

University of Chicago Library

Guide to the Uncle Tom's Cabin Collection 1852-1956



© 2008 University of Chicago Library

Table of Contents

Descriptive Summary	3
Information on Use	3
Access	3
Citation	3
Scope Note	3
Related Resources	4
Subject Headings	4
INVENTORY	4

Descriptive Summary

Identifier ICU.SPCL.UNCLETOMSCABIN

Title Uncle Tom's Cabin. Collection

Date 1852-1956

Size 2 linear feet (1 box)

Repository Special Collections Research Center
University of Chicago Library
1100 East 57th Street
Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract Uncle Tom's Cabin: or, Life Among the Lowly was an anti-slavery novel that profoundly affected American attitudes towards African Americans and slavery in the United States. The collection contains 23 documents, most of which are of British origin and describe or announce theatrical presentations of the tale.

Information on Use

Access

Open for research. No restrictions.

Citation

When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Uncle Tom's Cabin. Collection, [Box #, Folder #], Special Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Scope Note

Uncle Tom's Cabin: or, Life Among the Lowly was an anti-slavery novel that profoundly affected American attitudes towards African Americans and slavery in the United States. The best-selling novel of the 19th century, Uncle Tom's Cabin is credited both with galvanizing Northern support for the Civil War and with creating a number of durable stereotypes about blacks. Major themes of this sentimental novel are the fundamental incommensurability of slavery and Christianity, the abiding power of Christian love, and the moral power and sanctity of women.

Uncle Tom's Cabin generated great interest in England. Vendors sold 200,000 copies in 1852, its debut year. Critics generally agree that this fascination with the tale stemmed from British antipathy to America. Brits did not necessarily harbor their own national hatred of slavery, but felt vindicated by the play's criticism of Americans' self-professed freedoms.

The collection contains promptbooks, playbills, posters, programs and other pictorial or printed ephemera, most of which are of British origin and describe or announce theatrical presentations of the tale. The announcements of presentations typically contain specific information about actors, scenes, and the venue. Most of the other documents are critical reviews of performances of various adaptations of Uncle Tom's Cabin. Although the documents span the dates 1852 to 1956, most date from the mid to late 19th century.

Related Resources

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

<http://www.lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/select.html>

Subject Headings

- Stowe, Harriet Beecher, 1811-1896
- Aiken, George L., 1830-1876
- Slavery -- United States
- Drama

INVENTORY

Box 1

Folder 1

Astley's Royal Ampitheatre Broadside for "The Entirely New Equestrian Drama of Uncle Toms Cabin," Monday Nov. 22nd, 1852

Box 1

Folder 2

Heavily annotated copy of : Aiken, George. Uncle Tom's Cabin. No. 342 of the Dick's Standard Plays Series London: J. Dicks, 1853

Box 1

Folder 3

Cut- out Color Illustration showing different scenes of a young lady and a gentleman with a banjo. No title, no date.

Box 1

Folder 4

Broadside fragment, [Penny Dreadful], 1850s?

Box 1

Folder 5

Clipping: "Scene from the New Drama of 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' at the Olympic Theatre," 2.10.52

Box 1

Folder 6

Broadside for Uncle Tom's Cabin at the Royal Olympic Theatre, Monday, Nov. 8th and During the Week (no year given)

Box 1

Folder 7

Two Programs for "Uncle Tom's Cabin" at the Royal Adelphi Theatre, Saturday, February 20th (no year given)

Box 1

Folder 8

Broadside for the Theatre-Royal, Glasgow, Sat. March 11 and a program from The Institute, Eastleigh, Thursday Dec. 1, 1898.

Box 1

Folder 9

Uncle Tom's Cabin. Adapted from Mrs. Beecher Stowe's Celebrated Novel. London: Thomas Hailes Lacy, [1853]. Script is heavily annotated.

Box 1

Folder 10

Broadside from the Theatre-Royal, Glasgow for Tuesday, March 14, 1854

Box 1

Folder 11

Broadside for New City of London Theatre, Norton Folgate, Saturday May 28th, 1859

Box 1

Folder 12

Theatre Guild Magazine, January 1931

Box 1

Folder 13

Broadside for Theatre-Royal, Dunlop St., Glasgow, Sat. March 18, 1854

Box 1

Folder 14

Broadside for the Royal Grecian Theatre, December 1860

Box 1

Folder 15

The Amateur Book Collector. Vol 1. No. 10, June 1951

Box 1

Folder 16

"A Link With 'Uncle Tom': Negro Controversy in Canadian Town." Clipping from Times Past The Times. Friday May 11, 1956

Box 1

Folder 17

Clipping from a "Programme" for the Folkstone Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Monday, June 5th 1893

Box 1

Folder 18

Broadside for the Theatre-Royal, Glasgow, Thursday March 16, 1854

Box 1

Folder 19

Program for the Princess Theatre, London, Aug. 31, 1878

Box 1

Folder 20

Program for the Royal Aquarium Theatre, Mon. Sept. 2, 1878

Box 1

Folder 21

Program for A Musical Version of Uncle Tom's Cabin, Richmond Theatre, Sept. 28, 1925

Box 1

Folder 22

Program for Her Majesty's Theatre, [1882]

Box 1

Folder 23

Three Programmes for the Picturedrome, Camborne dated March 13, 20, & 30