

POETRY SCRAPBOOKS

OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

- Repository:** Crandall Public Library.
Center for Folklife, History, and Cultural Programs,
Glens Falls, NY.
- Creator:** Unknown.
- Title:** Poetry Scrapbooks.
- Dates:** 1855-1900 and undated.
- Abstract:** These four scrapbooks contain newspaper clippings, mostly poetry. Subjects are mainly religion, morality, old age, approaching death, mourning, tombstones, a longing for the past, temperance, slavery, and recollections of Confederate prisons during the Civil War. One scrapbook contains poems written and collected by a young woman, Maria Fowler, from Union Springs, New York.
- Quantity:** 0.5 cubic feet (4 volumes).
- Identification Number:** Archives & Manuscripts: Scrapbooks

SCOPE AND CONTENT OF THE RECORDS

The first two scrapbooks, both from the late 19th century, contain mainly newspaper clippings, especially poetry on religious and moral themes. Some poems are dated between 1876 and 1880, although most of the material in both volumes is undated. Subjects are mainly religion, morality, old age, approaching death, mourning, tombstones, and a longing for the past. These two scrapbooks are similar in style and have consecutive dates, so the same person may have compiled both of them. The compiler is unknown but was almost certainly from Saratoga County in New York State.

The second or later volume with poems dated 1879 and 1880 includes part of a series of recollections of the Civil War, written by Samuel McCreedy and members of Post Frank Norton No. 116, Grand Army of the Republic, Schuylerville, New York. These recollections mainly describe the plight of captured Union soldiers during 1864 in Confederate prisons, particularly Andersonville.

The third volume contains poems written and collected by a young woman, Maria Fowler, from Union Springs, New York. Many of the poems were written by Maria herself, some were written by her friends. Much of it is sentimental verse, concerning the themes of love and death. Some poems concern temperance and slavery. At the beginning of the volume is a printed poem, "The Temperance Jubilee," written by Lura A. Boies for the Semi-Centennial Anniversary of the Moreau Temperance Society, April 13th, 1855. Maria Fowler may have married about 1860, for the name Maria A. Perrine appears in the volume.

The fourth volume is a scrapbook of newspaper clippings, mostly sentimental verse concerning faith and consolation in times of sadness and grief. This material was probably collected by a woman living in New York State. The clippings came from a variety of newspapers and magazines, representing many locations.

INDEX TERMS

- Topics:** Death—Religious aspects.
Religious poetry.
Temperance.
- Organizations:** Grand Army of the Republic. Frank Norton Post No. 116
(Schuylerville, N.Y.).
- Places:** Saratoga County (N.Y.)—History—Sources.
Union Springs (N.Y.)—History—Sources.
United States—History—Civil War, 1861-1865—Prisoners
and prisons.
- Important People:** McCreedy, Samuel.
Fowler, Maria.
- Form/Genre:** Poetry.
Scrapbooks.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Preferred Citation: Poetry Scrapbooks,
Center for Folklife, History, and Cultural Programs,
Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls, NY.

Accession Information:

Processing Information: Arranged and described by Albert W. Fowler.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE RECORDS

Volume 1: 1876-1878 and undated.

Scrapbook contains newspaper clippings, mostly poetry. The unidentified compiler probably lived in Saratoga County, New York. Subjects are mainly religion, morality, old age, approaching death, mourning, tombstones, and a longing for the past. Most of the clippings are undated, but some are dated between 1876 and 1878. The commercial scrapbook used for this volume is *Mark Twain's Adhesive Scrap Book*, by Samuel L. Clemens. Published by Slote, Woodman & Co., New York. Patented, June 24, 1873.

Volume 2: 1879-1880 and undated.

An unknown compiler gathered these newspaper clippings, mainly poetry on religious and moral themes. This person was from Saratoga County, possibly the same compiler of the earlier volume described above. The dates of the volumes are consecutive and the style of poetry and themes included are strikingly similar. This volume includes part of a series of recollections of the Civil War, written by Samuel McCreedy and members of Post Frank Norton No. 116, Grand Army of the Republic, Schuylerville, New York. These recollections mainly describe the plight of captured Union soldiers during 1864 in Confederate prisons, particularly Andersonville. The commercial scrapbook used for this volume is *Mark Twain's Scrap Book*. Published by Daniel Slote & Co., New York. Registered April 23, 1878.

Volume 3: ca. 1855-1860.

These are poems written and collected by a young woman, Maria Fowler, from Union Springs, New York. Many of the poems were written by Maria herself, some were written by her friends. Much of it is sentimental verse, concerning the themes of love and death. Some poems concern temperance and slavery. At the beginning of the volume is a printed poem, "The Temperance Jubilee," written by Lura A. Boies for the Semi-Centennial Anniversary of the Moreau Temperance Society, April 13th, 1855. Maria Fowler may have married about 1860, for the name Maria A. Perrine appears in the volume.

Volume 4: ca. 1900.

Scrapbook of newspaper clippings, mostly sentimental verse concerning faith and consolation in times of sadness and grief. This material was probably collected by a woman living in New York State. The clippings came from a variety of newspapers and magazines, representing many locations.