

Yale University Library
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Guide to the Fred E. Pond Papers Related to Fishing

GEN MSS 904



by Beinecke Staff

2012

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New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
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Table of Contents

Collection Overview	3
Requesting Instructions	3
Administrative Information	4
Immediate Source of Acquisition	4
Conditions Governing Access	4
Conditions Governing Use	4
Preferred Citation	4
Processing Information	4
Fred E. Pond (1856-1925)	4
Scope and Contents	5
Arrangement	5
Collection Contents	6
Series I: Correspondence and Writings, 1876-1922	6
Correspondence	6
Writings	7
Series II: Papers Related to Authors, 1863-1918	8
Kit Clarke	8
Charles Hallock	8
Henry William Herbert ("Frank Forester")	8
Isaac McLellan	9
Series III: Visual Materials, 1875-1930	10
Drawings and Paintings	10
Ephemera	10
Photographs	10
Series IV: Other Papers, 1750-1947	12
Selected Search Terms	13

Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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New Haven, CT 06520-8330
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CALL NUMBER: GEN MSS 904

CREATOR: Pond, Fred. E. (Frederick Eugene), 1856-1925

TITLE: Fred E. Pond papers related to fishing

DATES: 1750-1947

BULK DATES: 1876-1922

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 1.33 linear feet (4 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The papers contain correspondence, photographs, drawings, writings, and ephemera primarily related to fishing, publications on fishing, and the history of fishing. Much of the correspondence is in regard to the life and work of the author Henry William Herbert ("Frank Forester") and includes letters from his daughter Margaret Herbert Mather and various authors, booksellers, and independent researchers. The papers also hold correspondence and material on three other writers of interest to Pond: Kit Clarke, Charles Hallock and Isaac McLellan. Also present are more than fifty photographic portraits of notable men active in field sports and sporting publications, ephemeral items such as cigarette and trade cards bearing images of fish and fishing, a book of sketches of fishermen by Wakeman Holberton, a watercolor by Joseph F. Sabin inscribed to collector David Wagstaff, and a group of letters and manuscripts related to the sport of fishing.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.pond>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.pond>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Lindley Eberstadt, 1975.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Fred E. Pond Papers Related to Fishing is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Fred E. Pond Papers Related to Fishing. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Processing Information

The collection was examined, described, and appraised in 1975 by Jerry E. Patterson, and some of the description in this finding aid come from his appraisal document.

Further organization, rehousing, and description were carried out in 2012.

This collection contains materials previously identified by the following call number: Uncat MS Vault 255

Fred E. Pond (1856-1925)

The American sporting editor and bibliographer Frederick Eugene Pond, also known as "Will Wildwood," was born in Packwaukee, Marquette County, Wisconsin, on April 8, 1856, one of four children born to Simeon and Flora Hotchkiss Pond. Especially interested in the history of field sports in America and in the bibliography of sporting publications, Pond's particular focus was the work of Henry William Herbert (1807-1858), a British-born author who wrote under the name "Frank Forester" and was the most prominent sporting writer in nineteenth-century America.

Pond moved to New York in 1881 to become the field editor of *Turf, Field, and Farm*, after which he returned to Wisconsin to publish and edit *Wildwood's Magazine* from 1888 until it merged with *Turf, Field, and Farm* in 1889. He served as editor of *Sportsmen's Review* (Cincinnati) from 1897 to 1917 and of *American Angler* (New York) from 1917 to 1918, and wrote the "rod and gun" column in the *New York Herald-Herald Tribune* from 1923 to his death. Works of other authors edited by Pond include two volumes of writings by Henry William Herbert in 1879 and 1881, Isaac McLellan's *Poems of the Rod and Gun* (1886), and Charles Hallock's *An Angler's Reminiscences* (1913). Among Pond's own writings were *Hand-book for Young Sportsmen* (1876), *Memoirs of Eminent Sportsmen* (1878), *Gun Trial and Field Records of America* (1883), *The Sportsman's Directory* (1891), and *Fishcraft, a Treatise on Fresh Water Fish and Fishing* (1922); his *Life and Adventures of "Ned Buntline"* was first serialized in *Wildwood's Magazine* and later released in a limited edition volume (1919). Pond died in New York on November 1, 1925, and was buried in Warwick, New York, near a memorial erected to the memory of Henry William Herbert.

Scope and Contents

The papers contain correspondence, photographs, drawings, writings, and ephemera primarily related to fishing, publications on fishing, and the history of fishing. Much of the correspondence is in regard to the life and work of the author Henry William Herbert ("Frank Forester") and includes letters from his daughter Margaret Herbert Mather, various authors, booksellers, and independent researchers, and floor plans of his home in Newark, New Jersey. The papers also hold correspondence and material on three other writers of interest to Pond: Kit Clarke, Charles Hallock and Isaac McLellan. Also present are more than fifty photographic portraits of notable men active in field sports and sporting publications, ephemeral items such as cigarette and trade cards bearing images of fish and fishing, and a group of letters and manuscripts related to the sport.

Arrangement

Organized into four series: I. Correspondence and Writings, 1876-1922. II. Papers Related to Authors, 1863-1918. III. Visual Materials, 1875-1930. IV. Other Papers, 1750-1947.

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence and Writings, 1876-1922

0.42 linear feet (1 box)

The series primarily contains letters related to Pond's interest in the author Henry William Herbert ("Frank Forester"), including correspondence with his daughter Margaret Herbert Mather, and various authors, booksellers, and independent researchers. Pond was in touch with the most active collectors of Frank Forester; their correspondence sheds much light on the author's career and contains information of bibliographical importance. Literary pseudonyms of correspondents follow their names.

Series I is organized into two subseries: Correspondence, and Writings.

Correspondence

b. 1, f. 1	Burrell, Mary H. Mrs. Burrell was an historian and genealogist, as well as an editor, who assisted Pond in his research into the life and works of Henry William Herbert; many of her lengthy letters concern Newark, New Jersey, where Herbert lived, and describe the results of her inquiries.	1913-1919
b. 1, f. 2	Durivage, Francis A. (Francis Alexander) Includes an autograph manuscript autobiographical sketch and an autograph manuscript biographical sketch of Boston merchant and sporting writer James Oakes ("Acorn") probably written by Durivage for the periodical <i>Spirit of the Times</i> . Durivage was a well-known author and journalist who contributed to several of the publications edited by Pond.	1877-1880
b. 1, f. 3	Eaton, George Boardman ("Jacobstaff")	1906 Mar 10
b. 1, f. 4	Faddis, W. I. ("Toxophilus") Correspondence relating to Faddis's interest in Henry William Herbert, his life and works, and other American sporting writers.	1876-1877
b. 1, f. 5	Hornby, E. B. (Eliza Benedict)	1913-1914
b. 1, f. 6	Mather, Margaret Herbert Seventeen letters, many of considerable length, discussing the biography of her father, Henry William Herbert, his books, etc. Mrs. Mather edited <i>The Poems of Frank Forester</i> just at the time of this correspondence, and the letters are full of information and reflections on this editorial work.	1886-1899
b. 1, f. 7	McLellan, Isaac	1898 Oct 18
b. 1, f. 8	Picton, Thomas ("Paul Preston") Picton was an important journalist and sporting writer of the time.	1876 July 5
b. 1, f. 9	Raymond, George B. Correspondence relating to the collecting of sporting books, especially the works of Henry William Herbert, containing many notes on bibliographical problems, rarity, etc.	1876-1915

Correspondence (continued)

b. 1, f. 10	Sibley, Henry Hastings ("Hal a Dacotah") Includes a cabinet portrait photograph of Sibley by C. A. Zimmerman and inscribed to Pond, a clipped article by Sibley, and a published biographical sketch of Sibley.	1876-1888
b. 1, f. 11	Thorpe, Henry Thorpe was a New York book dealer.	1879-1880
b. 1, f. 12	Thorpe, Thomas Bangs	1877-1878
b. 1, f. 13	Warren, T. Robinson (Thomas Robinson) Includes an autograph manuscript autobiographical essay; Warren was a pupil of Henry William Herbert and his reminiscences of that author are a major portion of his manuscript.	1876-1894
b. 1, f. 14	Zimmerman, Charles A. Zimmerman was a photographer in St. Paul, Minnesota, who photographed many sportsmen	1876-1880
b. 1, f. 15	General correspondence Letters addressed to Pond, many in his capacity as editor of various sporting publications and mostly dealing with editorial questions, book collecting, Henry William Herbert/Frank Forester, bibliography, planned articles, sporting recollections, history of sport in America, etc.	1876-1920
Writings		
b. 1, f. 16	"American Fish Culture, Its Origins and Utility" Typescript, signed	1907
b. 1, f. 17	Biographical material Contains clipped entries from <i>Who's Who in America</i> , and a manuscript biography titled "The Death of Mr. Fred E. Pond - Will Wildwood."	1922, undated

Series II: Papers Related to Authors, 1863-1918*0.21 linear feet (1 box)*

The series contains correspondence, research material, and printed material related to four authors of interest to Pond.

Series II is organized into four subseries: Kit Clarke, Charles Hallock, Henry William Herbert, and Isaac McLellan.

Kit Clarke		
b. 2, f. 18	Correspondence Includes one letter from Clarke to Pond (1918), and ten letters from others to Clarke.	1884-1918
b. 2, f. 19	Illustrations Contains one graphite drawing of a trout, two ink sketches of outdoorsmen, and one engraving of a fish.	1884, undated
b. 2, f. 20	Other papers Contains copyright paperwork, notes, and ephemera advertising Clarke's publications and endorsements.	1888-1906
Charles Hallock		
b. 2, f. 21	Correspondence with Fred Pond	1876-1917, undated
b. 2, f. 22	Letters from others to Hallock Includes correspondence with George Bird Grinnell.	1875-1910
b. 2, f. 23	"Hallock's Poems" Notebook containing autograph manuscript poems and printed poems clipped from periodicals.	1854-1904
b. 2, f. 24	Portrait photographs	1906, 1914
b. 2, f. 25-26	Writings Primarily articles and essays clipped from periodicals; includes an issue of the Hamilton, Bermuda, <i>Royal Gazette</i> 36, no. 38, September 22, 1863, with Hallock's article on the Confederate states, and a printed copy of his <i>Vacation Rambles in Northern Michigan</i> (1878).	1863-1912
b. 2, f. 27	Other papers	1906, undated
Henry William Herbert ("Frank Forester")		
b. 2, f. 28	Bibliography Prepared by Pond; in addition to publications lists, includes sections on: buyers and admirers of Books by Forester; Herbert's friends; members of the Friends of Frank Forester group; and census of libraries owning books by Forester, with other notes.	undated
b. 2, f. 29	Bibliographic material Includes a printed poem by Herbert, and copies of advertisements for the Pond's "Foresterian Library" collection.	undated

Henry William Herbert ("Frank Forester") (continued)

b. 2, f. 30	Biographical material Includes printed images of Henry William Herbert.	1888-1916, undated
b. 4 (Oversize), f. 31	Article about Henry William Herbert's home and gravesite, tear sheet from <i>New York Herald</i>	1893 Nov 26
b. 4 (Oversize), f. 32-34	Unidentified artist, floor plans of Herbert's home, "The Cedars," in Newark, New Jersey Measured drawings, graphite and ink on paper.	undated
Isaac McLellan		
b. 2, f. 35	"The Hunter, Angler & Tourist"; poem, autograph manuscript, signed	undated
b. 2, f. 36	Scrapbook Small commercial notebook (writing book) containing poems and reviews clipped from newspapers and serials, pasted and laid in. One clipped poem, laid in, has a small photographic portrait of McLellan affixed in the lower margin. Also present in folder: obituary for McLellan.	1886-1899
b. 2, f. 37	Tear sheets with McLellan's writings Six sheets removed from printed publications; includes poems and "Ontwa--an Indian Story."	undated

Series III: Visual Materials, 1875-1930*0.42 linear feet (1 box)*

The series contains a variety of visual images related to fishing: advertising material, photographs, and artistic images of fishing. Prominent are more than fifty portraits of sportsmen and sporting publishers, including those related to the journal *Turf, Field, and Farm*.

Series III is organized into three subseries: Drawings and Paintings, Ephemera, and Photographs.

Drawings and Paintings

b. 3, f. 38	Holberton, Wakeman, "Humourous Sketches" Sketchbook (disbound) with title page "Humourous Sketches," containing 21 ink and graphite sketches showing amusing scenes of the sporting life, mostly angling, each about 9 x 11 inches. Holberton (1839-1898) was a well-known sportsman who painted fish and game subjects.	undated
b. 3, f. 39	Sabin, J. F. (Joseph F.) Watercolor on paper mounted on card, 4 x 5 inches; inscribed on verso in ink: Water color by me Jos F Sabin To Mr. David Wagstaff - Happy New Year.	undated

Ephemera

Items in this subseries bear images of or advertising for firms involved with angling.

b. 3, f. 40	Cigarette cards	circa 1900
b. 3, f. 41	Postcards	undated
b. 3, f. 42	Stationery	undated
b. 3, f. 43	Trade cards, calendar, calling cards, and event tickets	circa 1875-1900
b. 3, f. 44	Miscellaneous	undated

Photographs

Portraits in this subseries are of sportsmen involved with angling or shooting, or authors or artists who created images relating to field sports.

b. 3, f. 45	"Photos of Forester-Land" Scenery in and around Warwick, New York, and nearby Greenwood Lake.	circa 1930
b. 3, f. 46	Portraits - carte de visite and tintype formats Includes images of Nahum D. Ballou, Colin Campbell, Herman W. DeLong, Augustine Egbert, Charles E. Hoe, Charles F. Hotchkiss, R. Townsend Huddart, Fr. von Ivernois, H. A. Kanouse, L. J. Lee, Isaac McLellan, T. B. Reed, and W. F. Whitcher.	1879-1890
b. 3, f. 47	Portraits - cabinet card and other formats Contains images of Gustav Muss-Arnolt, Samuel T. Davis, W. C. Harris, James A. Henshall, Edward H. Hope, R. W. Hubbell, L. J. Lee, Frederick Freeman Lloyd, Thomas Ackley Logan, James Oakes, L. H. Smith, and John Henry Wallace.	1877-1902

Photographs (continued)

b. 3, f. 48	<p>Portraits</p> <p>Contains images of Spencer Fullerton Baird, Hamilton Busbey, William F. Carver, George Dawson, George Boardman Eaton, Charles E. Felton, Thomas T. Kinney, Marshall MacDonald, Charles E. Whitehead, John Sergeant Wise, and Thomas Whistler (of Newport, shown with the 60-pound bass he caught on September 8, 1875).</p>	1875-1901
b. 3, f. 49	<p>Portraits, <i>Turf, Field, and Farm</i> associates</p> <p>A set of photographs mounted on similar bevel-cut boards, which had likely once been framed together; all men appear to have had a professional relationship with the journal <i>Turf, Field, and Farm</i>. Included are: Leslie C. Bruce, J. C. Corlies, A. J. Dunlap, Eugene Delmar, Malcolm W. Ford, George L. Frankenstein, Charles Pierre Goldey, George Herbert Henshaw, J. F. Johnson, H. W. Lacy, and R. G. Westmore.</p>	circa 1880
b. 3, f. 50	<p>Halftone portraits</p> <p>Includes: Spencer F. Baird, A. Nelson Cheney, Theodatus Garlick, G. Brown Goode, Seth Green, James A. Henshall, Fred Mather, and Robert B. Roosevelt.</p>	undated
b. 3, f. 51	<p>Portraits, unidentified</p>	undated
b. 3, f. 52	<p>Stereographs</p> <p>Three stereoviews of anglers.</p>	circa 1875

Series IV: Other Papers, 1750-1947*11 Folders*

The series holds a variety of miscellaneous material on the topic of fishing, including letters, reference works, essays, and clippings. Also present are two eighteenth-century manuscripts related to fishing laws and the sea.

b. 3, f. 53	Pemberton Edgecomb, "An Act for the preservation of the fish called salmon, shad & alewives in the rivers, streams and waters within the counties of Lincoln and Cumberland..." Autograph manuscript, signed; published in part in the Massachusetts acts of January 1800. Accompanied by Lindley Eberstadt's research correspondence.	1799, 1947
b. 3, f. 54	Joseph Green, "On Mr Boyles's singing an hymn of his own composing, at sea..." Manuscript, in an unknown hand, of a burlesque composed to parody Reverend Mather Byles.	circa 1750
b. 3, f. 55	Letter from Joseph Jefferson to William Winter	1883 June 25
b. 3, f. 56	John O'Connor, "Index to plates in <i>American Turf Register</i> " Typescript	undated
b. 3, f. 57	Letters from William J. Porter to Col. H. S. Randall Three letters: one autograph letter, signed, and two typescripts of other letters. Porter was founder and editor of <i>Spirit of the Times</i> , and editor of <i>American Turf Register</i> .	1866, undated
b. 3, f. 58	H. T. T., "A Veteran Angler's Fishing Memories" Autograph manuscript essay, author unknown.	circa 1918
b. 3, f. 59	Thomas Bangs Thorpe, "A Tradition of the Natchez" Typescript carbon transcript of a Thorpe story.	undated
b. 3, f. 60	Miscellaneous ephemera, manuscripts, and other papers on angling and hunting Includes Pond's childhood notebook "Complete List of Home and Foreign Sporting Journals," 1874	1874, undated
b. 3, f. 61	Miscellaneous poems clipped from newspapers	undated
b. 3, f. 62	Miscellaneous general clippings	undated
b. 4 (Oversize), f. 63	Tear sheets from <i>Forest and Stream & Rod and Gun</i> Containing reports on the fire at 37 Park Row.	1882

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Fishers -- United States
Fishers -- United States
Fishing -- United States

Warren, T. Robinson (Thomas Robinson),
1828-1915
Zimmerman, Charles A., 1844-1909

Genres / Formats

Cabinet photographs -- United States -- 19th century
Cartes-de-visite (card photographs) -- United States -- 19th century
Cigarette cards -- United States -- 19th century
Drawings (visual works) -- United States -- 19th century
Photographs -- United States -- 19th century
Tintypes (prints) -- United States -- 19th century
Trade cards (advertising) -- United States -- 19th century
Watercolors (paintings) -- United States -- 19th century

Names

Clarke, Kit
Durivage, Francis A. (Francis Alexander),
1814-1881
Faddis, W. I.
Forester, Frank, 1807-1858
Grinnell, George Bird, 1849-1938
Hallock, Charles, 1834-1917
Herbert, Henry William, 1807-1858
Holberton, Wakeman (1839-1898)
Hornby, E. B. (Eliza Benedict), 1835-1917
Mather, Margaret Herbert
McLellan, Isaac, 1806-1899
Oakes, James, 1807-1878
Picton, Thomas, 1822-1891
Pond, Fred. E. (Frederick Eugene), 1856-1925
Raymond, George B.
Sabin, J. F. (Joseph F.), 1846-1926
Sabin, J. F. (Joseph F.), 1846-1926 -- Presentation
inscription to D Wagstaff
Sibley, Henry Hastings, 1811-1891
Thorpe, Thomas Bangs, 1815-1878
Wagstaff, David, 1882-1951 -- Presentation
inscription from J. F. Sabin