

ELIZABETH STOVER ALLEN'S SCRAPBOOK

OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

- Repository:** Crandall Public Library.
Center for Folklife, History, and Cultural Programs,
Glens Falls, NY.
- Creator:** Elizabeth Stover Allen, compiler
- Title:** Elizabeth Stover Allen's Scrapbook
- Dates:** ca. 1854 - 1890
- Abstract:** Mrs. Allen's book is a handsome leather bound book 10" by 12" titled Scrap Album. On the title page she has inscribed "E. Stover Allen's Book. Troy, 1858." Above the word Album. She has combined photographs of her family and friends with pictures from books, magazines and, probably, greeting cards. Many, but not all, the personal photographs are identified. The illustrations include presidents and other prominent men, sentimental scenes, flowers, religious pictures, Civil War officers and generals, fashion plates of both men and women, and lots of pictures of actresses and singers, many of them on cigarette advertising cards.
- Quantity:** 1 volume
- Identification:** Archives & Manuscripts: Scrapbooks.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

The compiler of this book is Elizabeth Stover, born 1 January 1828 in Rensselaer County, NY. She was a daughter of Peter and Lois Akin Stover. About 1855 she married Uriah Cornell (or Connor) Allen. U.C. was a son of Elihu and Laura Cornell Allen of Sandy Hill, Washington County. Elihu was a paper manufacturer, and the family was prosperous. In 1860 Elizabeth and U.C. lived with his parents in Sandy Hill, where U.C.'s occupation is given as "woolen manufacturer." In 1870 they lived in Waterford, where his occupation is given as "gentleman." In 1880 and 1900 they again lived in Sandy Hill, first on Mechanic Street and, after about 1885, at 5 Pearl Street. Elizabeth died August 13, 1904 and is buried in Union Cemetery in Fort Edward, NY. U.C., who was born in 1829, died in 1907 and is also buried in Union Cemetery. The Allens do not appear to have had any children.

SCOPE AND CONTENT OF THE RECORDS

Mrs. Allen's book is a handsome gold-embossed green leather book 10" by 12" titled Scrap Album. On the title page she has inscribed "E. Stover Allen's Book. Troy, 1858." above the word Album. She has combined photographs of her family and friends with pictures from books, magazines, flower prints and, probably, greeting cards. Many, but not all, the personal photographs are identified. The illustrations include presidents and other prominent men, sentimental scenes, flowers, religious pictures, Civil War officers and generals, fashion plates of both men and women, and lots of pictures of actresses and singers, many of them on cigarette advertising cards. Mrs. Allen was clever with her scissors and many of the pictures are silhouettes she has cut out. In some cases she combines photographs and other illustrations into collages. The earliest items in the book appear to date from 1854, which is probably before she got the book. The latest date at least to the late 1880s or later, particularly some of the cigarette cards. There does not appear to be a chronological progression through the book. In fact, on the last page she has pasted a piece of paper with her maiden name: Elizabeth Stover, in ornate calligraphy.

This album, compiled over many years by a woman of refinement, talent and taste provides a window into the interests and family life of a well-to-do married woman in Upstate New York in the second half of the 19th Century.

The people who are identified in personal photographs are listed in the Index Terms, below.

INDEX TERMS

Topics: Decoration and ornament—New York (State)—Victorian style—Pictorial works.

Places: Sandy Hill, Washington, NY
Troy, Rensselaer, NY

People Named: Abel, Mrs. Andrew (Fultonville)
Adams, Charles
Akin family
Allen, Elizabeth Stover
Allen family including "U.C.A." and "E.S.A"
Benedict, Sheldon (Glens Falls)
Campbell, Libbie
Cornell, Sarah Jane
Fields, Miss
Garnett, Libbie

Hamblin, Myron
Kellogg, Clara Louise
Kitchen, Marris L.H.
Lape, Thomas
Locke, Mrs. Sid
Parmenter, Roswell
Newcomb, Libbie
Parker, Mrs. Betsy
Pine, Mrs. J.K.P. (Lansingburgh, NY)
Rankin, David
Sipperly, Phebe
Snider, Eveline and Martin
Stewart, Mrs. Charles
Stover family
Sweet, Mrs.
Van Denburgh, Bonnie?
Washburn, Nellie

Photographers: Nims, William (Fort Edward, NY)

Form/Genre: Scrapbooks.
Photographs.
Prints.
Albums.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Preferred Citation: Elizabeth Stover Allen's Scrapbook
Center for Folklife, History, and Cultural Programs,
Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls, NY.

Accession Information: Gift of L. Allen Liddell family of Wilton, New York, 1958.
Presented to Crandall Library by Mrs. J. Thatcher Sears.

Processing Information: Arranged and described by Albert W. Fowler, additions by
Erica Wolfe Burke, February 2011