

NEW HAVEN COLONY HISTORICAL SOCIETY

LIBRARY

Manuscripts

No. 40

Date processed: August 1976

- I. Title Read, Ezra C., 1796/7-1875. Papers, 1860-1904.
- II. The papers of Ezra C. Read, his daughter and son-in-law, Francis Wayland deposited in the Library on _____, by _____
In _____ converted the deposit to a gift.
- III. Linear feet of shelf space occupied: $1\frac{1}{2}$
Approximate number of items: 225 (incl. 2 volumes)
- IV. Restrictions: none
- V. Literary rights of the unpublished writings of _____ in these papers, and in other collections of papers in the custody of the New Haven Colony Historical Society Library, have been dedicated to the New Haven Colony Historical Society.
- VI. Press release was issued on _____
- VII. Biographical note: Ezra C. Read (b.1796 or 1797, d. 1875) was a director of the New York, New Haven, and Hartford Railroad in 1838, but he is best remembered as President of the City Bank of New Haven. His house at 91 (later 175) Whitney Avenue, opposite Sachem Street, was a local landmark until it was torn down to make way for an Insurance Building in 1924.
Read's daughter married Francis Wayland, Dean of the Yale Law School. Francis and Martha Wayland lived in the Whitney Avenue house after (and perhaps sometime before) the death of Ezra Read in June 1875. Wayland died in January, 1904; his wife survived him by about ten years.
Ezra Read was a cousin of Daniel Read (1757-1836), New Haven bookseller, comb maker and amateur composer. The Whitney Library has his papers on file.
- VIII. Analysis: The collection consists of two boxes and two wrapped ledgers. Box 1 contains loose papers and two wrapped check books. Box 2 contains small books. Bills are filed in chronological order.
N.B. - Box 1, Folder A contains biographical material on Ezra Read and Francis Wayland, taken from v.60 of the Dana Collection. It includes photographs of the two men and the Whitney Ave. house.
Item 4 and the settling of accounts in Box 1, Folder O are the only materials dealing directly with Wayland. However, Box 2, Folder G (Record of contributions to Law School Building Fund) probably belonged to him. John D. Rockefeller and Booker T. Washington are among the mourners in Item 4.

INDEX TO THE EZRA C. READ COLLECTION

- Box 1--Biographical Material, Bills Paid, Miscellaneous
Papers and Clippings, Check Books.
- Folder A--Biographical Material on Ezra Read & Francis Wayland
(from A.G. Dana, New Haven Past & Present, V.60)
- Folder B--Bills paid by Read 1866-1873
- Folder C-- " " " " January-March 1874
- Folder D-- " " " " April-June "
- Folder E-- " " " " July-August "
- Folder F-- " " " " September-October "
- Folder G-- " " " " November-December "
- Folder H-- " " " " 1875-76
(Folder H includes bills paid by Read's estate)
- Folder I--Records of Cash & Expenditures 1865-72
Record of Money Taken In c.1870 (?)
- Folder J--Booklets-Advertisement(Stable Fittings) 1868
Report of New Haven Orphan Asylum 1873
Address on Colonization of Africa 1875
- Folder K--Correspondence 1871-74
- Folder L--Ezra Read & Trustees-Taxable Lists 1874
Assessment for Sewer on Whitney Ave. 1874
- Folder M--Two Newspaper Clippings (saved by Read?) 1874, undated
- Folder N--New York Times (saved by Read?) February 9, 1875
- Folder O--Miscellaneous Papers 1864-76
- Folder P--Ezra Read's Check Book (with stubs) 1868-70
- Folder Q-- " " " " " " 1870-73
- Box 2--Letters from Read, Account Booklets, Record of Contributions
- Folder A--Blotter Book-Letters written by Read 1860-62
- Folder B-- " " " " " " 1862-67
- Folder C-- " " " " " " 1867-71
- Folder D-- " " " " " " 1871-74
- Folder E-- " " " " " " 1874-75
- Folder F--Account Booklets-with A. Foote & Co. 1873-75
with D.S. Cooper 1873-75
with Strong, Hunt & Co. 1875
- Folder G--Contributions to Yale Law School Building Fund, 1900-01
(probably belonged to Read's son-in-law, Law
School Dean Francis Wayland)
- Item 3--Ledger of Inventory, Income, and Expenses 1873-75
(for E.C. Read and estate of E.C. Read)
- Item 4--Scrapbook of Letters and Telegrams of Condolence to
Mrs. Wayland on the Death of Her Husband, Francis Wayland
January, 1904.