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American Literature

Guide to the

**Lafcadio Hearn collection of papers**

1883-1904

Berg Coll MSS Hearn

Processed by Staff.

## Summary

**Creator:** Hearn, Lafcadio, 1850-1904

**Title:** Lafcadio Hearn collection of papers

**Date:** 1883-1904

**Size:** 105 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 notebooks dating from 1896 to 1897.

**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

Lafcadio Hearn, born in Greece and raised in Ireland, France, and England, was an American short-story and travel writer, journalist, literary critic, translator, poet, and author of culinary literature.

## Custodial History

Previous owners include Frank Fletcher, Bliss Perry, W. T. H. Howe, and Thomas and Jania Erwin.

## Scope and Content Note

This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts, correspondence by and about the author, and notebooks dating from 1896 to 1897. The manuscripts include stories, translations, a reading list, and fragments of stories. The bulk of the collection consists of correspondence by the author, dating from 1883 to 1904, to Ellwood Hendrick, William D. O'Connor, Elizabeth Bisland Wetmore, and the literary agency T. Fisher Unwin, as well as letters relating to the author, dated 1890, between various correspondents, including H. M. Alden, G. M. Gould, Albert Mordell, and others.

## Key Terms

### Genre/Physical Characteristic

Correspondence  
Notebooks

### Names

Hearn, Lafcadio, 1850-1904  
Alden, Henry Mills, 1836-1919  
Bisland, Elizabeth, 1861-1929  
Erwin, Jania  
Erwin, Thomas  
Fletcher, Frank, 1870-1954  
Gould, George M. (George Milbry), 1848-1922  
Hendrick, Ellwood, 1861-1930  
Howe, W. T. H. (William Thomas Hildrup)  
Mordell, Albert, 1885-1965  
O'Connor, William Douglas, 1832-1889  
Perry, Bliss, 1860-1954  
T. Fisher Unwin (Firm)

## Container List

### Notebooks

- Cased notebooks, Holograph. Contain notes and fragmentary drafts of essays and stories from his *Glimpses of unfamiliar Japan*, *Out of the East*, *Kokoro*, *A Japanese miscellany*, etc. Some passages in French, Creole French, and Japanese 1896 - 1897 (14 v) (14 v)  
Three signed. Typescripts of 12 notebooks laid in with them

### Manuscripts

- Oversize (+) Reading list. Holograph. n.d. (4 p) (4 p)  
With: Hearn, Lafcadio. ALS to F. Page Wood. Sept. 26, 1887. Frank Fletcher bookplate; H.
- Cased Red bridal, The. Holograph [place and date deleted] 1893 Nov. 17 (97 p) (97 p)  
H.
- 3 v. in 1 envelope [Shadowings] Holograph fragments n.d. (15 p) (15 p)  
Includes other unidentified writings; On versos of pages of his three personal account books, dated July 15, 1899, July 1-Dec. 31, 1900; Jan. 1902-March 1904
- (Hearn) Gautier, Theophile. Avatar. Translated from the French by Lafcadio Hearn. 1878. Holograph. Dated by the translator 1878 (219 p) (219 p)  
Signed by Lafcadio Hearn. Thomas and Jania Erwin bookplate

### Correspondence

#### Outgoing Correspondence

- Oversize (+) Bouton, J. W. 7 postcards 1884 Mar. 19 - 1884 May 14 (7 letters) (7 letters)  
With: Hearn, Lafcadio. ALS to F. Page Wood. New York, Sept. 26, 1887. Frank Fletcher bookplate; H.
- Cased Century magazine. ALS to the editors n.d. (6 p) (6 p)  
H.
- Inserted in his: Didier, [Eugene Lemoine]. ALS 1886 Dec. 11 (2 p) (2 p)  
Chita. New York, 1889  
Relates to Charles Watson Stoddard
- Manuscript box Durno, Mrs. A[--?] C[--?]. ALS 1886 July 26 (5 p) (5 p)
- Manuscript box Durno, Mrs. A[--?] C[--?]. 2 ALS n.d. (2 letters) (2 letters)  
One letter, addressed to "Ada Sturgess" accompanied by The Times-Democrat envelope
- Manuscript box Hawkins, Mr. ALS 1904 May 31 (3 p) (3 p)  
Removed from his: Stray leaves from strange literature. Boston, 1884. Copy 1
- Oversize (+) Hendrick, Ellwood. 30 ALS of which 13 are fragments [1891] - [1898 (30 letters) (30 letters)  
With letter from H. E. Scudder to Lafcadio Hearn. Detailed contents laid in
- Manuscript box Hendrick, Ellwood. ALS 1893 Feb. 15 (1 letter) (1 letter)
- Manuscript box Hendrick, Ellwood. ALS 1893 Nov. 27 (1 letter) (1 letter)
- Manuscript box Hendrick, Ellwood. ALS 1897 Apr. 15 (1 letter) (1 letter)
- Manuscript box Hendrick, Ellwood. ALS 1897 Apr. 29 (1 letter) (1 letter)
- Manuscript box Hendrick, Ellwood. ALS Mar. 8 (1 letter) (1 letter)
- Oversize (+) Hubbard, Capt. R. R. ALS 1887 Oct. 11 (1 p) (1 p)  
With: Hearn, Lafcadio. ALS to F. Page Wood. New York, Sept. 26, 1887. Frank Fletcher bookplate; H.
- (Hearn) Inserted in: Gautier, Theophile. One of Cleopatra's nights. New York, 1882  
Krehbiel, H. Edward. ALS 1884 June 24 (3 p) (3 p)

- Correspondence (cont.)  
Outgoing Correspondence (cont.)
- Cased      Krehbiel, [Henry Edward]. ALS Mar. 27 (3 p) (3 p)  
H.
- Inserted in his:  
Some Chinese  
ghosts. Boston,  
1887. Copy 2
- Miller, C. E. ALS 1886 Dec. 17 (1 p) (1 p)
- Cased      O'Connor, William D. ALS [1883] Feb. 10 (2 p) (2 p)  
H.
- Cased      O'Connor, William D. ALS 1883 Mar. 14 (1 letter) (1 letter)  
H.
- Cased      O'Connor, William D. ALS 1883 Aug. 9 (8 p) (8 p)  
Relates to Walt Whitman. Bliss Perry; Howe
- Cased      O'Connor, William D. ALS 1884 Feb. 5 (1 p) (1 p)  
Relates to Walt Whitman. Bliss Perry; Howe
- Cased      O'Connor, William D. ALS to 1884 Mar. 7 (12 p) (12 p)  
Bliss Perry; Howe
- Manuscript box      O'Connor, W. D. Letter. Copy in the hand of Ellen O'Connor Calder 1884  
May 15 (1 p) (1 p)  
H.
- Cased      O'Connor, William D. ALS 1884 May 25, 1884 June 29 (7 p) (7 p)  
Bliss Perry; Howe
- Cased      O'Connor, [William D.]. ALS 1885 Mar. 8 (1 letter) (1 letter)  
Bliss Perry; Howe
- Cased      [O'Connor], [William D.]. ALS 1885 Mar. 8 (3 p) (3 p)  
Headed: Big P. A. No 1 [2]. Bliss Perry; Howe
- Cased      O'Connor, ALS to William D. 1885 July 13 (7 p) (7 p)  
Bliss Perry; Howe
- Cased      O'Connor, ALS to William D. 1886 Apr. 12 (6 p) (6 p)  
Bliss Perry; Howe
- Cased      O'Connor, ALS to William D. 1886 Apr. 25 (4 p) (4 p)  
Bliss Perry; Howe
- Cased      O'Connor, ALS to William D. 1887 Feb. 12 (3 p) (3 p)  
Bliss Perry; Howe
- Cased      O'Connor, ALS to William D. 1887 Mar. 3 (7 p) (7 p)  
Bliss Perry; Howe
- Manuscript box      T. Fisher Unwin. 5 ALS 1901 May 16 - 1901 Oct. 13 (5 letters) (5 letters)  
With publisher's ms. memoranda. 3 p.
- Cased      [Wetmore], Elizabeth Bisland. ALS [1887] July 16 (1 letter) (1 letter)  
H.
- Manuscript box      [Wetmore], [Elizabeth] Bisland. 2 ALS 1887 (2 letters) (2 letters)  
One undated. H.
- Oversize (+)      [Wetmore], Elizabeth Bisland. ALS 1889 (6 p) (6 p)  
H.
- Cased      Wetmore, Elizabeth [Bisland]. ALS 1902 Aug. (1 letter) (1 letter)  
H.
- Cased      [Wetmore], [Elizabeth Bisland]. ALS. Postscript by Mitchell McDonald 1903  
Mar. 15 (1 p) (1 p)  
H.

Correspondence (cont.)

Outgoing Correspondence (cont.)

- Cased Wetmore, Elizabeth [Bisland]. ALS 1903 Dec. 7 (1 p) (1 p)  
H.
- Cased Wetmore, Elizabeth [Bisland]. ALS 1903 (1 c03) (1 c03)  
H.
- Oversize (+) Wetmore, Elizabeth [Bisland]. ALS 1904 Sept. (7 p) (7 p)  
H.
- Manuscript box Wetmore, [Elizabeth Bisland]. ALS n.d. (1 letter) (1 letter)  
H.
- Oversize (+) Wood, F. Page. ALS 1884 (26 p) (26 p)  
Frank Fletcher bookplate; H.
- Oversize (+) Wood, F. Page. ALS 1887 Sept. 26 (1 p) (1 p)  
Frank Fletcher bookplate; H.
- Oversize (+) [--?]. ALS n.d. (2 p) (2 p)  
In case with: Hearn, Lafcadio. ALS to Elizabeth Bisland [Wetmore] [1889]

Related Correspondence

- Oversize (+) Gould, G. M. ALS to H. M. Alden. Relates to Lafcadio Hearn 1890 Mar. 30 (1  
letter) (1 letter)  
With: Hearn, Lafcadio. ALS to F. Page Wood. New York, Sept. 26, 1887
- (Hearn) In:  
Gautier, T. One of  
Cleopatra's nights.  
New York, 1882
- Oversize (+) Mordell, Albert. ALS to Mr. Galle July 30 (1 letter) (1 letter)
- Oversize (+) Tunison, Joseph S. ALS to Mr. [H. M.] Alden 1890 July 4 (3 p) (3 p)  
With: Hearn, Lafcadio. ALS to F. Page Wood. New York, Sept. 26, 1887. Relates to Lafcadio  
Hearn