

**CRANE, STEPHEN
COLLECTION ACQUISITION PAPERS**

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SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

James Vitelli, English professor at Lafayette College, assembled the bulk of these papers which deal with Stephen Crane and the formation of the Stephen Crane Collection at Lafayette College. The Stephen Crane Collection consists of first editions and variant printings of Crane's works, appearances of Crane's stories and articles in magazines, and biographical and critical literature about Crane. The collection also includes a few manuscript pieces and photographs. Elmer Adler and other noted Crane enthusiasts helped establish the collection with initial donations of books and articles. The centerpiece of the collection was a donation by the family of James J. Wolf who was a friend of Elmer Adler's and an avid Crane collector.

The acquisition papers consist mainly of correspondence, of which letters to James Vitelli from Elmer Adler make up the largest portion. In this series of correspondence Adler writes to Vitelli asking about the progress of the collection, offering helpful hints and directing Vitelli in his search for more Crane items. Adler continued his friendship with the college over the years providing guidance in the acquisition of Crane materials and aiding the student run Stephen Crane Society.

Other Crane collectors represented in the collection are James J. Wolf, Vincent Starrett and Crane biographer Thomas Beer. These letters all contain information on the acquisition of Crane material, commentary on Crane's books and letters and general information on the availability of Crane items.

Other letters are from Wilson Follett to James J. Wolf and Elmer Adler concerning his editing a set of reprinted Crane works. These letters discuss his problems and questions regarding the set of books in addition to his commentary on Crane's work itself.

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INVENTORY

Box 1

Folder

- 1 James Vitelli-Elmer Adler Letters
- 2 Elmer Adler Correspondence; 1925-1926, 1930, 1954-1955
- 3 Letters to James J. Wolf; 1924, 1926
- 4 Correspondence about the German articles on Stephen Crane
- 5 Miscellaneous correspondence about Stephen Crane
- 6 Engraved Plate for the Stephen Crane/James J. Wolf Collection