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Nineteenth century playbooks11.MWalB02711

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Brandeis University

415 South St.

Waltham, MA

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| Publisher: William V. Spencer | 4 |
| Publisher: Samuel French Inc. and Agents | 10 |
| Various American Publishers | 16 |

Summary Information

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| Repository: | Brandeis University |
| Title: | Nineteenth century playbooks |
| ID: | 11.MWalB02711 |
| Date [inclusive]: | 1853-1869 |
| Physical Description: | 1.25 Linear Feet |
| Language of the Material: | English |
| Abstract: | Arranged in three series: 1. Publisher: William V. Spencer, 1855-1861; 2. Publisher: Samuel French Inc, and Agents, 1850s and 1860s, undated; 3. Various American Publishers 1850s and 1860s, undated. Arranged alphabetically by author For more information about each series, please consult the series descriptions in the box and folder listing. Three manuscript boxes. |

Preferred Citation

Nineteenth century playbooks, 1853-1869, Robert D. Farber University Archives and Special Collections Department, Brandeis University

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Scope and Contents

The collection consists of 143 playbooks (133 different titles) printed by various American publishing houses and representing a wide spread of genres, though farces and comedies are the most well represented. The plays function as actors' scripts and contain notes on costuming, setting, and staging. Over half the plays collected here were published by William V. Spencer in Boston, and contain the additional resource of a production history of each play. Most plays in this collection are undated, but are estimated to have been published between 1840 and 1870. A number of notable playwrights have multiple works included here, including: John Baldwin Buckstone; John Madison Morton; J.R. Planche; Charles Selby; and Tom Taylor. The collection was donated to Brandeis Special Collections by Victor Birch in 2013.

The playbooks here collected originally belonged to a family of Boston actors: Franklin Hardenbergh, Oriana Hardenbergh (née Marshall) and Margaret Marshall. Various plays have handwritten labels and

notes, while one,(Box 2 Folder 15) contains a handwritten insert of lines and stage directions written by Frank Hardenbergh.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

Brandeis University

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Waltham, MA

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Controlled Access Headings

- theater -- Production and direction -- United States -- 19th century

Collection Inventory

Publisher: William V. Spencer, 1855-1861

Date: 1855-1861

Scope and Contents

This series contains playbooks published by William V. Spencer in Boston, between the years 1855 and 1861. Arranged alphabetically by author.

| | | |
|---|-------|----------|
| Box 1 | Box 1 | |
| Barrymore, William. Wallace, [1856] <u>Date:</u> [1856] | Box 1 | Folder 1 |
| Scope and Contents | | |
| Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 48 | | |
| Bayly, Thomas Haynes. Forty and Fifty, [1857 or 1858] <u>Date:</u> [1857 or 1858] | Box 1 | Folder 2 |
| Scope and Contents | | |
| Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 130 | | |
| Buckstone, John Baldwin. Agnes de Vere, 1855 <u>Date:</u> 1855 | Box 1 | Folder 3 |
| Scope and Contents | | |
| Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 23 | | |
| Buckstone, John Baldwin. An Alarming Sacrifice, [1858 or 1859] <u>Date:</u> [1858 or 1859] | Box 1 | Folder 4 |
| Scope and Contents | | |
| Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 182 | | |
| Buckstone, John Baldwin. Flowers of the Forest, [1857 or 1858] <u>Date:</u> [1857 or 1858] | Box 1 | Folder 5 |
| Scope and Contents | | |
| Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 129 | | |
| Centlivre, Susanna. The Wonder, [1857 or 1858] <u>Date:</u> [1857 or 1858] | Box 1 | Folder 6 |
| Scope and Contents | | |
| Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 121 | | |
| Cowley, Hannah. The Belle's Stratagem, [1857 or 1858] <u>Date:</u> [1857 or 1858] | Box 1 | Folder 7 |

Scope and Contents

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 95 (2 Copies)

| | | |
|---------------------------------------|-------|----------|
| Cunningham, Virginia. Madelaine, 1856 | Box 1 | Folder 8 |
| <u>Date:</u> 1856 | | |

Scope and Contents

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 49 (2 Copies)

| | | |
|--|-------|----------|
| Fitzball, Edward. The Momentous Question, 1856 | Box 1 | Folder 9 |
| <u>Date:</u> 1856 | | |

Scope and Contents

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 40 (2 Copies)

| | | |
|---|-------|-----------|
| [Hackett, J.H.] Jonathan in England, [1860 or 1861] | Box 1 | Folder 10 |
| <u>Date:</u> [1860 or 1861] | | |

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Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 200

| | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|-----------|
| Haines, J.T. Idiot Witness, 1856 | Box 1 | Folder 11 |
| <u>Date:</u> 1856 | | |

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Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 29

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|--|-------|-----------|
| Jerrold, Douglas. Black Eyed Susan, 1856 | Box 1 | Folder 12 |
| <u>Date:</u> 1856 | | |

Scope and Contents

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 7 (2 Copies)

| | | |
|--|-------|-----------|
| Kenney, James. Spring and Autumn, 1855 | Box 1 | Folder 13 |
| <u>Date:</u> 1855 | | |

Scope and Contents

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 14

| | | |
|--|-------|-----------|
| Matthew, Charles. The Bachelors Bedroom., 1855 | Box 1 | Folder 14 |
| <u>Date:</u> 1855 | | |

Scope and Contents

The Boston Theatre, No. 4

| | | |
|---|-------|-----------|
| Montcrieff, W.T. The Spectre Bridegroom, 1856 | Box 1 | Folder 15 |
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Date: 1856

Scope and Contents

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 28

Morton, J.M. Betsy Baker, 1856

Box 1

Folder 16

Date: 1856

Scope and Contents

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 50

Morton, James Madison. My Husbands Ghost!, [1857 or 1858]

Box 1

Folder 17

Date: [1857 or 1858]

Scope and Contents

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 124

Morton, Thomas. A Roland for an Oliver, 1855

Box 1

Folder 18

Date: 1855

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The Boston Theatre, No. 6 (2 Copies)

O'Keefe, John. Wild Oats, 1855

Box 1

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Date: 1855

Scope and Contents

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 25

Oxenford, John. Doctor Dilworth, [1857 or 1858]

Box 1

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Date: [1857 or 1858]

Scope and Contents

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 154

Pilgrim, James. Shandy Maguire, 1855

Box 1

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Date: 1855

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Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 24

Pocock, I. Robber's Wife, 1856

Box 1

Folder 22

Date: 1856

Scope and Contents

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 42

| | | |
|--|-------|-----------|
| Raymond, R.J. Mr. & Mrs. Peter White, [1857 or 1858] | Box 1 | Folder 23 |
|--|-------|-----------|

Date: [1857 or 1858]**Scope and Contents**

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 136

| | | |
|---|-------|-----------|
| [Reade, Charles] The Ladies' Battle, [1857 or 1858] | Box 1 | Folder 24 |
|---|-------|-----------|

Date: [1857 or 1858]**Scope and Contents**

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 116

| | | |
|---|-------|-----------|
| Saunders, Charles H. Rosina Meadows, 1855 | Box 1 | Folder 25 |
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Date: 1855**Scope and Contents**

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 11

| | | |
|--|-------|-----------|
| Selby, Chrales. Last of the Pigtails, [1858 or 1859] | Box 1 | Folder 26 |
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Date: [1858 or 1859]**Scope and Contents**

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 185

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| Selby, Charles. The Marble Heart, [1856 or 1857] | Box 1 | Folder 27 |
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Date: [1856 or 1857]**Scope and Contents**

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 63

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| Selby, Charles. Perplexing Predicament, [1857 or 1858] | Box 1 | Folder 28 |
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Date: [1857 or 1858]**Scope and Contents**

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 152

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| Selby, Charles. Satan in Paris, 1855 | Box 1 | Folder 29 |
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Date: 1855**Scope and Contents**

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 9 (3 Copies)

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| Selby, Charles. The Valet de Sham, [1858 or 1859] | Box 1 | Folder 30 |
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Date: [1858 or 1859]

Scope and Contents

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 183

Simpson, J. Palgrave. Dreams of Delusion, [1858]

Box 1

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Date: [1858]

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Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 165

Stirling, Edward. Teddy Roe, [1856 or 1857]

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Date: [1856 or 1857]

Scope and Contents

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 53

Stocqueler, J.H. An Object of Interest, [1856 or 1857]

Box 1

Folder 33

Date: [1856 or 1857]

Scope and Contents

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 55

Taylor, Tom. Still Water Runs Deep, [1857 or 1858]

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Date: [1857 or 1858]

Scope and Contents

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 84

Box 2

Box 2

Taylor, Tom and Charles Reade. Masks and Faces, 1855

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Folder 1

Date: 1855

Scope and Contents

Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 20

Weston, J.M. Lecretia Borgia, 1856

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Date: 1856

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Spencer's Boston Theatre, No.35

Wilks, Thomas Egerton. Michael Erle, 1856

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Spencer's Boston Theatre, No. 26

Woolf, Benjamin Edward. Off to the War!, 1861

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Date: 1861**Scope and Contents**

Spencer's Boston Theatre, [No. 216]

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)**Publisher: Samuel French Inc. and Agents, 1850s and 1860s, undated**Date: 1850s and 1860s, undated**Scope and Contents**

This series contains playbooks published by Samuel French Inc. and its agents William Taylor & Co. and Bedford & Co. in New York, in the 1850s and 1860s. Arranged alphabetically by author.

Box 2

Box 2

Ayton, Richard. The Rendezvous, undated

Box 2

Folder 5

Date: undated**Scope and Contents**

Samuel French Inc. The Minor Drama, No. 125

Barnett, Morris. The Serious Family, undated

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Date: undated**Scope and Contents**

William Taylor & Co. Modern Standard Drama, No. 79

Bateman, Sidney F. Self, undated

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Date: undated**Scope and Contents**

Samuel French Inc. French's Standard Drama, No. 163

Bourcicault, Dion. Old Heads and Young Hearts, undated

Box 2

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Date: undated

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Samuel French Inc. French's Standard Drama, No. 62 (2
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| Bourcicault, Dion L. London Assurance, undated | Box 2 | Folder 9 |
| <u>Date:</u> undated | | |

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Samuel French Inc. French's Standard Drama, No. 2 (2
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| Brougham, John. Temptation, undated | Box 2 | Folder 10 |
| <u>Date:</u> undated | | |

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Samuel French Inc. The Minor Drama, No. 65

| | | |
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| Brougham, John. Romance and Reality, undated | Box 2 | Folder 11 |
| <u>Date:</u> undated | | |

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Samuel French Inc. French's Standard Drama, No. 109

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| Buckstone, J. Baldwin. Leap Year, undated | Box 2 | Folder 12 |
| <u>Date:</u> undated | | |

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Samuel French Inc. French's Standard Drama, No. 83

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| Buckstone, John Baldwin. A Kiss in the Dark, undated | Box 2 | Folder 13 |
| <u>Date:</u> undated | | |

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William Taylor & Co. The Minor Drama, No. 46

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| Buckstone, John Baldwin. Married Life, undated | Box 2 | Folder 14 |
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Samuel French Inc. French's Standard Drama, No. 130

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| Buckstone, John. Popping the Question, undated | Box 2 | Folder 15 |
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Samuel French Inc. The Minor Drama, No. 58

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| Buckstone, John Baldwin. The Rough Diamond, undated | Box 2 | Folder 16 |
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Date: undated

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Date: undated

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| Coyne, J. Stirling. Box and Cox, undated. | Box 2 | Folder 18 |
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Date: undated.

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William Taylor & Co. Modern Standard Drama, No. 48

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| Dance, Charles. Kill or Cure, undated | Box 2 | Folder 19 |
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Samuel French Inc. French's Standard Drama No. 104

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| Haines, J.T. The Idiot Witness, undated | Box 2 | Folder 23 |
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Date: undated

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Knowles, James Sheridan. The Hunchback, undated Box 2 Folder 25

Date: undated

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Lovell, Maria. Ingomar the Barbarian, undated Box 2 Folder 26

Date: undated

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Lover, Samuel. The White Horse of the Peppers, undated Box 2 Folder 27

Date: undated

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[Lunn, Joseph] Family Jars, undated Box 2 Folder 28

Date: undated

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Morton, James Madison. Betsy Baker, undated Box 2 Folder 29

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Samuel French Inc. The Minor Drama, No. 192

Morton, James Madison. Grimshaw, Bagshaw, and Bradshaw, undated Box 2 Folder 30

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| Morton, James Madison. To Paris and Back for Five Pounds, undated | Box 2 | Folder 31 |
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Date: undated

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| Morton, James Madison. The Two Bonny Castles, undated | Box 2 | Folder 33 |
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| Morton, James Madison. Two Buzzards, undated | Box 2 | Folder 34 |
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Date: undated

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| Morton, Thomas. A Cure for the Heartache, undated | Box 2 | Folder 35 |
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Date: undated

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William Taylor & Co. Modern Standard Drama, No. 14

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| Planache, J.R. Beauty and the Beast, undated | Box 2 | Folder 36 |
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Date: undated

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Bedford & Co. The Minor Drama, No. 14

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| Planche, J.R. Charles XII, undated | Box 2 | Folder 37 |
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Date: undated

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Samuel French Inc. French's Standard Drama, No. 44

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| Planche, J.R. The Jacobite, undated | Box 2 | Folder 38 |
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| Smucker, Samuel M. The Spanish Wife, 1854 | Box 3 | Folder 1 |
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William Taylor & Co. American Drama, No. 1

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| Stirling, Edward. The Rag Picker of Paris, undated | Box 3 | Folder 2 |
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Samuel French Inc. French's American Drama, No. 11 (2 Copies)

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| [Taylor, Tom] To Parents and Guardians!, undated | Box 3 | Folder 3 |
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Box 3

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Clinton T. DeWitt. DeWitt's Acting Plays, No. 234

Durivage, [O.E.] The Lady of the Lions, undated

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O.A. Roorbach Jr. The Acting Drama, No 4

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Payne, Howard. Therese, undated

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Turner and Fisher. Turner's Dramatic Library.

Poole, John. Turning the Tables, undated

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Turner and Fisher. Fisher's Edition of Standard Farces.

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Turner and Fisher. Turner's Dramatic Library, Vol. 1 No. 83

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| Smith, Dexter. Blanks and Prizes, 1869 | Box 3 | Folder 13 |
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Date: 1869

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Charles H. Spencer. Spencer's Universal Stage, No. 51

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| Taylor, Tom. Plot and Passion, 1853 | Box 3 | Folder 14 |
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Robert M. DeWitt. DeWitt's Acting Plays No. 61

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O.A. Roorbach Jr.

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| William, Thomas J. My Turn Next, undated | Box 3 | Folder 16 |
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Scope and Contents

Charles H. Spencer

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