

Collection #
SC 0063,
F 1352

CAROLINE CORNELIA BARNUM JOURNAL, 1851

[Collection Information](#)

[Historical/Biographical Sketch](#)

[Scope and Content Note](#)

[Cataloging Information](#)

Processed by
Charles Latham
6 May 1994

Revised by
Kristen R. Sanders
29 November 2000
and Glenn L. McMullen
16 January 2001

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 bound volume
COLLECTION	1851

DATES:

PROVENANCE: Cedric L. Robinson, Windsor, CT 06095, December 1959

RESTRICTIONS: None

COPYRIGHT

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.

ALTERNATE FORMATS: Microfilm (F 1352)

RELATED HOLDINGS: None

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1959.1207

NOTES: None

HISTORICAL/BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Singer Jenny Lind (1821-1887) was born in Stockholm and started a career on the stage at the age of nine. She began singing in opera in Stockholm in 1838-1841. After studying in Paris, she sang in other European cities. Among her notable successes were roles in Bellini's *Norma* in Berlin in 1844 and in Meyerbeer's *Robert le Diable* in London in 1847. By then, as "The Swedish Nightingale," she was the toast of Europe.

In 1849, impresario Phineas T. Barnum (1810-1891) signed a contract with Lind for an American concert tour (combined with temperance lectures by himself), which took place in 1850-1851. Barnum's daughter, Caroline Cornelia Barnum (1833-1911) who later married David W. Thompson, went along on the tour. In Madison, Indiana, where there was an argument with the local manager, Lind's concert was held in a "pork house." Lind's partner, the singer Belletti, remarked afterwards, "I do not like to sing to so much pigs."

In 1852 Lind married Otto Goldschmidt. After another concert tour on her own, she went into semi-retirement in London, giving occasional concerts and teaching music at the Royal College of Music. Barnum, in addition to his lifelong involvement with the circus, was also active in politics, serving as a member of the Connecticut legislature and as mayor of Bridgeport, Connecticut.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of one bound volume, a notebook of which the first fifteen pages are part of a journal kept by Caroline C. Barnum from 8 to 20 April 1851 while accompanying Jenny Lind's concert tour. It describes events as the tour visited Louisville, Kentucky, Madison, Indiana, and Cincinnati, Ohio. Miss Barnum was apparently entertained by prominent people in the towns they visited.

The journal was purchased from the family of H. H. Rennell, a great-grandson of Barnum. Parts of the journal for 1850 are in the Bridgeport Public Library.

The journal is also available on one reel of microfilm (F 1352).

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: <http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, SC 0063).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.