



The New York Public Library  
Billy Rose Theatre Division

Guide to the

**Reminiscences of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company**

\*T-Mss 1998-059

## Summary

**Creator:** Horner, Ralph

**Title:** Reminiscences of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company

**Size:** (1 portfolio)

**Source:** Gift, Lam, Laurie, 12/08/1998

**Abstract:** Ralph Horner was a conductor for the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company of London from the late 1870s until the early 1890s. In addition to conducting the orchestra, Horner served as stage manager on the company's tours. He also wrote *FOUR BY HONOURS*, a one-act "curtain raiser" performed as a prolog to the Gilbert and Sullivan shows on the tours of 1879 and 1880. Consists of an eight page draft of a letter, written by Ralph Horner to an unknown recipient, in which he reminisces about his years with the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company, conducting the operettas of Gilbert and Sullivan. The bulk of the text concerns incidents which occurred during the troupe's extensive tours of England. A number of emendations in the author's hand have been made in the text.

**Preferred citation:** Reminiscences of the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company, Billy Rose Theatre Division, The New York Public Library

## Creator History

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## Scope and Content Note

Consists of an eight page draft of a letter, written by Ralph Horner to an unknown recipient, in which he reminisces about his years with the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company, conducting the operettas of Gilbert and Sullivan. The bulk of the text concerns incidents which occurred during the troupe's extensive tours of England. A number of emendations in the author's hand have been made in the text.

## **Key Terms**

### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Correspondence

### **Names**

Horner, Ralph

Carte, Richard D'Oyly, 1844-1901

Gilbert, W. S. (William Schwenck), 1836-1911

Sullivan, Arthur, 1842-1900

D'Oyly Carte Opera Company