Overview of the Collection
Collection Title: George Batty Diary 1854
Dates: 1854-1854
Identification: MS-0405
Creator: Batty, George
Physical Description: 0.20
Language of Materials: English
Repository: Special Collections & University Archives
5500 Campanile Dr. MC 8050
San Diego, CA, 92182-8050
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Access Terms
This collection is indexed under the following controlled access subject terms.

Genre/Form of Material:
Personal Papers

Personal Name:
Batty, George -- Diaries
Batty, George -- Travel -- Québec (Province) -- Montréal

Title:
Cleopatra (Ship : 1854) Montréal (Québec) -- Description and travel New Era (Ship)

Topical Term:
Canada -- Description and travel
Transatlantic voyages

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Preferred Citation:
Identification of item, folder title, box number, George Batty Diary, Special Collections and University Archives, Library and Information Access, San Diego State University.

Scope and Contents
In 1854, George Batty wrote this journal as a long anecdotal letter to his friends, describing his sea voyage from Liverpool to Montreal on the ships "Cleopatra" and "New Era." Batty's vivid daily account spans more than two weeks in August and September, with accompanying observations about city living in Montreal added in December at the end of the diary. Batty describes conditions of the ship and the weather, his fellow passengers, various events aboard the ship (such as a fire, drunken stowaways, iceberg encounters, and porpoise interactions), and also relates his impressions of Quebec and
Montreal during his stay. Observations of the upper Canadian coast, the St. Lawrence River, the Victoria Bridge, Eskimo and Iroquois tribes, the timber trade, and severe winter conditions are present in the manuscript. No biographical information has been located for George Batty.