

HENRY CLAY FOX

TRANSCRIPTS, ca 1890-1915

Collection #
M 558

Table of Contents

[User Information](#)
[Biographical sketch](#)
[Scope and content](#)
[Cataloguing information](#)

Processed by
Charles Latham
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USER INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 manuscript box

COLLECTION DATES: ca. 1890-1915

PROVENANCE: Purchased from a dealer

RESTRICTIONS: None

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the Indiana Historical Society

ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

OTHER FINDING AIDS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 91.0049X

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Henry Clay Fox (1836-1920) was born near West Elkton, Preble County, Ohio, the son of Levi and Rebecca Inman Fox. The family moved to Wayne County, Indiana, where Fox attended county schools and then Whitewater College in

Centerville. He next read law in the office of George W. Julian, and was admitted to the bar in 1861. In that same year he married Helen S. Linsley and enlisted in the 57th Indiana Volunteer Infantry.

After the Civil War, Fox took up a law practice in Richmond. In 1892 he was appointed judge of appellate court but was not reelected that November. In 1896 he was appointed county judge.

According to Bench and Bar of Indiana (1895), "In Wayne County, and in the vicinity, he has considerable reputation as a lawyer and as a wit; and in eastern Indiana and western Ohio has some notoriety as a writer of humorous literature." His reply to a questionnaire from the above book gives a sample of his style: "I was born in...Ohio; the time and place of my death have not yet been fixed. The public can have no possible interest in what I have been doing in the world. I am entirely satisfied with many things that I have done, while there are others I would like to forget."

Fox's published works include Adventures of a philosopher, a dun mule, and a brindle dog (1888), Uncle Zeke and Aunt Liza-- a tale of episodes (1905), and Memories of Wayne County and the City of Richmond (1912)

Sources:

Charles W. Taylor, *Bench and Bar of Indiana* (1895)

Richard E. Banta, *Indiana Authors and their Books, 1816-1916*

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection, filling one manuscript box, consists of three calf-bound typescripts of books by Fox. The first is entitled "Jones-- the Philosopher and His Friends", and is a preliminary, and quite different, version of the published *Adventures of a Philosopher*. The other two are different versions of "The Story of Zebulon Jones", with more episodes concerning the same fictional character.

Comparison of the two versions of each book gives a good idea both of Fox's style and of the amount of re-working he did to produce an informal, easy-flowing tale.

CATALOGUING INFORMATION

MAIN ENTRY: Fox, Henry Clay, 1836-1920

SUBJECT ENTRIES: Authors, American--Indiana--Wayne County

Lawyers--Indiana--Wayne County

Wit and humor

Humorous stories, American--Indiana

Lawyers' writings.

Humorists, American--Indiana--Wayne County

Indiana--Humor

Richmond (Ind.)

END