BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

John Zug was born in Carlisle, Pennsylvania on March 28, 1818. Little is known of his childhood except that he began to study Latin in 1830. These studies allowed him to enter Dickinson College on September 10, 1834 as a sophomore.

During Zug’s years at Dickinson College, he was an active member of the Union Philosophical Society and was accorded the privilege of addressing them at their 47th Anniversary Celebration held July 4, 1836. John Zug’s oratory skills appear to have been well known in both the community and the college, as he addressed several local and college groups on special occasions throughout his school career. Zug also claimed to have become “religious” on December 6, 1835. What type of event or conversion took place is neither known nor recorded, but presumably Zug’s affiliation with the Methodist Church began around that time.

Zug graduated from Dickinson with the highest honors on July 20, 1837, and addressed his graduating class that afternoon during Commencement. Zug enrolled in the law school on October 3, 1837, and was admitted to the Carlisle Bar on November 9, 1839. While at the law school, he was active in the Pennsylvania Colonial Society, serving as an agent from July 26 to November 26, 1838.

Zug accepted a position as teacher at the Dickinson Grammar School in 1839. He served as principal of the school from February 25 to July 10, 1840. Zug then moved to Baltimore where he founded his own grammar school, the Light Street Institute.

The Light Street Institute began classes in 1840. The school was located at “No. 12 Light Street, next to the Light Street Church,” believed to have been near the center of Baltimore between West Baltimore and Lombard Streets. Zug’s institute focused on a classical education comprised of the classical texts, mathematics, Greek and Latin.

During this time Zug was also active in the temperance movement in Baltimore. Zug made a number of speeches on behalf the Washington Temperance Society of Baltimore, calling
for temperance and sobriety in the lives of America’s youth. He drafted a history of the Washington Temperance Society in 1842, and although he submitted it for publication, it was ultimately rejected.

John Zug relinquished his duties at the Light Street Institute to John H. Dashiell, and returned to Carlisle to practice law. He died of a pulmonary complaint on September 5, 1843 at the age of 25. He was survived by his wife Margaret Ann and his infant child.

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The John Zug Collection is housed in two document boxes and one oversized folder and is divided into eight series: Correspondence, Diplomas (housed in the oversized folder), Notebooks, Notes, Poetry and Songs, Speeches, Light Street Institute, and Washington Temperance Society of Baltimore. Although the original gifts were made by Mrs. John C. Stokes, the college may have added items to this collection.

The Correspondence section contains letters from Zug (and one letter to him) and is arranged chronologically. The Notebooks series contains five of Zug’s notebooks from his college years and is arranged in chronological order. The Notes series is broken into three sub-series: Debate Notes, Notes on Readings, and Miscellaneous Notes. The Poetry and Songs section includes four items written by Zug, arranged chronologically. The Speeches series contains Zug’s speeches from college through his professional life; the speeches are arranged in chronological order.

The Light Street Institute series contains papers relating to the school from July 1840 to 1842 and is broken into Financial and General Business. The General Business materials are arranged in chronological order.

The Washington Temperance Society of Baltimore series is further broken into Correspondence, “The Foundation, Progress and Principals of the WTS,” Speeches, and Printed Materials. Within “The Foundation, Progress and Principals of the WTS” are included two copies of Zug’s history of the society, and various materials relating to its publishing.

The Diplomas series consists of two diplomas housed in one oversized folder.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

BOX 1 - MC 2000.10

CORRESPONDENCE

Folder 01) Note from freshman class to Zug - July 9,1840
Letter from Zug to John Price Durbin - Aug. 18,1841
Letter from Zug to John Price Durbin - Nov. 6,1841

NOTEBOOKS

Folder 02) Translations in Greek and Latin - Horace “Odes,” and “Satire, Seventh Book I,” Fisk’s Greek Exercises, notes on Prof. McClintock’s lectures on Astronomy, notes on President Durbin’s lectures on Mineralogy, notes on the Latin Language, History of Isocrates, notes on Juvenal
NOTEBOOKS (cont.)

Folder 03) Notes, c. 1835 - Ancient History
Folder 04) Speeches and Poems, 1836-1837 -

1836, July 4 - Speech to the UPS: “Eloquence”

1836, July 20 - Speech to the Junior Exhibition of Dickinson College: “Ancient Philosophy”
1836, Nov. 19 - Dickinson College Chapel: “Things As They Are, Not As They Should Be.”
1837, May 20 - Dickinson College Chapel: “Byron, Considered as a Man.”
1837, July 26 - Commencement at Dickinson College: “Salutatory Address” and “Progress of Liberty.”

Note: Poems written on board the ship “Middlesex” by John Zug. Recorded on the reverse side of the notebook, starting page one. A short biographical series of notes are recorded upside down on the inside cover.

1837, Aug. 17 - “The Feelings of the Heart”
1837, Aug. 17 - “Remember Me Not Ientreat”
1837, Aug. 17 - “By a Different Life We Go”
1837, Aug. 17 - “O Say When I Roam”
1837, Aug. 17 - “I’ve Often Thought Upon the World”
1837, Aug. 17 - “How Happily Sheltered Is He Who Reposes”
1837, Aug. 18 - “The Great and Glorious Washington”
1837, Aug. 17 - “Memory”

Folder 05) Notes on Dr. Horwitz’s Lectures on the Hebrew Language, Oct. 3, 1839
Folder 06) “Omnibus: Extracts, Facts, Thoughts, etc…,” Apr. 23, 1839

NOTES

Folder 07) Debate Notes
1838 - Debate for the Equal Rights Society
1838 - “American Tariff Policy and the Removal of the Cherokee Indian”
1838 - Debate in the Equal Rights Hall, “Expediency is not the Standard of Moral Conduct”
1839 - Argument in Moor Court
1839 - “Is Deception Justifiable in Any Case?”
1840 - “Phrenology Not True”
1840 - “That the National debt is Injurious to the Prosperity of a Nation.”
1840 - “Motive”
1840 - “That the Veto Power Should be Continued to the Executive”
1842 - “My Theology”
BOX 1 - MC 2000.10 (cont.)

NOTES (cont.)
Folder 08) Notes on Readings

Synopsis of “Fanaticism” by Taylor
Digest of Burkes “Reflections on the French Revolution”
Synopsis of “Physical Theory of a Future Life”
Synopsis of “Mankintosh’s Progress of Ethical Philosophy”
Synopsis of Taylor's “Enthusiasm”
Synopsis of Brougham’s “Natural Theology”
Synopsis of “Jones on Bailment”
Notes on the Philosophical Essays of Mr. Hume

Folder 09) Miscellaneous Notes

1837 - French Exercises
  Character of the Government of God
  Schools of Ancient Philosophy
  Judge Reed’s Lecture on the Right of Instruction

POETRY AND SONGS
Folder 10) 1838, May - “Poem for Matilda Hartman”
           1838, May - “Song for Queen Margaret”
           1839, Jan. 2 - “Poem for Miss Margaret Thomson”
           1839, Jan. 2 - “Song of the Bell”

SPEECHES
Folder 11) 1836, June 4 - Address to the UPS, “Eloquence”
           1836, June 20 – Oration to the Junior Exhibition, “Oration on Ancient Philosophy”
           1836, Oct. 13 - Senior Class Oration, “English Constitution”
           1836, Dec. 24 - “Oration to Emory Juvenile Society”
           1836 - Address to the UPS, “Poland”
           1836 - “Things as They Are, Not as They Should Be”

Folder 12) 1837, June 20 - Commencement Address
           1837 - “Immortality of the Soul”
           1838, May 30 - Speech before the Cumberland County Lyceum
           1838 - Address to Freshman Class
           1838 - Cicero on the Immortality of the Soul
           1838-9 - Speech to the Society of Equal Rights
           1839 - “Centary on Methodism”
           1839 - “The Theatre”
BOX 1 - MC 2000.10 (cont.)

SPEECHES (cont.)
Folder 13) 1840, Jan. 20 - “Emulation in Colleges”
1840, July 7 - Address Before the Oratorical Society
1840, July 9 - “Devotion to Truth” (two copies)

BOX 2 - MC 2000.10

SPEECHES (cont.)
Folder 01) 1841, Aug. - “A Sketch of My Religious Experiences
1841 - “An Old Bachelors Mountain Musings”
1842, Feb. - “Plagiarism” (two copies)
1842, Dec. 6 - “Life and Character of Wilberforce”

LIGHT STREET INSTITUTE
Folder 02) Financial
May17,1841 Israel Fielder, Esq.
June7,1841 John Cannon
June7,1841 Mrs. M. Harden

Folder 03) General Business
1840, July 7 - Pamphlet of Light Street Institute: “Life of a Soldier” written on inside cover.
1841, July 21 - Letter of the Light Street Institute regarding the moving of the building. Notes, re: Washington Temperance Society on reverse
1841, Dec. - Notes on the London Quarterly Review
1842, Feb. 12 - Monthly report for William Landstreet
1842, June 13 - Monthly report for Benjamin Horwitz and complaint from father
1842, July 1 - Recommendation for Dashiell as a teacher at Dickinson College (incomplete)
1842, Nov. 19 - Bulletin
1842 - Miscellaneous notes

WASHINGTON TEMPERANCE SOCIETY OF BALTIMORE
Folder 04) Correspondence
C. 1840 - Letter from Zug to Howard Temperance Society
1842, Nov. - Letter from Zug to Harper Brothers Publishing
1842, Nov. 14 - Letter from John McClintock to Harper Brothers Publishing
1842, Dec. 21 - Letter from Harper Brothers Publishing to Zug
BOX 2 - MC 2000.10 (cont.)

WASHINGTON TEMPERANCE SOCIETY OF BALTIMORE (cont.)
Folder 05) “The Foundation, Progress and Principals of the WTS,” 1842
Prospectus for publishing a history of WTS, w/ “Washington Pledge” on reverse
(2 copies)
Letter announcing the publication
Miscellaneous notes following the publication
“A Card” announcing the publication

Folder 06) Speeches
1840, Oct. 26 - Speech at the Masonic Hall in Baltimore
1842, Feb. 24 - Address at Monument Street Church
C. 1840-1842 - “A young enterprising man falls because of alcohol”
“Temperance and the virtues of the Society”
“To your temperance, a note of encouragement”
“Encouraging the avoidance of Alcohol”
C. 1842 - Notes and outlines for WTS speeches

Folder 07) Printed Material
“Quarterly Visitor” of the MA Temperance Society
Form Letter
Pledge Certificate from Washington Temperance Society of Pittsburgh
Circular, re: Temperance Society Delegates
Temperance Anthem
Form letter encouraging reconciliation
Pamphlet, “Confessions of a Student”

OVERSIZED - OC 2000.10

DIPLOMAS
Folder 01) B.A. Dickinson College - 1837
Union Philosophical Society - 1837

This collection register was prepared by Eric N. Jester, November 2000.