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: 1½
    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V. Literary rights of the unpublished writings of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 0 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)