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American Literature

Guide to the

Robert Browning collection of papers

1835?]-1933 [bulk 1835?-1889]

Berg Coll MSS Browning, R [Text]

Processed by Staff.

Summary

Creator: Browning, Robert, 1812-1889

Title: Robert Browning collection of papers

Date: 1835?]-1933 [bulk 1835?-1889]

Size: 81 items

Source: This is a synthetic collection, created from materials acquired through gift and purchase from various sources.

Abstract: This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts, correspondence, and a portrait photograph.

Access: Restricted access.

Physical Location: *Z-10341 [Microfilm]

Conditions Governing Use: For permission to publish, contact the Curator, The Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature

Preferred citation: [Identification of the item]. The Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature, The New York Public Library.

Processing note: Processed by Staff; Machine-readable finding aid created by Lynn Lobash and Nina Schneider.

Creator History

Robert Browning was a British poet. He married Elizabeth Barrett in 1826

Custodial History

The bulk of the materials was formerly owned by W. T. H. Howe and Owen D. Young. Some of the materials came to the Berg Collection with the Moulton-Barrett papers. The holograph of "Epps" is accompanied by Roderick Terry's bookplate; De la Ramee's holograph poem with Carl Van Vechten's bookplate; and the letters to Edward Dowden and to Leigh Hunt with Harry Bache Smith's bookplate.

Scope and Content Note

This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts, correspondence, and a portrait photograph. The collection includes a portrait photograph of Browning inscribed by Robert Browning, "Paris, October 1862," by an unidentified photographer. The manuscripts consist of holograph poems, notes, and miscellaneous autograph material. Included is a holograph poem by Louise De la Ramee in memory of Robert Browning, a holograph poem by Earl Edward Lytton entitled "To Robert Browning", a holograph review by James Stephens of "The Reader's Browning", and a bound sequence of sonnets on the death of the author by A. C. Swinburne. The correspondence, dating from 1836 to 1889 includes letters written by the author to Isa Blagden, his son Robert Wiedemann Barrett Browning, Sophia May Eckley, Una Hawthorne, Leigh Hunt, Frederick Locker-Lampson, Edward Moxon, to Sir John Simeon regarding a pension for William Allingham, to Thomas Talfourd, William Makepeace Thackeray, T. A. Trollope, and to others. Also included are letters, dating from 1859 to 1891, relating to the author between various correspondents including letters from Elizabeth Barrett Browning to W. J. Fox; from Robert W. Barrett Browning to Mrs. Sophia May Eckley and to Alexandra Leighton Orr; and from Alexandra Leighton Orr to Sir Leslie Stephen relating to John Stuart Mill's opinion of Robert Browning's "Pauline." Also present are letters to Browning from Thomas Carlyle, Charles Dickens, John Forster, John Ruskin, Alfred Tennyson, and others, dating from 1840 to 1889.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Correspondence

Names

Browning, Robert, 1812-1889
Allingham, William, 1824-1889
Blagden, Isa, 1816-1873
Browning, Elizabeth Barrett, 1806-1861
Browning, Robert Wiedemann Barrett, 1849-1912
Eckley, Sophia May
Fox, W. J. (William Johnson), 1786-1864
Hawthorne, Una, 1844-1877
Howe, W. T. H. (William Thomas Hildrup)
Hunt, Leigh, 1784-1859
Locker-Lampson, Frederick, 1821-1895
Lytton, Edward Bulwer Lytton, Baron, 1803-1873
Mill, John Stuart, 1806-1873
Moxon, Edward, 1801-1858
Orr, Sutherland, Mrs., 1828-1903
Ouida, 1839-1908
Simeon, John, Sir, 1756-1824
Smith, Harry B. (Harry Bache), 1860-1936
Stephen, Leslie, 1832-1904
Swinburne, Algernon Charles, 1837-1909

Talfourd, Thomas Noon, 1795-1854
Terry, Roderick T., 1849-1933
Thackeray, William Makepeace, 1811-1863
Trollope, Thomas Adolphus, 1810-1892
Van Vechten, Carl, 1880-1964
Young, Owen D., 1874-

Container List

Manuscripts

Manuscripts written by Browning

- Manuscript box "And as I wandered by those happy shores" (2 p) (2 p)
Signed "Felix Moscheles" in Browning's hand. Accompanied by the original version by Moscheles in an explanatory note in his hand, dated March 7, 1889. 1 p.; Accompanied by: Browning, R. ALS to Felix Moscheles. [London] Aug. 4, 1883. H.
- Manuscript box Autograph material, miscellaneous. 1 p. with various types of handwriting, 1 envelope with signature dated April 14, 1887; one signature with holograph excerpt from Pippa Passes, 1 envelope addressed to Mary M. Daniels 1887 May 14 (4 items) (4 items)
Signed. H.; Y.
- Epps. Holograph 1886 Jan. 6 (3 p) (3 p)
Roderick Terry bookplate. H.
- Manuscript box "God bless my own Ba." Holograph note 1861 July (1 p) (1 p)
Signed with initials. Came with the Moulton-Barrett papers
- Holograph notes, headed "Wordsworth" (1 item) (1 item)
H.
- Manuscript box [How they brought the good news from Ghent to Aix, stanzas 9-10].
Holograph copy n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
H.
- Manuscript box In memoriam Johannis Conington. Holograph copy of the last 14 lines of "A grammarian's funeral" 1869 Nov. 1 (1 p) (1 p)
Signed. Y.
- Manuscript box "Sipping grog one day at sea." Unpublished holograph poem n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
Y.

Manuscripts related to Browning

- Manuscript box Browning, [--?]. "F. M. B. Obt 4 Nov., 1847 at Leipsic Age 39 years."
Manuscript poem in Sarianna Browning's hand. Two words, "at Leipsic" supplied by Robert Browning(?) n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Browning, Elizabeth Barrett. Holograph notes, unsigned [Florence, June? 1861] 2 l. with Robert Browning's ms. note on back: "Found inside a letter from Ruskin" ([1 item]) ([1 item])
Signed "RBB"; Ruskin, John. ALS to E. B. Browning. [London] May 13 [1861]. Y.
- Manuscript box De la Ramee, Louise. Florence: 1321-1889. Holograph poem. In memory of Robert Browning 1890 Jan. 11 (4 p) (4 p)
Signed "Ouida"; Carl Van Vechten bookplate
- Manuscript box Lytton, Edward Robert Bulwer-Lytton, 1st earl of. To Robert Browning.
Holograph poem 1854 (3 p) (3 p)
Signed. With holograph quotation, signed, undated. 1 p. Came with the Moulton-Barrett papers
- Stephens, James. [Review of The reader's Browning, selected and edited by Walter Graham]. Holograph 1933 Sept. 1 (7 p) (7 p)
Accompanied by ALS to Mr. Heck, Sunday, Sept. 1933, enclosing the review. 1 p. H.
- Oversize (+) Swinburne, A. C. [A sequence of sonnets on the death of Robert Browning]. Holograph. Bound by Sangorski & Sutcliffe. 1889 Dec. 13 - Dec. 15 (1 item) (1 item)
B.

Correspondence

Correspondence (cont.)

Outgoing Correspondence

- Manuscript box Academy. ALS to the editor of 1885 Aug. 10 (2 p) (2 p)
Encloses: Coleridge, S. T. Sketch of a conversation between Coleridge and Kenyon. Galley proof with Robert Browning's ms. corrections. Y.
- Manuscript box Bentley, Geo. ALS to. Mentions Margaret L. Woods' A village tragedy. 1887
Sept. 9 (1 item) (1 item)
B.
- Manuscript box [Blagden], Isa. ALS to [1868] Aug. 28 (2 item) (2 item)
H.
[Blagden], Isa. ALS to 1866 May 19 (2 item) (2 item)
H.
- Manuscript box Browning, Reuben. ALS to n.d. (3 p) (3 p)
In case with:
Browning, R.
Ferishtah's
fancies. London,
1884. Copy 1
[Browning], [Robert Wiedemann Barrett]. ALS to 1889 June 19 (1 item) (1 item)
H.
In case with:
Browning, R.
Jocoseria.
London, 1883.
Copy 1
[Browning], [Robert Wiedemann Barrett]. ALS to 1889 Mar. 6 (1 item) (1 item)
- [Browning], [Sarianna]. ALS to 1861 Aug. 2 (1 item) (1 item)
H.
- Manuscript box Cartwright, Sir William. ALS to n.d. (3 p) (3 p)
Y.
- Manuscript box Chapman, Edward. ALS to n.d. (3 p) (3 p)
- Inserted in his:
Dramatis
personae. Proof
copy with poet's
ms. corrections.
[London, 1864]
Conway, Moncure D. ALS to 1864 Apr. 26 (1 p) (1 p)
- Oversize (+++).
Inserted in:
Browning, Robert.
The pied piper of
Hamelin. London,
1880
Cook, [Jane E.]. Photostat of ALS from Robert Browning to 1879 Dec. 12 (1 p)
(1 p)
B.
- Oversize (+++).
Inserted in:
Browning, Robert.
The pied piper of
Hamelin. London,
1880
Cook, Mrs. [Jane E.]. AN in the third person to 1881 Dec. 26 (1 p) (1 p)
B.
- Manuscript box Corkran, [--?]. ALS to. Mentions Edward Chapman and John Forster 1863
Feb. 20 (1 item) (1 item)
- Manuscript box Cornish, Mrs. Blanche Warre Ritchie. ALS to 1872 Nov. 24 (3 p) (3 p)
Published in New Letters, p. 209. H.
[Dowden], [Edward]. ALS to 1866 Mar. 5 (1 item) (1 item)
Harry Bache Smith bookplate. H.
- Manuscript box Eckley, Mrs. Sophia May. 9 ALS to. 7, Le Havre, Siena, London, Aug. 19,
1858-Dec. 4, 1869; 2, London, undated 1858 Aug. 19 - 1869 Dec. 4 (9 folders) (9
folders)
H.

Correspondence (cont.)

Outgoing Correspondence (cont.)

- Inserted in his:
The Pied Piper of
Hamelin. London,
Glasgow and New
York [1888?].
Copy 1
- Manuscript box [Greenaway], [Kate]. ALS to 1884 July 19 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Grove, Sir George. ALS to 1876 Feb. 4 (3 p) (3 p)
Published in New Letters, p. 231. H.
- Manuscript box Hawthorne, Una. ALS to 1872 June 26 (3 p) (3 p)
H.
- Hewitt, Mrs. ALS to 1869 July 13 (1 item) (1 item)
H.
- Hunt, Leigh. ALS to Aug. 20 (1 item) (1 item)
Harry Bache Smith bookplate. H.
- Manuscript box Landor, [Walter Savage]. ALS to 1846 June 25 (1 item) (1 item)
H.
- Manuscript box [Lehmann], Alma. ALS to 1889 July 6 (1 item) (1 item)
H.
- Inserted in his:
Paracelsus.
London, 1835.
Copy 1
- Locker-[Lampson], Frederick. ALS to 1869 Apr. 13 (1 item) (1 item)
- Inserted in:
Browning, R.
Strafford. London,
1837. Copy 3
- Manuscript box Macready, W[illiam] C[harles]. ALS to 1836 May 28 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box Moscheles, Felix. ALS to 1883 Aug. 4 (1 p) (1 p)
With his: "And as I wandered by those happy shores." Holograph
- Mott, Lucretia. ALS to 1874 Nov. 18 (1 p) (1 p)
With: Browning, E. B. Sonnet on Mr. Haydon's picture of Mr. Wordsworth. 1842. Holograph
poem, undated. 1 p. Published in New Letters, p. 117
- Manuscript box. Folders 11a, 34,
89. In: Browning,
E. B. 113 ALS to
Arabella Barrett
Moulton-Barrett.
[v. p., April, 1839-
May (?) 1861]
- Moulton-Barrett, Arabella Barrett. 3 ANS to [1847] Feb. 8, [1851] Dec. 25, [1858]
June 28 ([3 items]) ([3 items])
- Inserted in his:
Strafford. London,
1837. Copy 2
- Manuscript box Moxon, Edward. ALS to 1845? (3 p) (3 p)
- Manuscript box Parkes, Elizabeth Rayner. ALS to 1864 Jan. 19 (1 item) (1 item)
Published in New Letters, p. 159. H.
- Oversize (+). In:
Album of letters
and autographs
- Manuscript box Powell, Thomas [?]. ALS to n.d. (1 item) (1 item)
- Manuscript box Pym, [Augusta Harding]. ALS to 1868 Apr. 30 (1 item) (1 item)
H.
- Manuscript box Reinagh, Mr. ALS to 1865 Jan. 19 (1 item) (1 item)
H.
- Manuscript box [Simeon], Sir John. ALS to. Regarding a pension for William Allingham
1868 Dec. 28 (1 item) (1 item)
B.

Correspondence (cont.)

Outgoing Correspondence (cont.)

- | | |
|--|--|
| Manuscript box | Talfourd, [Thomas Noon]. ALS to 1835? (1 p) (1 p)
B.
Thackeray, [William Makepeace]. ALS to 1860 Jan. 17 (1 item) (1 item)
H. |
| Manuscript box | Ticknor and Fields. ALS to 1868 Sept. 2 (3 p) (3 p)
H. |
| Manuscript box | Trollope, Thomas Adolphus. 2 ALS to 1887 June 30, 1887 July 13 (2 items) (2 items) |
| In: Album of autographs, mostly 19th century | Tweeddale, Lady. ANS to 1886 Apr. 15 (1 p) (1 p) |
| Inserted in: [Broe, Samuel de seigneur de Citry et de la Guette]. The history of the triumvirates. London, 1686. | Unknown correspondent. ALS to an 1887 Apr. 23 (2 p) (2 p)
H. |
| Manuscript box | Westwood(?), Thomas. ALS to. Removed from his: Men and women, 1855. Copy 3 1880 Mar. 27 (1 item) (1 item)
[--?]. Facsimile of an ALS to 1863 Mar. 27 (1 item) (1 item)
H. |
| Manuscript box | --?. ALS to 1869 Nov. 18 (1 item) (1 item) |
| Manuscript box | --?. Sir Henry. ALS to 1876 Mar. 31 (3 p) (3 p) |
| Manuscript box | --?. ALS to 1884 Apr. 30 (1 item) (1 item)
Y.
[--?], Margaret. ALS to. Mutilated. First half of first leaf cut away 1884? (3 p) (3 p) |
| Oversize (+) | --?. AN, in the third person, to n.d. (1 item) (1 item)
With: Hunt, Leigh. ALS to Lord Holland. Chelsea, July 5 [n.y.] |
| Incoming Correspondence | |
| Manuscript box | Carlyle, Thomas. ALS to R. Browning 1841 June 21 (2 leaves) (2 leaves)
Y.
Carlyle, Thomas. 3 ALS to R. Browning 1847 June 23 - 1856 Apr. 25 (3 items) (3 items)
George Seton Veitch bookplate; Y.
Dickens, Charles. ALS to R. Browning 1856 Apr. 12 (1 p) (1 p)
H.
Fields, James Thomas. LS to R. Browning 1868 Sept. 19 (3 p) (3 p)
H. |
| Oversize (+) | Forster, John. 16 ALS to Mr. & Mrs. Robert Browning 1854 - 1875 (16 items) (16 items)
With: ALS from L. Smith to R. Browning, Dec. 7, 1869; ALS from W. V. Harcourt to R. Browning, [n.d.]; ALS from Julian Fane to Forster, July 24, 1869. H. |
| Oversize (+) | Harcourt, W. V. ALS to R. Browning n.d. (1 item) (1 item)
With: Forster, John. 16 ALS to Mr. & Mrs. Robert Browning, 1854-1875; ALS from L. Smith to Robert Browning, Dec. 7, 1869; and ALS from Julian Fane to John Forster, July 24, 1869. H. |
| Manuscript box (Beddoes) | Kelsall, Thomas Forbes. TL (two copies) to R. Browning. Relates to manuscripts of Thomas Lovell Beddoes 1867 Nov. 13 (2 items) (2 items)
On p. 5 of first copy is stamped: "F. L. Pleadwell, No. 2610". Published in The Browning Box, ed. Donner, London, 1935, p. 96-98 |

Correspondence (cont.)

Incoming Correspondence (cont.)

- Inserted in his:
Gebir. London,
1798. Copy 1
Manuscript box
- Landor, Walter Savage. ALS to R. Browning. Dated in Browning's hand
1864 June 26 (1 p) (1 p)
- Martineau, Harriet. ALS to R. Browning [1840?] Apr. 8 (2 leaves) (2 leaves)
H.
- (Browning, R.)-A.
Inserted in:
[Patterson, W. F.]
The lady and the
saints. London,
1839
Manuscript box
- Ruskin, John. ALS to R. Browning 1855 Dec. 2 (6 leaves) (6 leaves)
- Ruskin, John. ALS to R. Browning n.d. (1 leaf) (1 leaf)
Y.
- Oversize (+)
- Smith, L. ALS to R. Browning 1869 Dec. 7 (1 item) (1 item)
With: Forster, John. 16 ALS to Mr. & Mrs. Robert Browning, 1854-1875; ALS from W. V.
Harcourt to Robert Browning, [n.d.]; and ALS from Julian Fane to John Forster, July 24, 1869.
H.
- Manuscript box
- Stephen, Sir Leslie. ALS to R. Browning. Relating to Elizabeth Barrett
Browning's works 1874 Jan. 29 (2 p) (2 p)
- Inserted in:
Landor, W. S. The
Hellenics of
Walter Savage
Landor. New ed.,
enl. Edinburgh,
1859. Copy 1
- Swinburne, Algernon Charles. ALS to R. Browning [1869] June 7 (3 p) (3 p)
- Tennyson, Alfred Tennyson, 1st Baron. 14 ALS to R. Browning. Three
letters undated. Bound by Riviere 1864 May 31 - 1889 Aug (14 items) (14 items)
Y.

Related Correspondence

- Browning, E. B. ALS to W. J. Fox 1859 June 8 (1 item) (1 item)
Postscript signed by Robert Browning. H.
- Manuscript box
(Browning, R.)
- Browning, Robert Wiedeman Barrett. ALS to Mrs. Sophia May Eckley.
Relates to Robert Browning 1859 (1 item) (1 item)
H.
- Manuscript box
(Browning, R.)
- Browning, Robert Wiedeman Barrett. ALS to Alexandra (Leighton) Orr.
Relates to Robert Browning n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box
(Stephen, L.)
- Orr, Alexandra (Leighton), "Mrs. Sutherland Orr". ALS to Sir Leslie
Stephen. Relates to John Stuart Mill's opinion of Robert Browning's
Pauline 1891 May 31 (1 item) (1 item)

Portraits

- Manuscript box
- Portrait photograph 1862 Oct. ([1 item]) ([1 item])
Inscribed by Robert Browning, "Paris, October 1862". Came with the Moulton-Barrett papers