

**MEDICAL CENTER ARCHIVES
OF
NEWYORK-PRESBYTERIAN/WEILL CORNELL**

**1300 York Avenue # 34
New York, NY 10065**

**Finding Aid To
THE PLINY EARLE, MD (1809-1992) PAPERS**

**Dates of Papers:
1789-1880**

**2.5 Linear Inches
(1 Boxes)**

**Finding Aid Prepared By:
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Assistant Archivist
October 21, 2001**

NOTE OF PROVENANCE:

The material was donated to New York Hospital by his niece, Jeanne Southwick in December 1921.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE:

Dr. Pliny Earle was born on December 31, 1809 in Leicester, MA. He received a MD degree at University of Pennsylvania in 1837. He was the Superintendent of several insane asylums including Friend's Hospital for the Insane in Frankford, PA, 1840-1844, Bloomingdale Asylum, 1844-1849, and the State Lunatic Hospital in Northampton, MA, 1864-1885. He lectured at the College of Physicians and Surgeons, NYC from 1853-1855.

He was also active in many professional associations. He was a Founder and President of A.M.A., and first President for the New York Psychological Association.

He wrote several books including **A Visit to Thirteen Asylums for the Insane in Europe**, 1841; **Marathon and Other Poems**, 1841; **The Curability of Insanity**, 1887 and **Institutions for the Insane in Prussia, Germany and Austria**, 1853.

He died on May 17, 1892.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE:

The Pliny Earle Papers contains correspondence, 1840-1880, to Dr. Earle from heads of other insane asylums regarding retaining copies of annual reports and by laws, advice on patient cases, hospital design and treatments and recommendations for hiring of personnel. The collection also includes a description of Dr. Earle's visit to Lafayette's grave in France and an estate inventory of Isaac Oakley's estate dated 1789.

BOX AND FOLDER LISTING

Box 1

Folder	Description
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	Correspondence
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1	1880
2	1870-1879
3	1861-1869
4	1850-1859

5 1840-1849

Miscellaneous

6 Recollection of a trip to Lafayette's grave in France

7 Inventory of Isaac Oakley's Estate, 1789

8 Profile, 1828

9 **History Description and Statistics of the Bloomingdale Asylum,**
1848. by Dr. Pliny Earle