

Yale University Library
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Guide to the Algernon Swinburne Collection

GEN MSS 303



by Beinecke Staff

July 1999

P. O. Box 208330
New Haven, CT 06520-8330
(203) 432-2977
beinecke.library@yale.edu
<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 303

CREATOR: Swinburne, Algernon Charles, 1837-1909

TITLE: Algernon Swinburne collection

DATES: 1854-1908

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 3.34 linear feet (8 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The collection consists of letters and manuscripts by Swinburne, including letters to Robert Browning; Andrew Chatto; John Camden Hotten; Joseph Knight; Thomas Purnell; Dante Gabriel, William Michael, and Christina Rossetti; William Bell Scott; Richard Herne Shepherd, and Theodore Watts-Dunton. Manuscripts of Swinburne's writings include working drafts of poems, the Chorus from Atalanta in Calydon, an early draft of Hymn to Proserpine, proofs of Channel Passage, and manuscripts of several prose works.

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

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.swinbur>.

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

Ongoing collection of documents acquired by gift and purchase from various sources. Source information is recorded on the folders. For further information, consult the appropriate curator.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Algernon Swinburne 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

Algernon Swinburne Collection. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Processing Information

This finding aid was produced from previously existing cards in the Manuscripts Catalog, or from another inventory. All pertinent bibliographical information has been retained. If the collection also contains unlisted or unsorted material, it has been noted in the box-and-folder list. This finding aid will be updated periodically to account for new materials that may be added to the collection. The date of the most recent update is noted on the title page. For information on material that may have been added since the last update, please consult the Public Service Desk.

Scope and Contents

This finding aid encompasses accessions of single manuscripts and small groups of manuscripts and other papers, by or pertaining to Algernon Swinburne, which the library has chosen to group and list as an artificial collection.

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence

LETTERS BY SWINBURNE

b. 1, f. 1	Autographed postcard signed to Arthur E. Aarons Purchase, 1950	[1903 Oct?]
b. 1, f. 2	ALS to Patrick Proctor Alexander, London Purchase, 1954	1881 Aug 5
b. 1, f. 3	ALS to [Thomas Allsop], [London] Purchase, 1966	n.d.
b. 1, f. 4	ALS to Richard Bagot, London Purchase, 1950	1901 Mar 20
b. 1, f. 5	2 ALS to Thomas Spencer Baynes, Henley on Thames, Oxford; The Pines, Putney Hill, London Purchase, 1953	1876, 1882
b. 1, f. 6	ALS to [Thomas Spencer Baynes?], London Purchase	1883 Apr 7
b. 1, f. 7	ALS to William Black, The Pines, Putney Hill, London Purchase, 1953	1888 Dec 12
b. 1, f. 8	8 ALS to Henry A. Bright Gift, 1950	1874-83
b. 1, f. 9	ALS to Robert Browning, London Purchase, 1950	1875 Feb 25
b. 1, f. 10	ALS to Robert Browning, [London] Purchase, 1951	1881 Jan 26
b. 1, f. 11-12	86 ALS and 2 letters and a receipt signed, to Andrew Chatto of Chatto and Windus Purchase, 1950	1874-1903
b. 1, f. 13	ALS to Andrew Chatto, The Pines, Putney Hill Gift, 1972	[1882 Dec 26?]
b. 1, f. 14	2 ALS to Andrew Chatto, London Purchase, 1956; 1960	1882; 1885
b. 1, f. 15	ALS to James Sutherland Cotton Purchase, 1959	[ca. 1892 Dec]
b. 1, f. 16	ALS to the editor of the <i>Academy</i> [James Sutherland Cotton?] Gift, 1950	1892 Dec 28

LETTERS BY SWINBURNE (continued)

b. 1, f. 17	ALS in French to Mme. [Tola] Dorian, London Accompanied by typescript Purchase, 1950	[ca. 1882 Nov]
b. 1, f. 18	APCS to Percy Dryden-Mundy, London Gift, 1968	1901 Jan 14
b. 1, f. 19	ALS to James Nicol Dunn, London Purchase, 1959	1899 Feb 20
b. 1, f. 20	ALS to Havelock Ellis, London Purchase, 1950	1886 Nov 4
b. 1, f. 21	ALS (in French) to [Félix Fénéon?], London Purchase, 1956	1884 May 8
b. 1, f. 22	ALS to Mr. Fletcher	n.d.
b. 1, f. 23	5 ALS to Frederick James Furnivall, London; Holmwood, Surrey Purchase, 1953	1866-76
b. 1, f. 24	ALS to Richard Garnett, Alton, England Gift, 1950	1892 Aug 12
b. 1, f. 25	ALS to Edmund Gosse, London Purchase, 1954	1893 Mar 24
b. 1, f. 26	ALS to Sabine Matilda Greville, The Pines, Putney Sends her the poem (printed in 1881 under the title "Euthanatos") he had written on her mother's, Maria Thellusson, death; accompanied by a lock of Swinburne's hair Purchase, 1969	1881 Feb 4
b. 1, f. 27	ALS to Alexander Ballock Grosart, London Purchase, 1954	1896 Sep 19
b. 1, f. 28	ALS to Mrs. Thomas Gordon Hake, Holmwood, Henley on Thames Accompanied by typescript Purchase, 1958	[1876] Jun 17
b. 1, f. 29	ALS to John Camden Hotten Purchase, 1950	[1866] Nov 3
b. 1, f. 30	ALS to John Camden Hotten, Holmwood, Surrey Purchase, 1954	1867 Jan 2
b. 1, f. 31	ALS to [John Camden Hotten] Gift, 1950	[1868 Jul?]
b. 1, f. 32	ALS to J.C. Hotten, Holmwood Gift, 1972	[1872] Dec 2

LETTERS BY SWINBURNE (continued)

b. 1, f. 33	ALS to [Charles Augustus] Howell, [Holmwood, Surrey] Purchase, 1951	[1872] Aug 2
b. 1, f. 34	ALS to Messrs. J.W. Jarvis and Son, London Purchase, 1950	1885 Oct 23
b. 1, f. 35	ALS to Margaret Jones, London Accompanied with typescript Purchase, 1956	1883 Dec 13
b. 1, f. 36	ALS to Mr. Knight, [London] Gift, 1943	[1866] Feb 4
b. 1, f. 37	2 ALS to Joseph Knight, London Purchase, 1954; 1959	[1865,1874]
b. 1, f. 38	4 ALS to Joseph Knight Purchase, 1980	1865-66
b. 1, f. 39	ALS to Joseph Knight, London Purchase, 1957	[1866?] Aug 3
b. 1, f. 40	2 ALS to James Thomas Knowles, London Purchase 1959	1884 May, Jun
b. 1, f. 41	AL (fragment) to the editor of The Athenaeum [Norman MacColl], London	[1875] Jun 6
b. 1, f. 42	ALS to Philip [Bourke Marston], London Accompanied by typescript Gift, 1950	1886 Nov 15
b. 1, f. 43	TLS to George Meredith Also signed by Theodore Watts-Dunton Gift, 1960	[1908 Feb]
b. 1, f. 44	ALS to Herman Charles Merivale, London Purchase, 1960	[1881 Sep]
b. 1, f. 45	2 ALS and 1 AL (incomplete) to Mary Louisa Molesworth, London Accompanied by typescript	1884-96
b. 1, f. 46	ALS to William Morris, The Pines, Putney Hill, S.W. Note attributed to Sydney Cockerell on third page of sheet Purchase, 1972	1894 Jan 23
b. 1, f. 47	3 ALS to John Nichol, Capheaton, London Purchase, 1954; 1958	[1857]-84

LETTERS BY SWINBURNE (continued)

b. 1, f. 48	ALS to Reverend John Oliver, Bradford- on-Avon, Wilts Pasted on letter is a small photograph of Swinburne Gift, 1950	1887 Aug 3
b. 1, f. 49	20 ALS to Thomas Purnell	1865-1877
b. 1, f. 50	ALS to Christina Rossetti, London Gift, 1968	1883 Jun 7
b. 1, f. 51	2 ALS to Dante Gabriel Rossetti, London Purchase, 1961	[1870?], n.d.
b. 1, f. 52	5 ALS to Lucy Brown Rossetti, London Gift, 1960; 1962	1884-92
b. 1, f. 53	ALS to William Michael Rossetti, The Pines Gift, 1977	1885 Jan 1
b. 1, f. 54	ALS to William Michael Rossetti, The Pines Gift, 1973	1891 Mar 22
b. 1, f. 55	ALS to William Michael Rossetti, The Pines Compares the poetry of Victor Hugo to that of William Blake Gift, 1974	1891 Nov 23
b. 2, f. 56	ALS in French, to [Comte Paul Jaques Raymond Binesse de Saint-Victor], Henley on Thames Purchase, 1944	1872 Sep 19
b. 2, f. 57	ALS to the Editor of the St. James's Gazette Accompanied by a leaf torn from The Nineteenth Century, No. CCXLI, March 1897, with 6 lines of manuscript verse added to his printed poem "For Greece and Crete". Purchase, 1954	1889 Feb 28
b. 2, f. 58	2 ALS to Frederick Sandys, London Purchase, 1956; Gift, 1969	1874, 1890
b. 2, f. 59	16 ALS to [William Bell] Scott 1859-82 Purchase, 1952	
b. 2, f. 60	11 ALS to Richard Herne Shepherd, Isle of Wight; London Purchase, 1956	[1874]

LETTERS BY SWINBURNE (continued)

b. 2, f. 61	ALS to Mrs. Clement Shorter, The Pines Printed in and removed from his Letters on William Morris, Omar Khayyam and other subjects of interest, London 1910 Purchase, 1959	1902 Apr 11
b. 2, f. 62	ALS to Clement Shorter, The Pines Printed in and removed from his Letters on William Morris, Omar Khayyam and other subjects of interest, London 1910 Purchase, 1959	1908 Sep 28
b. 2, f. 63	ALS to [Messrs. Smith, Elder & Co.], London Accompanied by typescript Purchase, 1964	1889 Dec 29
b. 2, f. 64	ALS to editor of the Westminster Gazette [J. Alfred Spender] Accompanied by typescript Purchase, 1950	1902 Jul 21
b. 2, f. 65	3 ALS to [Marion Harry] Spielmann, London; Broxhead Warren, Alton, Hants Accompanied by 2 TLS from the librarian of the Chelsea Public Library and 3 TLS from the librarian of the Westminster Public Libraries to Percy E. Spielmann Purchase, 1965	[1888]; 1892
b. 2, f. 66	ALS to Caroline Stansfield, London Accompanied by a clipping about Giuseppe Mazzini Purchase, 1954	[1870] Oct 1
b. 2, f. 67	2 ALS to Charles Henry Swinburne, Lower Easton; London Purchase, 1954	1854; [1861]
b. 2, f. 68	3 ALS to Isabel Swinburne, London Purchase, 1954	[1880;88]; 190
b. 2, f. 69	ALS to Arthur Symons, London Purchase, 1950	1908 May 13
b. 2, f. 70	ALS to [Frank D. Thomas] Purchase, 1950	1884 Dec 21
b. 2, f. 71	ALS to Henry Wallis, London The paper is watermarked "1865" Purchase, 1975	[1865]
b. 2, f. 71a-73	55 ALS and 3 autograph signed postcards to Theodore Watts-Dunton Purchase, 1950	[1872-96?]

LETTERS BY SWINBURNE (continued)

b. 2, f. 74	30 ALS to Walter Theodore Watts-Dunton Accompanied by two pictures of Swinburne and Watts-Dunton and illuminated title-page Purchase, 1956	1872-96
b. 2, f. 75	3 ALS to Francis Gledstones Waugh, London; Holmwood, Shiplake, Henley on Thames Purchase, 1958; 1959	1868-73
b. 2, f. 76	ALS to Stephen Wheeler, London Purchase, 1950	1899 Jan 29
b. 2, f. 77	ALS to Stephen Wheeler, London Purchase, 1950	1907 May 5
b. 2, f. 78	ALS to Stephen Wheeler, London Accompanied by typescript Purchase, 1934	1908 Dec II
b. 2, f. 79	ALS to unidentified recipient, concerning his essay on William Blake, [London] Gift, 1951	[1864] Feb 22
b. 2, f. 80	ALS to unidentified recipient, London Purchase, 1956	[1877] Oct 24
b. 2, f. 81	ALS to unidentified recipient, [London] Purchase, 1951	1880 Nov 3
b. 2, f. 82	ALS to unidentified recipient, The Pines, Putney Hill, London Purchase, 1953	1889 Jul 21
b. 2, f. 83	ALS to unidentified recipient, London Purchase, 1954	1890 Apr 16
b. 2, f. 84	AL draft to an unidentified recipient, The Pines Page 4 begins the draft of a poem, "It might prevent starvation..." Gift, 1975	1890 Oct 30
b. 2, f. 85	ALS to unidentified recipient Purchase, 1954	n.d.
b. 2, f. 86	ALS to an unidentified recipient Purchase, 1964	n.d.
LETTERS TO AND ABOUT SWINBURNE		
b. 2, f. 87	Clayden, Peter William. TL to Algernon Charles Swinburne, London With Swinburne's reply written in ink across the top Gift, 1969	1899 Aug 8

LETTERS TO AND ABOUT SWINBURNE (continued)

b. 2, f. 88

[Trevelyan, Pauline Jermyn. ALS to \[William Bell\] Scott, mentioning Swinburne, Newcastle on Tyne](#)

1860 May

Purchase, 1952

Series II: Writings

POEMS

b. 3, f. 89	Astrea Victrix: autograph manuscript poem of 10 stanzas, with corrections and additions Gift, 1952	n.d.
b. 3, f. 90	<i>Atalanta in Calydon</i> : Chorus Poem, AMs, with many changes in same hand Purchase, 1960	n.d.
b. 3, f. 91	<i>A Ballad of Life</i> Early holograph draft Purchase, 1956	n.d.
b. 3, f. 92	Prologue to "The Broken Heart:" autograph manuscript poem with the printed version from "A Channel Passage" and other poems, London Purchase, 1965	1904
b. 3, f. 93	"Carol for Charity:" manuscript Purchase, 1989	1905 Nov 24
b. 3, f. 94-95	"Channel Passage" (proof sheets) Gift, 1956	1904
b. 3, f. 96	<i>Hymn to Proserpine</i> : autograph manuscript, initialed, with 52 lines of an early draft Purchase, 1947	n.d.
b. 3, f. 97	"In Memory of Barry Cornwall", AMs Purchase, 1964	1874 Oct 14
b. 3, f. 98	"A Jacobite's Farewell, 1715" AMs Purchase, 1965	1888-92
b. 3, f. 99	Holograph draft of "A Leave Taking" Purchase, 1956	n.d.
b. 3, f. 100	"O little song," manuscript poem Purchase, 1958	n.d.
b. 3, f. 101	"Olive," in the English Illustrated Magazine Accompanied by AMs correction in stanzas vi-vii Purchase, 1965	1888 Oct
b. 3, f. 102	Holograph manuscript draft "Song" from "The Sisters" Purchase, 1956	n.d.
b. 3, f. 103	Prologue to "A Very Woman," AMs poem with printed version Purchase, 1965	n.d.

POEMS (continued)

b. 3, f. 104	<p>"What is death?" AMS poem</p> <p>Accompanied by "No sweeter thing than children's ways and wills"</p> <p>Purchase, 1964</p>	n.d.
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PROSE

<p>"Ce Qui Peut se Passer Dans un Cab Safety:" autograph manuscript story</p> <p>Apparently a fragment of a chapter of "La Fille du Policeman"</p> <p>Gift, 1967</p>	1860-61
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[See: Volume 4, folder 116](#)

b. 3, f. 105	<p>"Charles Reade:" autograph manuscript signed with corrections and addition in the author's hand</p>	n.d.
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b. 3, f. 106	<p>"Dedicatory Epistle:" holograph manuscript dedicatory epistle to the first collected edition of his Poems, London</p> <p>Purchase, 1957</p>	1904
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b. 3, f. 107	<p>Typed copy, dedicatory epistle of the first collected edition of his poems</p> <p>Purchase, 1956</p>	[1904]
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b. 3, f. 108	<p>Mr. Whistler's Lecture on Art: facsimile of the autograph manuscript, signed</p> <p>This facsimile was issued with the following note: 'This essay is said to have caused the estrangement between Whistler and Swinburne, which continued until Whistler's death'</p> <p>Purchase, 1946</p>	n.d.
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b. 3, f. 109	<p><i>The Work of Robert Browning:</i> autograph manuscript essay [incomplete]</p> <p>Accompanied by a manuscript note in the hand of Thomas J. Wise</p> <p>Purchase, 1950</p>	n.d.
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b. 3, f. 110	<p>Holograph Manuscript: "Comment on Lockhart's Life of Scott"</p> <p>Purchase, 1956</p>	n.d.
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b. 3, f. 111	<p>Holograph manuscript: "Notes on Herodotus"</p> <p>Purchase, 1954</p>	n.d.
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b. 3, f. 112	<p>List of Titles of Poems headed "Selections" with revisions on a sheet of blue paper</p> <p>Also part of an Essay with references to Marlowe, Keats and Shelley, on a half sheet of paper and other manuscript material</p> <p>Purchase</p>	n.d.
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Series III: Philip M. Neufeld Swinburne Material, [1868-87]

	English Poems: manuscript, working drafts, some revisions Includes fragment (1L.) of early version of [Atlanta in Calydon] Purchase, 1995 See: Volume 5, folder 117	[1868-87]
	Literary manuscripts Includes [William Collins]: manuscript; "Short Notes on English Poets:" manuscript; an untitled and incomplete work on poetry: manuscript; "On Dramatic Poetry:" manuscript; [Le Cenci:] manuscript Purchase, 1995 See: Volume 6, folder 118	n.d.
	"Philip Massinger, An Essay:" manuscript with correction and revisions Purchase, 1995 See: Volume 7, folder 119	n.d.
b. 3, f. 113	St. Dorothy: poem manuscript with revisions and emendations Purchase, 1995	n.d.
b. 3, f. 114	"Trafalgar Day:" poem manuscript Purchase, 1995	1895 Oct 21
	Theophile de [Viau]	
b. 3, f. 115	Manuscript with deletions and emendations, [London] Purchase, 1995	[1862?]
b. 3, f. 115a	Portfolio, with bookplates of Jerome Kern and John Stuart Groves Purchase 1995	n.d.

Oversize, [1860-61]

b. 4, f. 116	"Ce Qui Peut se Passer Dans un Cab- Safety": autograph manuscript story	[1860-61]
b. 5, f. 117	English Poems: manuscript, working drafts, some revisions Includes fragment (1L.) of early version of [Atlanta in Calydon]	[1868-87]
b. 6, f. 118	Literary manuscripts Includes [William Collins]: manuscript; "Short Notes on English Poets:" manuscript; an untitled and incomplete work on poetry: manuscript; "On Dramatic Poetry:" manuscript; [Le Cenci:] manuscript	n.d.
b. 7, f. 119	"Philip Massinger, An Essay:" manuscript with correction and revisions	n.d.

Series IV: Additions Since August 1999, n.d.

b. 8, f. 120	Manuscript of "The Garden of Proserpine" in an unidentified hand Sheets marked with page numbers in printer's red pencil. Acc : 20010131-c	n.d.
b. 8, f. 121	ALS to [Alfred Ainger?]; The Pines, Putney Hill, S.W. Concerning Swinburne's collection of Charles Lamb materials. Acc : 20030205-m	1886 Feb 25

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

English poetry -- 19th century

Names

Browning, Robert, 1812-1889
Chatto, Andrew, 1841-1913
Hotten, John Camden, 1832-1873
Knight, Joseph, 1829-1907
Purnell, Thomas, 1834-1889
Rossetti, Christina Georgina, 1830-1894
Rossetti, Dante Gabriel, 1828-1882
Rossetti, William Michael, 1829-1919
Scott, William Bell, 1811-1890
Shepherd, Richard Herne, 1842-1895
Swinburne, Algernon Charles, 1837-1909
Watts-Dunton, Theodore, 1832-1914

Corporate Body

Chatto & Windus (Firm)