

Archives and Special Collections

Dickinson College

Carlisle, PA

COLLECTION REGISTER

Name: **Stine, Wilbur Morris (1863-1934)** **MC 2005.7**

Material: Papers (1889-1913)

Volume: 2.75 linear feet (Document Boxes 1-6, 7 Oversized Folders)

Donation: Original Accession

Usage: These materials have been donated without restrictions on usage.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Wilbur Morris Stine was born on November 3, 1863 in Tyrone, Pennsylvania, to Reverend John Sharp and Sarah Riegel Stine. He attended Dickinson Preparatory School in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, and Dickinson Seminary in Williamsport, Pennsylvania, before enrolling at Dickinson College in 1883. Stine joined the college's Union Philosophical Society and received three degrees: a Bachelor of Philosophy degree in 1886, a Master of Science degree in 1889, and a Doctor of Science degree in 1893. He also received a Doctor of Philosophy degree from Ohio University in 1893.

Stine taught both physics and engineering at Ohio University from 1886 until 1893. He then served as the director of the electrical engineering department at the Armour Institute of Technology between 1893 and 1898. In 1898, Stine left his position at Armour Institute of Technology in order to teach engineering at Swarthmore College, where he remained until 1908. Stine entered into a partnership on July 1, 1906 with William I. Hull regarding the management of Swarthmore College Press. This partnership lasted only a short time, however, as Stine's correspondence documents efforts to dissolve the relationship as early as 1907.

Based on his scientific writings, Stine appears to have specialized in the study of electricity and its uses. He applied for a battery patent in 1891. He also served as editor of the journal *Electrical Engineering* from 1893 to 1894. In addition to his scientific research and writing, Stine wrote and published works of poetry and fiction, including "Habakkuk" and "The Wreck of the Myrtle."

On June 7, 1893, Stine married an 1892 graduate of Ohio University, Corinne Elizabeth Super. Their marriage was short, however, as the young Mrs. Stine died on May 1, 1894. Stine married his second wife, Grovina R. Boyer, on January 29, 1907. He died in Pennsfield, Pennsylvania in 1934 at the age of 71.

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

The Wilbur Stine collection is housed in six boxes and seven oversized folders. It has been organized into six series: Articles, Battery Patent, Literary Notebooks, Product Reviews, Swarthmore College Press, and Miscellaneous.

The first of these series is Articles. It contains clippings and reprints of Stine's writings on electricity and science education that were published in science and education journals during the 1890s. These materials are arranged in alphabetical order according to journal title and then in chronological order. Due to their size, some of these articles have been separated from the rest of the collection and are housed in oversized folders.

The second series deals with Stine's 1891 application for a battery patent. It contains correspondence with the Scientific American Patent Office, the United States Patent Office, and other institutions and individuals with an interest in his battery design. It also includes drawings, some loose notes on the battery design, and two versions of Stine's patent application.

Stine's Literary Notebooks comprise the largest series in this collection. This series includes thirty notebooks containing typescripts of poems, speeches, essays, and stories written by Stine between 1895 and 1911. Stine regularly recorded the date on which he wrote or delivered a piece. He also created an index to all of his sonnets, which he included in the third volume of sonnets. These notebooks have been divided into four categories: notes, poems, speeches, and writings. The notebooks within each subdivision are arranged in alphabetical order according to the notebook title provided by Stine.

The fourth series is Product Reviews. It contains five essays documenting the design and function of electrical instruments. The date and purpose of these reviews is unknown, however, Stine did serve as a judge for the 1893 World's Fair and was involved in the National Export Exposition in Philadelphia in 1899. He might have produced these reviews as a part of his participation in those events. The reviews are arranged in alphabetical order according to instrument name.

Swarthmore College Press is the fifth series. The items in this series address the termination of Stine's partnership with William I. Hull in the management of the press. More specifically, the letters document Stine's correspondence with Howard Cooper Johnson, the lawyer who served as arbitrator in this case in 1907. The correspondence is arranged in chronological order.

The final series in this collection is Miscellaneous. It contains a bookplate designed for Stine, a botany notebook, an abstract of Stine's Dickinson College thesis, and a certificate of appreciation from students at Armour Institute of Technology. This series also contains clippings of articles about Stine and electricity. Due to their size, some of the items in this series have been separated from the collection and are housed in oversized folders.

COLLECTION INVENTORY

BOX 1 - MC 2005.7

ARTICLES

- Folder 01) *American Journal of Science*
“Simple Compensated Shunt Box” – 1898
Dial
“The Historical Development of Electricity” – 1896
Electrical Age
“Magnetic Mechanism” – Feb. 9, 1895
“The Mechanics of Electro-Magnetism” – Feb. 16, 1895
- Folder 02) *Electrical Engineer*
“The Influence of Arc Light Carbons on the Candle Power” –
Oct. 3, 1894
“Some Aspects of Electrical Education” – Dec. 5, 1894
“Some Aspects of Electrical Education” – Dec. 12, 1894
“A New Form of Carey-Foster Commutator” – May 8, 1895
“Electric Lighting: Sciagraphic Experiments” – Mar. 11, 1896
- Folder 03) *Electrical Power*
“Variable Potential Rheostat” – July 1895
“The Aim of Laboratory Training” – Oct. 1895
Fulcrum
“Water Power” – Dec. 8, 1897
Journal of Applied Microscopy
“The Microscopic Study of Metals” – undated
- Folder 04) *Journal of Pedagogy*
“The Practical in College Education” – Oct. 1890
Ohio Educational Monthly
“Science between Fifth & Tenth Years of School Life” –
June 1892
Proceedings of the American Association for the Advancement of Science
“Some Forms of Carbon and Alkaline Storage Batteries” – 1891
Science
“The Aurora of July 16” – Sep. 23, 1892

BATTERY PATENT

- Folder 05) Correspondence – 1891-1894
Folder 06) Drawings – undated
Folder 07) Notes – undated
Folder 08) Patent Application – July 19, 1891

LITERARY NOTEBOOKS

- Notes
Folder 09) Borrowed Thoughts – c1895-1900
- Poems
Folder 10) “The Chambers of Vision” – Nov. 1901

BOX 2 - MC 2005.7

LITERARY NOTEBOOKS (cont.)

Poems (cont.)

- Folder 01) "The Crown of Toil" – 1902-1910
- Folder 02) "Habakkuk," First Writing Vol. I – undated
- Folder 03) "Habakkuk" – 1913
- Folder 04) "In the Palace of Vision" – 1902
- Folder 05) "The Living Portrait"
- Folder 06) "Natura Impassionata" – Vol. I – 1905-1906

BOX 3 - MC 2005.7

LITERARY NOTEBOOKS (cont.)

Poems (cont.)

- Folder 01) "Ode to the Moon" & other poems – 1900-1902
- Folder 02) Pupperel – 1900-1902
- Folder 03) Sonnets, Revised Vol. I – 1901-1907
- Folder 04) Sonnets Vol. II – 1907-1908
- Folder 05) Sonnets Vol. III with index – 1909-1911
- Folder 06) "Via Cordis," Lyrical II – undated

BOX 4 - MC 2005.7

LITERARY NOTEBOOKS (cont.)

Poems (cont.)

- Folder 01) "Via Cordis," "Immortalis" – undated
- Folder 02) "Via Cordis" – 1903
- Folder 03) "The Visitation" – June 1906-Apr. 26, 1907
- Folder 04) "The Visitation," "The Living Portrait" – June 17-Dec.17, 1906
- Folder 05) "The Wreck of the Myrtle" & other poems – c1900

Speeches

- Folder 06) Addresses Vol. I – 1900-1901

BOX 5 - MC 2005.7

LITERARY NOTEBOOKS (cont.)

Speeches (cont.)

- Folder 01) Addresses Vol. II – Dec. 8, 1896-May 6, 1906
- Folder 02) Scientific Addresses and Lectures – c1894-1899

BOX 5 - MC 2005.7 (cont.)

LITERARY NOTEBOOKS (cont.)

Writings

- Folder 03) "A Fable of the Rail" & other writings – Mar. 3-Dec. 18, 1899
- Folder 04) Literary Essays – c1907
- Folder 05) *The Mountain of Light*, Vol. I – Nov. 17, 1900-June 14, 1901
- Folder 06) *The Mountain of Light*, Vol. II – c1900-1901

BOX 6 - MC 2005.7

LITERARY NOTEBOOKS (cont.)

Writings (cont.)

- Folder 01) *The Mountain of Light*, Vol. III – c1900-1901
- Folder 02) *The Mountain of Light*, Vol. IV – c1900-1901
- Folder 03) "Robert Garrick or The Barbizon Type" – 1902
- Folder 04) "The Tree and the Vine" & other writings – 1895-1905

PRODUCT REVIEWS

- Folder 05) Edison Chemical Meter
- Folder 06) Instruments for Edison Incandescent System
- Folder 07) Portable Testing Galvanometer
- Folder 08) Recording Watt Meter
- Folder 09) T. H. Indicators

SWARTHMORE COLLEGE PRESS

- Folder 10) Correspondence – 1907

MISCELLANEOUS

- Folder 11) Book plate designed for Stine by Charles T. Malcumson – c1897
- Folder 12) Botany Notebook, *Apgar's Plant Analysis* – July 6, 1887
- Folder 13) Dickinson College Thesis Abstract, "The Theory of Electrolysis and Source of Its Relations to Chemical Affinity" – June 3, 1893
- Folder 14) Announcement by Stine re: Swarthmore College graduates seeking employment - undated

OVERSIZED - OC 2005.7

ARTICLES

- Folder 01) *American Electrician*
“The Candle Power of Arc and Incandescent Lamps” – June 1899
Electrical Industries
“The Photometry of Arc and Incandescent Lamps-I” – Sep. 1895
“The Photometry of Arc and Incandescent Lamps-II” – c1895
“The Photometry of Arc and Incandescent Lamps-III” – Dec. 1895
“The Photometry of Arc and Incandescent Lamps-IV” – Jan. 1896
- Folder 02) *Electrical World*
“On Potential” – Feb. 16, 1895
“Influence of the Carbons on the Candle Power of the
Arc Light” – Feb. 23, 1895
“The Calibration of a Bridge Wire” – Nov. 7, 1896
“A Method for the Accurate Measurement of Low Resistance” –
Feb. 26, 1898
“The Hysteresis Errors of Electricity Meters Containing Soft Iron
Armature” – Feb. 18, 1899
- Folder 03) *Electricity*
“Prof. Stine Was Not Correctly Reported,” Letter to the Editor –
Sep. 6, 1893
“Prof. Stine’s Opinion,” Letter to the Editor - Nov. 28, 1894
“On the Source of the Roentgen Ray” – Apr. 8, 1896
“Safety Devices for Electrical Circuits” – Feb. 20, 1897
Modern Light and Heat
“Reliability of Non-Magnetic Watches,” Letter to the Editor –
Apr. 18, 1889
- Folder 04) *Popular Science News & Boston Journal of Chemistry*
“Artificial Northern Lights” – May 1893
Western Electrician
“Economies in Small Central Stations” – Aug. 3, 1895
“Development of Artificial Illumination” – Feb. 8, 1896
“Experiments with the ‘X’ Rays at Armour Institute Laboratories”
– Feb. 29, 1896
“Further Experiments with Rontgen Rays” – Mar. 7, 1896
“The Anode Fallacy” – Apr. 11, 1896
“Safety Devices for Electrical Circuits” – Feb. 20, 1897

MISCELLANEOUS

- Folder 05) Clippings about Stine – 1894-1897
Folder 06) Clippings about electricity – 1895-1898
Folder 07) Certificate of appreciation from Armour Institute of Technology
students – Nov. 3, 1895

This finding aid was prepared by Thomas Flynn, November 2005.