

# **Guide to the Olaf Larsell Papers 1999-011**

**Finding aid prepared by Karen Peterson**

---

This finding aid was produced using the Archivists' Toolkit

May 16, 2013

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives  
2012-10-22  
3181 SW Sam Jackson Park Road  
Portland, Oregon, LIB  
503-494-3239  
[peterska@ohsu.edu](mailto:peterska@ohsu.edu)

## Table of Contents

---

<u>Summary Information</u> .....	3
<u>Biography - Historical Note</u> .....	5
<u>Scope and Contents</u> .....	5
<u>Administrative Information</u> .....	6
<u>Controlled Access Headings</u> .....	6
<u>Collection Inventory</u> .....	8
<u>Box 1 - Photographs</u> .....	8
<u>Box 2 - Publications, Notebooks, Miscellany</u> .....	14
<u>Box 3 - Manuscripts</u> .....	15
<u>Box 4 - Materials used in writing the The Doctor in Oregon: A Medical History [1922 - 1947]</u> .....	15

## Summary Information

---

<b>Repository</b>	Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives
<b>Creator</b>	Larsell, Olof
<b>Title</b>	Olaf Larsell Papers
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1784-1952
<b>Extent</b>	2.46 Linear feet 4 Boxes
<b>General Physical Description</b>	All materials in good condition.
<b>Location</b>	Archives, 440, Old Library
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	<p>Larsell earned his undergraduate degree at McMinnville College, now known as Linfield College, in 1910, an MA at Northwestern in Evansville Illinois in 1914 and a PhD. in philosophy at the University of Chicago in 1918. In 1937, he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science degree from Linfield College. Larsell was considered a prominent educator and author in the field of anatomy and won international fame for his research on the cerebellum. He was a noted researcher in the structures of the brain, nervous system, sinuses and lungs. He served as an instructor of biology at Linfield (1910), taught zoology at Northwestern (1915 - 1918) and was associate professor of anatomy at the University of Wisconsin (1918 - 1920). He served as associate professor at Northwestern in 1920 and accepted an appointment at the University of Oregon Medical School in 1921 as professor of anatomy. He held this position until 1952. In 1952 he moved to Minnesota to become professor of neuroanatomy at the University of Minnesota until 1954. He then spent a year at the</p>

University of Oslo in Norway on a Fulbright Fellowship before returning to Portland to continue his research on the cerebellum at Good Samaritan Hospital. In addition to publishing numerous journal articles, he published several books, two of the most notable being, *The Doctor In Oregon: A Medical History* [Portland: Binsford and Mort for the Oregon Historical Society, 1947] and a work of three volumes: *The Comparative Anatomy and Histology of the Cerebellum From Myxinoids Through Birds* [Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1967], *The Comparative Anatomy and Histology of the Cerebellum From Monotremes Through Apes* [Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1970], and *The Comparative Anatomy and Histology of the Cerebellum, Cerebellar Connections and Cerebellar Cortex*, Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1972].

**Preferred Citation**

Olaf Larsell Papers, Accession Number 1999-011, Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives

## Biography - Historical Note

---

Olaf Larsell was born in Rattvik, Sweden on March 13, 1886. Larsell moved with his family to the United States in 1891 and settled in Oregon in 1907. He earned his undergraduate degree at McMinnville College, now known as Linfield College, in 1910, an MA at Northwestern in Evansville Illinois in 1914 and a PhD. in philosophy at the University of Chicago in 1918. In 1937, he was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science degree from Linfield College. Larsell was considered a prominent educator and author in the field of anatomy and won international fame for his research on the cerebellum. He was a noted researcher in the structures of the brain, nervous system, sinuses and lungs. He served as an instructor of biology at Linfield (1910), taught zoology at Northwestern (1915 - 1918) and was associate professor of anatomy at the University of Wisconsin (1918 - 1920). He served as associate professor at Northwestern in 1920 and accepted an appointment at the University of Oregon Medical School in 1921 as professor of anatomy. He held this position until 1952. In 1952 he moved to Minnesota to become professor of neuroanatomy at the University of Minnesota until 1954. He then spent a year at the University of Oslo in Norway on a Fulbright Fellowship before returning to Portland to continue his research on the cerebellum at Good Samaritan Hospital. In addition to publishing numerous journal articles, he published several books, two of the most notable being, *The Doctor In Oregon: A Medical History* [Portland: Binsford and Mort for the Oregon Historical Society, 1947] and a work of three volumes: *The Comparative Anatomy and Histology of the Cerebellum From Myxinoids Through Birds* [Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1967], *The Comparative Anatomy and Histology of the Cerebellum From Monotremes Through Apes* [Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1970], and *The Comparative Anatomy and Histology of the Cerebellum, Cerebellar Connections and Cerebellar Cortex*, Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1972]. The last of the three volumes was not complete at the time of Larsell's death so Dr. Jan Jensen of Norway, editor of the first two volumes, and a world renowned expert on the anatomy of the brain, completed the book. [Larsell authored a chapter entitled "Anatomy of the Nervous System", for Sir Henry Morris' *Human Anatomy*, with illustrations by Clarice Ashworth, noted medical illustrator at the University of Oregon Medical School. In addition he was Dean of the Graduate Division of the Oregon State System of Higher Education from 1938 to 1946, a member of the editorial board for *The Journal of Comparative Neurology*, consulting editor for *The Journal of History of Medicine and Allied Sciences* and trustee and president of the board of trustees at Linfield College. Known for his enduring energy, at 78 years of age, he was working on the final chapter of his monumental monograph on the cerebellum, and continuing unfinished neurological research when he died on April 8, 1964.

---

## Scope and Contents

---

The collection contains photographs and materials used in the writing of *The Doctor in Oregon* (collected between 1922 and 1947). In addition there are manuscripts, notebooks and publications authored by Larsell. Includes letter openers and a pen from the Larsell estate.

---

## **Administrative Information**

---

### **Publication Information**

Oregon Health & Science University Historical Collections & Archives 2012-10-22

### **Restrictions on Access**

No restrictions on Access.

### **Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use**

The OHSU Historical Collections & Archives is the owner of the materials and makes available reproductions for research, publication, and other uses. Written permission must be obtained from the OHSU HC&A before any reproduction use. The OHSU HC&A does not necessarily hold copyright to all of the materials in the collections. In some cases, permission for use may require seeking additional authorization from the copyright owners.

### **Acquisition Information**

These papers were created and/or collected by Olof Larsell. Larsell donated the materials on June 10, 1952, and they were transferred to the University of Oregon Medical School Library. The collection was processed by OHSU Library Special Collections staff in the fall of 1999.

---

## **Controlled Access Headings**

---

### **Corporate Name(s)**

- Good Samaritan Hospital.
- Oregon Hospital for the Insane.
- Oregon State Medical Society.
- Portland Free Dispensary.

- Portland Medical Society.
- Willamette University Department of Medicine. University of Oregon.

### **Genre(s)**

- Biography
- Photographs

### **Geographic Name(s)**

- Oregon

### **Personal Name(s)**

- Bevan , Arthur D., MD
- Binswanger, Otto S. , MD
- Cooke Thompson, Mary Anna, Dr.
- Josephi , Simeon E. , MD
- Mackenzie, Kenneth A. J., MD
- Owens-Adair, Bethenia, MD

### **Subject(s)**

- History of Medicine
- Medicine and Health
- St. Vincent Hospital

## Box 1 - Photographs

---

### Collection Inventory

#### Box 1 - Photographs

1 - Fort Astoria 1813. From Franchere's narrative of Voyage to Northwest Coast of America. (New York, 1854) [Figure 1]

2 - Chinook Indian woman with infant undergoing process of head flattening. From Catlin's North American Indian. (London, 1841) [Figure 2]

3 - Archibald Menzies (1784 - 1842) [Figure 3]

4 - Fort Vancouver ca. 1845 [Figure 4]

5 - Dr. John McLaughlin (1784 - 1857) [Figure 5]

6 - Dr. William Fraser Tolmie (1812 - 1886) [Figure 6]

7 - A page from Dr. John Scouler's journal, describing Indian with distended caeum. [Figure 7]

8 - A memorandum of a page from Dr. Forbes Barclay's case book [Figure 8]



**Box 1 - Photographs**

---

9 - Dr. Forbes Barclay (1812 - 1873) [Figure 9]

10 - Dr. William Cameron McKay (1834 - 1893) [Figure 10]

11 - Certificate of admission of Dr. Forbes Barclay to Royal College of Surgeons in London, 1838 [Figure 11]

12 - The Whitman Mission at Waiilatpu, 1843 [Figure 12]

13 - Dr. Ralph Wilcox (1818 - 1877) [Figure 13]

14 - Dr. James McBride, Yamhill County (1800 - 1874) [Figure 14]

15 - Dr. J. R. Bayley, Corvallis and Newport (1820 - 1901) [Figure 15]

16 - Dr. Robert Bruce Wilson (1828 - 1887) [Figure 16]

17 - Dr. David Swinson Maynard, Seattle (1808 - 1973) [Figure 17]

18 - Dr. Rodney Glisan (1827 - 1890) [Figure 18]

19 - Dr. J. H. Wythe, 1822 - 1901 [Figure 20]

## Box 1 - Photographs

---

20 - Saddle bags brought to Oregon by Dr. A. B. Westerfield in 1852. Used by Dr. Westerfield's father in War of 1812, by himself in Mexican war and in Oregon, and by Dr. Alfred C. Kinney in Oregon when he began practice in 1872. [Figure 21]

21 - Surgical kit [Figure 22]

22 - [Dr. J. C. Hawthorne, 1819 - 1881] [Figure 23]

23 - William Henry Saylor M.D. (1843 - 1904) [Figure 24]

24 - Dr. L. L. Rowland (1831 - 1908) [Figure 25]

25 - Dr. James A. Richardson, Salem and The Dalles (1840 - 1911) [Figure 26]

26 - Dr. Harry Lane (1855 - 1917) [Figure 27]

27 - Dr. F. B. Eaton (1852 - 1938) [Figure 28]

28 - Dr. J. W. Howard, Oregon City [1853 - 1906] [Figure 29]

29 - Dr. J. F. Calbraith, 1883, Lafayette, Oregon (1854 - 1939) [Figure 30]

30 - Dr. Otto Binswanger, about 1882 (1854 - 1917) [Figure 31]

## Box 1 - Photographs

---

31 - Henry Waldo Coe, M. D. (1857 - 1927) [Figure 32]

32 - Dr. Arthur Dean Bevan, first professor of anatomy, UOMS, 1886 - 1887 (1862 - 1943) [Figure 33]

33 - Announcement of 1869 - 1870 session. Willamette University Medical Department. Salem, Oregon [Figure 35]

34 - Faculty list of Willamette medical Department, 1871 [Figure 36]

35 - Willamette Medical Department, 15th and Couch Street. Portland, Oregon. Erected 1889 [Figure 37]

36 - Willamette University Medical Building. Salem, Oregon. Erected 1905 [Figure 38]

37 - Note of University of Oregon Medical Department Faculty for funds to purchase first building to house the department in 1887 [Figure 39]

38 - Baby Clinic at the Portland Free Dispensary [Figure 43]

39 - University of Oregon Medical School and Hospitals, 1940 [Figure 44]

40 - Dr. S. E. Josephi (1849 - 1935) [Figure 45]

41 - Dr. K. A. J. Mackenzie (1859 - 1920) [Figure 47]

## Box 1 - Photographs

---

42 - Title page of Vol. 1, Number 1, Oregon Medical and Surgical Reporter [Figure 49]

43 - Title page of Vol. 1, Number 1, Oregon Medical Journal [Figure 50]

44 - Title page of Vol. 1, Number 1, Pacific Medical Record [Figure 51]

45 - Dr. Mary Anna Cooke Thompson (1825 - 1919) [Figure 52]

46 - Dr. Bethenia Owens-Adair (1840 - 1926) [Figure 53]

47 - Dr. Ziba Bass Nichols (1821 - 1907) [Figure 54]

48 - Membership certificate no.1 of the Medical Society of the Third Judicial District [Figure 55]

49 - Certificate of membership in Oregon State Medical Society [Figure 56]

50 - Title page and first page of Portland Medical Society [Figure 57]

51 - Signatures to constitution of Portland Medical Society [Figure 58]

52 - Fee schedule of Portland Medical Society in 1893 [Figure 59]

## Box 1 - Photographs

---

53 - Sketches of Oregon physicians made by Edward S. Reynolds the well known cartoonist, at the meeting of the Oregon State Medical Society in Portland, September 9 and 10, 1915 (17 figures with names and remarks) [Figure 60]

54 - State Board of Health, 1905 - 1910 [Figure 63]

55 - First State Board of Medical Examiners, 1889 [Figure 64]

56 - Old St. Vincent Hospital on 12th and Marshall, Portland, Oregon [Figure 65]

57 - Operating room at old St. Vincent Hospital [Figure 66]

58 - Good Samaritan Hospital, Portland, Oregon, 1875 [Figure 67]

59 - Good Samaritan Hospital, ca. 1892 [Figure 68]

60 - Portland, Oregon, ca. 1882 [Figure 69]

61 - Oregon Hospital for the Insane, Portland, Oregon, 1862 - 1883 [Figure 70]

62 - Group of doctors at Old St. Vincent Hospital [Figure 71]

63 - Group of doctors at Good Samaritan Hospital [Figure 72]

**Box 2 - Publications, Notebooks, Miscellany**

---

64 - Willamette Medical Department building in Portland [No Figure #]

**Box 2 - Publications, Notebooks, Miscellany**

Larsell, Olof. The Development of Medical Education in the Pacific Northwest. Eugene: Koke-Chapman Co., [1924?]. 15 x 22.5 cm.

Brochure: 30th Annual Meeting and Post Graduate Session with Ernst A. Sommer Memorial Lectures, University of Oregon Medical School Alumni, 1942, held in Portland, Oregon, March 23 - 27. 15.5 x 23 cm.

Handwritten by Larsell. University of Wisconsin. 1918. 19 x 24 cm.

Handwritten by Larsell. experiments on the hyla regilla.. [nd] 14 x 23 cm.

Handwritten, titled Research Protocols, O. Larsell. [nd] 15 x 23 cm. -Front page: Journal Kept by David Douglas During His Travels in North

America 1823 - 1827. Edited by W. Wilkes. William Wesley and Son. London. 1914. -Protocols begin on page 12

\*Two letter openers and a fountain pen, a gift of the Larsell estate, received December 15, 1965 (note: wooden letter opener is broken in three parts)

### Box 3 - Manuscripts

---

#### Box 3 - Manuscripts

1 - 3 - Notes, handwritten and typescript, with reference citations. No discernible order was found. [nd]  
Table of contents in folders 1 and 2. NOTE: Though not certain it is most probably notes for the last volume on the cerebellum

4 - 6 - Page proofs: Olof Larsell, "Anatomy of the Nervous System". Section VIII in Morris', Human Anatomy. 11th ed. 1951 - 1952. Not in consistent numerical order.

7 - Materials added to the collection by Larsell donated by Fred Lockley, received January 12, 1948 - Note of deposit of \$25.00 by Fred Brown for the privilege of selling liquors in Jackson county, 1858, signed by D. Limm, treasurer. -Statement made by J. C. Bett M. D., in Jackson county, that payment had not been made to him for services rendered, March 4, 1875

8 - Five drawings and one negative of figures for "Anatomy of the Nervous System", in Morris' Human Anatomy. -nerves of the lung

9 - Photograph 63, copy of the jacket cover for The Doctor in Oregon, partial list of photos included in the book

#### Box 4 - Materials used in writing the The Doctor in Oregon: A Medical History [1922 - 1947]

1 -Letters about typhoid and malaria in Oregon -Physician biographies -Creation of counties in Oregon -The development of newspapers -Printing plants -Examples of business cards -Condition of medical education in Oregon

**Box 4 - Materials used in writing the The Doctor in Oregon: A Medical Hist...**

---

2 -Extracts from minutes of Board of Trustees, Willamette University pertaining to the medical school  
-The History of Medicine in the John Day Valley, by Robert E. Begg. Read before the University of Oregon Medical History Club, April 6, 1937 -Physician biographies -History of Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Curry and Coos Counties, by A. J. Walling, Portland, Oregon. 1884 -List of doctors by counties -Medical societies -Information on counties in Oregon -Portland Free Dispensary -Medical school moving to Marquam Hill -Medical school departments, faculty and staff

3 -Physician biographies

4 -Sol Tetherow, Wagon Master of an Expedition to Oregon 1845. -Pharmaceutical recipes -Story of Jack Ramsey, the red-headed Chinook Indian -Early surgery -Letter from Rachel Good to Larsell of the story of Dr. William Masten who amputated his own leg -Legends for figures, The Doctor in Oregon: A Medical History -Alphabetical index list for The Doctor in Oregon: A Medical History

5 -Information on cities in Oregon -Information on hospitals in Oregon -Notes to Chapter I of The Doctor in Oregon: A Medical History. "Medicine Among the Indians"/with corrections

6 -The Fur Traders of the Far West, Alex Ross. 1855 -Sources for the History of Oregon: The Correspondence and Journals of Nathaniel Wyeth. -Physician biographies -Letter from Ralph C. Ely, grandson of Dr. C. J. Smith to Larsell, announcing the death of his grandfather -Reprint of Medical Organization, by Park Weed Willis M. D., Seattle, Washington: 1910 -Information on Indians and medical practice -Bibliographies pertaining to Northwest Indians