



The New York Public Library Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

William Steele poems : manuscript

ca. 1850

MssCol NYGB 18147

Summary

Creator: Steele, William, 1762-1851

Title: William Steele poems : manuscript

Date: ca. 1850

Size: 1 v, 29 cm; 1 v, 29 cm

Abstract: William Steele (1762-1851) and his wife Mary Dayton Steele (1769-1834) resided with their family in New Jersey and later moved to upstate New York. William Steele was born in New York City and served in the Revolutionary War. In 1791 he married Mary Dayton, daughter of physician Jonathan Dayton (1731-1778) of Springfield, New Jersey. The Steele family moved from New Jersey to Painted Post, Steuben County, New York in 1819. William Steele died in Big Flats, Chemung County, New York in 1851. An album of original verse by William Steele (1762-1851), inspired by incidents of personal and family life, life events, and celebrations, as well as local, historical and political events. Dated poems span 1781-1850, with earlier poems noting the locations of Springfield and other places in New Jersey, and later poems noting the locations of Painted Post and Big Flats, both near Corning, New York. Poems marking births, marriages and deaths provide genealogical information on members of the Steele, Dayton, Salter and Winans families, and other individuals. A note by William Steele pasted inside the front cover states that the poems have been transcribed for the pleasure of his family and friends. A "Genealogy of the Steele Family of Springfield, N.J.," compiled from the poems at a later date, is pasted inside the back cover. Also present is a 12-page pamphlet, "Elegy on the Rt. Honorable William Pitt, late Earl of Chatham on his accepting a peerage" (Boston, 1808; Shaw & Shoemaker 14692), and a few research notes.

Preferred citation: William Steele poems : manuscript, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Creator History

William Steele (1762-1851) and his wife Mary Dayton Steele (1769-1834) resided with their family in New Jersey and later moved to upstate New York. William Steele was born in New York City and served in the Revolutionary War. In 1791 he married Mary Dayton, daughter of physician Jonathan Dayton (1731-1778) of Springfield, New Jersey. The Steele family moved from New Jersey to Painted Post, Steuben County, New York in 1819. William Steele died in Big Flats, Chemung County, New York in

1851.

Custodial History

Gift of Mrs. Eduardo Carranza to the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, 1933.

Scope and Content Note

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Key Terms

Subjects

American poetry -- 18th century
American poetry -- 19th century
Occasional verse

Titles

Gift of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society

Geographic Names

New Jersey -- Genealogy
New Jersey -- Social life and customs
New York (State) -- Genealogy
New York (State) -- Social life and customs

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Poems

Names

Steele, William, 1762-1851
Dayton family
Salter family
Steele family
Winans family
New York Genealogical and Biographical Society Collection