Charles Leslie Allen Playbook Collection, circa 1826-1900, undated

Administrative Information
Creator
Allen, C. Leslie (Charles Leslie), 1830-1917

Call Number
PN 2220 .A45

Extent
1 manuscript box (.4 linear feet)

Repository
Rare Book Room, Buffalo and Erie County Public Library

Abstract
Contains nineteenth century prompt books and plays belonging to actor Charles Leslie Allen.

Terms of Use
The Charles Leslie Allen Playbook Collection is open for research.

Reproduction of Materials
See librarian for information on reproducing materials from this collection, including photocopies, digital camera images, or digital scans, as well as copyright restrictions that may pertain to these materials.

Preferred Citation
[Description and dates], Box/folder number, Charles Leslie Allen Playbook Collection, Central Library: Rare Book Room, Buffalo and Erie County Public Library.

Acquisition
See librarian for acquisition information.

Biographical Note
Charles Leslie Allen was born in June, 1830 in Boston, Massachusetts. He performed in the first stage presentation of Uncle Tom’s Cabin in Troy, New York in 1852. “Before he made his professional debut at Troy… he appeared in many amateur productions, and in one of these in Boston he spoke the last words on the stage of the Old Drury Theatre. He made his first appearance in New York in 1880 at Wallack’s in Kit, but prior to that he was for many years a member of the stock company at the Boston Theatre. In 1887 Mr. Allen appeared in Julia Marlowe’s company, and among his roles was Sir Toby Belch in Twelfth Night, a part he also played with Modjeska on one of her American tours. From 1892-1896 he was in John Drew’s supporting company, and since 1900 he had played mostly in his daughter’s companies.”
Allen was best known as the father of Viola Allen, a famous stage actress in her own right, who performed in Buffalo eleven times between 1900 and 1910. In 1910, she starred in the world debut of Love in Livery, February 15 and 16, at the Star Theatre. Charles Leslie Allen died February 23, 1917 in Stamford, Connecticut.


**Scope and Content**

This collection contains a series of 18 prompt books and plays belonging to actor Charles Leslie Allen. These playbooks were performance copies, with most signed and annotated by Allen. Many are in fragile condition; caution is advised.

**Container List**

*Arrangement: Alphabetical by title.*

1.1 Born to Good Luck, undated; by Tyrone Power, signed and annotated by Allen.

1.2 The Captain's Not A-Miss, undated; by Thomas Egerton Wilks, signed and annotated by Allen.

1.3 The Court of Old Fritz, undated; by John Frederick Smith, signed by Allen.

1.4 East Lynne, undated; by Mrs. Henry Wood, signed by Allen.

1.5 The Gambler’s Fate, undated; by H. M. Milner, signed by Allen and Harry Seymour.

1.6 Grandfather Whitehead, undated; by Mark Lemon, signed by Allen and G. W. Johnson.

1.7 Helping Hands, undated; by Tom Taylor, signed by Allen.

1.8 Money, undated; by Edward Bulwer Lytton, signed and annotated by Allen.

1.9 Nursery Chickweed, undated; by Thomas J. Williams, signed by Allen.

1.10 The Octoroon, undated; by Dion Boucicault.

1.11 The Pet of the Petticoats, undated; by John Baldwin Buckstone, signed by Allen.

1.12 Rob Roy, undated; by Isaac Pocock, signed and annotated by Allen.

1.13 The School of Reform, 1826; by Thomas Morton, signed and annotated by Allen.
1.14 Simpson & Co., undated; by John Poole, signed and annotated by Allen.

1.15 Teddy Roe, undated; by Edward Stirling, signed by Allen.

1.16 To Oblige Benson, undated; by Tom Taylor, signed by Allen.

1.17 The Toodles, undated; by Richard John Raymond, signed by Allen.
1.18 The Wandering Minstrel, undated; by Henry Mayhew, signed by Allen.

Search Terms

Authors
700 Boucicault, Dion, 1820-1890
700 Buckstone, John Baldwin, 1802-1879
700 Lemon, Mark, 1809-1870
700 Lytton, Edward Bulwer Lytton, Baron, 1803-1873
700 Mayhew, Henry, 1812-1887
700 Milner, H. M. (Henry M.)
700 Morton, Thomas, 1764-1838
700 Pocock, I. (Isaac), 1782-1835
700 Poole, John, 1786?-1872
700 Power, Tyrone, 1797-1841
700 Raymond, R. J. (Richard John)
700 Smith, J. F. (John Frederick), 1806-1890
700 Stirling, Edward, 1807-1894
700 Taylor, Tom, 1817-1880
700 Wilks, Thomas Egerton, 1812-1854
700 Williams, Thomas J. (Thomas John), 1824-1874
700 Wood, Henry, Mrs., 1814-1887

Subject terms
650 Drama—19th century
650 Theater

Genre terms
655 plays (document genre)
655 scripts (documents)