

BETWEEN THE COVERS RARE BOOKS

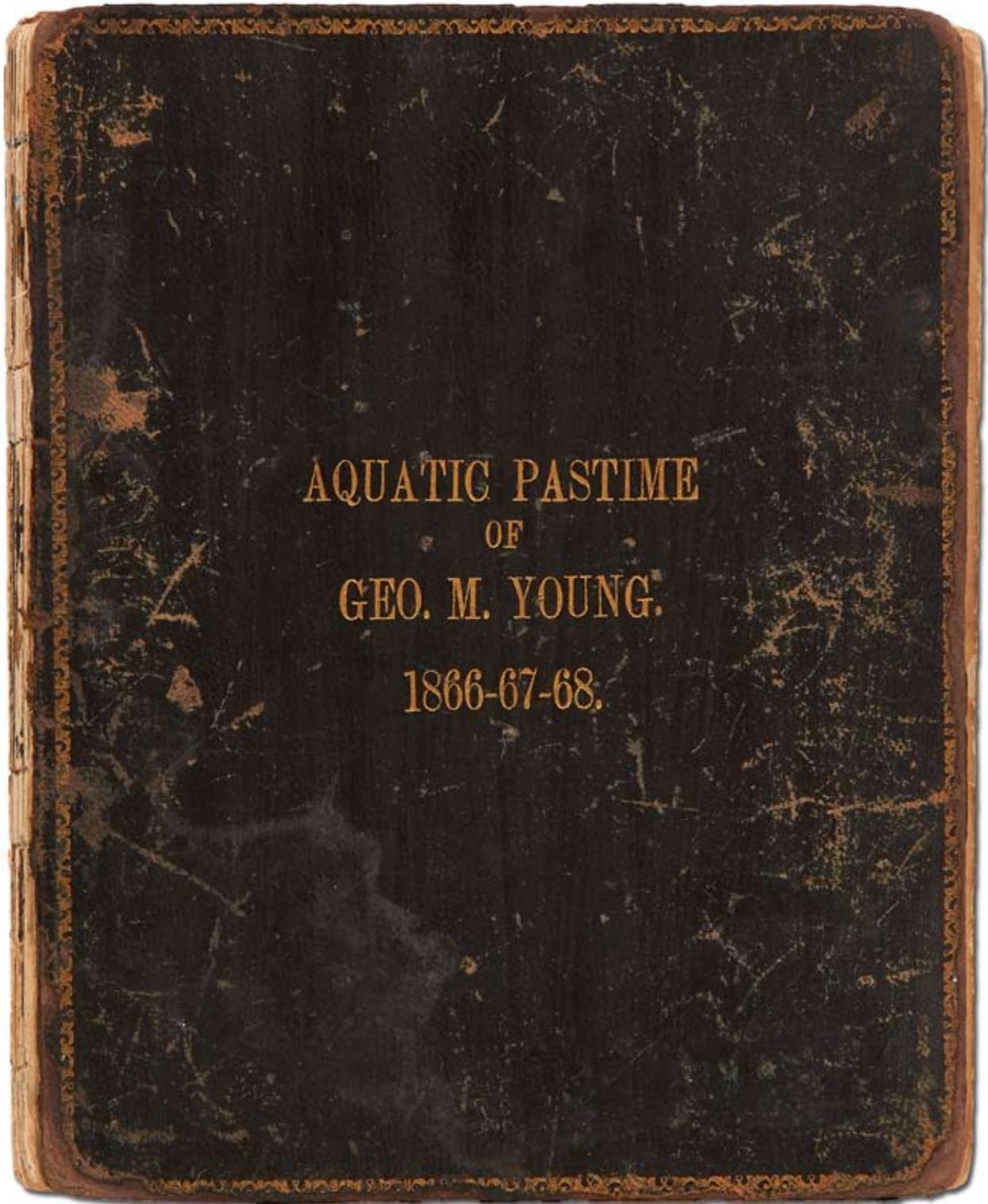
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George M. Young

[Manuscript Journal]: A Champion Oarsman's Training and Competition Journal

New York: 1866-1868

\$6000



Manuscript journal. Octavo. Blue morocco lettered in gilt on front board: "Aquatic Pastime of Geo. M. Young 1866-67-68". Front board detached, lacking the rear board and spine, but most of the quires holding. The journal is missing its spine and rear cover, but many quires and sections remain bound together. Approximately 240 pages have been filled with Young's legible handwriting covering the period from April, 1866 through December 1868.

1538

New York November 26th 1867

469

214 "Tilli" Commanded by Geo. M. Young
and William F. Silliman at 4 P. M.
Pulled to Hoboken, Lytle's Cove &
Elysian Fields, Navy Bay, Break
Water, Coal dock, and Days Pt.
Having pulled around the regular
3 mile course, and return to Boat
House by going down the center
of river with the tide, wind
was beginning to blow & darkness
coming on, arrived at Boat
House at 6 P. M. well satisfied
8 wind fresh by North.

1 1/2

This training and competition journal was kept by George M. Young, a renowned 19th century oarsman from New York City and provides an important firsthand view of amateur rowing (i.e., crew). A very detailed account of Young's adventures on the waters around New York City. While it documents Young's training routines, and who he was rowing with, it also records information on other oarsmen, training, competitions, facilities, boats, and boat clubs, as well. In addition to the manuscript entries, several newspaper articles and a boat club reception invitation are affixed to pages in the rear. Young also records occasional picnics and events, often at Hoboken's Elysian Fields, a frequent rowing destination and gathering place for rowers.

Young was a pioneer in New York rowing circles and a member of the Atalanta Boat Club. He owned his own eighteen foot shell and in his prime rowed around Manhattan Island two or three times a year for over thirty-five years; he was the first person to circle the island over eighty times. During one race, Young rowed from Christopher Street to Sandy Hook in three and a half hours, and in an 1867 club regatta, he and a partner completed a three mile course in just over 25 minutes. In 1898 at the age of 52, Young was recognized as having rowed 38,000 miles, more any other oarsman. Young retired from rowing at the age of 65 in 1913 and died in 1918.

A thorough and nearly daily account of rowing around New York for the better part of two years. [BTC#402378]

833

New York August 14th 1867

294

135

"Bug" At 5¹/₂ p.m. Entered for Double
 Scull race, against Hutchwin & McIndoe,
 In "Bell" Van Raden & Kotte in Ida. P
 Cussen & Scranton in Cassie. We took the
 Lead and maintained and increased
 the distance till we reach home state.
 Time made 24.45. Hatch 25.28. Received
 Each of us a Silver Badge Valued at \$10
 2 oars crossed & Scroll Binding very fine
 When or after I came in on this race
 J. Mc Grady scrubbed me down with Whiskey
 so I would not take cold.

3

1/2x

New York August 14th 1867

136

Columbia Muses, T. Van Raden, D. N. Kotte,
 W. F. Lilkun, D. Meredith, W. D. Martin, Geo. M
 Young Crew known as Nam Jah crew
 Accepted a challenge from Muses &
 R. Rough, D. C. Mill, J. Rough, D. A. Hallett
 P. Mc Indoe, H. G. Hachagen to row a 3 mile
 race for Photographs of the crew Columbia
 won in 16.45 Beating the shell 1 minute
 without their jinxing team Stopped at Colman's

6

1/4

842

295³/₄

New York October 26th 1867

438

1384

204

Filled. Geo. W. Young. At 3 p. m pulled
to Elysian Fields to witness the Regatta
of the Atlantic Boat Club of Hoboken.
The weather and water was in good con-
dition, every thing favorable for a fine
race for good time, distance to be
rowed (3) three miles but it was a short
3 miles 1st race was single sculls entries
were E. D. Russell, Doc Russell, Spelman
Hiers & I think one other. Ed. D. Russell
came in winner in 26.15. Doc 3^d 5.30
& Hiers last. 2^d Race was Double Sculls but
did not amount to much. S. Hall & Co in
Musketts against two men who could not
row at all and they never sat together
in a Boat before. Halls time the
other Boat came in distanced. 3 Race
4 oared Gigs Gymnastic men in one
Boat and 4th member in the other
The old member won by 2 Boats length
this terminated the Regatta. &