M.J. Ivers & Co. records
1880–1915
(bulk dates 1898–1905)

Abstract: M.J. Ivers and Company was a publisher of cheap books, including several of the Beadle's Dime series during the late 19th century and early 20th century. Included in this collection are business receipts, correspondence, and publication lists. This archive represents only a small portion of material generated by M.J. Ivers and Company.
Descriptive Summary

Identification: MSS 478
Creator: M.J. Ivers & Co.
Title: M.J. Ivers & Co. records
Inclusive Dates: 1880–1915
Bulk Dates: 1898–1905
Extent: .1 linear feet (1 box)
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Citation: MSS 478, M.J. Ivers & Co. records, Special Collections, University of Delaware Library, Newark, Delaware.

Location: Special Collections Department, University of Delaware Library Newark, Delaware 19717-5267 Phone: 302-831-2229 Fax: 302-831-6003 URL: http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec/


Access Restrictions: The collection is open for research.

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Historical Note

The New York based publishing firm of M.J. Ivers and Company was best known for its production of cheap books in the United States including Beadle's Dime Dialogues, Dime Speakers, Dime Hand Books, Boy's Library, and Deadwood Dick Library during the late nineteenth century through the early 20th century.

Following the dissolution of Beadle and Adams in 1898, James Sullivan, the owner of M.J. Ivers and Company, purchased the collections of Beadle Dime and Half Dime Novels. M.J. Ivers and Company continued to publish these titles as monthlies under the name of Beadle and Adams until 1905. Ivers printed sixty four numbers of Beadle's Boy's Library and sixty four of Edward Wheeler's novels in addition to one hundred other works. The company continued to operate throughout the early part of the twentieth century. Eventually, the plates and stock of M.J. Ivers and Company were bought by the Arthur Westbrook Company of Cincinnati, Ohio, who continued to publish both the Deadwood Dick and Frontier Libraries until 1937. Included in this collection are business receipts, correspondence, and publication lists. This archive represents only a small portion of material generated by M.J. Ivers and Company.

Sources:

Scope and Content Note

Included in this collection are business receipts, correspondence, and publication lists produced by M.J. Ivers and Company between 1880 and 1915 with the bulk of the material dating from 1898 and 1905. Other companies that M.J. Ivers conducted business with include Beadle & Adams, Hurst & Company, and George Munro's Sons. This archive represents only a small portion of material generated by M.J. Ivers and Company.
Selected Search Terms

Alternate Title
Beadle's dime novels.
Beadle's dime dialogues.
Deadwood Dick library.

Corporate Names
M.J. Ivers & Co.
Beadle and Adams (1872-1898)
Hurst & Company.
George Munro's Sons.

Topical Terms
Publishers and publishing--United States--19th century.
Publishers and publishing--United States--20th century.
Dime novels, American.
Dime novels--Publishing--United States.

Form/Genre Terms
Commercial correspondence.
Receipts (financial records)
Ledgers (account books)

Occupation
Publishers.
Arrangement

The materials in this collection are separated into two folders. The first folder pertains to materials dating from 1880–1898. The second folder pertains to materials dating from 1900–1915 and other undated materials.
Detailed Description of the Collection

1880–1898 [Box 1 F1]
Contains a receipt for dime novel plates from Hurst and Company, statement of credit from M.J. Ivers and Company, correspondence from other publishers including George Munro's Sons, publication lists, and receipts from Beadle and Adams for the purchase of Dime and Half Dime novels.

1900–1915, undated [Box 1 F2]
Includes receipts, correspondence, a commission account from McLeod and Allen, receipt from Blauvelt-Wiley Paper Manufacturing Company regarding the sale of the American Series. Also includes undated correspondence and order lists for the American Series.