

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION
ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # *88 M 90

Location 26 N-5 (L)

Title Jerome B. Howard Collection

Approximate inclusive dates 1710-1912, bulk dates 1838-1912

Date of receipt Received from Jerome B. Howard

Volume on arrival

Number of boxes (after reboxing) 5 AB (2'1" *linear ft.*)

Condition Good

Restrictions None

Description

see attached sheets

Special Formats Photographs Maps Audio Tapes Films Graphics
 Artifacts Machine-readable records
 Other (list) _____

Temporary catalog card added entries

Bailey, Phineas 1787-1861 X

Ellis, Alexander John 1814-1890

Pitman, Benn 1822-1910 X

Pitman, Isaac 1813-1897

Shorthand-Pitman

Shorthand-Benn Pitman

Surratt, Mary X

~~Howell, Shelton~~ Shelton, Howell 1601-1650?

X=not in NAF

Accessioned by VW

Date 12/13/88

BIOGRAPHY:

Benn Pitman (1822-1910), stenographer and founder of the Phonographic Institute; brother of Sir Isaac Pitman. Pitman was born in Trowbridge, Wiltshire, England on July 24, 1822, the son of Samuel and Mariah (Davis) Pitman. He emigrated to the United States in 1852 and settled in Cincinnati, Ohio where he founded the Phonographic Institute to promote Pitman shorthand. In 1858, Isaac Pitman made radical changes in the system, however, Benn Pitman continued to teach the original method because he felt it was superior. Pitman became one of the most popular shorthand systems in the United States.

During the United States Civil War, 1861-1865, Benn Pitman served in the ranks. Later, he was employed by the government as a shorthand reporter, He reported on a number of famous trials including the trial of the conspirators in the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln, and he compiled and arranged for the publication an abridgement of the testimony "The Assassination of President Lincoln and the Trial of the Conspirators" 1865. Pitman authored many books including "Sir Isaac Pitman, His Life and Labors, Told and Illustrated by Benn Pitman", 1902.

Pitman married Jane Bragg in 1849, by whom he had three children. His wife died in 1878, and in 1881 he married Adelaide Nourse, by whom he had one daughter. Benn Pitman died in 1910 after a long illness.

Isaac Pitman(1813-1897), English phonographer, originator and principal first teacher of a system of shorthand stenography based upon phonetics rather than orthography; brother of Benn Pitman.

DESCRIPTION:

The Jerome B. Howard Collection, 1710-1912, bulk dates 1838-1912, is shorthand manuscripts collected by Jerome B. Howard ¹⁸⁶⁰⁻¹⁹²³ (~~1860-1923~~) of the Phonographic Institute, Cincinnati, Ohio. The bulk of the collection is Benn Pitman manuscripts which are letters, 1838-1868 and writings. The writings include material on the trial of Mary Surratt regarding Abraham Lincoln's assassination. Other individuals represented are George Dawson's pamphlet "Prenological sketch of Sir Isaac Pitman; Phineas Bailey; John Alexanders' "Plea for Phonetic Spelling" 3rd edition, unpublished; Thomas Shelton's "Tachygraphy. The most exact and compendious method of short and swift writing, that hath ever been published by any". 1710 edition. This monograph is bound between manuscripts in both long and short hand, 1756-1763. It may be Shelton's hand.

The photograph is a rare picture of Mary Surratt.

JEROME B. HOWARD COLLECTION

Container list

- Benn Pitman
Box 1. Incoming letters to Benn Pitman 1838-1868
2. 1869-1903;N.D.
Outgoing letter

Writings

Adornment and Decoration.
The Alphabetic Problem.
Brief Writing: Has the Ideal Been Attained?
Characteristics of Saracenic & Celtic Interlacings.
Common Errors of Speech.

Elements of Decorative Art - Outline
The English Aspiration.
Faultless English No. 1.
Language and Its Representation.
Marvels of Speech and Song.

New Theory on Fine Arts.
Phonographic Evolution.
Possible Completion of the English Alphabet.
Progressive Development of Constructive & Decorative Forms.

Solution of the Alphabetic Problem,
Sounds of Language.
Speech and Its Representation.
Vocal Expression Other Than Words.
What would be Philosophic & Practical Presentation
of the Phonographic Art?
Early Phonographic Manuscripts in his Handwriting.

3. Material on the trial of Mary Surratt for alleged
complicity in the assassination of President Abraham
Lincoln. (Benn Pitman was the official government
reporter for this trial) 1864-1912

Reporting Experiences. (Shorthand manuscripts with
clippings from the 'Cincinnati Commercial' Jan.
1904. "A Reporter's War Time Reminiscences")

- Box 3. U.S. Circuit Court, 7th Circuit & Southern
District of Ohio: Andrew J. Graham vs. Benn
Pitman. 1862-1871

Notes on addresses delivered in England.

4. Notes, etc.
including notes re Isaac Pitman.
Cards of Admissions

Pitman, Isaac

Incoming letter from Frederick W. Long.

Phrenological sketch by George Dawson.

Frenolojikal Development ov Ser Elzak Pitman.

Ber Mr. James Webb 1896 (printed)

Others:

Bailey, Phineas. Sermons 1847

Chicago Correspondence Schools 1906-1907; with
V.A. Sanford re Boyd Syllabic System of Shorthand.

Cunec, Louis. Manual of Phonography Shorthand Phonetics.

Ellis, Alexander John. Plea for Phonetic Spelling.
3rd ed. unpublished; proof sheets

5. Phonographic Institute. Cincinnati, Ohio. Circular 1899
Phonotypy. British & Colonial Printer & Stationer. 1902
Schoch, Parke. Key to Exercises. Phonography for
School & Colleges.
Sterrett, Walter B. Syllabic shorthand mss.
Worrall, Harry. People Shorthand. Alphabet 1879
Worthington, Hugh jr. title page (facsimile).
A Supplement to Mr. Macaulay's Shorthand Design...1786
Shorthand notebooks. 2 volumes
Shelton, Thomas. Tachygraphy. 1710 ed. 1 vol.