U DX68

Herbarium compiled by Rev. William Whytehead

[1757-1817]

Biographical Background:

William Whytehead was born c.1830 and was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge. He married Rachel Yates the daughter of Henry Yates of Easingwold. They had at least two sons, William Whytehead (b.1770) and Henry Robert Whytehead (b.1772), and a daughter, Margaret Whytehead, to whom this book was given. William Whytehead was the vicar of Atwick, north of Hornsea.

Custodial history:

Donated by the Department of Botany, University of Hull, 26 Mar 1969

Description:

This large, leather-bound volume is approximately 550 pages in length and has been titled by its owner 'A collection of plants most of which were found at Hornsea in Holderness, with their medicinal uses and deleterious qualities'.

Extent:

1 volume

Related material:

Papers of Eva Crackles [Ref U DEC]

1 item

Access conditions:

Access will be granted to any accredited reader

U DX68/1

Herbarium and herbal compiled by the Rev. William Whytehead, vicar of Atwick

[1757-1817]

The manuscript largely comprises plant specimens (several hundred of them) glued to the pages with detailed notes of identification of the leaves and flowers, their qualities and virtues, their preparation and where it was found growing. It also includes many herbal recipes and notes about poisons. The compiler, William Whytehead, has also included the odd cutting from newspapers and other printed sources and notes on the philosophy behind the study of botany: 'Each herb the footsteps of God's wisdom bears and every blade of grass his power declares'. There is also a loose letter containing a 'cure for the king's evil' (1768).