

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION
ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # 42M9; 61M120; *86M82

Location 21-Z-2

Title Beadle Family. Papers.

Approximate inclusive dates 1635 - 1889

Date of receipt 1922; 1923; 1942; 1961.

Received from Gift - Frank P. O'Brien
Gift - John F. Fleming
Purchase - Wormser (dealer)

Volume on arrival Unknown

Number of boxes (after reboxing) ~~2 Boxes~~ 100 2/28/83

Condition Correspondence-Fair; Diary-Good.

Restrictions None

Description

See attached sheets

Special Formats Photographs Maps Audio Tapes Films Graphics
 Artifacts Machine-readable records
 Other (list) _____

Temporary catalog card added entries

U.S.- Discription and Travel-1848-1865;

Genealogical correspondence.

Accessioned by LB

Date Oct. 1986

BEADLE FAMILY PAPERS. CONTENTS

The Beadle Family papers consist of two thin record books, 1635-1865, containing family legal matters, lists of births, deaths, marriages and baptisms; correspondence requesting and giving information on Beadle ancestry, 1857-1889; correspondence of members of the Beadle family with relatives and friends, mostly Flavel Beadle and his wife Polly with Robbert Nesbitt in Michigan, 1753-1837; a business related letter to Erastus Flavel Beadle, 1842; and three copies (original, photostat copy and printed volume) of a diary written by E.F. Beadle, 1857.

The diary, Diary of Trip to Nebraska , records the journey of Erastus Flavel Beadle from Buffalo to his preëmpted lands near Omaha, Nebraska, between March and October, 1857. It reflects the incidents of travel, especially on the rivers, the political sentiments of the day, life in Nebraska, and toward the end, as the diarist returns, the financial panic of 1857.

BEADLE FAMILY - BIOGRAPHY

The first of the name Beadle in this country of whom there is any definite information was Samuel Beadle, who died in Salem, Mass., in 1663 or 1664. Four generations after Samuel, drifting away from Salem, certain members of the family settled in Connecticut. In 1796 Benjamin Beadle, who was born in Wethersfield, Hartford County, Conn., December 18, 1741, moved his wife and children from Colchester, Conn. and settled in the state of New York. Mr. Beadle first located on what was known as Stewart's Patent, now Pierstown, between the head of Otsego Lake and Richfield Springs. A few years later he moved to Sherburne, Chenango County, and died there June 24, 1810.

Benjamin Beadle was married three times and was the father of twenty-three children. It was of his second wife that Samuel Beadle was born March 18, 1788, in Colchester, New London County, Conn. Having grown up in Otsego County, Flavel was married, in Pierstown to Miss Polly Tuller. Polly was born in Stockbridge, Mass., October 11, 1787 and moved to Otsego County a few years before her marriage to Flavel. In 1833 Flavel and his family moved to Portland, New York and later that year to Schoolcraft, Kalamazoo County, Michigan. After only eighteen months they all returned to Portland. Residing there until the fall of 1838, Mr. Beadle and his wife returned to Otsego County, and lived there the rest of their lives, the former dying August 1, 1854, and the latter at the home of her daughter in Delaware County, April 12, 1864, aged seventy-seven.

Erastus Flavel Beadle, son of Flavel and Polly, was born at Pierstown, New York, September 11, 1821. Erastus served an apprenticeship to a miller and in 1841 took a job in a printshop. He moved to Buffalo with his brother Irwin about 1850 and in 1852 they opened a printing business that soon undertook publishing as well, beginning the magazine "Youth's Casket" in 1852 and "Home, A Fireside Monthly" (later "Beadle's Home Monthly") in 1856. In 1856 Robert Adams joined the company, which became Beadle and Adams, and two years

BEADLE BIO. CONT'D

later the entire operation was moved to New York City. Success with the experimental issue of a ten-cent paperbound song-book led to dime joke books, dime etiquette books, and in 1860 to the first dime novel, which was a runaway best seller. Beadle immediatly arranged for more such books and the dime novel series was launched. Several other firms entered the field to flood the country with yet more millions of cheap books, but Beadle and Adams retained the lead and the distinction of having invented the most popular and characteristic literary form of the nineteenth century. Beadle himself retired a millionaire in 1889 to his Cooperstown estate and died there on December 18, 1894.

BEADLE FAMILY COLLECTION

BOX LISTING

Folders 1 - 3: Correspondence

Vol. 1 - 2: Family records

Vol. 3 - 4: diaries of trip to Nebraska, 1857

Erastus F. BEADLE Collection

1. Misc. Papers: Ltrs to Beadle, by Beadle, misc. accounts, notes, etc. (incl. Benson J. Lossing ltr dtd 1842), 1842-1897
 2. Baumet, Henri, comte de: mss. of "The Sacred College", "Don John of Austria", "The 'Fourth Estate'", ltr of Baumet transmitting mss, ltr of rejection by Beadle & Co., etc.
 3. Clark, Charles Dunning: ms. of "Hop Picking Season", obituary notes on Clark
 4. Gridley, William S.: ltr to Orville J. Victor, 26 Dec, 1894
 5. Harbaugh, Thomas C.: ~~ltr to S. L. Clements, from "Little Beadle Beadle"~~
SEE: folder #15
 6. Lewis, Charles Bertrand: ltr to Frank Starr & Co., 1876
 7. "Foolscap Papers": mss. by Washington Whitehorn
 8. "Writers Tournament": various mss. for prize contest
 9. Beadle & Co.: Certificates of deposit of title pages for copyright, 1862-69
 10. Beadle & Co.: Copyrights issued by Library of Congress, 1867-69
 11. Victor, Orville J.: ltrs. to and about him, 1865-97 (photostats) (51 M 116)
 12. Browne, George Waldo - ltrs to Frank P. O'Brien, 1914-20
 13. Coomes, Oll - " " " " " , 1915-20
 14. Ellis, Edward Sylvester - " " " " " , 1916
 15. Harbaugh, Thomas C. - " " " " " , 1916-21
 16. Keller, Horace Seymour - " " " " " , 1913-16
 17. Lisenbee, Will - " " " " " , 1915-17
 18. Morgan, Tom P. - " " " " " , 1913-16
 19. Sawyer, Roland D. - " " " " " , 1922
 20. Witson, John H. - " " " " " , 1913-14
 21. Beadle Family: 15 ltrs to or from members of Beadle family, 1753-1837 (42 M 9)
 22. Newspaper Clippings
- Genealogical notes of the Beadle family in Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York, etc., prepared by various members of the family. [1800-1869?]. 2 vols.