

Sidney Walter Dean (1871-1952)
Typescripts, circa 1940s
MSA 361

Introduction

This collection contains the typescripts for three works of historical fiction by Sidney Walter Dean: "Ethan Allen: Ranger, Rebel, Revolutionist, and Robin Hood," "Knight of the Revolution," and "Fighting Dan of the Long Rifles." These typescripts were donated to the Vermont Historical Society by Jacques Boisvert of the Société d'histoire du lac Memphrémagog in January 2005. The collection is stored in one archival flip top box and consumes .25 linear foot of shelf space.

Biographical Notes

Sidney Walter Dean (b. June 1, 1871, d. March 5, 1952) was born in Rhode Island and worked as an editor, first for newspapers (including the *Boston Herald*) and then in publishing. He married Marguerite "Margot" Mooers Marshall, a novelist, in 1916. Sidney was a late-blooming author: he began writing historical fiction at the age of 65 and took up boating (which formed the basis of his work *We Fell in Love with Quebec*) at the age of 70. Marguerite aided Sidney in his research for the three works included in this collection, and the two were co-authors of *We Fell in Love with Quebec*, published in 1950.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains the undated typescripts for three works of historical fiction by Sidney Walter Dean; each typescript was bound into individual volumes, presumably by the author, before they came to the Vermont Historical Society. The first typescript also contains a letter written by Margot Dean, addressed to Leonard Auger of Magog, Québec, in which she describes the contents of the typescript volumes and comments on how she and Sidney worked as authors.

"Ethan Allen: Ranger, Rebel, Revolutionist, and Robin Hood" was published as a novel entitled *He Fought for Freedom; a Boy's Life of Ethan Allen* in 1940, and is a work of historical fiction about Ethan Allen's childhood.

"Knight of the Revolution" was published as a novel by the same title in 1941 and is a work of historical fiction about American Revolutionary war fighter Marion Fox.

"Fighting Dan of the Long Rifles" was published as a novel under the same title in 1942 and is a work of historical fiction about Revolutionary war General Daniel Morgan. Pasted into the back of this volume is an envelope containing the illustrations for the novel by Manning de Villeneuve Lee.

Related Collections

The three novels that were ultimately published by Sidney W. Dean from the typescripts in this collection are in the Vermont Historical Society's book collection: *He Fought for Freedom: A Boy's Life of Ethan Allen*, 1940 (920 AL5dh); *Knight of the Revolution*, 1941 (920 M339d); and *Fighting Dan of the Long Rifles*, 1942 (920 M821d).

Inventory

- MSA 361:01 Sidney W. Dean, "Ethan Allen: Ranger, Rebel, Revolutionist, and Robin Hood"
- 02 _____, "Knight of the Revolution"
- 03 _____, "Fighting Dan of the Long Rifle"

Emma Moros
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