



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

THE UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE ARCHIVES

NAME OF COLLECTION	STEELE, PHILIP JOHN (AND FAMILY)
ACCESSION NO	1975.0120
CATEGORY	Business, individuals
ACTIVITY	Manufacturers, furniture
DATE RANGE	1868-1960
SIZE OF COLLECTION	3 cm.
HISTORICAL NOTE	Steele migrated from Ireland in 1868, and until 1889, held positions with several major furniture retailers. He then established his own furniture business, Steele and Co. He was a keen cyclist and rower, competing in the Henley Regattas of the 1870s.
DATE OF TRANSFER	1 January 1967
ACCESS CONDITIONS	Access: Open
DESCRIPTION	Employment credentials and references for P.J. Steele; invitations, greeting cards and theatre programmes, including various Victorian Regatta programmes (1872-1913); war time issue of the Graphic of Australia; photographs and illustrations of R.A. Ekman & Sons shop buildings including Lonsdale Street, Melbourne (later used by Myer's Emporium).
NOTE ON COLLECTIONS	
NOTE ON LISTING	
LISTED BY	John Reynolds
DATE	23/03/2007

Series Table of Contents

Series 1	Credentials	1868 - 1912	p.2
Series 2	Invitations, Greetings and programmes	1874 - 1958	p.2
Series 3	Booklets and Journals	1917- 1960	p.3
Series 4	Illustrations	1868 - 1920s	p.4

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
	1	“Credentials” for P.J. Steele	
	1/1	From James Stanton, who employed PJ Steele for 5 years to 1868 remarks on his “sterling business habits” – “a first class man in any department” 1 pg & envelope	14 May 1868
	1/2	From James Mouth. District Inspector of Schools. PJ Steele taught at a National School in Ireland for some months. 1 pg & envelope	29 Jun 1868
	1/3	From John Knox Leslie, Minister of the 3 rd Presbyterian Church, Cookstown. Attendant at public worship, and has conducted a day school for four months. 1pp	1 Jul 1868
	1/4	Buckley and Nunn employed PJ Steele in the carpet and furnishing department between 1868 and 1879 - “ability and energy as a salesman”. 1 pg	13 Mar 1890
	1/5	Moubray, Rowan and Hicks employed PJ Steele from 1879 to 1889, as Manager of Carpet, Furnishing and Furniture Department. 1pp	31 Dec 1889
	1/6	Passport granted to PJ Steele, Melbourne, Victoria. Signed by the Governor-General – T.P. Denman. 1 pg (seal attached)	25 Nov 1912
	1/7	Credential for Mr P J Steele, visiting India, Burma and Java, from WA Watt, Premier of Victoria. 1 pg (seal attached)	4 Dec 1912
	1/8	Letter of introduction for Mr. P.J. Steele visiting India for recreation and observation, from the Lord mayor of Melbourne. (seal attached) 1 pg	4 Dec 1912
	1/9	Letter of introduction for Mr. P.J. Steele, his visit to India, Burma and Java – from Lord mayor of Melbourne. 1 pg (Seal attached)	17 Dec 1912
	2	Invitations Greetings and Programmes	
	2/1	Invitations	
	2/1/1	Mr. P.J. Steele invited by the Melbourne Regatta Committee to participate in the International Race in Sydney at the end of August	3 Jun 1874
	2/1/2	Mr. P.J. Steele invited to a Dinner to Mr. Justice Williams, President of the Victorian Cyclists Club – Menu and Toasts. Prize: “Kindred Sports & Associations, Mr P.J. Steele” 3 pp	12 Sep 1884
	2/1/3	Invitation to the wedding to Mr. P.J. Steele who married Albertina, daughter of Mr. & Mrs. J. Ekman	22 Oct 1884
	2/1/4	Invitation to a Banquet at the Trocadero Restaurant Piccadilly Circus W.- to honour Sir Thomas Bent, “Prime Minister of Victoria”. Menu and Toast List, Programme of Music.	10 Jun 1907

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
	2/1/5	Invitation to Mrs. J.A. Steele to join the Directors and Staff of Steele & Co Ltd – to a Dinner celebrating 50 years of service to the firm by Mr. S. Sheldon	26 Feb 1958
	2.2	Greetings for Christmas	
		To Mrs. J.A. Steele and Directors and staff of Steele & Co. – Greetings and signatures of employees. 2 pp	1939
	2.3	Programmes	
	2/3/1	Melbourne Annual Regatta, 4 pp printed by E. Whitehead & Co., Melbourne	23 Mar 1872
	2/3/2	Melbourne Annual Regatta, Salt Water River. (Small booklet printed by E Whitehead Melbourne)	21 Mar 1874
	2/3/3	Melbourne Annual Regatta, Salt Water River. (Small booklet printed by E Whitehead Melbourne)	20 Mar 1875
	2/3/4	Hobson's Bay Grand Regatta, including Rules and regulations tipped in. (printed by Mason Firth & McCutcheon, Melbourne)	1 Apr 1876
	2/3/5	Melbourne Annual Regatta, Salt Water River 8 pp (Small booklet printed by E Whitehead, Melbourne) - 2 copies	8 Apr 1876
	2/3/6	Barwon Regatta 6 pp 2	20 Mar 1877
	2/3/7	Melbourne Annual Regatta, Salt Water River. (Small booklet printed by E Whitehead Melbourne) 2 copies	24 Mar 1877
	2/3/8	Barwon Regatta, 6 pp	18 Feb 1880
	2/3/9	South Melbourne Swimming Club. Fourth annual swimming match at Emerald Hill Baths "All competitors must wear trunks..."	13 Mar 1880
	2/3/10	Third Programme of Naval & Military Athletic Sports, at Melbourne Cricket ground, 8 pp. by Hurren, printer & Publisher, Melbourne.	16 Oct 1880
	2/3/11	Melbourne Annual Regatta, Salt Water River. 10 pp (including music to be performed by Allan's Band under the direction of Mr. H. Warnecke.	26 Feb 1881
	2/3/12	Australian Cyclists' Union. Amateur Bicycle Race Meeting. 4 pp, Walker, May & Co, printers	9 Nov 1882
	2/3/13	Melbourne Amateur Regatta, 11 th Annual Regatta, Upper Yarra. 28 pp (illus.) "There is a Public Telephone on the ground floor of the University boat sheds"	25 Oct 1913
	2/3/14	Convivium Tableau, Music, Song, Story, at Kew Recreation Hall. Rupert Steele, Hon Sec. and a performer. 4 pp	27 Sep 1910

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
	2/3/15	An Amateur Vaudeville and "A Pantomime Rehearsal" at Princess Theatre – in aid of the Alfred Hospital and the District Nursing Society. Fred Steele listed as an actor. 1 pp silk programme. Illus – "Some of the company". No date. Note: Fred Steele was killed in 1914 at Neuve Chappelle, see 3/2	[1905 – 1910]
	3	Booklets and Journals	
	3/1	"The Graphic of Australia" Cover Picture of Lieut. P.J. Rupert Steele. Description of Mr. P.J. Steele JP and his family. On page 2 a photo of Captain Fred Steele. 16 pp	23 Feb 1917
	3/2	Current affairs Bulletin. Company takeovers. Vol 25 No 12 16 pp (pp177 – 192)	18 Apr 1960
	NOTE	"Central Australia" by J.J. Waldron, 1916, 50 pp This Booklet has been transferred to the general library section of archives.	
	4	Illustrations	
	4/1	Photograph of R.A. Ekman & Sons building. (Furniture importers and manufacturers, in Victoria St North Melbourne, corner building. 8" x 6" plus edging	1886
	4/2	Engraving of R.A. Ekman's building in Victoria St. North Melbourne. (later than 4/1 – additions to building) 6" x 4" plus edging	[1886 +]
	4/3	Card for R.A. Ekman & Sons – Warehouse adjoining Ekman's North Melbourne Coffee Palace. Sketch on inside (same as 4/2) Later than 1886. 6" x 4"	[1886 +]
	4/4	R.A. Ekman & Sons; photograph of building in Lonsdale Street between Elizabeth and Swanston Streets, opposite St Francis Church. [Mr. R.A. Ekman standing under the "&" of the verandah sign "New & Secondhand". 8.5" x 6", plus edging	1868
	4/5	R.A. Ekman's furniture warehouse, No 22 Lonsdale Street, opposite St Francis Church Later than 1868 (cf 4/4) 3.5" x 2"	[1868 +]
	4/6	Employees of R.A. Ekman & Sons outside warehouse. (18 men and boys) undated. 8" x 6"	[1890]
	4/7	Myer Emporium (formerly Ekman's store)	
	4/7/1	Inwards parcels office, Lonsdale St, Melbourne	
	4/7/2	Outwards parcels office, Lonsdale St, Melbourne	

Box No	Series No	Description	Date
	4/7/3	Furniture despatch	
	4/7/4	Myer city stores	
	4/7/5	Myer city stores	
	4/7/6	Negatives in folder 3.5" x 3.5"	[1915]
	4/8	Staff Party (Myer, Steele's and Ekmans ?) 7" x 6" and mounted	[1920s]
	4/9	"The Great Britain" and "Captain Gray" Taken by Paterson Brothers – 8 Bourke Street East, Melbourne. 3" x 2.5" nd	
		END	