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Guide to the Arthur Wing Pinero Collection 1885-1892



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Descriptive Summary

Identifier	ICU.SPCL.PINEROAW
Title	Pinero, Arthur Wing. Collection
Date	1885-1892
Size	0.25 linear feet (1 box)
Repository	Special Collections Research Center University of Chicago Library 1100 East 57th Street Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.
Abstract	Arthur Wing Pinero (1855 1934) English actor and playwright. The collection contains four letters from Pinero to Moy Thomas, editor of the Daily Mail, regarding the production of Pinero's plays, including Sweet Lavender and The Second Mrs. Tanqueray.

Information on Use

Access

The collection is open for research.

Citation

When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Pinero, Arthur Wing. Collection, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library.

Biographical Note

Arthur Wing Pinero was born in London on May 24, 1855, to Lucy and John Daniel Pinero, a solicitor. He studied law at Birkbeck Literary and Scientific Institution but ultimately took to the stage to become an actor. In 1874, he began work at the Theatre Royal in Edinburgh with R.H. Wyndham's company. He received general acclaim as an actor. In the late 1870s, Pinero began writing plays himself. He went on to write fifty-nine plays, both serious explorations of social attitudes as well as comedies (for which he was best known). His plays received great critical attention, and many were adapted for film. His work was known for their progressive attitudes toward female characters, his male characters overshadowed by intelligent, witty women. He also took traditional symbols of decency, such as war heroes, and turned them into comic figures.

Pinero married Myra Moore in 1883. In 1909, Pinero was knighted for his services to drama, the second man to receive the honor after W.S. Gilbert. He died in London in 1934 at the age of 79.

Scope Note

The Alfred Wing Pinero collection contains four letters from Pinero to the editor of the Daily News, Moy Thomas, Esq. regarding the productions of his plays. Plays mentioned in the letters include Sweet Lavender and The Second Mrs. Tanqueray. Three of the four letters are dated between 1885 and 1892.

The collection was previously part of the Miscellaneous Manuscripts Collection.

Related Resources

The following related resources are located in the Department of Special Collections:

<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/scrc/findingaids/topics>

Subject Headings

- Pinero, Arthur Wing, 1855-1934
-
- Theater -- Great Britain -- History -- 19th century

INVENTORY

Box 1

Folder 1

Correspondence, 1885-1892

- Letter from Arthur Wing Pinero to Moy Thomas, Sunday (undated)
- Letter from Arthur Wing Pinero to Moy Thomas, April 2, 1885
- Letter from Arthur Wing Pinero to Moy Thomas, February 24, 1888
- Letter from Arthur Wing Pinero to Moy Thomas, October 24, 1892