college in Granville, Ohio. Draper became bored and uninterested in Granville, so he departed to the Hudson River Seminary. Here he began to read privately; most of his reading was historical. "Doddridge, Flint, Withers, and afterward Hall, were the early historians of the border, and the young student [Draper]… found that on many essential points and in most minor incidents there were great discrepancies between them."[5]

In 1838, Draper came up with the idea of writing biographies on trans-Alleghany pioneers. He wanted to write these biographies to correct and fill in the gaps that Doddridge, Flint, Withers, and Hall missed.

By this time, Draper was again living with Peter Remsen. While Draper never wrote the biographies he planned, he did begin his correspondence with many pioneers during this time. The correspondence with the pioneers was so important and crucial to Draper that he continued to correspond with their descendants after they passed away. In fact, Draper kept up with his correspondence until a few days before his own death.

During the late 1830s to early 1840s, Draper's correspondence and interviewing took hold and he found himself traveling all over the American East. He traveled to Alabama, Tennessee, Kentucky, Ohio, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New York.

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[4] Hesseltine, *A Pioneer's Mission,* 10.

[5] Thwaites, *A Memoir,* 4.

By 1853, Peter Remsen had passed away and Draper married his widow, Lydia. Lydia was also Draper's cousin.[6] It was also around this time that Draper made his way to Wisconsin. His old college roommate, Charles Larabee, was a circuit judge in Wisconsin and had been pleading to get Draper to come to Wisconsin and organize the newly formed Wisconsin Historical Society.

Draper flourished as secretary of the Historical Society from 1854 to 1896, not only with his collection development and need for detail, but also with expanding collection development and historical access in Wisconsin itself. Draper also secured a legislative bill in 1859 which was to establish libraries throughout Wisconsin towns.[7] The state had raised a library fund of $88,784.78. This money was to be used to build several libraries in towns throughout Wisconsin. However, when the Civil War broke out in 1861, the library fund was dissolved and used in the war effort before any libraries could be built or books could be bought. Despite this setback, Draper continued to collect manuscripts and keep up the Historical Society through donations and membership fees until he retired in 1886. During his time at the Society, he added thousands and thousands of volumes to the collection. Additionally, Draper was elected as State Superintendent of Public Instruction in 1857, and as a result of his efforts, he was given a doctorate degree by the University of Wisconsin in 1871.

On August 15, 1891, Draper suffered a paralytic stroke. At this time, Draper was trying desperately to begin writing biographies about the lives of the pioneers. He had been collecting their histories for over fifty years, and he felt he owed them something in return. However, Draper passed away on August 26, 1891. He was seventy-six years old.

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[6] Thwaites, *A Memoir*, 11.

[7] Ibid., 12.

During his life, Draper suffered from nervous activity. He was also a bit of a loner. "His existence had been largely passed among his books and manuscripts, and he cared nothing for those social alliances and gatherings which delight the average man."[8]

Draper's friend and colleague, Reuben Gold Thwaites, sums up Draper's life and accomplishments by stating:

> To know Dr. Draper was to admire him as a man of generous impulses, who wore his heart upon his sleeves, was the soul of purity and honor, did not understand what duplicity meant, and was sympathetic to a fault. He was perhaps the most successful of all collectors of material for American border history; and it will ever be a source of great regret to historical students that his unfortunate temperament as a writer… prevented him from giving to the world that important series of biographies for which he so eagerly planned over half a century ago. But even had Dr. Draper never been a collector of border lore, never entertained ambitions in a broader field, his work for this Society has of itself been sufficient to earn for him the lasting gratitude of the people of Wisconsin, and of all American historical students.[9]

Frontiersmen and pioneers were dying out by the time Draper began collecting their histories in the 1840s. Other historians at this time were not interested in this area of American history. As such, Lyman Draper is primarily the sole man responsible for preserving a section of American History that would otherwise have been lost.

History of Collection Development in the U.S.

Modern day libraries and historical societies develop their own policies based on the types of materials they are seeking to collect in their establishment. These policies can be broad, such as, a public library may have policies for collecting works of fiction, non-fiction, audiobooks, dvd's, etc. to meet the needs of the general public. Policies can also be very specific.

[8] Thwaites, *A Memoir*, 18.

[9] Ibid.

For example, the Special Collections and Archives department at the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire specifies that it only collects materials on the history of the University and the history of Eau Claire. Such policies were not always in place nor were they as specific as they are in the 21st century.

Collection development in the United States did not take effect until the summer of 1774, right before the American Revolution.[10] At this time, New York bookseller, Ebenezer Hazard began to compile a five volume set entitled, "American State Papers." These volumes consisted of "'every important public paper (such as Royal Grants, Acts of Parliament, etc) relating to America, of which either the original, or authentic copies [could] be procured.'"[11] Hazard sent a circular to many important men, including Thomas Jefferson, in which he requested them to send the information and papers he needed to complete his work. Congress approved Hazard's project in 1778. When Hazard sent out a new circular in 1791, he also included a testimonial written by Thomas Jefferson himself. It read:

> I learn with great satisfaction… that you are about committing to the Press the valuable Historical and State Papers you have been so long collecting. Time and accident are committing daily havoc on the originals deposited in our public offices: the late war has done the work of centuries in this business: the lost cannot be recovered; but let us save what remains; not by vaults and locks, which fence them from the public eye and use in consigning them to the waste of time, but by such a multiplication of Copies as shall place them beyond the reach of accident.[12]

While Hazard's intentions were in the right place, he only completed two volumes of the five he originally intended. These volumes were published between 1792 and 1794, and they only

[10] Donald R. McNeil, ed., *The American Collector* (Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1955), 2.

[11] Ibid.

[12] Ibid., 3.

covered material to the year 1664.[13] It must be noted that many people during this time did not feel the need or understand the importance of recording and saving history and historical documents. In the late 18th century, Ebenezer Hazard, P.E. DuSimitiere, and Reverend Jeremy Belknap were among the few that did see the importance of preserving history.

Jeremy Belknap was responsible for establishing the Massachusetts Historical Society in 1790. Roughly, fifteen years later, the concept of historical societies began to catch on in other states as well. There were many struggles and rough starts when establishing historical societies, but they soon came to flourish. "The New York Historical Society was organized in 1804; the American Antiquarian Society … in 1812; the Historical Society of Pennsylvania in 1824; and numerous others up and down the seaboard and even to the westward in the 1820s and 30s."[14] It was not until the 1850s and 60s that state historical societies really began to take off. During this time, there were about two historical societies established each year.[15]

In the beginning, most of these historical societies were not avid collectors of historical documents. They did not possess the knowledge, the skills, or the resources to collect large amounts of materials and determine what was worthy or not. Actually, most historical societies at this time were privately owned by clubs or amateur scholars.[16]

There were a plethora of events and causes that started the movement of historical societies and the urgency to preserve history. First, there was a sense of patriotism that began to spread throughout the country when the Northern Lakes and New Orleans were conquered in

[13] Ibid., 4.

[14] McNeil, *The American Collector,* 5.

[15] Ibid.

[16] Ibid., 7.

1814 and 1815.[17] Also, the signing of the Declaration of Independence played a role in inspiring Americans to collect their history. The Independence celebration on July 4, 1826 sparked a new interest in collection development throughout the country. It was on this day that John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, two signers of the Declaration of Independence, passed away.

The passing of these two prominent men inspired Autograph Collecting. This form of collection development had long since been a hobby in Europe, but William B. Sprague was the man responsible for making it popular in the United States upon his graduation from Yale.[18] He began collecting the autographs of the signers of the Declaration of Independence in 1776, the signers of the Constitution in 1787, and many military leaders of the American Revolution.[19]

By 1830, the act of autograph collecting had really caught on. Sprague had a lot of competition among others for building the most extensive collection of autographs. In the 1840s and 50s, auctions of autograph material also began to flourish.[20] However, by the 1860s, many autograph forgers had come in to play. For example, Robert Spring openly admitted and was constantly being arrested for autograph forgery.[21] It is said that "on one occasion, after being sentenced by a court … in Independence Hall, [Spring] was taken downstairs to see a Washington letter owned by the City of Philadelphia. It turned out to be one of Spring's own forgeries."[22]

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[17] Ibid., 8.

[18] McNeil, *The American Collector,* 11.

[19] Ibid.

[20] Ibid., 12.

[21] Ibid.

[22] Ibid., 13.

Even so, autograph collecting and auctions continued to grow. By the time William Sprague died in 1876, he had collected over 40,000 autographs and manuscripts. Sprague donated his collections to places such as Yale, the New York State Library (1818), and Princeton. Unfortunately, not many historians have focused on or studied the history of autograph collecting. There was only one instance where the history of autograph collecting was slightly studied and noted. This study was conducted by Lyman Draper in 1889.[23]

Draper's Collection Development and Methods

> He himself, by the very negation of his ambition, saved for others all he could not use himself
> -Louise Phelps Kellogg, "The Services and Collections of Lyman Copeland Draper"

Lyman Draper is the "Father of American Oral History." When Draper began collecting historical documents and information he did not have the luxury of a tape recorder or any other technological devices. He did, however; develop a series of techniques that are continued to be used in today's methods. Many innovations and techniques were developed between the transition from ancient methods of reporting conversations to the use of technological devices to record and save interviews. One of the most important methods was preparing the interviewer before conducting an actual interview.[24]

There are several policies that have been introduced when conducting an oral history. Modern day policies take on a similar approach to the following policy:

1. Collect oral history as an additional form of historical evidence, along with printed sources, manuscripts, pictures, etc. Avoid unrelated memoir material.
2. Take special care to insure the validity of memoirs. Provide documents which can be used as tests of truth.

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[23] McNeil, *The American Collector*, 12.

[24] Charles W. Conaway, "Lyman Copeland Draper, 'Father of American Oral History,'" *The Journal of Library History (1966-1972)* 1, (1966): 234.

3. Provide more than one account of controversial events.
4. Study the available documentation of an area before deciding to collect oral memoirs. Choose oral history to offset a weakness only if the total documentation of an area is best served by memoirs.[25]

By applying these policies to Draper's methods of collecting oral histories in the 19th century, one can plainly see that Draper "… anticipated the methods of the oral historian."[26]

Draper's earliest method of collecting histories and information was by correspondence. Over the years, Draper refined his techniques and began asking his correspondents to answer a plethora of questions that were designed to gather specific information regarding the topic he was inquiring about. Draper wrote 1,833 letters from 1854-1855.[27] It is difficult to research Draper's correspondence as the Wisconsin Historical Society's collection mainly includes incoming correspondence. In order to look at the correspondence from Draper, one must look at the collections of other Historical Societies such as: New York, Ohio, Iowa, Tennessee, Minnesota, Missouri, Kentucky, and Maryland.[28]

There were a few problems with this method of collecting information. First, many of the correspondents that Draper wrote to never replied back to him. "In 1836, for example, Draper wrote 119 letters and received 69 replies…. In addition, he realized that correspondence was an inherently unsatisfactory method of gathering information from a group whose members included many illiterates."[29]

The second problem with correspondence was the cost of postage. Postal rates were high at the time. Sending a letter could range anywhere from 6 cents to 25 cents depending on the

[25] Ibid.

[26] Ibid.

[27] Conaway, "Father of Oral History," 238.

[28] Carolyn J. Mattern. "Draper, Lyman Copeland—An Archivists Reappraisal," *American Archivist* 45 (1982): 446.

[29] Ibid., 447.

distance from the sender to the receiver (see Appendix 4 for details on postal rates).[30] Draper overcame this by obtaining a job at the post office where he could send his mail for free. When he lost his job at the post office, Draper began writing to various Congressmen, as they could also send mail at no cost (this was a process called 'franking'). Draper found a willing participant in Representative William B. Campbell of Tennessee. Their arrangement consisted of Draper sending his letters to Campbell at no cost, and Campbell would in turn forward the letters to their respective correspondents. Campbell took this a step further by including a letter of his own with Draper's, in which he endorsed Draper and offered to forward replies at no cost to the sender.[31]

Draper soon realized that the method of correspondence was very slow, especially since his letters had to be routed through Representative Campbell. Draper decided to travel to the homes of the pioneers and other individuals whom he wanted to obtain documents and information from. Draper would personally interview those whom he visited. "His interviewing techniques resembled those of oral history in three primary areas: the preparation, the interview, and the follow-up."[32] Before conducting an interview, Draper would do his own research and obtain as much information as he could on the subject that he would be inquiring about during his interview. He did this so he could guide the interview in the manner he wished and so he could ensure the accuracy of information he obtained.[33]

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[30] United States Postal Service, "Rates for Domestic Letters, 1792-1863," August 2008, http://about.usps.com/who-we-are/postal-history/domestic-letter-rates-1792-1863.pdf (accessed 14 May, 2012).

[31] Conaway, "Father of Oral History," 238-239.

[32] Ibid., 239.

[33] Ibid.

> 'He was an expert interviewer, searching in his questioning and apt at drawing out information from old men who lived among their memories. He was critical, too, and informed on all aspects of his special subject. Incessant and untiring in his search for truth, he led his informants into giving him all sides of their stories in the first oral history project in America.' Reuben Gold Thwaites says '[he extracted] with acquired skill of a cross-examiner every morsel of historical information, every item of valuable reminiscence stored in the mind of [the interviewee].'[34]

Draper was unable to meet with and interview everyone that he wanted information from. In 1849, Draper wrote to J.R. Eakin of Tennessee and stated that while he had been very successful in his endeavor to uncover "historical truths," he was beginning to realize that one man could not obtain all the scattered remnants of western history by himself.[35] To remedy this, Draper developed another method: using other historians. Draper wrote to other historians and asked them to conduct interviews on his behalf. In his letters, he included what information he wanted to gather from the interviewee. The following is a reply by a fellow historian who conducted an interview at Draper's request:

> 'This Captain Anderson is intelligent and truthful. His father-in-law was uninformed and illiterate, left no records. Even his family bible is now beyond reach. Captain Anderson remained in my office today after dinner and has just now, three P.M., left. I am sorry that after referring to all the points in your letter, I could not succeed in gleaning any more from him or his wife than the few gleanings that you will find on the other side of this sheet…. He promises me that if anything further suggests itself to his recollection, he will come back and communicate it to me and I will at once send it forward. I wish, my dear Mr. Draper, that I could have done you more service.'[36]

Draper sought to obtain historical evidence through original documents as well as interviews and oral histories. He often times combined his efforts and would request original documents at the time of sending out correspondence or conducting an interview. Draper always assured the respondent that the material requested would be used in his upcoming books and he appealed to the owners by stating it was their responsibility to help 'rescue his ancestors from

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[34] Ibid.

[35] Mattern, "An Archivists Reappraisal," 448.

[36] Conaway, "Father of Oral History," 240.

obscurity.'[37] However, many people were hesitant about giving up their documents. When this happened, Draper begged to have the documents sent to him to be transcribed, or he would travel to wherever the documents were kept and transcribe them himself.[38]

There were many setbacks and lost materials too. Many times, he would arrive at a destination only to find the papers he was seeking had been destroyed or damaged by fire.[39] However, Draper would also have successful interviews or discover papers that he did not expect. In these instances, his spirits would be lifted and give him the encouragement and strength to continue in his search for information.[40] There were, however, times when Draper preferred interviewing pioneers and their descendants over obtaining documents. By questioning family members, Draper could add "the personal appearance and characteristics of a border hero in a way which no contemporary reports would present."[41]

Draper was sometimes accused of possessing unethical methods and stealing manuscripts:

> In 1906 Thomas M. Owen, Sr., director of the Alabama Archives, suggested that much of this may have been self-vindication. The normal excuse used, he said, to explain the absence of historical materials in the South was either that they had been destroyed by Yankee soldiers during the Civil War or that Draper had carried them off to Wisconsin. Although the attacks on Draper's reputation have reached the level of legislative action, no evidence has been found to substantiate the charges.[42]

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[37] Ibid.

[38] Ibid.

[39] Louise Phelps Kellogg, "The Services and Collections of Lyman Copeland Draper," *The Wisconsin Magazine of History* 5, (1922): 260.

[40] Ibid.

[41] Ibid., 257.

[42] Mattern, "An Archivists Reappraisal," 444-445.

There have been no allegations since the early 20th century, accusing Draper of stealing manuscripts. It seems to be accepted now by historians and historical societies that he did, in fact, gather and obtain materials in a professional and ethical manner.

After returning from his trips, Draper set about the long and tedious task of organizing the materials he collected. "Draper grouped his papers and notes by broad subject, arranged each subject chronologically, indexed the contents, and had both the papers and indexes bound together." Although Draper obtained the bulk of his collection before moving to Wisconsin, it took him 40 years to bind roughly 100 volumes.[43] Today, manuscripts are organized much differently. *Provenance* or *respect des fonds* is the primary organizing principle for manuscript librarians and archivists. This principle operates on the assumption that since manuscripts and archives are original to the individual or organization providing the materials, they can only be understood in conjunction with the individual or organization that created them. With that being said, documents are kept with their creator and are not pulled out and reorganized by time period, geographical location, or subject. Also, it is common practice to keep documents in their original order. This helps with authenticity and it gives readers possible information about the activities and functions of the documents.[44]

In comparison to present-day historians, Draper ignored much of the historical research that historians now deem important. Draper did not seek economic information or changes in the modes of travel, nor did he speak of the West in regards to its growing populations.[45] Instead, Draper put his personality and uniqueness into his manuscripts. "He conceived of the epoch of

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[43] Mattern, "An Archivists Reappraisal," 448.

[44] Library of Congress, American Women Department, "Manuscript Division," http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/awhhtml/awmss5/understanding.html (accessed 14 May, 2012).

[45] Kellogg, "Services and Collections," 261.

Western wars beginning with … Virginia in 1742, closing with … the War of 1812, as an epic period, static in its purpose, apart from the common drift of historical influences ….”[46]

Draper was accepted by the leading historians of the time. These historians include: Jared Sparks, William H. Prescott, and George Bancroft. These men recognized Draper’s abilities to do great things in the historical field, especially since his area of expertise was unique and virtually unrecognized at the time. Many other historians at this time felt that the frontier was of little value and importance. Draper’s investigation into the trans-Allegheny West was far outside the realm of what other historians were interested in and played no part in the course of American history as it was viewed during this period. In fact, this area of American history did not become popular until a generation later. Its popularity arose when the Mississippi Valley took a leading role in politics which sparked the interest of historians to find out more about its beginnings.[47]

Throughout his life of collecting manuscripts, Draper promised many people that he would one day write a set of biographies about the pioneers he collected information on. In fact, Draper set out many times to write these biographies, but they were never completed. “The truth is, Draper was not a literary genius; he lost himself in the abundance of his material; he had no sense of historical proportion ….”[48]

So, what exactly are the Draper Manuscripts? The Draper Manuscripts consist of approximately 500 volumes of original and transcribed historical information that Draper collected from 1840-1891. The Manuscripts reflect Draper’s interest and passion in uncovering historical information about the trans-Allegheny West. Geographically, this includes the “…

[46] Ibid

[47] Ibid., 259.

[48] Kellogg, “Services and Collections,” 261.

western areas of the Carolinas and Virginia, portions of Georgia and Alabama, the entire Ohio River Valley and part of the upper Mississippi Valley, from the period [as stated earlier] of the frontier conflicts in the 1740s and 1750s to the American Revolution and the War of 1812."[49]

The Draper Manuscripts contain thousands of notes and interviews from his travels, hundreds of letters sent by Draper and their replies to his questions, and original, as well as, transcribed documents and newspaper articles.[50] The Manuscripts contain economic, legal, political, religious, educational, military, social, etc. information. They also offer commentary on the Civil War, the Klu Klux Klan, and Reconstruction. The information in the Draper Manuscripts has helped thousands of people in their searches for historical, biographical, and genealogical information.[51]

Draper was also interested in women's history; he interviewed and collected historical information on many women such as, Elizabeth Zane. Draper was not obscured by race either. He collected information on: black slaves, such as, Rachael Johnson[52]; as well as, Native Americans, such as, Governor Blacksnake, Nancy Ward, and Molly Brant;[53] and various survivors among tribes, such as the Senecas, Mohawks, Chickasaws, etc.[54]

Upon his death, Draper donated his manuscripts to the Wisconsin Historical Society where his friend and colleague, Reuben Gold Thwaites began the supervision of preparing the

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[49] Josephine L. Harper, *Guide to the Draper Manuscripts* (Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1983), xiii.

[50] Lyman C. Draper, *The Draper Manuscripts* (Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1891).

[51] Harper, *Guide.*

[52] Draper, *Manuscripts*, Series S, 2.

[53] Harper, *Guide*,

[54] Thwaites, *A Memoir*, 14.

Manuscripts for public use.[55] The collection is so extensive and contains so much information that Josephine Harper wrote a book, *The Guide to the Draper Manuscripts*, with the sole purpose of helping people find information they seek within the collection. (See Appendix 1 for a preview of what Harper's book contains).

Wisconsin Historical Society

> It is one thing to gather books; it is another to build a library.
> -Louise Phelps Kellogg, "The Services and Collections of Lyman Copeland Draper

On January 30, 1849 an open meeting in the Senate Chamber in Madison, Wisconsin was held. During this meeting a resolution was adopted to organize a State Historical Society. For the first five years of its existence, the Society held Annual Meetings and Annual Addresses where officers were selected, members were gathered, work to be done was discussed, and occasionally requests for donations were sent to other libraries.[56]

Draper came to Wisconsin in 1852 at the request of his college friend, Charles Larabee. Larabee had been urging Draper to come to Wisconsin where he could assure him the appointment of librarian for the newly founded Wisconsin Historical Society. However, when Draper got to Wisconsin, the librarianship was not available. Instead, Draper was appointed secretary of the Society. When Draper arrived for his position in the Historical Society, he found that the library only consisted of about 50 unimpressive volumes, on a corner shelf in the governor's office.[57]

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[55] Harper, *Guide*, xxi.

[56] Lyman Draper, *Collections of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin*, vol. 1, (1855; repr., Madison: State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1903), xxxvii.

[57] G.H. Doane, "Lyman Draper, Founder of a Great Library," *Wisconsin Magazine of History* 37, (1954): 245.

Figure 2. Wisconsin Historical Society Library, 1853.

Source: Wisconsin Historical Society, Image ID: 93084

At the time, the Wisconsin Historical Society (WHS) was more concerned with delivering addresses to the government and public than it was with collecting documents and other materials. This explains why Draper only found about 50 volumes when he arrived. [58]

When Draper began his work at the WHS, he already had thorough knowledge of historical societies and their operations. Draper had already established personal connections with members of historical societies and archives around the country through his own research. He had visited many historical societies such as, New York Historical Society, Pennsylvania and Virginia archives, and the Library of Congress. "He also had a national reputation as a collector and historian. Although he certainly never thought of himself as an archivist, Draper's

[58] Kellogg, "Services and Collections," 247.

background suggests that he should have been the ideal person to build an important collection of Wisconsin manuscripts."[59]

Indeed, when the Society reorganized in 1854, Draper played an influential role in the charter that was drafted. The charter stated the object of the Society was to:

> 'collect, embody, arrange, and preserve in authentic form a library of books…manuscripts…and other materials illustrative of the State; to secure from oblivion the memory of its early pioneers and to obtain and preserve narratives of their exploits, perils, and adventures [this portion is pure Draper]. …and to diffuse and publish information relating to the description of the state.'[60]

Draper went on to be the Secretary of WHS from 1854-1886. When he began, the state did not offer any type of salary to Draper. Demonstrating to Wisconsin legislature that the historical society was an important asset was Draper's main goal. He thought that if he could prove its worth, he may eventually be awarded a salary. To achieve his goal, Draper began to build the Society as quickly as possible. He knew the fastest way to do this was to focus on building up the number of volumes in the library. Since the library had little materials to work with, Draper issued a circular offering membership to history lovers around the country. In this circular (a letter issued to a specific, large number of people; similar to a notice; gives information, instructions, and/or guidelines) he also asked for donations to the Society.[61] "There was nothing new in Draper's issuing of circulars: what was new was the energy with which he pursued his task."[62]

Additionally, Draper developed an exchange program. Again, since the WHS had little materials to offer as a means of exchange, Draper had to remedy this by creating a publication

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[59] Mattern, "An Archivists Reappraisal," 448.

[60] Ibid., 449.

[61] "What is Circular Letters?" Publish Your Articles, www.publishyourarticles.org/knowledge-hub/letter/what-is-circular-letters.html (accessed 14 May, 2012).

[62] Ibid., 250.

that he referred to as "manuscript papers." These papers were not manuscripts as we think of them today, instead they included "… reminiscences, local histories, and obituaries." Eventually, the legislature awarded Draper a $500 salary that was renewed each year (see Appendix 3 for monetary disbursements for the Society's collection).[63]

In his first year as secretary, he added roughly 1,000 volumes to the collection (see Appendix 4 for more information on materials added). Draper worked hard to obtain these volumes. Evidence of this resided with the, approximately, 1,833 letters he wrote requesting documents. Most of the items added to the collection were secured by Draper's personal influence, and he received most materials through donation or exchange. Only a few items were purchased. The library doubled during the second year, and by the end of the first five years of Draper's appointment he had built up the collection to include 7,053 volumes. The success of Draper and the society eventually led legislatures to recognize the Society's value. This realization led to more funds being distributed to the Society which allowed it collect a boarder variety of materials, and eventually the Society had to move to the south wing of the capitol.[64]

Draper also began using members of the Society to help him in his personal quest of obtaining manuscripts on the frontiersmen. This was not his intention in the beginning, but he soon realized that some of the members' donors had contacts that Draper wished to interview. For example, Cyrus Wood, was one of the first donors of the Society. He provided Draper with a plethora of pioneers.[65]

Additionally, Draper began collecting manuscripts for the Society itself. The collection was made up of private manuscripts. There were no policies for what types of documents the

[63] Mattern, "An Archivists Reappraisal," 251.

[64] Kellogg, "Services and Collections," 248-249.

[65] Mattern, "An Archivists Reappraisal," 452.

Society would accept during the early years of Draper's administration. The two most important collections that were received during this time were the activities of fur traders John Lawe and Jacques Porlier. As with Draper's personal manuscript collection, the Society's manuscript collections were made up of original documents and copies that Draper and other workers transcribed.[66]

Draper conducted several initiatives for collecting materials for the WHS. When he first began collecting materials for the Society, Draper sought after papers on the Black Hawk War. He was reprimanded by the legislature on suspicions of the close proximity of his personal collecting interests and the interests of the Society.[67]

Periodicals and newspapers were also important to Draper. He was one of the first people to appreciate their value in this part of the country. He would write to literary centers around the country requesting historical magazines and newspapers. It was, in fact, a great accomplishment that Draper was able to acquire so many newspapers and journals; especially due to his geographical location being so far away from many of the literary centers where he sought after these materials.

Additionally, Draper had a vision to found a historical museum at the WHS. He did this by placing importance on the collection of portraits of prominent men. These portraits are "… in many cases the only representations existing of pioneers in Wisconsin. [Also], the collection as a whole … gives an opportunity for the study of the development of portraiture in the West."[68]

Draper added many important and valuable books, documents, etc. to the collection at the WHS. He knew books and he knew how to get them; he also knew what was important. He did

[66] Mattern, "An Archivists Reappraisal," 451.

[67] Ibid., 452.

[68] Kellogg, "Services and Collections," 249-250.

not add books to the collection based on their rarity or reputation. He added books solely based on their content. Draper also had a considerable amount of knowledge about every book he placed on the shelves of the Society. Louise Kellogg states that in 1922, the WHS "taken as a whole, we may confidently say that our Society's library contains less 'dead timber,' fewer useless books, than any library of its size and kind in the country."[69] This is in large part due to Draper.

By the 1870's the Society had begun to stamp library books and bound manuscripts to help prevent theft. Manuscript volumes were marked with their location and placed in a vault. The vault index is still in existence. Draper and his fellow colleague, Daniel S. Durrie, relied on their memories to service patrons of the materials they sought after. "The absence of a manuscript catalog or other type of finding aid is surprising because the Society was a leader in the field with its printed book catalog and because inclusion of manuscripts in published catalogs was not uncommon in the 19th century."[70]

It is important to mention another one of Draper's colleagues at the WHS, Reuben Gold Thwaites. Thwaites was born on May 15, 1853 in Dorchester, Massachusetts. His family eventually moved to a farm in Wisconsin. In 1874, Thwaites graduated from Yale and became the managing editor of the *Wisconsin State Journal.* Thwaites spent a lot of time at the WHS and soon made quite an impression on Draper.[71] When Draper retired in 1886, he appointed Thwaites as his successor. Thwaites went on to build up the library at the WHS. He introduced

[69] Kellogg, "Services and Collections," 250.

[70] Mattern, "An Archivists Reappraisal," 453.

[71]Clifford L. Lord, "A Dedication to the Memory of Reuben Gold Thwaites, 1853-1913," *Arizona and the West* 9, (1967): 1.

specialization, classification, systemization, and professionalization.[72] It is said that, "in many ways, the short buoyant Thwaites—rather than the famed collection of manuscripts and colonial newspapers—was Draper's most important contribution to the Society."[73]

One of Draper's biggest concerns was a fear of items being destroyed by fire or water damage. In his annual reports, he always included a section where he spoke of the losses other societies experienced due to water and/or fire. He continuously urged the legislature to allow the Society to have funds for fireproofing the building. As a matter of fact, Draper was so worried about fire and water damage that he wrote a memorandum to the Historical and Philosophical Society of Ohio in 1846 (before beginning his tenure at the WHS). In the memorandum, Draper expressed:

> 'By accident of fire and water, by vermin and wanton destruction, …large quantities of invaluable papers relating to Western history have been lost beyond recovery. It behooves us to make redoubled efforts to rescue the few remaining scattered fragments from a similar fate.' He then went on to enumerate collections that he knew were irretrievably lost. Discouraged by the length of the list, he left the memo unfinished.[74]

Another one of Draper's concerns was security at the WHS, especially after it moved into larger rooms at the Capitol's south wing. In 1885, a set of rules and regulations was put into place. The rules required that "… rare books, manuscripts, and photographs were to be stored in the vault in the librarian's office …." Also, manuscripts could not be removed from the building unless they were removed by Draper or a member of the publications committee. Additionally, documents could not be transcribed unless special permission was granted.

As mentioned earlier, Draper had a lot of contact with other members of Historical Societies; most notably, J.G.M. Ramsey of the Tennessee Historical Society. Draper's work at

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[72] Ibid., 2.

[73] Ibid., 1.

[74] Mattern, "An Archivists Reappraisal," 448.

the WHS was an inspiration to Ramsey. He was determined to make the Tennessee Historical Society comparable to what Draper was doing with the WHS.

> He [Ramsey] became increasingly frustrated when comparing the work of his society to that of Draper's Wisconsin Historical Society, which he held as a model for imitation. The doctor continually expressed disappointment that 'the sixteenth state of our union lags so far behind her younger sister.' 'Our society as the same date (1849) with yours and yet it has done nothing, literally nothing,' Ramsey wrote his friend on December 21, 1978.[75]

Draper eventually retired from the WHS in 1886. He had been the secretary for 33 years and had added over 110,000 volumes to the WHS library (see Appendix 5 for information on materials obtained during Draper's last year as secretary). He had also accumulated numerous documents, letters, and papers on a variety of historical events not only in Wisconsin, but throughout the whole of the country as well.

Draper came to Wisconsin in 1852 to find a dormant Historical Society. Through his passion and yearning to seek historical truth, he nurtured the Society and turned it into an historical influence. "… Here in this shrine of history founded … by his long sustained efforts he will influence the course of historical research to the end of time; and he still lives in the vast collection bequeathed in trust to the State Historical Society where future generations may obtain inspiration in these hallowed precincts."[76] If Draper had not had the energy and persistence he did, the Wisconsin Historical Society may not have made it to its current level of excellence.

Draper and Wisconsin Education

> He truly preached his gospel to all men both far and near, but as he preached he also wrought mightily. He helped historians; he helped librarians; he helped his church; he practiced what he preached.
> -John Guy Fowlkes, "The Educators' Debt to Lyman Copeland Draper"

[75] Erin R. Lawrimore, "'Let Us Hasten to Redeem the Time That is Lost': J.G.M. Ramsey's Role in the Collection and Promotion of Tennessee History," *Libraries and the Cultural Record* 41, (2006): 429.

[76] Thwaites, *A Memoir*,

Draper was elected as State Superintendent of Public Instruction in 1857. He won by 748 votes. "'The political prophets … had predicted that Draper would bring diligence, energy, intelligence, and efficiency to the service of the schools of Wisconsin. Lyman Draper prepared to prove them right.'"[77]

When Draper was elected to this position, he had no teaching experience and limited knowledge of educational affairs. Draper would not remain ignorant for long. In 1858, he wrote the *Annual Report of the State Department of Public Instruction*. The report consisted of 397 pages that combined "… educational philosophizing, statistical data showing the status of the schools of Wisconsin, and numerous recommendations pertaining to the improvement of the administrative organization, curriculum, and instructional procedures so badly needed throughout the state."[78] Draper achieved many of his goals while State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Some of the proposals he championed are as follows:

1. The election of the State Superintendent of Public Instruction in the spring on a nonpartisan basis.
2. The establishment of county systems of schools including county high schools.
3. The creation of county superintendency of schools to be appointed by town superintendents.
4. The creation of a state board of education which might possibly appoint the state superintendent of public instruction.
5. Substantial increase in state funds for the support of local schools.
6. The creation of township school libraries and a permanent township school library fund.
7. The development of a system of normal schools for the training of teachers.
8. Marked increases in teachers' salaries.
9. The development of in-service-training programs for teachers, particularly with respect to teachers' institutes.[79]

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[77] John Guy Fowlkes, "The Educators' Debt to Lyman Copeland Draper," *Wisconsin Magazine of History* 38, (1954): 52.

[78] Ibid.

[79] Ibid., 52-53.

Draper possessed four personal characteristics that one could argue all educators, even today, should pay close attention to. Those characteristics include: industriousness, perseverance, fortitude, and evangelism.[80] He also possessed some intellectual characteristics that would go on to benefit future generations. These included the fact that "he was consistently on the prowl for the truth", "also, admirably, [his] fondness for collecting and searching for facts was bulkward by an exacting demand for accuracy …," and lastly, "Draper's conception of education had no boundaries."[81]

Draper was energetic and skillful. He "… symbolized fortitude and endurance." He was honestly concerned when there were disagreements in opinions on important issues, but he did not let these disagreements hinder his vision of a successful educational system in Wisconsin. Draper instinctively knew what was needed to achieve a good education. "Indeed his sense of rare discrimination concerning what really constitutes a good education evidenced itself in his early years, and certainly seems to have been one of the major factors which prompted his distinctive contribution."[82]

Draper was also "*ex-officio* a member of the board of regents of the University of Wisconsin and the state normal schools, respectively." He promoted the interests of the Universities and recognized that books are what make up a University. He also founded a library for the University.

[80] Fowlkes, "Educators' Debt," 29.

[81] Ibid., 30.

[82] Ibid.

Without Draper's willingness to fully commit himself and his successful proposals as the State Superintendent of Public Instructions, Wisconsin schools may not have become as successful and prestigious as they are today.

Conclusion

> When the muse of history shall write the final verdict of posterity on that character who has done the most for her cause in the Republic, she will without hesitation write in letters of living light in a trinity of words across the azure blue sky of America—Lyman Copeland Draper.
>
> -Lucius Bryan Dabney, "A Southerner's Defense of Lyman Draper"

Lyman Draper was a man of many talents. While he never thought of himself as an historian, archivist, influence, or educator; he was all of the above. Basically, Draper built the Wisconsin Historical Society from the ground up. His choice in materials, the manner in which he collected those materials, and the knowledge he possessed about the materials he selected, allowed the WHS to become a model Historical Society that other societies would strive to embody. However, while Draper may have been a man of many talents and contributed greatly to the state of Wisconsin, his driving force was always his goal to continue preserving the history of the pioneers and the trans-Alleghany west.

Draper began his career as a historian in the 1840s when he set out to obtain the histories of the pioneers who were dying out. He developed his collecting methods over the years to a point of obsession. Draper achieved greatness while secretary of the Society. He built the library from the bottom up, but his primary goal and driving force was still his determination to keep developing on the histories of pioneers in the west. This is evident in the sense that Draper himself did not collect many manuscripts for the state of Wisconsin, instead, he gave this task to others such as Reuben Gold Thwaites. When he did request manuscripts for the library they were often times similar to the information he was collecting for his personal manuscripts. Draper did

not much care for being an archivist, he was more concerned with gathering information and not with organizing the materials he collected.

The only time Draper was completely taken away from his task as a collector of Western history was during his time as State Superintendent. At this time, Draper concentrated all of his efforts on advancing education in Wisconsin. This appointment may have permanently deterred him from collecting history, but a plethora of educators and history students across the country wrote him letters, protesting his neglect of preserving history. Finally, Draper gave in to the protests and again concentrated all of his efforts on collecting manuscripts and building the WHS. He did not deter from his goal again.[83]

In terms of Draper's personal manuscript collection, he created a new hunt for historical truth through his diligence, persistence, energy, and drive to find what he was looking for. Draper is solely responsible for preserving this part of American History. His work as a manuscript collector has directly and indirectly influenced many scholars since he began collecting in the 1840's. Despite his short comings, Draper was hard-working, paid obsessive attention to detail, and had an enthusiastic determination to see history prevail.

Lyman Draper passed away in 1891. Upon his death, he willed his personal manuscript collection to the Wisconsin Historical Society that he so cherished and loved. The manuscripts are still held there today. Even though Draper never managed to write the biographies he promised, his legacy lives within the manuscripts he collected and the Historical Society he founded.

[83] Thwaites, *A Memoir*, 21.

APPENDIX 1

CALL NUMBER	COLLECTION DETAILS	NUMBER OF VOLUMES IN COLLECTION
Series A	George M. Bedinger papers	1 volume
Series B	Draper's Life of Boone	5 volumes
Series C	Daniel Boone papers	33 volumes
Series D	Border Forays	5 volumes
Series E	Samuel Brady and Lewis Wetzel papers	16 volumes
Series F	Joseph Brant papers	22 volumes
Series G	Brant Miscellanies	3 volumes
Series H	Daniel Brodhead papers	3 volumes
Series J	George Rogers Clark papers	65 volumes
Series K	George Rogers Clark Miscellanies	6 volumes
Series L	Jonathan Clark papers	2 volumes
Series M	William Clark papers	6 volumes
Series N	William Croghan papers	3 volumes
Series O	Daniel and Benjamin Drake papers	2 volumes
Series P	Draper's Biographical Sketches	3 volumes
Series Q	Draper's Historical Miscellanies	8 volumes
Series R	Draper's Memoranda Books	3 volumes
Series S	Draper's Notes	33 volumes
Series T	Thomas Forsyth papers	9 volumes
Series U	Frontier Wars papers	26 volumes
Series V	Georgia, Alabama, and South Carolina papers	1 volume
Series W	Josiah Harmar papers	2 volumes
Series X	William Henry Harrison papers	5 volumes
Series Y	Thomas Spottswood Hinde papers	41 volumes
Series Z	Illinois Manuscripts	1 volume
Series AA	William Irvine papers	2 volumes
Series BB	Simon Kenton papers	13 volumes
Series CC	Kentucky papers	37 volumes
Series DD	King's Mountain papers	19 volumes
Series EE	London Documents at Albany	1 volume
Series FF	The Mecklenburg Declaration	3 volumes
Series GG	Mecklenburg Declaration papers	3 volumes
Series HH	Mecklenburg Declaration Miscellanies	2 volumes
Series JJ	Newspaper Extracts	4 volumes
Series KK	North Carolina papers	1 volume
Series LL	Paris Documents at Albany	1 volume
Series MM	Robert Patterson papers	3 volumes
Series NN	Pittsburgh and Northwest Virginia papers	10 volumes
Series OO	Pension Statements	1 volume
Series PP	Potter Family papers	1 volume
Series QQ	William Preston papers	6 volumes

Series RR	Rudolph-Ney papers	10 volumes
Series SS	David Shepherd papers	5 volumes
Series TT	South Carolina papers	1 volume
Series UU	South Carolina in the Revolution Miscellanies	2 volumes
Series VV	Thomas Sumter papers	24 volumes
Series WW	John Cleves Symmes papers	4 volumes
Series XX	Tennessee papers	7 volumes
Series YY	Tecumseh papers	13 volumes
Series ZZ	Virginia papers	16 volumes

Source: Josephine L. Harper, *Guide to the Draper Manuscripts.*

APPENDIX 2

Rates for Domestic Letters, 1792-1863

Rates are for a single letter. This is defined as being one sheet of paper until July 1, 1845. After that a single letter was defined as weighing ½ ounce or less regardless of the number of sheets. Double letters were charged double the rate.

Effective Date	Distance	Postage (in cents)
June 1, 1792	Not over 30 miles	.6
	31-59 miles	.8
	60-100 miles	.10
	101-150miles	.125
	151-200 miles	.15
	201-250 miles	.17
	251-350 miles	.20
	351-450 miles	.22
	Over 450 miles	.25
May 1, 1799	Not over 40 miles	.8
	41-90 miles	.10
	91-150 miles	.125
	151-300 miles	.17
	301-500 miles	.20
	Over 500 miles	.25
February 1, 1815	All distances	50 percent increase (revenue for War of 1812)
April 1, 1816	All distances	Increase repealed
May 1, 1816	Not over 30 miles	.6
	31-80 miles	.10
	81-150 miles	.125
	151-400 miles	.185*
	Over 400 miles	.25
July 1, 1845	Not over 300 miles	.5
	Over 300 miles	.10
July 1, 1851	Not over 3,000 miles	.3 if prepaid, .5 if not prepaid
	Over 3,000 miles	.6 if prepaid, .10 if not prepaid
April 1, 1855	Not over 3,000 miles	.3 prepayment required
	Over 3,000 miles	.10 prepayment required

*increased to .1875 by the Act of March 3, 1825

Source: United States Postal Service.

APPENDIX 3

Treasurer's Report on January 2, 1855. Disbursement of funds for the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. The society began with $500.00 for the year appropriated by the state and $52.52 in donations and membership fees, for a total of $552.52.

DATE	WHO FUNDS DISBURSED TO AND REASON	AMOUNT DISBURSED (in dollars)
March 15, 1854	Beriah Brown for printing circulars	15.00
March 15, 1854	Weed & Eberhard, paper for circulars	10.50
March 15, 1854	John N. Jones for postage	17.58
March 15, 1854	Chas. B. Norton for books	100.00
April 1, 1854	J. Holton, express charges	3.00
April 8, 1854	J. N. Jones, postage	16.16
May 4, 1854	Express charges	18.82
June 8, 1854	Express charges	3.00
August 1, 1854	Sundry bills for books, freight, etc.	28.10
July 11, 1854	Sundry bills for books, freight, etc.	253.11
September 12, 1854	C.R. Edwards, boxing pictures	1.00
October 3, 1854	Postage and freight	6.53
December 5, 1854	Express charges	19.30
January 2, 1855	Postage, etc.	4.00
January 2, 1855	Book	1.00
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS		**497.10**
BALANCE		**55.42**

Source: Collection of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1855.

APPENDIX 4

This table provides information on the materials added to the Wisconsin Historical Society's library in 1854.

TYPE OF MATERIAL ADDED	#OF VOLUMES ADDED
Works on history, including newspaper files; and publications of Historical Societies	466
Congressional publications	132
Agricultural, mechanical and scientific	124
Miscellaneous	197
State Laws and Journals	65
Unbound works	66
TOTAL	**1,050**

Source: Collections of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1855.

APPENDIX 5

This table includes a summary of the additions to the library during Draper's last year as secretary, 1886.

TYPE OF MATERIAL ADDED	#OF VOLUMES ADDED
American patents	11
British patents	76
American history and travel	76
American local history	99
American Revolutionary War history	18
American Indians	25
State Histories and Documents	81
United States Documents and Surveys	197
Slavery and Civil War	88
Canada	45
Magazines and Reviews	320
Historical and Learned Societies	71
American biography	65
Foreign biography	25
Genealogy and Heraldry	63
Foreign History	63
Antiquities and Archaeology	35
G. Britain, History and Biography	105
Cyclopedias and Dictionaries	33
Language and philosophy	9
Bibliography	33
Social Science	11
English Literature	37
Religious History, etc.	43
Education	12
Science	89
Drama	73
Directories	25
Poetry and Fiction	13
Almanacs and Registers	57
Voyages and Travels	11
Bound newspaper files	465
Atlases	45
Shakespeareana	49
Fine Arts	16
Miscellaneous	25
Medical	3
Classics	5
Political History	16
Law Literature	5
Secret Societies	8
TOTAL:	**2,546**

Source: Collections of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1888.

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