



The New York Public Library  
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

**Samuel Locke diary**

1850-1851

MssCol 1791

## Summary

**Creator:** Locke, Samuel

**Title:** Samuel Locke diary

**Date:** 1850-1851

**Size:** .1 linear feet (1 folder)

**Abstract:** Samuel Locke, a "forty-niner" (early settler in the California gold rush), kept this diary and memorandum book in 1850. The volume contains a "sick list" for June 27-July 2, 1850; accounts against persons for medicine and attendance; personal addresses; accounts of provisions purchased from July 2-15, 1850; a diary kept onboard the "California Packet" from San Francisco en route home via Panama from November 9-December 1, 1850, in which Locke mentions the loss of his possessions by fire before he sailed, his illness, and that of many passengers (some of whom had been ill for six and nine months), grumbling about food, drunken officers of the ship, and other matters. The volume was endorsed by J. L. Locke in Belfast on May 10, 1860: "Memorandum kept by Sam'l Locke on his passage home from California. Nov. 1850 - to 1851."

**Access:** Advance notice required.

**Preferred citation:** Samuel Locke diary, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

## Key Terms

### Geographic Names

California -- Description and travel

California -- Gold discoveries

### Genre/Physical Characteristic

Diaries

### Subjects

Frontier and pioneer life -- California

Frontier and pioneer life -- West (U.S.)

Pioneers -- West (U.S.) -- Diaries  
Public health -- California -- History  
Seafaring life -- 19th century

**Names**

Locke, Samuel