Uncle Tom's Cabin:
A Preliminary Inventory of the Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Uncle Tom's Cabin
Title: Uncle Tom's Cabin Collection
Dates: 1825-1946
Extent: 6 document boxes (2.52 linear feet), 8 oversize folders (osf)
Abstract: The bulk of the Uncle Tom's Cabin collection consists of photographs, playbills, and programs documenting the earliest productions of Uncle Tom's Cabin (notably the premiere of George C. Howard’s 1852 acting version), and the stage personalities associated with the play, in particular George L. Fox, Charles K. Fox, Cordelia Howard, and Lotta Crabtree.
Call Number: Performing Arts Collection PA-00122
Language: English and German
Access: Open for research

Administrative Information

Acquisition: Purchase, 1956 (Albert Davis Collection)
Processed by: Helen Baer, 1999; Valerie Burns, 2002; Eric Colleary and Grace Hansen, 2015
Repository: The University of Texas at Austin, Harry Ransom Center
Scope and Contents

During the 19th century, *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* was the best-selling book after the Bible. Due to the lack of copyright laws, numerous unauthorized stage adaptations were produced. Several scholars have suggested that significantly more people came to know of *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* from the stage than from reading the book. The first and most popular adaptation was written by George Aiken for George C. Howard’s touring company in which Aiken also acted.

The bulk of the *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* Collection consists of photographs, playbills, and programs documenting the earliest productions of *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* (notably the premiere of George C. Howard’s 1852 acting version), and the stage personalities associated with the play, in particular George L. Fox, Charles K. Fox, Cordelia Howard, and Lotta Crabtree. Also present are clippings, correspondence, prints, posters, published acting editions, sheet music, and a songster. The collection is divided into two series: I. Photographs, and II. Other Materials, with materials arranged alphabetically or by format.

Related Material

Additional information regarding stage productions of *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* can be found in the papers of George C. Howard and Family. Programs relating to a WPA Theatre production of *Uncle Tom’s Cabin* can be found in the papers of James Purdy. Various printed editions of the book, scripts, and derivative works can be found in the Ransom Center’s book holdings which are searchable through the online catalogue.
Series I. Photographs

Aiken, Frank E. Container 1.1
Aiken, George L. Container 1.2
Barlow, Milt Container 1.3
Belasco, David Container 1.4
Brown, Inez Container 1.5
Clark, John Sleeper Container 1.6
Clark, N. B. Container 1.7
Crabtree, Lotta Container 1.8
Crosman, Henrietta Container 1.9
Davenport, Mrs. A. H. Container 1.10
De Angelis, Jefferson Container 1.11
Duncan Sisters Container 1.12
Ellsler, Effie Container 1.13
Fernandez, Bijou Container 1.14-15
Fisher, Perkins D., and May [Hillman?] Container 1.16
Fox, Charles K. Container 1.17-19
Fox, Emily Container 1.20
Fox, George L. Container 1.21, 2.1-10
French, Eva Container 2.11
Germon, Green C. Container 2.12
Gilbert, John Container 2.13
Hackett, J. H. Container 2.14

[Hillman?], May -- see Fisher, Perkins D. Container
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Container</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Howard, [Caroline Emily Fox]</td>
<td>2.15-16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Howard, Cordelia</td>
<td>2.17-18</td>
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<td>Howard, George C.</td>
<td>2.19</td>
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<td>Jefferson, Joseph</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jones, Mrs. W. G. (Julia A. Deane)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kunkel, George</td>
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<td>Lackaye, Wilton</td>
<td>3.1</td>
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<td>Lemoyne, William</td>
<td>3.2</td>
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<td>McVicker, J. H.</td>
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<td>Mellville, Rose</td>
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<tr>
<td>Prior, Mrs. J[ames] J. (Louisa Young)</td>
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<td>Prior, Lula</td>
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<td>Raymond, Maude</td>
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<td>Rigl, Emily</td>
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<td>Roberts, Theodore</td>
<td>3.9</td>
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<td>Sanford, Sam</td>
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<td>Shannon, Effie</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stone, Fred, and Eddie Stone</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stowe, Harriet Beecher</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sullivan, John L.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Taliaferro, Mabel</td>
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<td>Tanguay, Eva</td>
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<td>Taylor, Laurette</td>
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<td>Templeton, Faye</td>
<td>3.18</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thompson, Denman</td>
<td>3.19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thorne, Edwin F.
Warren, William
Webber, Carrie
Yeamans, Jennie
Young, Louisa -- see Prior, Mrs. J[ames] J.
Composite photo album
Unidentified, undated
Series II. Other Materials, 1825-1946

Subseries A. *Uncle Tom’s Cabin*, 1851-1946

Clippings

- 1901-1946, undated
- 1907-1915
- 1927, *The Deutsch-Amerika Illustrated Weekly*
- The Theatre Magazine, undated
- 1881-1936, undated
- 1901-1945, undated

Correspondence and other manuscript items

- Container 5.1
- Container 5.2
- Container 5.3
- Container 5.4
- Container 5.5
- Container osf 1
- Container 5.6

Prints

- circa 1852-1855, undated
- circa 1852-1855, undated

Production photograph, undated

- Container 5.8

Programs and playbills

- Container 5.9
- Container 5.10
- Container 5.11
- Container 5.12
- Container 5.13
- Container osf 3
- Container osf 4
- Container osf 5

Posters
Uncle Tom's Cabin

undated

Posters and collage of mounted photographs, undated

Published items

Special theatre edition

Miss Kate Riddell’s Jubilee Songster

Lacy’s acting edition

Sheet music

Miscellaneous

Subseries B. George L. Fox, 1825-1877

Prints and photographs, 1825-1877, undated

Programs and playbills, 1872-1873