

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY
RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION
ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # 38 M 44

Location Annex
14-R-1/2 & wooden map case

Title HORACE G. HEALEY, Papers.

Approximate inclusive dates 1878-1911

Date of receipt November, 1937

Received from Horace G. Healey

Volume on arrival

Number of boxes (after reboxing) 6 AB, 4 vols., 2 oversize folders; 8.5 linear feet.

Condition Fair: Scrapbook bindings are broken; paper brittle, but the samples themselves are in good condition.

Restrictions None

Description Horace G. Healey (1867-1938) was a practitioner of the art of penmanship. During his career he taught at Evander Childs High School in New York City and served as the Chairman, Department of Writing at the High School of Commerce, also located in New York. His book, The Healey System of Free Arm Movement Writing, (New York: The American Book Co., 1909), serves as a practical manual to his particular style of penmanship. Healey and the other "penmen" of his time appreciated the artistic value of penmanship, but were also involved in promoting the practical aspects of their art for business and commercial education. These "penmen", who often worked as teachers, designers or engrossers, were served by a professional journal, the Penman's Art Journal (1877-1910) and its successor, the Business Journal (1910-). Many writing specimens in the Collection are addressed to Healey in care of the Journal, but his official position with the publication, if any, is unclear. Horace G. Healey died December 9, 1938 in St. Petersburg, Florida.

The Collection consists of 15 scrapbooks, 4 notebooks and 15 posters, all of which contain samples of various styles of penmanship for the period 1878-1911. Included in the scrapbooks are calling cards, letters, envelopes, flourishes, photographs and various samples sent to Healey at Penman's Art Journal. The letters are not of interest for their content, which often concerned subscription information, book orders or words of praise for the publication, but for the penmanship skills of the writers. Other writing samples include penmanship exercises and assignments done by students, both in the United States and the United Kingdom. The scrapbooks are indexed by the names of the individual contributors or by the name of the school in the case of the student specimens.

Scrapbooks A & B contain many specimens and letters addressed to a Professor D.T. Ames, Esq. who was also affiliated with the Penman's Art Journal. These two volumes are notable in that they contain photographs of many of the correspondents.

Special Formats ☒ Photographs ☐ Maps ☐ Audio Tapes ☐ Films ☐ Graphics
☐ Artifacts ☐ Machine-readable records
☐ Other (list) _____

Temporary catalog card added entries

Business Education

Calligraphers

Penmanship

Photographs

Writing

1876-1900

1901-1925

Accessioned by FP

Date 10/24/85

HORACE G. HEALEY PAPERS

Container List:

Box

Contents

1-4	Scrapbooks C-K (missing vol. E)
5	Scrapbook L & 4 notebooks
6	Student Specimens, vols. 1 & 2

Volumes

Scrapbook A
Scrapbook B
Student Specimens, vol. 3
Examples from the U.K.

2 Oversize Folders

Posters

[in MAP CASE D-9]