

# SAUTELLE'S CIRCUS SCRAPBOOK

## OVERVIEW OF THE RECORDS

- Repository:** Crandall Public Library.  
Center for Folklife, History, and Cultural Programs,  
Glens Falls, N.Y.
- Creator:** Unknown.
- Title:** Sautelle's Circus Scrapbook.
- Dates:** 1902-1935 (bulk, 1902).
- Abstract:** George Satterlee (ca. 1850-1928) operated a traveling circus under the name Sig. Sautelle. The Sautelle Circus Scrapbook contains newspaper clippings describing the tour of Sautelle's Circus in 1902. There are reports of visits of the circus to Glens Falls, as well as to other places in New York State, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland. There are also a few clippings concerning the circus in later years, up to 1935, and one Masonic certificate.
- Quantity:** 1 volume plus 2 folders.
- Identification Number:** Archives & Manuscripts: Scrapbooks.

## HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

George Satterlee was born, according to *Billboard*, on September 22, 1848, in Town of Luzerne, New York. His gravestone indicates 1850 as his year of birth. After starting out as a wagonmaker, Satterlee joined the Great North American Circus, adopting the name Sig. Sautelle. In the 1880's he was operating his own traveling circus, and by 1901 Sig. Sautelle's circus toured extensively by rail. He spent the winter months in Homer, New York. He retired to Glens Falls, where he died on June 21, 1928, and he is buried in Fort Edward, New York.

Source: *Glens Falls, the "Empire City,"* p. 15. Glens Falls Publishing Company, 1908.  
Don A. Metivier, "Sig Sautelle's Story," *Post-Star*, January 30, 1982.  
"Sig. Sautelle," *Billboard*, June 30, 1928.

## SCOPE AND CONTENT OF THE RECORDS

The Sautelle's Circus Scrapbook contains newspaper clippings describing the tour of Sig. Sautelle's Circus in 1902. There are reports of visits of the circus to Glens Falls, as well as to other places in New York State, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland. There are also a few clippings concerning the circus in later years, up to 1935.

One folder contains Satterlee's Masonic passport, identifying him as a 32<sup>nd</sup> degree Mason. It was issued to him on 5 April 1900, and was signed on the back by 33 33<sup>rd</sup> degree Masons at various Lodges Satterlee visited. The passport was donated to the library by Laura P. Slocum in June 1986, and was added to the Sautelle scrapbook collection.

A second folder holds xerographic copies of 8 photos (5 individual images) of Sautelle's Circus. The venue may be the Rensselaer County Fair, ca 1900. The original prints and glass plate negatives belong to Rachel Clothier, Corinth Town Historian, who loaned them to the Folklife Center. There are also scanned images of these photos on a disc in the folder.

## INDEX TERMS

- Topics:** Circus—New York (State)—History.  
Freemasonry—United States
- Places:** Glens Falls (N.Y.)—History—Sources.
- Organizations:** Sautelle's Circus (N.Y.)  
Freemasons. United States. Scottish Rite
- Important People:** Satterlee, George, ca. 1850-1928.
- Form/Genre:** Scrapbooks; passport.

## ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

- Preferred Citation:** Sautelle's Circus Scrapbook,  
Center for Folklife, History, and Cultural Programs,  
Crandall Public Library, Glens Falls, NY.
- Accession Information:** Accession number: 0000-023.  
Gift of Mrs. Kenneth Slocum, a relative of George Satterlee.  
Brought to the Library through the kindness of John Austin.
- Processing Information:** Arranged and described by Albert W. Fowler, additions by  
Erica Wolfe Burke 2011.

