

**U DP195**

**Diary of Fanny Davis**

**1867-1872**

**Biographical Background:** Frances Davis (born c1850) was from a Merseyside Baptist family. The address recorded in her diary is 16 Montpellier Terrace, Upper Parliament Street, Liverpool. She was the sister of Richard Holden Davis, one of the founders in 1870 of the Golding Davis alkali works in Widnes, and at the time of writing she must have been in her early twenties. She travelled by boat as far as Singapore, Hong Kong and Shanghai in China, where she lodged with an American missionary family.

**Custodial history:** Purchased from Richard Ford, antiquarian bookseller, in February 1996

**Description:** This single travel diary of Frances (Fanny) Davis recounts her journey to the Far East in 1871 and enclosed within the volume are a number of letters to and from Fanny, with related personal items.

**Extent:** 1 volume & 11 items

**Access conditions:** Access will be granted to any accredited reader

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| U DP195/1 | <p>Notebook. 'Journal of Incidents Connected with my Voyage to China', by Fanny Davis, of Liverpool, aboard the 'Glengannose'. Describes events, stopovers in Port Said, Ismailia, Aden, Singapore, Penang, Hong Kong, Shanghai (and stay with American missionary family called Syle), Whampoa, Canton, and return voyage between 14 Mar-26 Sep 1871 (131 pgs used)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Account (28 pgs) of voyage to South Africa [by Isabella Davis?]</li> <li>b) Handwritten letter signed. [Isabella Davis?] to Fanny Davis, on board the SS Danube: departure from Madeira; details of voyage [to South Africa?]. Incomplete. 18 De 1872</li> <li>c) Press cutting. Obituary of R. Holden Davis, brother of Fanny Davis, and founder of the United Alkali Company in Liverpool (died 14 Mar 1906)</li> <li>d) Photograph of a swan</li> <li>e) Handwritten letter signed. Isabella Davis, in Llandudno, to her mother: family news, 17 Jul 1867</li> <li>f) Handwritten letter signed. Fanny Davis, in Liverpool, to her brother William: family news, undated</li> <li>g) Handwritten letter signed. Fanny Davis, Mediterranean Sea, to her 'dearly - beloved relatives': the voyage; sea sickness, 28 Mar 1871</li> <li>h) Handwritten letter signed. Fanny Davis, in Hong Kong, to her brother Richard (R. Holden Davis?): visits to Shanhai and Canton; stay with the Syles family. Incomplete. 23 Jun 1871</li> <li>i) Handwritten letter signed. ? to Fanny Davis, undated</li> <li>j) Handwritten letter signed. A.R. Davydson [cousin of Fanny Davis?], in London (?) to his mother: visit to the waxworks, undated</li> <li>k) Handwritten letter signed. William Beveridge, Upholland Grammar School, Orrell Station, near Wigan to ?: 'Artie'; general election results, undated</li> </ul> <p>1 volume &amp; 11 items</p> | 1867-1872 |
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