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: 5 AB 2'1" banks (H)

Number of boxes (after reboxing): 

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:

Sailey, Phineas 1787-1861
Ellis, Alexander John 1814-1890
Pitman, Benn 1822-1910
Pitman, Isaac 1813-1897
Shorthand-Pitman
Shorthand-Benn Pitman
Surratt, Mary X

Accessioned by: [Signature]

Date: 12/13/19Y

X: not in MAR
BIOGRAPHY:

Benjamin 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 Maria (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 abridgment 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 (1829-1923) of the Phono-graphic 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 "Frenological sketch of Sir Isaac Pitman; Phineas Bailey; John Alexander's "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.
Container List

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 Aspirate.
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 Davenport.
   Phenologist Kal Development ov Ser Eizak Pitman.  
   Ser Dr. James Webb 1896 (printed)

   Others:
   Bailey, Phineas. Sermons 1847

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

   Conner, Louis. Manual of Phonography Shorthand Phonetics,

   3rd ed. unpublished; proof sheets


   Phonotypy. British & Colonial Printer & Stationer. 1902


   Sterrett, Walter B. Syllabic shorthand manual.

   Worrrall, 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.