

# Guide to the Sherwood Sterling Papers

MS 1164



compiled by Janet Elaine Gertz

November 1982

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P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
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(203) 432-7441

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
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**CALL NUMBER:** MS 1164

**CREATOR:** Sterling, Sherwood, 1840-

**TITLE:** Sherwood Sterling papers

**DATES:** 1880-1905

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 2.5 linear feet

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** Chiefly the business records of four companies in which Sherwood Sterling was active. The most complete records are for the Sterling Grate Bar Company which manufactured furnace grates. Included are patents, legal and financial papers, and advertising. The other companies were engaged in mining in Alaska. Also included is printed matter from F. T. McIntyre describing his Hypnotic Ball Treatment for the cure of diseases and for psychic self-improvement.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1164>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.1164>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

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

b.      box  
f.      folder

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Purchased in 1947.

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## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

Sherwood Sterling Papers. Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Scope and Contents

These papers pertain to manufacturing and mining enterprises in which Sherwood Sterling (1840-\) of Newark, New Jersey, and New Haven and Ansonia, Connecticut, was engaged. The greatest amount of material relates to the Sterling Grate Bar Company of Newark. Included are correspondence about patents for furnace grates and legal problems stemming from the patents, advertising, orders, and so forth; legal and financial papers such as agreements, patents, receipts and bills; and printed circulars, business cards, et cetera. The folio contains several large hand-drawn diagrams of grates and furnace bars.

The bulk of the remaining papers documents Sterling's involvement with the Golden Sands Mining Company of Cape Nome, Alaska, with the Ideal Mining and Development Company, also of Alaska, and with the Sterling Syndicate of New Haven and Ansonia, which was founded to raise money for the mining ventures. Neither mining company was successful, and the correspondence deals largely with difficulties in raising money, legal problems with the claims in Alaska, and the eventual failure of the companies. Items of particular interest include a letter dated 1900 Apr 13 containing a list of food and other supplies deemed necessary for an Alaskan prospector (folder 4), and a series of letters from Sterling's son-in-law Henry Miller discussing Miller's plans to mine the claims in Alaska. Also included among these papers are legal and financial documents and printed matter such as advertising prospectuses. A map of the Golden Sands Mining Company claims is located in the folio.

The final material in the collection is a group of letters and printed items from F. T. McIntyre of the Metropolitan Institute of Sciences advertising his Hypnotic Ball Treatment for the cure of diseases and for psychic self-improvement.

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## Collection Contents

|             |  |                    |
|-------------|--|--------------------|
|             | Sterling Grate Bar Company                         |                    |
| b. 1, f. 1  | Correspondence                                     | 1884-1897          |
| b. 1, f. 2  | Legal and financial papers                         | 1884-1897          |
| b. 1, f. 3  | Printed matter                                     | [1880-1899]        |
|             | Golden Sands Mining Company                        |                    |
| b. 1, f. 4  | Correspondence                                     | 1895-1901          |
| b. 1, f. 5  | Legal and financial papers                         | 1899-1900          |
| b. 1, f. 6  | Printed matter                                     | [ca. 1900-1905]    |
| b. 1, f. 7  | Letters of Henry Miller                            | 1900 January-March |
|             | Ideal Mining and Development Company               |                    |
| b. 1, f. 8  | Incoming letters                                   | 1904-1905          |
|             | Sterling Syndicate                                 |                    |
| b. 1, f. 9  | Correspondence                                     | 1905               |
| b. 1, f. 10 | Legal and financial papers                         | 1905               |
|             | F. T. McIntyre, Metropolitan Institute of Sciences |                    |
| b. 1, f. 11 | Correspondence and printed matter                  | 1905               |
| b. 2        | Hand-drawn diagrams of grates and furnace bars     | undated            |

## **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**

Business  
Businessmen  
Furnaces -- Grates  
Industries -- Alaska  
Industries -- Connecticut -- New Haven  
Industries -- New Jersey -- Newark  
Medicine  
Mines and mineral resources -- Alaska  
Prospecting -- Equipment and supplies

### **Geographic Names**

West (U.S.)

### **Genres / Formats**

Patents (license)

### **Names**

Sterling, Sherwood, 1840-