I. Title  Bigelow Company Papers, 1852--1967

II. The papers of the Bigelow Company
    deposited in the Library in 1971 & 1972 , by Mr. Starr H. Barnum
    In converted the deposit to a gift.

III. Linear feet of shelf space occupied: 1 ft.
    Approximate number of items: 1,099 & one bound ledger

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V. Literary rights of the unpublished writings of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: The Bigelow Co. Papers contain material pertaining to Hobart B.
    Bigelow (May 16, 1834--Oct. 12, 1891), George Starr Barnum (d. 1939?) and the
    records of the Company itself.
    H.B. Bigelow was born in North Haven, his maternal grandfather was Rev. James Pierpont.
    When he was ten, the family moved to Mass. After finishing high school, Bigelow
    was apprenticed as a machinist first to the Guilford Manuf. Co. and then to the
    New Haven Manuf. Co. Upon finishing his apprenticeship, he joined Ives and Smith,
    where he became foreman. He bought the establishment in 1861, added a foundry and
    in 1870 moved to larger quarters (Grape-vine Point). In 1868 he entered into the
    field of boiler making. In 1875 Henry Elson joined him as partner and in 1877
    George S. Barnum joined the partnership. The Bigelow Co. was incorporated by a
    special legislative act in 1883. H.B. Bigelow was involved in local and state
    politics and was an active member of the Republican Party. After holding a number
    of minor city offices, he was elected Mayor of New Haven in 1878 and Governor of
    Conn. in 1880. In 1857 he had married Eleanor Lewis and had two sons, Walter and
    Frank, who joined their father's company. Walter (b. 1897?) died on March 7, 1907
    and Frank in 1917. Following the death of Frank's son in 1920, the company was
    reorganized with the Bigelow heirs relinquishing their interest. G.B. Barnum became
    president and was followed by his son, Starr H. Barnum in 1939, whose son, Starr
    Barnum III, became vice-president. For a history of the Bigelow Co. see II:B or
    Bigelow Boilers Serve Industry.

VIII. Analysis: The collection is divided into three groups: Hobart H. Bigelow and
    family; George Starr Barnum and family; and the records of the Bigelow Co.
    Within each group the papers are arranged by subject and chronologically.
    See content guide.

2/74  Processed by: Zofia Sywak
BIGELOW COMPANY

Content Guide

Box I

folder A. H.B.Bigelow--personal papers, 1866-1907 [25]

1. letter to wife, May 1866
2. deed--Evergreen Cemetery, Oct. 1874
5-13. letters, envelopes, telegrams from wife and anonymous person--extortion, Aug.--Sept. 1881
14-15. letter from N.D.Sperry, postmaster general, Feb. 1882
16. certificate--membership in New Haven Yacht Club, Nov. 1883
17. will--Eleanor L. Bigelow (wife), June 1885
18. memorial booklet--H.B.Bigelow, Oct. 12, 1891
19. will--Walter P. Bigelow (son), March 1907 [7]
20. envelope addressed to H.B.Bigelow

B. Speeches by H.B.Bigelow, 1878-1891 [117]

1. letter of transfer to New Haven Colony Historical Society from Starr H. Barnum, 1954
2. speech--25th anniversary of LSO, 1878 (temperance volunteer fire company--Croton Engine Co. No. 1 on Temple St. organized Jan. 13, 1953) [8]
3. speech--Grand Army of the Potomac, Hartford, June 1881 (2 copies) [8]
4. Governor's Proclamation--assassination of President--and envelope, July 1881 [2]
5. speech in Charleston, Oct. 1881 [2]
6. speech--adjournment of the State General Assembly in Hartford, 1881 (2 copies) [5]
7. speech prepared for Lincoln Club in Meriden, not delivered, Feb.1882 [4]
9. speech--adjournment of State General Assembly, Hartford, April 1882 [2]
10. speech--Silver Wedding Anniversary, May 1882 [2]
11. speech--Charleston, delivered at Pecks Opera House, June 1883 [7]
12. speech--New Haven National Armory, June 1883 [3]
15. speech--Chamber of Commerce, 1884, not delivered [3]
16. speech--LSO, Feb. 1885 [8]
17. speech--Nehemiah Day Sperry's retirement banquet, May 1885 [2]
19. speech--Horse Guards, 1885 [4]
21. speech--North Haven Centennial, 1886 [12]
22. speech--27th CT Veterans at Orange CT, Sep. 1891 (2 copies) [7
23. speech?--inauguration of Mayor Sargent, signed "Eleventh Ward" (1891 or 1893) [4]
24. speech--christening of ship, not delivered, n.d. [1]
25. speech--on Connecticut, not delivered, n.d. (2 copies) [10]
26. letter--to Miss Florence Alcott Avery upon her birth (1882) [4]
Box I (cont)

  1. bill
  2. stock dividend certificates [7]
  3. bills--Ogontz School for Young Ladies [3]

D. H.B. Bigelow--deeds, 1852-1889 [19]

E. H.B. Bigelow--stock certificates (ownership other than H.B. Bigelow given in parenthesis) [20]
  1. envelope
  6. CT Arms Co.
  7. CT Iron Works
  8. Elm City Oil Co.
  9. Home Insurance Co. of New Haven (E.S. Bigelow)
 10. Mackenzie Range Co.
11-12. Mutual Security Insurance Co. (E.S. Bigelow)
  17. Opera House Co.
18-19. Yale Clock Co.
  20. Water Front Forge Company
F. H.B. Bigelow--Business papers, 1865-1891
  1-10. J.W. Bishop, corr., 1866-1885
  11-16. Henry Elson, corr., 1887-1891
  (corr., bills, patent deeds, stock certificates)
I. H.B. Bigelow--Merchants' Electric Light & Power Co., 1885-1886 [29]

J. Frank L. Bigelow--Autograph collection [42]
  (autographs of prominent political figures of the late 19th century) & xeroxed copy
K. Bigelow--Misc.: newspaper clippings, notes, prayer cards, poem, business card
L. Bigelow--photographs
M. George S. Barnum and Starr H. Barnum, 1879-1947 [32]
  (corr., passport)
N. Barnum--Misc.: memorials, Church bulletin, blueprint of Manufacturers of Street Railway

Box II

folder A. G.S. Barnum--scrapbook, xeroxed copy [32]

B. Bigelow Co.--history [24]
  1-5. business cards
  6-10. history--draft
  11-12. CT Industry--printed history
  13-24. Incorporation Act & By-Laws, 1883
Box II (cont)

folder C. Assets & Balance Sheets, 1908-1922 [18]

D. Loose documents removed from back of record book, 1915-1923 [16]

E. Company stock--corr., list of stockholders, 1921-1928 [37]

F. Company business
1-4. Release from contract with J.O. Lombard of Cuba, 1924 [21]
5-7. Deeds, 1883-1887

G. Patents--corr., printed material, 1939-1960 [13]

H. Patents, 1914-1966 [102]
23-24. British Patents (printed)

I. Patents, 1899-1933 [36]
1--9. original & corr.

J. Patents--Richard Hornsby & Sons, Limited, 1903-1919 [52]
1-26. patents, corr., notarized statements, transcript of court case.

K. Transfer of patent rights, 1921-1923 [40]

L. Salesmen--field office, 1919-1925 [122]
3-49. Fred W. Duemler, Philadelphia, PA & New York City, 1919-1926 [117]

M. Salesmen--field office

Box III

folder A. Salesmen--field office, 1917-1926 [42]
1-12. Elliot Green, Boston MA, 1923-1925 [19]


C. Photographs--workers (poor condition) [3]

D. Photographs--workers, boilers (removed from photo album, cover retained) [87]

E. Cover from Photo Album

F. Ledger--records of the Bigelow Co., July 11, 1883--March 4, 1923: minutes of directors and stockholders meetings
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