

Yale University Library
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Guide to the Alfred Austin Collection

GEN MSS 219



by Beinecke Staff

July 1996

P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
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<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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CALL NUMBER: GEN MSS 219

CREATOR: Austin, Alfred, 1835-1913

TITLE: Alfred Austin collection

DATES: ca. 1865-1915

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 1.5 linear feet (4 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: Correspondence, writings and photographs by or about Alfred Austin. The correspondence consists of 14 letters from Austin to various people, and over 140 letters to Austin or his wife. The writings consist of holograph drafts, typescripts, and proofs of poems, playscripts, and notes by Austin. The photographs consist of portraits of Austin and views of his estate, Swinford.

ONLINE FINDING AID: To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.austin>

Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Beinecke Library reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/beinecke.austin>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please send an email with the call number, box number(s), and folder number(s) to beinecke.images@yale.edu.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b. box
f. folder

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Collection acquired from various sources.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Alfred Austin Collection is the physical property of the Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University. Literary rights, including copyright, belong to the authors or their legal heirs and assigns. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Preferred Citation

Alfred Austin Collection. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Processing Information

This finding aid was produced from a previously existing card set in the Manuscripts Catalog, or from another inventory. All pertinent bibliographical information has been retained. If the collection also contains unlisted or unsorted material, this has been noted in the box-and-folder list.

Biographical / Historical

Alfred Austin, English poet.

Scope and Contents

This finding aid encompasses accessions of materials pertaining to Alfred Austin.

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence

LETTERS FROM ALFRED AUSTIN

b. 1, f. 1	ALS to Lawrence Curtis, Ashford, Kent	1911 May 3
b. 1, f. 2	ALS to Mr. Dennis, Ashford, Kent	1896 Jul 24
b. 1, f. 3	ALS to Mrs. Dodd, Ashford, Kent Accompanied by a note, probably in the hand of Mrs. Austin.	1901 May 13
b. 1, f. 4	ALS to Mrs. Edwards, [Hailey, Oxfordshire?]	1867 Aug 23
b. 1, f. 5	ALS to Mrs. Frederick William Farrar, Florence	1903 Mar 26
b. 1, f. 6	ALS to Henry Jones, Ashford, Kent	1893 Jan 22
b. 1, f. 7	ALS to Mrs. Lowther, Ashford, Kent	1900 Jun 3
b. 1, f. 8	ALS to Theophilus Julius Henry Marzials, Ashford, Kent	1889 Apr 6
b. 1, f. 9	ALS to Mr. Pennell, Ashford, Kent	1869 May 23
b. 1, f. 10	ALS to Mr. Robinson, Ashford, Kent Writes that the Poet Laureateship has just been offered to him.	1895 Dec 31
b. 1, f. 11	ALS to Mrs. Woodruff, Ashford, Kent	1907 Feb 20
b. 1, f. 12	ALS to Mr. I. C. Wright, Ashford, Kent	1896 Aug 8
b. 1, f. 13	ALS to unidentified recipient, Swinford Old Manor, Ashford, Kent	1892 Jul 3
b. 1, f. 14	ALS to an unidentified recipient, Ashford, Kent Addressed to the Editor of <i>The Independent</i> , formerly <i>The Nonconformist</i> .	1899 Oct 22

LETTERS TO ALFRED AUSTIN AND HIS WIFE

b. 1, f. 15	Ainley, Henry Hincliffe, 1879-. 2 ALS to Alfred Austin regarding the possible production of <i>A Successful Rehearsal</i> and <i>Achilles in Scyros</i> , London	1910 Feb 2, Sep 23
b. 1, f. 16	Arnold, Matthew, 1822-1888. ALS to Alfred Austin, Cobham, Surrey Containing a criticism of Austin's <i>Prince Lucifer</i> .	1888 Mar 5
b. 1, f. 17	Balfour, Arthur James, 1st earl, 1848-1930. 2 letters written by an amanuensis, signed by Mr. Balfour, London The letters are addressed to Alfred Austin and are concerned with the granting of a pension to Mrs. Anthony Trollope.	1896 Dec 2, 1897 Aug 4
b. 1, f. 18	Beresford, Charles William De la Poer Beresford, 1st baron, 1846-1919. ALS to Alfred Austin, London	1898 Mar 9
	Blunt, Wilfrid Scawen, 1840-1922	
b. 1, f. 19	ALS to Mrs. Alfred Austin, Southwater, Sussex	1913 Jun 4

LETTERS TO ALFRED AUSTIN AND HIS WIFE > Blunt, Wilfrid Scawen, 1840-1922 (continued)

b. 1, f. 19	8 ALS to Alfred Austin, [v.p.]	1897 Jun 21-1908 Oct 19
b. 1, f. 20	Bourget, Minnie Paul. ANS to Mrs. Alfred Austin, Le Plantier de Costebelle The note concerns a postcard which she is returning to Mrs. Wharton.	1909 Jan 11
	Bourget, Paul Charles Joseph, 1852-1935	
b. 1, f. 21	ANS to Alfred Austin, Golspie, Sutherland	1892 Sep 2
b. 1, f. 21	ALS to Alfred Austin, Paris	1906 Jul 24
b. 1, f. 22	Cambridge. University. Christ's college. Engraved invitation to Alfred Austin From the Master and Fellows, to attend a dinner on July 10, 1908 celebrating the tercentenary of Milton.	[n.d.]
	Corry, Montagu William Lowry-, baron Rowton, 1838-1903 See: Rowton, Montagu William Lowry-Corry, baron, 1838-1903, Box 1, folder 39	
b. 1, f. 23	Dowden, Edward, 1843-1913. 13 ALS to Alfred Austin, Dublin	1887-1910
b. 1, f. 24	Hamilton, Lord George Francis, 1845-1927. ALS to Alfred Austin, London	1878 Jul 22
	Harrison, Frederic, 1831-1923	
b. 1, f. 25	10 ALS to Alfred Austin, [v.p.]	1897 Oct 23-1911 [Jul?] 26
b. 1, f. 25	5 ALS to Mrs. Alfred Austin, [v.p.]	1909 Aug 29-1913 Jan 22
b. 1, f. 26	Holmes, Oliver Wendell, 1809-1894. 3 ALS to Alfred Austin, Boston	1891 Mar 7- May 30
b. 1, f. 27	James, Henry, 1843-1916. 4 ALS to Mrs. Alfred Austin, [v.p.]	1901-15
	Lowry-Corry, Montagu William, baron Rowton, 1838-1903 See: Rowton, Montagu William Lowry-Corry, baron, 1838-1903, Box 1, folder 39	
b. 1, f. 28	Lytton, Edward George Earle Lytton Bulwer-Lytton, 1st baron, 1803-1873. ANS to Alfred Austin inviting him to lunch with Charles Dickens and others, Knebworth	1865 Jul 22
	Lytton, Edward Robert Bulwer-Lytton, 1st earl of, 1831-1891	
b. 1, f. 29-30	25 ALS to Alfred Austin, [n.p.]	1873-91
b. 1, f. 31-32	13 ALS to Alfred Austin, selected by himself for his autobiography, [n.p.]	1881-88
b. 1, f. 33	Mallock, William Hurrell, 1849-1923. 9 ALS to Alfred Austin, [v.p.]	1886-1910
b. 1, f. 34	Master, J. ANS to Alfred Austin, [London]	1895 Dec 7
b. 1, f. 34a	Maxse, Frederick Augustus, 1833-1900. 4 ALS to Alfred Austin With 2 envelopes.	1891-98, n.d.

LETTERS TO ALFRED AUSTIN AND HIS WIFE (continued)

b. 1, f. 35	Meredith, George, 1828-1909. 8 ALS to Alfred Austin, [London] With 7 envelopes. The letters contain comments on Austin's poems.	1891 Dec 8-1903 Aug 6
b. 1, f. 36	Morley, John Morley, viscount, 1838-1923. 4 ALS to Alfred Austin, [v.p.]	1879 May 2-1905 Jan 16
b. 1, f. 37	Nordau, Max Simon, 1849- 10 ALS to Alfred Austin, Paris	1897 Jul 2-1908 Jul 10
b. 1, f. 37	ALS to Mrs. Alfred Austin, Paris	1913 Jun 3
b. 1, f. 38	Patmore, Coventry Kersey Dighton, 1823-1896. ALS to Alfred Austin Thanking him for his favorable criticism, and discussing the use of a certain metre in poetry.	n.d.
b. 1, f. 39	Rowton, Montagu William Lowry-Corry, baron, 1838-1903. 2 ALS to Alfred Austin, London	1895 Apr 11-1896 Oct 26
b. 1, f. 40	Sharp, William, 1855-1905. 5 ALS to Alfred, Austin, [v.p.]	n.d.
b. 1, f. 41	Smith, William Henry, 1825-1891. 4 ALS to Alfred Austin, [v.p.]	1886 Jan 13-1889 Sep 19
b. 1, f. 42	Ward, Mary Augusta Arnold, 1851-1920 2 ALS to Alfred Austin, [v.p.]	1887 Jan 31-1895 Feb 7
b. 1, f. 42	3 ALS to Mrs. Alfred Austin, [v.p.]	1887-89, n.d.
b. 1, f. 43	Wood, Sir Evelyn, i.e. Henry Evelyn, 1838-1919. TLS to Mrs. Alfred Austin, London	1897 Oct 22

Series II: Writings

"Achilles in Scyros"		
b. 2, f. 44-45	2 typescripts, one with holograph corrections	n.d.
b. 2, f. 46-47	Page proofs, with holograph corrections and additions	1910 Aug-Oct
b. 2, f. 48	<p>Programme of Pastoral plays at Leighton House, where on Monday, July 19th, 1909 this masque was given</p> <p>A clipping from <i>The Times</i>, July 20, 1909 is laid in. Also laid in is the estimate from Macmillan & Co. for printing this work together with sample pages; and a memorandum from R & R Clark, Ltd., of Edinburgh submitting fresh proof of title-sheet.</p>	1909
b. 2, f. 49	<p>"After Leonidas," autograph poem, 16 lines</p> <p>Printed on p. 20 of <i>Lamia's Winter Quarters</i>, London 1898.</p>	
b. 2, f. 50-52	<p>"Birthday Book," autograph [?] manuscript</p> <p>A work similar to "Days of the Year." On wrapping: "The H. L.'s Birthday Book (MS)."</p>	n.d.
b. 2, f. 53	"A Border Burn," autograph draft of the poem printed in his <i>A Tale of True Love</i>	1902
b. 2, f. 54	<p>"Cassandra Speaks," autograph, with typescript, corrected</p> <p>Autograph endorsed: "not needed;" typescript endorsed: "To be returned to me, when used for the purpose now sent. AA."</p>	n.d.
b. 2, f. 55	<p>"The Conversion of Winckelmann," autograph draft of part of the poem</p> <p>Over the next to last page are approximately 4 stanzas of "John Everett Millais," a poem printed in the same volume. Laid in a folder marked "Winckelmann Right (?) Draft."</p>	n.d.
b. 2, f. 56	"The Dance at Treves," autograph manuscript, signed, with corrections and additions	n.d.
b. 2, f. 57	"Dante's Poetic Conception of Woman," typescripts, with holograph corrections	n.d.
b. 2, f. 58-59	"Dante's Realistic Treatment of the Ideal," autograph and typescript, corrected	n.d.
b. 2, f. 60-61	"The Door of Humility," autograph	n.d.
b. 2, f. 62	"England's Darling," autograph manuscript with title	1896
b. 2, f. 63	"England's Darling," autograph draft of the preface	n.d.
b. 2, f. 64	"The Essentials of Great Poetry," autograph manuscript	n.d.
"Flodden Field"		
b. 2, f. 65	Page proof	1903
b. 2, f. 66	"The original draft of Flodden Field: written in April 1901, at the Villa Favorita, Florence."	1901
b. 3, f. 67	<p>"A Florilegium," autograph draft</p> <p>Printed in "The Conversion of Winckelmann."</p>	n.d.

b. 3, f. 68	"Forget and Forgive," autograph and typescript, corrected	n.d.
b. 3, f. 69	"The Garden That I Love," autograph of missing chapters in "The Garden That I Love"	n.d.
b. 3, f. 70	"In The Forum," autograph draft Later revised and printed in <i>A Tale of True Love</i> .	n.d.
b. 3, f. 71	"Lamia's Meditations," and "What Do We Know of Shakespeare?," autograph manuscript	n.d.
b. 3, f. 72	"Madonna's Child," autograph manuscript	n.d.
b. 3, f. 73	"The Mercy of the Mighty," autograph manuscript of a poem published in <i>Songs of England</i> , 1900 With another autograph manuscript of a draft of the above poem.	
b. 3, f. 74	Poems, autographs of "poems not published or for later consideration"	n.d.
b. 3, f. 75	"Poems &c published - AA," autograph manuscripts	n.d.
b. 3, f. 76	Poems, clippings One poem, "The Evening Light," has corrections in Austin's hand.	n.d.
b. 3, f. 77	"The Poet's Diary," autograph manuscript Includes the following note in Austin's hand: "Rejected by me from the MS of "The Poet's Diary," but proving useful elsewhere. April 3, 1904. Some of it perhaps to be used in the Diary. (see leaf 6 &c)."	1904
b. 3, f. 78	"Polyphemus," autograph manuscript, signed Printed in his <i>A Tale of True Love</i> , New York & London, 1902, p. 65-81.	n.d.
b. 3, f. 79	"Power," autograph manuscript Caption on the first leaf reads: "For "Power" Progress." (The word Power is crossed through in pencil).	n.d.
b. 3, f. 80	"Progress, A Comedy," autograph manuscript	n.d.
b. 3, f. 81	"Quotations and References" A folder so marked by Austin, containing clippings from various newspapers.	n.d.
b. 3, f. 82-85	"Savonarola," page proof, corrected Brown paper wrappers. On cover of volume I: "Stratford-upon-Avon Prize Play Competition. Competitor No. 135."	n.d.
b. 3, f. 86	"Sonnets and Lyrics unpublished and not yet written out 1908," autograph manuscripts	1908
b. 3, f. 87	"A Successful Rehearsal," typescript, with autograph corrections Laid in the manuscript are two letters from the International copyright bureau Ltd., Oct 31, 1910, Sep 1912, regarding the placing of the play. On verso of first letter is a draft in pencil, signed, of Austin's reply.	n.d.
b. 3, f. 88	"The Tenant of Avoncourt," typescript, with autograph corrections and additions, 3 parts	n.d.

b. 3, f. 89	"To a Poet," 2 typescripts, corrected	n.d.
b. 3, f. 90	"To Robert Louis Stevenson," autograph of the sonnet published in Austin's <i>A Tale of True Love</i> , New York & London, 1902, p. xiii-xiv	1902
b. 3, f. 91	"Victoria," autograph manuscript Jubilee ode printed in 1897.	1837-97
b. 3, f. 92	"Victoria! Victoria!," autograph of poem of three stanzas "What Do We Know of Shakespeare" See: "Lamia's Meditations," Box 3, folder 71	n.d.
b. 3, f. 93	"What is Philosophy?," typescript, corrected Inaugural address delivered to the Edinburgh philosophical institution at the opening of its winter session.	n.d.
b. 3, f. 94	"What is Progress," typescript, corrected	n.d.
b. 3, f. 95	Pass to the House of Lords, endorsed by Lord Salisbury, with Austin's signature Accompanied by two photographs of Austin.	1893 Sep 8

Series III: Photographs, n.d.

b. 3, f. 96	Portrait proof by S. Hollyer	n.d.
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b. 3, f. 97	2 photographs of his estate, Swinford Old Manor, Kent	n.d.
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2 photographs of Austin

[See: Pass to the House of Lords, Box 3, folder 95](#)

Series IV: Additions Since July 1998

LETTERS FROM ALFRED AUSTIN

b. 4, f. 98	ALS to Dr. Maurice Ernest, Swinford Old Manor, Kent	1905 Dec 15
b. 4, f. 99	ALS to Mackenzie Bell, Swinford Old Manor, Kent	[1899?] Nov 2

LETTER TO ALFRED AUSTIN

b. 4, f. 100	Stephen, Leslie, Sir, 1832-1904	
	ALS to Alfred Austin.	[18]79 May 7
	With: Holograph draft of reply by Austin to Stephen on verso	

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

Subjects

Poets, English -- 19th century
Poets, English -- 20th Century

Genres / Formats

Photographic prints
Playscripts

Names

Austin, Alfred, 1835-1913