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Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and  
American Literature

Guide to the

**William Harrison Ainsworth collection of papers**

1823]-1889

Berg Coll MSS Ainsworth

Processed by Staff.

## Summary

**Creator:** Ainsworth, William Harrison, 1805-1882

**Title:** William Harrison Ainsworth collection of papers

**Date:** 1823]-1889

**Size:** 131 linear feet (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 by and about the author, notebooks dating from 1843 to 1845, and pictorial works.

**Access:** Restricted access.

**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

William Harrison Ainsworth was an English novelist.

## Custodial History

Previous owners include W. T. H. Howe and Owen D. Young. The notebooks were a gift of Mr. and Mrs. Donald F. Hyde in honor of Dr. A. A. Berg.

## Scope and Content Note

This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts, correspondence by and about the author, notebooks dating from 1843 to 1845, and pictorial works. The manuscripts include poems and portions and drafts of novels. The pictorial works include drawings by George Cruikshank for Ainsworth's novels. The correspondence includes letters from the author, dating from [1836] to 1889, to Richard Harris Barham, George Cruikshank, his cousin Dr. James Bower Harrison, William Charles Mark Kent, and others, as well as letters relating to the author, dating from [1839] to 1841, between Richard Harris Barham and Richard Bentley.

## Key Terms

### Genre/Physical Characteristic

Correspondence  
Notebooks

### Names

Ainsworth, William Harrison, 1805-1882  
Bentley, Richard, 1794-1871  
Cruikshank, George, 1792-1878  
Eccles, Mary Hyde  
Harrison, James Bower  
Howe, W. T. H. (William Thomas Hildrup)  
Hyde, Donald Frizell, 1909-1966  
Ingoldsby, Thomas, 1788-1845  
Kent, Charles, 1823-1902  
Young, Owen D., 1874-

## Container List

### Manuscripts

- Oversize (+) In:  
Moran, Mrs. E. R.  
Album of  
autographs and  
sketches  
Manuscript box Bacchanalian song. Holograph poem 1839 Jan. 19 (1 p) (1 p)  
Signed Y.
- Manuscript box [Beatrice Tyldesley. Book the third, chapters 10-13, book the fourth, chapters 1-2] Holograph n.d. (29 p) (29 p)  
Differs from the text of the [188-?] edition of the John Dicks serial H.
- Manuscript box [The good old times; the story of the Mansfield rebels of '45]. Holograph n.d. (6 p) (6 p)  
Y.
- Manuscript box [Jack Sheppard]. Holograph draft (mutilated) of a plan probably for the first edition in part of Jack Sheppard, arranged in two columns, the number and month in the first column and the corresponding chapter headings in the second column n.d. (3 p) (3 p)  
H.
- Manuscript box [Jack Sheppard]. Four holograph fragments n.d. (4 items) (4 items)  
H.
- Manuscript box [Old Saint Paul's] Holograph n.d. (1 p) (1 p)  
H.
- Oversize (+) In:  
Moran, Mrs. E. R.  
Album of  
autographs and  
sketches  
Manuscript box Pleasure and virtue. Holograph poem n.d. (1 p) (1 p)  
Signed with initials Y.
- Manuscript box [Preston fight, or The insurrection of 1715]. One page of holograph n.d. (1 p) (1 p)  
H.
- Barham, Richard Harris. Holograph notebook and commonplace book. Poems, anecdotes, jokes, etc. Includes some journal entries. Pages 50-51 cut out. 9 pages at end in R. H. Dalton Barham's and Caroline Frances Barham's hand. Mentions Ainsworth, etc. 1843 - 1845(?) (1 v) (1 v)  
Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Donald F. Hyde in honor of Dr. A. A. Berg

### Correspondence

#### Outgoing

- Manuscript box Ainsworth, Fanny. ALS to his daughter 1847 Aug. 20 (3 p) (3 p)
- Manuscript box [Ainsworth], Fanny. ALS to his daughter 1847 Oct. 11 (1 item) (1 item)  
Y.
- Manuscript box Ainsworth, Ann Harrison. ALS to his mother 1841 Aug. 16 (1 item) (1 item)  
Y.
- Manuscript box [Argus]. ANS to the [editor (?)] 1839 Dec. 31 (1 p) (1 p)  
Y.
- Inserted in:  
[Barham, R. H.]  
The Ingoldsby  
legends. 2nd  
series. London,  
1842. 1st ed., 2d  
issue. Copy 4  
Barham, Richard Harris. ALS Feb. 4 (1 item) (1 item)

Correspondence (cont.)  
Outgoing (cont.)

- Manuscript box Browne, Hablot K. ALS 1858 Feb. 14 (1 item) (1 item)  
With an ANS from H. K. Browne on the 3rd page Y.
- Inserted in:  
Ainsworth, W. H.  
The tower of  
London. London,  
1840. 1st edition  
in book form.  
Copy 2, p. 143  
Cruikshank, George. ALS n.d. (1 item) (1 item)
- Manuscript box [Fraser, Thomas]. ALS 1840 Nov. 3 (1 p) (1 p)  
Y.
- Manuscript box [Fraser, Thomas]. ALS 1840 Nov. 15 (1 item) (1 item)  
Y.
- Manuscript box [Garland, John]. ALS 1856 Jan. 3 (3 p) (3 p)  
Y.
- Manuscript box Gilbert, John. ALS 1861 July 25 (3 p) (3 p)
- Manuscript box [Harrison]. 32 ALS and a memorial card to his cousin Dr. James Bower  
Harrison. 3 letters mutilated 1838 Mar. 20 - 1881 Dec. 28 (33 items in 7 folders) (33  
items in 7 folders)  
Also a copy of Ainsworth's letter to his cousin, April 23, 1879, made by Daniel F. Howorth and  
sent to J. B. Harrison's son, Howard, in a letter Nov. 15, 1909 B.
- Manuscript box Hood, Thomas [?]. ALS 1843 Oct. 19 (1 item) (1 item)
- Manuscript box Hunt, Leigh. ALS 1843 Dec. 13 (3 p) (3 p)  
H.
- Manuscript box Kent, William Charles Mark. ALS 1850 Nov. 20 (1 item) (1 item)  
H.
- Manuscript box Kent, William Charles Mark. ALS 1851 Nov. 30 (1 item) (1 item)  
Y.
- Manuscript box Kent, William Charles Mark. ALS 1857 [ie. 1858] Jan. 1 (1 item) (1 item)  
Y.
- Manuscript box Kent, William Charles Mark. ALS 1861 Dec. 28 (3 p) (3 p)  
Y.
- Manuscript box Kent, William Charles Mark. ALS 1862 Jan. 30 (1 p) (1 p)  
Y.
- Manuscript box Kent, William Charles Mark. ALS 1870 July 7 (1 item) (1 item)  
Y.
- Manuscript box Macrone, John. AL. Relates to Dickens and Bentley 1836 Nov. 11 (5 p) (5 p)  
Signed with initials Published in: Ellis, S. M. William Harrison Ainsworth and his friends.  
London, 1911. Vol. 1, p. 305 B.
- Manuscript box Maidment [?], James. Copy of ALS 1838 Jan. 16 (1 item) (1 item)  
H.
- Manuscript box Ollier, [Charles]. ALS 1840 Dec. 4 (1 item) (1 item)  
On p. 3: ALS from Ollier to Sir John Philippart, enclosing Ainsworth's AN (in the third person)  
to Sir John Philippart, Dec. 3, 1840 Y.
- Manuscript box Philippart, Sir John. AN (in the third person) 1840 Dec. 3 (1 p) (1 p)  
With his: ALS to Charles Ollier, Dec. 4, 1840. 1 l. Y.
- Inserted in:  
Ainsworth, W. H.  
The miser's  
daughter.  
London,, 1848  
[Sharpe, Charles K.]. 3 ALS 1842 Feb. 16 - 1842 May 6 (3 items) (3 items)

Correspondence (cont.)

Outgoing (cont.)

- Manuscript box Smith, [Horace (?)]. ALS 1846 Oct. 17 (1 item) (1 item)  
Y.
- Manuscript box Tisdale, Dr. [C. G.]. ALS 1874 Sept. 14 (1 p) (1 p)  
Encloses holograph of the opening lines of The tower of London and of the same passage in Spanish, German, Dutch and French from translations of the work, 1 p. H.
- Manuscript box [Young, Murdo]. ALS 1849 Dec. 6 (1 item) (1 item)  
Y.
- Manuscript box [Young?, Murdo]. ALS 1849 Dec. 13 (3 p) (3 p)  
Y.
- Manuscript box [--?]. ALS 1840 Dec. 19 (1 item) (1 item)  
Y.
- Manuscript box [--?]. ALS 1841 Feb. 2 (1 p) (1 p)
- Manuscript box [--?]. ALS 1850 May 19 (1 item) (1 item)  
Y.
- Manuscript box [--?]. ALS. Cut in half so that one line of text is concealed 1859 May 23 (1 p) (1 p)  
p)  
H.
- Manuscript box [--?]. ALS. Relates to Leigh Hunt 1859 Aug. 4 (3 p) (3 p)
- Manuscript box [--?]. ALS 1861 Mar. 26 (1 item) (1 item)
- (Thackeray)-B.  
Inserted in:  
Benjamin, L. S.  
The life of William  
Makepeace  
Thackeray. [Extra  
illustrated]  
London, 1899.  
Vol. 1, p. 172
- ?]. ALS 1872 May 24 (1 p) (1 p)

Incoming

- Manuscript box Barham, Richard Harris. ALS to Ainsworth. Mentions Dickens quarrel 1839?  
Feb.?) or [1839? Mar.? (1 item) (1 item)  
B.
- Manuscript box Barham, Richard Harris. ALS to "Harry-Starkus" [Harrison Ainsworth?]  
[1840?] Oct. 13 (1 item) (1 item)  
B.
- Manuscript box Barham, Richard Harris. ALS to Ainsworth [1841?] May 4 (3 p) (3 p)  
B.
- Manuscript box Barham, Richard Harris. ALS to [Ainsworth] [1845] July 4 (1 item) (1 item)  
B.
- Manuscript box Barham, Richard Harris. ALS (incomplete) to [Ainsworth?] [1845] July 7 (3 p)  
(3 p)  
B.
- Manuscript box Barham, Richard Harris Dalton. ALS to [Ainsworth?] Relates to his father  
Rev. R. H. Barham [1845] July 9 (1 item) (1 item)  
B.

Correspondence (cont.)  
Incoming (cont.)

- (Thackeray)-B.  
Inserted in:  
Benjamin, L. S.  
The life of William  
Makepeace  
Thackeray. [Extra-  
illustrated]  
London, 1899, vol.  
1, p. 169
- Oversize  
(+)(Dickens)-B. In:  
Kitton, F. G.  
Charles Dickens  
by pen and pencil.  
London, 1890-  
1892. Copy 2, vol.  
2
- Inserted in:  
Ainsworth, W. H.  
The tower of  
London. London,  
1840. 1st ed. in  
book form. Copy 2
- Manuscript box
- Manuscript box
- Oversize (+)
- Manuscript box
- Manuscript box
- Inserted in:  
Ainsworth, W. H.  
The Tower of  
London. London,  
1840. Copy 2, part  
1
- Manuscript box
- Blanchard, Laman. ALS to Ainsworth 1843 Dec. 14 (1 p) (1 p)
- Costello, Dudley. 2 ALS to Ainsworth. One dated Aug. 24 [n.y.] n.d. (2 items) (2 items)
- Cruikshank, George. ALS to Ainsworth 1840 Mar. 11 (1 item) (1 item)
- Cruikshank, George. 3 ALS to Ainsworth 1840 May 16 - 1944 May 13 (3 items) (3 items)  
Y.
- Dickens, Charles. ALS to Ainsworth 1837 May 17 (3 p) (3 p)  
Engraved card of thanks for condolences on the death of Mary Hogarth, filled out in Charles Dickens' hand, enclosed H.
- Lamb, Charles. ALS to Ainsworth 1823 Dec.] 9 (1 item) (1 item)  
In case with his: The Old Benchers of the Inner Temple. Holograph
- Southey, Robert. ALS to Ainsworth 1828 Feb. 21 (1 item) (1 item)  
B.
- Thackeray, William Makepeace. ALS to Ainsworth 1843 Sept. 27 (1 p) (1 p)  
H.
- Thackeray, William Makepeace. ALS to Ainsworth [1857] Jan. 11 (3 p) (3 p)  
Y.
- Thackeray, William Makepeace. ALS to Ainsworth 1857 Jan. 13 (2 p) (2 p)
- Thackeray, William Makepeace. ALS to Ainsworth June 30 (5 p) (5 p)  
Y.

Related

- Manuscript box
- Manuscript box
- Manuscript box
- Barham, R. H. ALS to [Richard] Bentley. Mentions Dickens and Ainsworth [1839] Jan. 30 (1 item) (1 item)  
B.
- Barham, R. H. ALS to [Richard] Bentley. Relates to Dickens and Ainsworth 1839 Jan. - 1839 Mar (3 p) (3 p)  
B.
- Barham, R. H. ALS to R[ichard] Bentley. Relates to Ainsworth 1839? (3 p) (3 p)  
p)  
B.

Correspondence (cont.)

Related (cont.)

- Manuscript box Barham, R. H. ALS to Richard Bentley. Mentions Ainsworth 1841 June 25 (1 p) (1 p)  
B.
- (Thackeray) 13 letters, relating to W. M. Thackeray, from W. H. Ainsworth, G. W. Curtis, George Du Maurier, John Leech, Tom Taylor, and others 1854 - 1889 (2 v) (2 v)  
H.

Pictorial Works

- Manuscript box Cruikshank, George. [Ainsworth, W. H. Guy Fawkes] Two original colored drawings: Guy Fawkes arrested by Sir Thomas Knevett and Topcliffe, and Death of Viviana. For Ainsworth's Guy Fawkes, 1st ed., 1841, v. 3, p. 46 and 324 respectively n.d. (2 items) (2 items)  
Signed Y.
- Inserted in:  
Ainsworth, W. H.  
The tower of  
London. London,  
1840. 1st edition  
in book form.  
Copy 2, p. 33  
Cruikshank, George. [Ainsworth, W. H. The tower of London] Original pencil sketch of an illustration for Ainsworth's The tower of London n.d. (1 item) (1 item)  
Signed
- Inserted in:  
Ainsworth, W. H.  
The tower of  
London. London,  
1840. 1st edition  
in book form.  
Copy 2, p. 112  
Cruikshank, George. [Ainsworth, W. H. The tower of London] Original of an illustration for Ainsworth's The tower of London with the artist's ms. caption n.d. (1 item) (1 item)  
Signed drawing in sepia
- Manuscript box Cruikshank, George. [Ainsworth, W. H. The tower of London] Five original colored drawings for Ainsworth's The tower of London, 1st ed., 1840 n.d. (5 items) (5 items)  
Y.
- Oversize (+) Cruikshank, George. [Ainsworth, W. H. St. James's] Eleven original pencil and watercolor drawings for Ainsworth's "St. James's; or, The court of Queen Anne," with the words "Original sketch" and the captions written by the artist n.d. (11 items) (11 items)  
Signed 9 of the illustrations published in the 1st ed. in book form, 1844; the other 2 published in the serial publication in Ainsworth's magazine Y.
- Manuscript box Cruikshank, George. [Ainsworth, W. H. Our library table] Two original pencil sketches of illustration used as heading for Our library table department of Ainsworth's magainze. 23 x 19 cm. At bottom of drawing in Cruikshank's hand, "G. C. and Ainsworth." n.d. (1 item) (1 item)  
Signed H.
- Manuscript box Cruikshank, George. [Ainsworth, W. H. The miser's daughter] An original colored drawing: The supper at Vauxhall. For vol. 2 of Ainsworth's The miser's daughter n.d. (1 item) (1 item)  
Signed Y.
- Manuscript box Cruikshank, George. [Ainsworth, W. H. Jack Sheppard] Four original pen-and-ink drawings sent to The City Rembrancer, Guild Hall n.d. (1 item) (1 item)  
Signed H.