

Inventory of the Booth-Grossman Family Papers, 1840-1953

*T-Mss 1967-001

Billy Rose Theatre Division



The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts
New York, New York

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Descriptive Summary

- Title: Booth-Grossman Family Papers, 1840-1953
- Collection ID: *T-Mss 1967-001
- Extent: 3.5 linear feet (8 boxes)
- Repository: The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.
Billy Rose Theatre Division.
- Abstract: The primary subject of this collection of family papers is the life of Edwin Booth, one of the most famous American actors of the 19th century. However, it has not been titled the Edwin Booth Papers because the bulk of the collection would more accurately be described as the papers of his daughter and biographer, Edwina Booth Grossman. There is also a small amount of material on other family members including Booth's father, the actor Junius Brutus Booth, his brother, the notorious John Wilkes Booth, and other relatives with less impact on history.
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Administrative Information

- Access: Collection is open to the public. Photocopying prohibited. Advance notice may be required
- Preferred Citation: Booth-Grossman Family Papers, *T-Mss 1967-001, Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library for the Performing Arts.
- Processing Information: The collection was re-processed and cataloged in 2000.

Biographical Note

The collection centers on Edwin Thomas Booth (11/13/1833-6/7/1893) of the theatrical Booth family. An outstanding tragedian and the first American actor to achieve a European reputation, Booth was one of ten children born in Maryland to the English actor, Junius Brutus Booth, Sr. (1796-1852) and his second wife Mary Ann Holmes. Edwin Booth's brothers included the lesser actors, Junius Brutus Booth, Jr. (1821-1883) and John Wilkes Booth (1839-1865), who achieved his fame as the man who assassinated President Abraham Lincoln.

The elder Booth, on stage since the age of 17, was a rival of Edmund Kean's in London and acted and managed several theaters in the United States from 1821 on. Edwin Booth made his first appearance at 16 in his father's company, playing Richard III as had his father. He made his first visit to London in 1861. From 1863-1867, Edwin Booth was the manager of the Winter Garden on Broadway in New York City. In the 1864-1865 season he played the role of Hamlet 100 times, a record unbroken until John Barrymore's 101 in 1922. Also in 1864, Booth played Brutus in *Julius Caesar* with his brothers John Wilkes Booth as Anthony and Junius Brutus Booth, Jr. as Cassius. This was their only performance together. On March 23, 1867, the theater burned down just as Booth was about to appear as Romeo. He built his own theater, Booth's, on 6th Avenue and 23rd Street in New York City, opening in 1869 with *Romeo and Juliet*. This venture was not successful and Booth went bankrupt in 1873.

Booth did return to successful touring in the United States, England and Germany. In 1881 he appeared at the Lyceum in London at the invitation of Henry Irving, alternating with him the roles of Othello and Iago. In 1888 Booth presented his house in Gramercy Square to the newly founded Players' Club. He served as the first president of the club, kept a suite of rooms there and died in office.

Edwin Booth was married twice: on July 7, 1860 to Mary Devlin Booth (5/19/1840-2/21/1863), who died after a brief illness and on June 7, 1869 to Mary McVicker Booth (9/1848-11/13/1881). Both wives had done some acting before marriage. Mary Devlin Booth was the mother of Edwin Booth's only surviving child, Edwina Booth Grossman (12/9/1861-12/25/1938). Concerned for her father's legacy, Edwina Booth Grossman published a book of recollections of her father including edited transcriptions of many of his letters. She married Ignatius Grossman and had two children: Mildred Booth Grossman Tilton and Clarence Edwin Booth Grossman, an artist and member of the Players' Club who went by Edwin as an adult and died in 1957.

Scope and Content Note

The collection contains correspondence, writings, clippings, photographs, personal ephemera, programs, printed material and a few speeches. The primary focus of the collection is on the actor Edwin Booth. While there is some professional correspondence with colleagues and letters from Booth's first wife, Mary Devlin Booth, the bulk of the correspondence consists of his letters to his daughter Edwina from 1867 until his death in 1893. Most of these include her transcriptions made in preparation for her book, *Edwin Booth: Recollections by His Daughter Edwina Booth Grossman and Letters to Her and to His Friends*, a published edition of a selection of edited letters to his family and friends. The writings include Edwina Booth Grossman's reminiscences of her father, the clippings document Booth's theatrical career, the printed material is mainly about Booth and the photographs are of Booth as well as of his immediate family members and descendants.

Organization

- Series I: Edwin Booth
 - Sub-series 1 - Correspondence
 - Sub-series 2 - Speeches and writings
 - Sub-series 3 - Articles about him
 - Sub-series 4 - Programs and printed material
 - Sub-series 5 - Ephemera
- Series II: Mary Devlin Booth
 - Sub-series 1 - Correspondence
 - Sub-series 2 - Writings
- Series III: Edwina Booth Grossman
 - Sub-series 1 - Correspondence
 - Sub-series 2 - Writings
 - Sub-series 3 - Ephemera
- Series IV: Other Family Members
 - Sub-series 1 - Correspondence
 - Sub-series 2 - Ephemera
- Series V: Clippings
- Series VI: Photographs

Series Descriptions and Container Listing

Series I: Edwin Booth, ca. 1859-1926

1 box

Primarily incoming letters, both personal and professional, to the actor Edwin Booth, and printed material and miscellaneous ephemera pertaining to his career.

Sub-series 1 - Correspondence, ca. 1859-1892

17 folders

Alphabetical

Incoming letters to Booth are from family and friends. Includes one letter each from Lawrence Barrett and Sir Henry Irving, letters pertaining to his European tours, letters from his first wife, Mary Devlin Booth, letters and telegrams from her doctor during her brief final illness, a condolence letter from his brother-in-law, John Sleeper Clarke, after her death, a letter from his sister Rose with some discussion of their brother John Wilkes Booth, and a condolence letter written to Booth after the Lincoln assassination and the death of John Wilkes Booth. There are also a few letters and telegrams written by Booth to his friends.

- | | | |
|------|------|---|
| b. 1 | f. 1 | Correspondence / Lawrence Barrett, 1890
1 folder |
| b. 1 | f. 2 | Correspondence / Mary Devlin Booth, 1859
1 folder
Letters to Edwin Booth written before their marriage. |
| b. 1 | f. 3 | Correspondence / Mary Devlin Booth, 1860
1 folder
Letters to Edwin Booth written in the year of their marriage. |
| b. 1 | f. 4 | Correspondence / Mary Devlin Booth, 1862
1 folder |
| b. 1 | f. 5 | Correspondence / Rosalie Ann Booth, March 12, 1860
1 folder
Letter to Edwin Booth (Ned) from his sister, Rose, on family matters including some discussion of their brother, John Wilkes Booth. |
| b. 1 | f. 6 | Correspondence / Edwina Booth Grossman
1 folder
Letters [fragments, n.d.] to Edwin Booth from his daughter, |

Edwina.

- b. 1 f. 7 **Correspondence / J. S. (John Sleeper) Clarke, March 7, 1863**
1 folder
Condolence letter on the death of his wife to Edwin Booth from his brother-in-law.
- b. 1 f. 8 **Correspondence / Edmund Gosse, 1884**
1 folder
- b. 1 f. 9 **Correspondence / Sir Henry Irving, February 7, 1887**
1 folder
- b. 1 f. 10 **Correspondence / Jervis McEntee, 1889-1890**
1 folder
- b. 1 f. 11 **Correspondence / Erasmus D. Miller, February 18-19, 1863**
1 folder
Letters and telegrams to Edwin Booth from Dr. Miller and Orlando Tompkins on the final illness of Booth's young wife, Mary Devlin Booth.
- b. 1 f. 12 **Correspondence / Wynn (Wynn F.). Miller, July 22, 1883**
1 folder
Letter to Edwin Booth from the manager of his European tour with clipping about Miller.
- b. 1 f. 13 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, 1865-1892**
1 folder
Miscellaneous letters to Edwin Booth. Includes fan mail and letters from unidentified correspondents, including a condolence letter (incomplete) written after the Lincoln assassination and the death of John Wilkes Booth.
- b. 1 f. 14 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, 1883**
1 folder
Letters and tributes to Edwin Booth on his German tour.
- b. 1 f. 15 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, 1863-1873**
1 folder
Letters to Emma F. Carey. Includes originals and typed transcriptions made by Booth's daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, for her book about her father.
- b. 1 f. 16 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, 1861-1864**
1 folder
Typescript copies of letters to Thomas Hicks.

- b. 1 f. 17 Correspondence / Edwin Booth, ca. 1884-1892
1 folder
Telegrams by Edwin Booth.

Sub-series 2 - Speeches and Writings, ca. 1885

2 folders

This small sub-series consists of a manuscript fragment called "Booth's first attempt at autobiography" and a manuscript speech (not in his hand) given by Booth at the unveiling of the actors' monument to Edgar Allan Poe at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

- b. 1 f. 18 Writings / Edwin Booth
1 folder
Manuscript fragment of Edwin Booth's first attempt at autobiography.

- b. 1 f. 19 Writings / Edwin Booth, May 4, 1885
1 folder
Manuscript speech (not in his hand) given by Booth at the unveiling of the actors' monument to Edgar Allan Poe at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Also includes program, published booklet on the proceedings and ribbon.

Sub-series 3 - Articles about him, 1866-1922

5 folders

Alphabetical by author

These are articles about Edwin Booth primarily published in magazines; some are handwritten while others are in their published form. Includes a manuscript eulogy, "Edwin Booth in Germany" with a typescript copy.

- b. 1 f. 20 *Snap-shots of my contemporaries: Edwin Booth, interpreter /*
Lyman Abbott, April 20, 1921
1 folder
An issue of *The Outlook*, an illustrated weekly journal of current life, with a cover story on Booth as well as "Edwin Booth to John E. Russell: some hitherto unpublished letters," with an introduction by Edward L. Partridge.
- b. 1 f. 21 *The Hamlet of Edwin Booth: a psychological study / A. O.*
(Abner Otis) Kellogg, 1872
1 folder
Published article (New York: D. Appleton & Co.) reprinted from *The Journal of Psychological Medicine*, April 1872, with

clipping enclosed.

- b. 1 f. 22 *Edwin Booth in Germany* / Emanuel Lederer, 1893
1 folder
Manuscript eulogy with typescript copy.
- b. 1 f. 23 *Edwin Booth as a mason* / Joseph Fort Newton, 1915
1 folder
Typescript article.
- b. 1 f. 24 Article on Edwin Booth / Edward Clarence Stedman, May 1866
1 folder
Manuscript article on Booth for the *Atlantic Monthly*.

Sub-series 4 - Programs and printed material, 1867-1893

7 folders

This sub-series includes theater programs reflecting Booth's career and published articles not on Booth but on Booth's Theatre, his second wife, Mary McVicker, etc.

- b. 1 f. 25 Programs / Edwin Booth, ca. 1867-1882.
1 folder
- b. 1 f. 26 Programs / Edwin Booth, 1880-1881
1 folder
Programs from England when Booth was there.
- b. 1 f. 27 Programs / Edwin Booth, June 6, 1887
1 folder
Program for the dedication of the Actors' Monument at which Booth gave an address.
- b. 1 f. 28 Programs / Edwin Booth, November 13, 1883
1 folder
Program for the memorial service for Edwin Booth held on what would have been his sixtieth birthday; Joseph Jefferson, Tommaso Salvini and Henry Irving, among others, spoke.
- b. 1 f. 29 Articles / Booth's Theatre, 1870
1 folder
Published article, (New York: Henry L. Hinton): "Booth's Theatre: Behind the scenes, illustrated."
- b. 1 f. 30 Mary's funeral, 1881
1 folder
Published journal, *The New Church Independent* [December 1881] with accompanying letter [April 5, 1882] was sent to

Edwin Booth by J. S. Weller, the publisher, because it contains an article on Booth's second wife, Mary McVicker.

- b. 1 f. 31 **Printed material / Samuel W. Piercy, 1882**
1 folder
Booklet, "In memoriam: Samuel W. Piercy" was printed by his mother and distributed to his friends including Edwin Booth.

Sub-series 5 - Ephemera, ca. 1867-1926

5 folders

This sub-series consists of handwritten sheet music used in Booth's plays, a legal document on a breach of promise of marriage suit against Booth, financial papers including receipts and cancelled checks, and other ephemera including tour schedule cards, a theater pass in his hand, picture postcards of Booth's homes, poems written in his honor, pressed flowers sent to him, calling cards, and a handwritten list of "characters I have been".

- b. 1 f. 32 **Sheet music**
1 folder
Handwritten sheet music [n.d.] for "The principal numbers of the music used in Mr. Booth's plays, arranged for the pianoforte by J. C. Bartlett."
- b. 1 f. 33 **Legal documents / Edwin Booth, August 18, 1869**
1 folder
Notice of breach of promise of marriage instituted by Mrs. Catherine Austin against Edwin Booth.
- b. 1 f. 34 **Financial papers / Edwin Booth, 1867-1888**
1 folder
Receipts received by Edwin Booth.
- b. 1 f. 35 **Financial papers / Edwin Booth, 1883-1891**
1 folder
Cancelled checks signed by Edwin Booth.
- b. 1 f. 36 **Ephemera / Edwin Booth, 1862-1926**
1 folder
Miscellaneous ephemera that belonged to Edwin Booth consists of picture postcards of his homes, poems written in his honor [1880-1883], pressed flowers sent to him, calling cards, tour schedule cards [1882-83, 1889-90], a theater pass in his hand [1889], a book plate, his list of his mother's bonds and cash [1885], a small notebook with a few pages on financial matters, a running account [1862] from a Paris restaurant, a handwritten

list of "characters I have been," and two posthumous pieces: a program [1926] for the unveiling of various busts (including Booth's) at New York University at University Heights and a brochure on Mount Auburn cemetery where he is buried.

Series II: Mary Devlin Booth, 1859-1863

7 folders

This small series contains personal correspondence of Edwin Booth's first wife and one folder of her writings.

Sub-series 1 - Correspondence, 1859-1863

6 folders

Alphabetical

This sub-series contains correspondence between Mary Devlin Booth and some of her friends and photocopies of her letters to her husband with a calendar listing her letters and notebooks, many held by the Players Club. The correspondence with Mary Felton includes Felton's transcription of her brother, Richard Cary's, account of a Civil War battle as well as later letters written after his death in the war.

- b. 1 f. 37 Correspondence / Helen S. Cary
1 folder
Letter to Mary Devlin Booth from Helen S. Cary and Mrs. Booth's reply.
- b. 1 f. 38 Correspondence / Charlotte Cushman, 1861
1 folder
- b. 1 f. 39 Correspondence / Mary L. Felton, ca. 1862
1 folder
Letters [1862 and n.d.] to Mary Devlin Booth and Edwin Booth include Felton's handwritten transcription of her brother Richard Cary's account of a Civil War battle at Winchester and a later letter written after his death in the war.
- b. 1 f. 40 Correspondence / Mary Devlin Booth, 1862
1 folder
Letters to Mary L. Felton including one written after learning of her brother's death in the Civil War.
- b. 1 f. 41 Correspondence / Mary Devlin Booth, 1861
1 folder
Two letters by Mary Devlin Booth, one to her father and one to

little Julia.

b. 1 f. 42

Correspondence / Mary Devlin Booth, 1859-1963

1 folder

Photocopies of letters [1859-1863, most n.d.] by Mary Devlin Booth, most to her husband, Edwin Booth. Also includes a calendar of her letters and notebooks giving recipient, date and location. Many of the letters are at the Players Club.

Sub-series 2 - Writings, ca. 1860

1 folder

This sub-series consists of a record book containing a few pages of Mary Devlin Booth's careful criticisms of her husband's performances and a loose sheet containing a handwritten prayer for Civil War soldiers.

b. 2 f. 1

Writings / Mary Devlin Booth, ca. 1860

1 folder

Record book [1860 and n.d.] bound in red leather contains a few pages of Mary Devlin Booth's careful criticisms of her husband's performances. There are also a few loose handwritten sheets including a poem as well as some clippings pasted in.

Series III: Edwina Booth Grossman, 1867-1941

4 boxes

The largest series in the collection is this series of the papers of Edwina Booth Grossman. It has a wealth of information on her father, Edwin Booth, containing his letters to her, her transcriptions of many letters that he wrote to friends and manuscript drafts of her recollections of him. It also contains some material pertaining to her marriage and personal life.

Sub-series 1 - Correspondence, ca. 1867-1936

3 boxes

Alphabetical then chronological

The bulk of this sub-series, and of the entire collection in fact, filling most of three boxes, the manuscript letters Edwin Booth wrote to his daughter, mainly while he was on tour, are found here. They include her pencilled notations of sections to be omitted from her published version of his letters (any mention of her stepmother or of her father feeling unwell or unhappy, for example) and in many cases, her typed transcriptions of the edited letters. A few letters have "Don't copy!" written across the top. Some of these letters have suffered

water damage. This series also contains other letters received by Edwina Booth Grossman including letters and poems by her husband, Ignatius R. Grossman, and letters from prominent people, mainly from the world of theater, including Julia Marlowe, E. H. Sothern, Tommaso Salvini, Ellen Terry, Francis Wilson and Julia Ward Howe.

- b. 2 f. 2 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, 1867-1869**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 2 f. 3 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, 1870-1871**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, one with typed transcription. Some were published in her book, some say "Don't copy!" at the top.
- b. 2 f. 4 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, 1872**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book. One letter says "Do not copy" at the top.
- b. 2 f. 5 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, 1873**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some transcriptions of letters intended for her book. Some letters are water damaged.
- b. 2 f. 6 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, 1874**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some transcriptions of letters intended for her book. Some letters are water damaged.
- b. 2 f. 7 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, 1875**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book. Some letters are water damaged.
- b. 2 f. 8 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, 1876**
1 folder
- b. 2 f. 9 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, 1879-1883**
1 folder

Two manuscript letters and one card to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman.

- b. 2 f. 10 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, February-June 1885**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 2 f. 11 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, July-December 1885**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 2 f. 12 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, January-February 1886**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 2 f. 13 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, March-April 1886**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 2 f. 14 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, May-June 1886**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 2 f. 15 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, July-August 1886**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 2 f. 16 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, September 1886**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 3 f. 1 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, October 1886**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 3 f. 2 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, November 1886**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.

- b. 3 f. 3 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, December 1886**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman,
with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 3 f. 4 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, 1886**
1 folder
- b. 3 f. 5 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, January-February 1887**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman,
with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 3 f. 6 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, March-April 1887**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman,
with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 3 f. 7 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, May-June 1887**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman,
with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 3 f. 8 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, July-August 1887**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman,
with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 3 f. 9 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, September-October 1887**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman,
with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 3 f. 10 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, November-December 1887**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman,
with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 3 f. 11 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, 1887**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman,
one with a typed transcription intended for her book.
- b. 3 f. 12 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, January-February 1888**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman,
with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.

- b. 3 f. 13 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, March-April 1888**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman,
with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 3 f. 14 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, May-June 1888**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman,
with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 3 f. 15 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, July-August 1888**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman,
one with a typed transcription intended for her book.
- b. 3 f. 16 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, September-October 1888**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman,
with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 3 f. 17 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, November-December 1888**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman,
with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 4 f. 1 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, January-February 1889**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman,
with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 4 f. 2 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, March-April 1889**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman,
with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 4 f. 3 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, May-June 1889**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman,
with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 4 f. 4 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, July-August 1889**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman,
with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 4 f. 5 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, September-October 1889**
1 folder

Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.

- b. 4 f. 6 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, November-December 1889**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 4 f. 7 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, January-February 1890**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 4 f. 8 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, March-April 1890**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 4 f. 9 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, May-June 1890**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 4 f. 10 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, July-August 1890**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 4 f. 11 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, September-October 1890**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 4 f. 12 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, November-December 1890**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 4 f. 13 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, January-February 1891**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 4 f. 14 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, March-April 1891**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman, with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.

- b. 4 f. 15 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, May-July 1891**
1 folder
- b. 4 f. 16 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, September-December 1891**
1 folder
- b. 4 f. 17 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, 1892**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman,
with one typed transcription intended for her book.
- b. 4 f. 18 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth, 1893**
1 folder
Manuscript letters to his daughter, Edwina Booth Grossman,
with some typed transcriptions of letters intended for her book.
- b. 4 f. 19 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth**
1 folder
- b. 4 f. 20 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth**
1 folder
Manuscript letters [fragments, n.d.] to his daughter, Edwina
Booth Grossman, with one typescript fragment.
- b. 4 f. 21 **Correspondence / Roy Day, May 25, 1931.**
1 folder
- b. 4 f. 22 **Correspondence / Ignatius R. Grossman, 1867-1919**
1 folder
Letters and poems by Ignatius R. Grossman, most to his wife,
Edwina.
- b. 4 f. 23 **Correspondence / Julia Ward Howe, June 19, 1884**
1 folder
- b. 4 f. 24 **Correspondence / Ella V. Mahoney, 1925-1940**
1 folder
Letters to Edwina Booth Grossman and her son Edwin with a
copy of one of her responses enclosed concerning Booth family
history.
- b. 4 f. 25 **Correspondence / Julia Marlowe, January 15, 1936**
1 folder
- b. 4 f. 26 **Correspondence / Tommaso Salvini, 1902-1903**
1 folder
Letters and a photograph to Edwina Booth Grossman.

- b. 4 f. 27 Correspondence / E. H. (Edward Hugh) Sothern, February 9, 1903
1 folder
- b. 4 f. 28 Correspondence / Dame Ellen Terry
1 folder
Photograph [n.d.] of Ellen Terry as Beatrice used as a Christmas card for Edwina Booth Grossman.
- b. 4 f. 29 Correspondence / Francis Wilson, January 4, 1920
1 folder
- b. 4 f. 30 Correspondence / William Winter, July 2, 1893
1 folder
Letter to Edwina Booth Grossman with poem enclosed.
- b. 5 f. 1 Correspondence / Edwina Booth Grossman, ca. 1892-1927
1 folder
Letters received by Edwina Booth Grossman from various correspondents, some unidentified.

Sub-series 2 - Writings, ca. 1875-1894

12 folders

This sub-series includes a school assignment by the thirteen year old Edwina Booth on politeness, manuscript drafts of her recollections of her father written for the introduction of her book, *Edwin Booth: Recollections by His Daughter Edwina Booth Grossman and Letters to Her and to His Friends* (New York: Century Co., 1894), and her handwritten transcriptions of letters, mostly written by her father to his friends, two written by her mother to "little Julia". The majority of the letters by her father appeared in the book she published, but the ones to Thompson Launt did not. The dates of the original letters are 1860-1893; her transcriptions were probably made ca. 1894.

- b. 5 f. 2 Writings / Edwina Booth Grossman, June 3, 1875
1 folder
Manuscript essay on politeness written by Edwina Booth for a school assignment.
- b. 5 f. 3 Writings / Edwina Booth Grossman
1 folder
Manuscript essay [n.d.] on her recollections of her father, Edwin Booth. This is a draft in ink for the introduction of her book, *Edwin Booth* published by Century Co. in 1894.
- b. 5 f. 4 Writings / Edwina Booth Grossman

1 folder

Manuscript essay [n.d.] on her recollections of her father, Edwin Booth. This is a draft mostly in pencil and heavily revised for the introduction of her book, *Edwin Booth* published by Century Co. in 1894.

b. 5 f. 5

Transcriptions of Edwin Booth's letters / Edwina Booth Grossman

1 folder

Edwina Booth Grossman's handwritten transcriptions of her father's letters [186?-1868] to his friends, the Careys: Miss Emma F. and her sister-in-law Helen, Mrs. Richard F.

b. 5 f. 6

Transcriptions of Edwin Booth's letters / Edwina Booth Grossman, 1875-1876

1 folder

Edwina Booth Grossman's handwritten transcriptions of her father's letters to her used in her book and stamped "copy with galleys."

b. 5 f. 7-8

Transcriptions of Edwin Booth's letters / Edwina Booth Grossman, 1862-1884

2 folders

Edwina Booth Grossman's handwritten transcriptions of her father's letters to Launt Thompson. These letters were not in her published book, *Edwin Booth*.

b. 5 f. 9

Transcriptions of Edwin Booth's letters / Edwina Booth Grossman, 1860-1879

1 folder

Edwina Booth Grossman's transcriptions, mostly typed, of her father's letters to his friends published in her book, *Edwin Booth*.

b. 5 f. 10

Transcriptions of Edwin Booth's letters / Edwina Booth Grossman, 1879-1890

1 folder

Edwina Booth Grossman's transcriptions, mostly typed, of her father's letters to his friends published in her book, *Edwin Booth*.

b. 5 f. 11

Transcriptions of Edwin Booth's letters / Edwina Booth Grossman, 1882-1889

1 folder

Edwina Booth Grossman's transcriptions, mostly typed, of additional letters by her father to his friends to add to her book, *Edwin Booth* and the accompanying letter [1894] by her

publisher, the Century Co.

- b. 5 f. 12 Transcriptions of Edwin Booth's letters / Edwina Booth Grossman, 1881
1 folder
Edwina Booth Grossman's typed transcriptions of a letter her father received and an anecdote written about him neither of which ended up in her published book nor is here in the original manuscript.

- b. 5 f. 13 Transcriptions of Mary Devlin Booth's letters / Edwina Booth Grossman, 1860
1 folder
Edwina Booth Grossman's typed transcriptions of her mother, Mary Devlin Booth's, letters to little Julia from "Aunt Mary."

Sub-series 3 - Ephemera, ca. 1885-1941

3 folders

This sub-series consists of a few financial papers of Edwina and her son, Edwin Booth Grossman, her estate administrator; the marriage certificate of Edwina and Ignatius Grossman; and miscellaneous calling cards, tickets and an official note from the Players Club thanking her for her book on her father.

- b. 5 f. 14 Financial papers / Edwina Booth Grossman, 1916-1941
1 folder
Financial papers of Edwina Booth Grossman and her son, Edwin Booth Grossman as estate administrator.
- b. 5 f. 15 Marriage certificate / Edwina Booth Grossman, May 16, 1885
1 folder
Marriage certificate of Edwina Booth and Ignatius R. Grossman.
- b. 5 f. 16 Ephemera / Edwina Booth Grossman, 1891
1 folder
Miscellaneous calling cards, tickets and a formal note from the Players Club thanking Edwina Booth Grossman for her book on her father.

Series IV: Other Family Members, 1840-1953

15 folders

Family members represented here are primarily Ignatius R. Grossman, the husband of Edwina Booth Grossman, and their son, Edwin Booth Grossman. There is also a small amount of Booth family material.

Sub-series 1 - Correspondence, ca. 1874-1953

9 folders

Alphabetical

This sub-series includes letters Edwina Booth Grossman wrote to her husband and children and letters her husband, Ignatius R. Grossman and their son, Edwin Booth Grossman, received from others. Also miscellaneous family correspondence, some unidentified.

- b. 5 f. 17 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth**
1 folder
Note [1891?] by Edwin Booth to his son-in-law, Ignatius R. Grossman
- b. 5 f. 18 **Correspondence / Edwina Booth Grossman, 1884**
1 folder
Letters by Edwina Booth to her future husband, Ignatius R. Grossman.
- b. 5 f. 19 **Correspondence / Walter Hampden, March 18, 1920**
1 folder
Letter to Ignatius R. Grossman.
- b. 5 f. 20 **Correspondence / Ignatius R. Grossman, 1894-1918**
1 folder
Three letters to Ignatius R. Grossman.
- b. 5 f. 21 **Correspondence / Edwina Booth Grossman, ca. 1923-1930**
1 folder
Letters to her son, Edwin Booth Grossman (Ted).
- b. 5 f. 22 **Correspondence / Edwin Booth Grossman, ca. 1930-1953**
Letters from various correspondents sent to Edwin Booth Grossman, a grandson of Edwin Booth.
- b. 5 f. 23 **Correspondence / Edwina Booth Grossman**
1 folder
Letters [n.d.] to her daughter Mildred.
- b. 5 f. 24 **Correspondence / Grossman family, ca. 1874-1918**
1 folder
- b. 5 f. 25 **Miscellaneous correspondence, ca. 1890-1893**
1 folder
Miscellaneous correspondence includes third party and

unidentified.

Sub-series 2 - Ephemera, ca. 1840-1912

6 folders

This sub-series consists of a Fourth of July speech given by Ignatius R. Grossman in Switzerland in 1912, an article about the Booth family and articles about the Players Club, a program (1840) for shows in which Junius Brutus Booth, the elder, starred, and miscellaneous items including calling cards, notes, poems, a 1905 membership directory for the Players Club that belonged to Ignatius Grossman, and locks of hair from the heads of various family members.

- b. 6 f. 1 Fourth of July speech / Ignatius R. Grossman, July 4, 1912
1 folder
Manuscript speech given at a fourth of July celebration in Switzerland where Grossman had come for the baths at the recommendation of his doctors.
- b. 6 f. 2 *The Booth family in Maryland* / Walter Edgar McCann
1 folder
Article [n.d.] on the Booth family.
- b. 6 f. 3 Articles / Players (Club)
1 folder
Articles [n.d.] on the Players Club, Edwin Booth's gift to his fellow players.
- b. 6 f. 4 Programs / Junius Brutus Booth, April 17, 1840
1 folder
A program highlighting Mr. Booth in two starring roles: one in *The Iron Chest*, the other in *The Mountaineers*.
- b. 6 f. 5 Ephemera / Grossman family, ca. 1905-1906
1 folder
Miscellaneous ephemera [1905-1906 and n.d.] includes calling cards, notes, poems, a membership directory [1905] of the Players Club that belonged to Ignatius Grossman and a notebook probably kept by Edwin Booth Grossman which lists some costumes and props that had belonged to his grandfather, Edwin Booth.
- b. 6 f. 6 Ephemera / Grossman family, ca. 1892
1 folder
Locks of hair [1892 and n.d.] that belonged to members of the Booth and Grossman families.

Series V: Clippings, ca. 1855-1918

34 folders

Clippings, all photocopied, document the career of Edwin Booth. They are arranged chronologically (1870-1879, 1875: carriage accident, 1879: assassination attempt, 1880-1889, etc.) and then alphabetically by author/title for reviews of specific plays. This is followed by undated theater reviews, then undated general reviews on Booth's career and travels, then final illness, death and funeral, posthumous (reminiscences of, estate, memorial, etc.). Finally Booth family, miscellaneous and clippings on the actor Edwin Forrest found with the rest of the clippings. Other clippings on a very wide range of topics from humor to taxes but with no mention of any Booths or Grossmans or the theater or any annotations or explanations of why they were kept or by whom were removed from the collection.

- b. 6 f. 7 **Clippings / Edwin Booth, 1865-1866**
1 folder
Clippings on Booth's return to the stage after his brother, John Wilkes Booth, assassinated President Abraham Lincoln.
- b. 6 f. 8 **Clippings / Edwin Booth, 1867-1876**
1 folder
Clippings on the medal presented to Booth in honor of his one hundred consecutive performances of *Hamlet*.
- b. 6 f. 9 **Clippings / Edwin Booth, ca. 1868-1878**
1 folder
Clippings on Edwin Booth's theater and the financial problems it caused him.
- b. 6 f. 10 **Clippings / Edwin Booth, 1870-1879**
1 folder
Clippings on the stage career of Edwin Booth.
- b. 6 f. 11 **Clippings / Edwin Booth, 1875**
1 folder
Clippings on the carriage accident suffered by Edwin Booth.
- b. 6 f. 12 **Clippings / Edwin Booth, 1879**
1 folder
Clippings on the assassination attempt on Edwin Booth.
- b. 6 f. 13 **Clippings / Edwin Booth, 1880-1889**
1 folder
Clippings on the stage career of Edwin Booth.

- b. 6 f. 14 **Clippings / Edwin Booth, 1890-1893**
1 folder
Clippings on the stage career of Edwin Booth and an 1893 article on his youth.
- b. 6 f. 15 ***The iron chest* / George Colman**
1 folder
Clippings [n.d.] of reviews of Edwin Booth in *The Iron Chest*.
- b. 6 f. 16 ***Richelieu* / Edward Bulwer Lytton, Baron Lytton, ca. 1877-1890**
1 folder
Clippings of reviews of Edwin Booth as Richelieu.
- b. 6 f. 17 ***Hamlet* / William Shakespeare, ca. 1877-1888**
1 folder
Clippings of reviews of Edwin Booth as Hamlet.
- b. 6 f. 18 ***King Henry VIII* / William Shakespeare, 1878**
1 folder
Clippings of reviews of Edwin Booth as Cardinal Wolsey in *Henry VIII*.
- b. 6 f. 19 ***Julius Caesar* / William Shakespeare, ca. 1864-1888**
1 folder
Clippings of reviews of *Julius Caesar* primarily from the Booth-Barrett production in 1888, but also of a few others including the 1864 production of the play, the only time the three Booth brothers: Edwin, John Wilkes and Junius Brutus, played together.
- b. 6 f. 20 ***King Lear* / William Shakespeare, 1881-1888**
1 folder
Clippings of reviews of Edwin Booth as King Lear.
- b. 6 f. 21 ***Macbeth* / William Shakespeare, ca. 1888-1890**
1 folder
Clippings of reviews of Edwin Booth as Macbeth.
- b. 6 f. 22 ***Merchant of Venice* / William Shakespeare, ca. 1877-1890**
1 folder
Clippings of reviews of Edwin Booth as Shylock in *The Merchant of Venice*.
- b. 6 f. 23 ***Much ado about nothing* / William Shakespeare, 1877-1890**
1 folder
Clippings of reviews of Edwin Booth as Benedick in *Much Ado About Nothing*.
- b. 6 f. 24 ***Othello* / William Shakespeare, ca. 1878-1889**

- 1 folder
Clippings of reviews of Edwin Booth as both Iago and Othello.
- b. 6 f. 25 ***King Richard II* / William Shakespeare, ca. 1875-1878**
1 folder
Clippings of reviews of Edwin Booth in *Richard II*.
- b. 6 f. 26 ***King Richard III* / William Shakespeare, ca. 1876-1885**
1 folder
Clippings of reviews of Edwin Booth in *Richard III*.
- b. 6 f. 27 ***Fool's revenge* / Tom Taylor, ca. 1877-1889.**
1 folder
Clippings of reviews of Edwin Booth as Bertuccio in the *Fool's Revenge*.
- b. 6 f. 28 **Clippings / Edwin Booth**
1 folder
Clippings [n.d.] of theater reviews of Booth in various roles.
- b. 6 f. 29 **Clippings / Edwin Booth**
1 folder
General clippings [n.d.] on Booth's career, travels, etc.
- b. 6 f. 30 **Clippings / Edwin Booth, 1892-1893**
1 folder
Clippings on the final illness of Edwin Booth.
- b. 7 f. 1-2 **Obituaries / Edwin Booth, June 1893**
2 folders
Clippings on the death and funeral of Edwin Booth.
- b. 7 f. 3 **Clippings / Edwin Booth, June 1893**
1 folder
Posthumous clippings on Edwin Booth.
- b. 7 f. 4 **Clippings / Edwin Booth, ca. 1893-1902**
1 folder
Clippings of reminiscences of Edwin Booth.
- b. 7 f. 5 **Clippings / Edwin Booth, ca. 1893**
1 folder
Clippings of poems to Edwin Booth that appeared in newspapers.
- b. 7 f. 6 **Clippings / Edwin Booth, ca. 1893**
1 folder
Clippings on the estate of Edwin Booth.

- b. 7 f. 7 **Clippings / Edwin Booth, ca. 1918**
1 folder
Clippings on the Edwin Booth memorial.

- b. 7 f. 8 **Clippings / Booth family, ca. 1863-1898**
1 folder
Clippings on members of the Booth family.

- b. 7 f. 9 **Clippings / Edwin Booth, ca. 1862-1897**
1 folder
Miscellaneous clippings, most touch slightly on the theater or Edwin Booth. One is excerpts from a soldier's letter on a Civil War battle in 1862.

- b. 7 f. 10 **Clippings / Edwin Forrest, 1855**
1 folder
Clippings on the actor, Edwin Forrest, by Edward S. Fry.

Series VI: Photographs, ca. 1867-1926

1 box

The bulk of the photographs are of Edwin Booth including portraits from his young manhood to old age, photographs of him in costume and photographs of him with others including his friend, the actor Lawrence Barrett, his daughter, Edwina as a little girl, and his grandchildren. There is one portrait each of his two parents, one of his brother, Junius Brutus Booth, Jr., two of his brother, John Wilkes Booth, and two of his first wife, Mary Devlin Booth so obviously some of the photographs predate 1867. There are also photographs of other members of the Booth and Grossman families, some unidentified; photographs of the unveiling ceremony in 1918 of the statue of Edwin Booth as Hamlet in Gramercy Square Park; a photograph of an interior of the Players Club; and a few miscellaneous photographs sent to Edwin Booth or his daughter.

- b. 8 f. 1-2 **Photographs / Edwin Booth**
2 folders
Portrait photographs of Edwin Booth, most undated, cover his young manhood to old age.

- b. 8 f. 3 **Photographs / Edwin Booth**
1 folder
Photographs [n.d.] of the actor Edwin Booth in costume as Hamlet, Iago and Richelieu.

- b. 8 f. 4 **Photographs / Edwin Booth**
1 folder

- Photographs [n.d.] of Edwin Booth with his friend the actor Lawrence Barrett.
- b. 8 f. 5 **Photographs / Edwin Booth, 1867**
1 folder
Two photographs of Edwin Booth with his daughter Edwina.
- b. 8 f. 6 **Photographs / Edwin Booth, 1887-1891**
1 folder
Photographs of Edwin Booth with his grandchildren and other family members (his daughter Edwina?) taken by his son-in-law Ignatius Grossman.
- b. 8 f. 7 **Photographs / Mary Devlin Booth**
1 folder
Two photographs [n.d.] of Edwin Booth's first wife, Mary Devlin Booth.
- b. 8 f. 8 **Photographs / Booth family.**
1 folder
Photographs [n.d.] of the actor Junius Brutus Booth, Sr., his wife Mary Ann Holmes Booth and their son, the actor, Junius Brutus Booth, Jr.
- b. 8 f. 9 **Photographs / John Wilkes Booth**
1 folder
Two photographs [n.d.] of John Wilkes Booth.
- b. 8 f. 10 **Photographs / Booth family, 1875.**
1 folder
Three photographs of the Clarke sisters, daughters of Edwin Booth's sister Asia and her husband John Sleeper Clarke, sent to Uncle Edwin.
- b. 8 f. 11 **Photographs / Mildred Booth Grossman**
1 folder
Photographs [n.d.] of Mildred Booth Grossman, the daughter of Edwina Booth and Ignatius R. Grossman, as a baby and child. In one picture she is held by a man who is probably her father.
- b. 8 f. 12 **Photographs / Grossman family, 1867-1916**
1 folder
Photographs of members of the Grossman family are mostly undated and unidentified.
- b. 8 f. 13 **Photographs / Booth family, 1926**
1 folder

Photographs of two of the great grandchildren of Edwin Booth, named Edwina and Booth.

- b. 8 f. 14 **Gramercy Park memorial ceremony photographs, 1913**
1 folder
Photographs of the ceremony for the unveiling of the statue of Edwin Booth as Hamlet in Gramercy Park, New York.
- b. 8 f. 15 **Photographs / Players (Club), 1907**
1 folder
A photograph of the interior of the Players Club in Gramercy Square, New York.
- b. 8 f. 16 **Photographs / Edith Barrett, ca. 1925**
1 folder
Two autographed photographs, one addressed to Aunt Edwina.
- b. 8 f. 17 **Photographs / Frank Edwin Elwell, 1892**
1 folder
Photograph of the sculptor's studio sent to Edwin Booth by F. Edwin Elwell, the sculptor of a relief portrait of Booth.

Separated Materials

Scripts used or owned by Edwin Booth that were received in the gift of Mrs. Henry C. White were cataloged individually in the Library's Scripts Collection. They include:

- *Don Caesar de Bazan* by Beckett & Lemon
- *Richelieu* by Bulwer-Lytton
- *The Court Fool, or A King's Amusement* by W.E. Burton
- *Manfred* by Byron
- *Hamlet* by William Shakespeare
- *Julius Caesar* by William Shakespeare

An oversized photograph of the grave of Edwin Booth at Mount Auburn Cemetery in Cambridge, Massachusetts has been placed in the Library's "C" Photo Files. Three-dimensional items such as stage jewelry and accessories were separated from the collection and placed in the Library's T-cabinet many years ago.