

ArMs 1977.195 & 1991.035
A0158-A0159, A0612
0.7 cubic foot, 3 document boxes
4.C - 6.4.D & 7.2.E

Horatio C. King Collection
Circa 1850-1925

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Introduction

The Horatio C. King Collection comprises one cubic foot of materials in a variety of formats relating to the activities of Horatio C. King, his wife, Esther King, and Mary E. Hewitt, the mother of King's first wife. The inclusive dates are from *circa* 1850 to 1925. Included are albums, clippings, programs and memorials, writings, recipe books, and scrapbooks. Content also relates to Daughters of the American Revolution, Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument Association of the United States, and the Army of the Potomac after the Civil War.

Biographical Note

Horatio Collins King (1837-1918) was born in Portland, Maine and graduated from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania in 1858, practiced law for two years, and was admitted to the New York State Bar in 1861. He served as a Civil War officer in the Armies of the Potomac and Shenandoah from 1862-1865. He was honorably discharged in 1866 with the rank of brevet-colonel and returned to New York to practice law once more. He was active in politics, running for Secretary of State for New York as a Democrat in 1895, Congress as a member of the Sound Money Party in 1896, and Comptroller for the Progressive Party in 1912.

King became the Secretary of the Society of the Army of the Potomac from 1877-1904 and President of the Society in 1904, and was also a prominent member of the New York Monuments' Commission. He was a member of Plymouth Church and a supporter and friend of the Reverend Henry Ward Beecher. He married Emma Carter Stebbins, the daughter of New York merchant Russell Stebbins, in 1862. Emma died in 1864 and in 1866 he married Esther Augusta Howard (1845-1925), the daughter of John Tasker Howard. Esther was a member of the Fort Greene Chapter of the National Society of Daughters of the American Revolution and regent of the group for four years (exact dates unknown). The Kings had nine children and lived in Brooklyn Heights. Horatio C. King was also a published writer of poetry and songs as well as a lecturer.

Please see attached printout for complete biography, accessed online at the Encyclopedia Dickinsonia, <http://chronicles.dickinson.edu/encyclo/>

Provenance

The accession record for 1977.195 states that the material was found in the garbage by Mrs. B. Strand, who donated it to BHS in 1957. The scrapbooks, 1991.035, contain writing on the inside covers which state they are from the estate of Mrs. Percy Gray (Emma), Horatio King's daughter. Mrs. Strand's name plate is also on the inside covers.

Scope and Content

The collection comprises 1 cubic foot of materials that belonged to the estate of Mrs. Percy Gray (Emma), Horatio King's daughter. The inclusive dates are from *circa* 1850 to 1925. This is a loose assortment of items pertaining to Horatio C. King, Esther King (his wife), and Mary E. Hewitt, an American writer and poet who was the mother of King's first wife, Emma. Content also relates to the Fort Greene Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument Association of the United States, and the Army of the Potomac after the Civil War.

Materials are arranged by form/genre in six folders. Folder 1 contains an album (ca. 1850) of writings and clippings belonging to Mary E. Hewitt, an American writer best known for her poetry, who was the mother (or step-mother) of Horatio King's first wife, Emma Carter Stebbins. Included is a valentine poem written for Hewitt by Francis Osgood, another poetess of the time and Hewitt's good friend. Folder 2 contains a small assortment of newspaper clippings, mostly post-1900, related to the establishment of the Prisoner's Monument in Fort Greene Park, the deaths of Mr. and Mrs. King, activities and inner politics of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and Mr. King's political involvement. Folder 3 contains a dedication program for the Prison Ship Martyrs Monument dated November 14, 1908, a program for the Society of the Army of the Potomac's 43rd Annual Reunion, held July 13-14, 1916, and a memorial booklet for Horatio King. Folder 4 contains Published writings of Horatio King including a song book for children, a sketch of the Army of the Potomac, "Reminiscences of Brooklyn" and poetry. Folder 5 contains two recipe books, one printed and one written in long hand. The long hand book also includes clippings of recipes and written recipes on scraps of paper inserted into the pages. Folders 6 & 7 hold two scrapbooks covering the years 1884-1886 and 1905-1910. They contain clippings covering Horatio King's myriad activities, including orations and lectures.

Separated Material

Twelve photographs were separated from the collection on November 12, 2005 and moved to the Image Collection, including one framed & tinted photograph and one hood.

Related Material

Brooklyn Historical Society - Archives & Manuscripts

Horatio King was a prominent member of Plymouth Church. For information on his activities there please see the Plymouth Church of the Pilgrims – Henry Ward Beecher Collection, 1847- 1980 (ArMs 1985.002). Collection contains clipping books about King as well as those collected by King himself, some of his writings and other miscellaneous material.

For more information on post-war military service and veteran's activities please see the John B. Woodward papers, 1825-1898 (ArMs 1977.146) and the General Nelson Cross papers, 1844-1872 (ArMs 1977.234).

Brooklyn Historical Society – Library

Stegman, Col. Lewis R. *Sketch of Horatio C. King*. New York: Macgowan & Slipper, 1899. CT275.K5645 S74 1899.

King, Horatio C. *The Army of the Potomac: sketch; The phantom column: poem*. S.l.: s.n., 1898.

King, Horatio C. *Memorial Day Service: Edward W. Kinsley Post, G.A.R., Tremont Temple, Boston, May 30, 1911: address*, Boston: Norwood Press, 1911. E470 .K56 1911

King, Horatio C. *Poem delivered at the centennial anniversary of Dickinson College, Carlisle, PA, June 27, 1883*. New York: Macgowan & Slipper, 1883. PN6101 .K56 1883

King, Horatio C. *An account of the services of the Silver-Wedding week in Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, N.Y., edited for the Executive Committee of Arrangements by Horatio C. King.* New York: The Christian Union, 1873.

Elsewhere:

Horatio Collins King papers, 1854-1933. Dickinson College. Carlisle, PA. Link to online collection register at <http://chronicles.dickinson.edu/findingaids/mc1999.09.pdf>

Daughters of the American Revolution website: <http://www.dar.org>

References

“King, Horatio”, Appleton’s Cyclopedia Online accessed at <http://famousamericans.net/horatioking/>

“Mary E. Hewitt”, The Library Company of Philadelphia online. Accessed at <http://www.librarycompany.org/women/portraits/hewitt.htm>

Container List

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1977.195		
1	1 Album – Mary E. Hewitt	circa 1850
	2 Clippings	1894-1925
	3 Programs & Memorials	1899-1916
	4 Writings	1891-1899
2	5 Recipe Books	undated
1991.035		
3	1 Scrapbook	1884-1886
	2 Scrapbook	1905-1910

Access Points

LCSH

Personal Names

King, Horatio C. (Horatio Collins), 1837-1918

Hewitt, Mary E.

King, Esther

Corporate Names

Daughters of the American Revolution

Prison Ship Martyrs' Monument Association of the United States

Army of the Potomac

AAT

Form/Genre

Correspondence

Recipes

Clippings

Scrapbooks

Programs

Commemorations (memorials)