

Yale University Library  
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

# Guide to the Shepard Krech Collection of George Cruikshank

GEN MSS 2091



by Lucretia Baskin

May 2023

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

---

## Table of Contents

Collection Overview .....	3
Requesting Instructions .....	3
Administrative Information .....	3
Immediate Source of Acquisition .....	3
Conditions Governing Access .....	3
Conditions Governing Use .....	4
Preferred Citation .....	4
Processing Information .....	4
George Cruikshank (1792-1878) .....	4
Shepard Krech (circa 1891-1968) .....	4
Scope and Contents .....	4
Arrangement .....	5
Collection Contents .....	6
Selected Search Terms .....	8

---

## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library  
P. O. Box 208330  
New Haven, CT 06520-8330  
(203) 432-2977  
beinecke.library@yale.edu  
<http://beinecke.library.yale.edu/>

**CALL NUMBER:** GEN MSS 2091

**CREATOR:** Krech, Shepard, circa 1891-1968 , collector

**TITLE:** Shepard Krech collection of George Cruikshank

**DATES:** 1803-1906

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 4.67 linear feet (6 boxes)

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SUMMARY:** The collection consists of letters, original pencil sketches, drawings, etchings, and engravings, and books by English artist, caricaturist, and book illustrator George Cruikshank.

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

---

## 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.krech>.

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](mailto: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

Gift of the Estate of Shepard Krech, 1968.

---

### Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

## Conditions Governing Use

The Shepard Krech Collection of George Cruikshank 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

Shepard Krech Collection of George Cruikshank. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

---

## Processing Information

Former call number: MS Vault Cruikshank, MS Vault File Cruikshank

Collections are processed to a variety of levels, depending on the work necessary to make them usable, their perceived research value, the availability of staff, competing priorities, and whether or not further accruals are expected. The library attempts to provide a basic level of preservation and access for all collections, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

This collection received a basic level of processing, including rehousing and minimal organization.

Information included in the Description of Papers note and Collection Contents section is drawn from information supplied with the collection and from an initial survey of the contents. Folder titles appearing in the contents list below are often based on those provided by the creator or previous custodian. Titles have not been verified against the contents of the folders in all cases. Otherwise, folder titles are supplied by staff during initial processing.

This finding aid may be updated periodically to account for new acquisitions to the collection and/or revisions in arrangement and description.

---

## George Cruikshank (1792-1878)

George Cruikshank was a British artist, caricaturist, and illustrator. Early in his career he was known for his satirical etchings of the royal family and politicians. In the 1820s, Cruikshank began to focus on book illustrations. He illustrated Charles Dickens's *Sketches by Boz* (1836) and *Oliver Twist* (1838), as well as W. Harrison Ainsworth's *Rookwood* (1836) and *The Tower of London* (1840).

---

## Shepard Krech (circa 1891-1968)

Shepard Krech was a physician born in St. Paul, Minnesota. He graduated from Yale University in 1913. After serving in the United States Army in World War I, he studied pre-medicine at Columbia University and Harvard University. Krech graduated Harvard Medical School in 1923. He was on staff at Bellevue Hospital in New York City as an instructor in surgery but retired from active medical practice in 1939 after a coronary attack. He was elected to the New York Academy of Medicine in 1932 and also served as president of the Eastern Surgical Society. Krech died in 1968 at the age of 77 in East Hampton, New York.

---

## Scope and Contents

The collection consists of letters, original pencil sketches, drawings, etchings, engravings, and books by English artist, caricaturist, and book illustrator George Cruikshank. Included is an illustrated manuscript for Cruikshank's *The Political House That Jack Built*, satirical works, and printed illustrations for books

by Miguel de Cervantes, Charles Dickens, and others. Also present is a set of typescript and manuscript catalog cards created by Krech that document the collection's contents.

---

## **Arrangement**

Materials roughly maintain order found at time of acquisition.

## Collection Contents

### Cruikshankiana

Correspondence, a pictorial letter, drawings, prints, and a photograph of George Cruikshank.

b. 1, f. 1	Burdett, Sir Francis Bound volume, containing two etchings with hand coloring by George Cruikshank, and Cruikshank's autograph manuscript description of the scenes.	undated
b. 5, f. 55-56	Pictorial letter - Cruikshank Accompanied by slipcase.	1868
b. 5, f. 57-58	Original drawing - Cruikshank Includes a carte-de-visite photograph of Cruikshank by H. J. Whitlock, Birmingham. Accompanied by slipcase.	undated
b. 5, f. 59	Autograph manuscript letter, signed, to Thomas Rodd, with portrait engraving of Cruikshank by unidentified artist With envelope. Likely removed from: <i>Kane O'Hara, Tom Thumb: a burletta, altered from Henry Fielding</i> (London : Thomas Rodd, 1830) (BEIN 1978 1338).	1831, undated
Cruikshankiana: Political satires and miscellaneous tracts		
b. 5, f. 60-62	<i>The Political House that Jack Built</i> Illustrated manuscript containing watercolor drawings. Accompanied by a printed copy of the text (49th edition, 1820), and a red morocco slipcase.	1820, undated
Cruikshankiana: [Other]		
Correspondence, sketches, prints, clipped signatures, printed items, and other papers relating to George Cruikshank.		
b. 3, f. 24-29	Envelope containing George Cruikshank's original pencil sketches and letters	undated
b. 3, f. 30-35	Envelope - open folder - Cruikshank miscellany	1809-1906
b. 4, f. 43-52	Miscellaneous non-related plates	circa 1833-1870s
b. 4, f. 53	12 plates for "Irish Rebellion"	undated
b. 2, f. 7	16 plates for "Oliver Twist"	undated
b. 1, f. 2	Passing events on comet 1883	1854
b. 4, f. 54	Bouton's business card	1871
b. 3, f. 36	A Slap at Slop 12th edition.	1821
b. 3, f. 37-40	Miscellaneous plates - life of Napoleon Includes "Napoleon's Soliloquy at Calais," other prints relating to the life of Napoleon, and a hand-colored copy of the <i>Theatrical Atlas</i> .	1803-1829, undated
b. 3, f. 41	6 plates "John Manesty"	undated

b. 3, f. 42	34 small etchings on 6 numbered plates. The theme is "time"	1827
b. 2, f. 8	15 plates for Don Quixote With title page.	1834
b. 2, f. 9	Etchings for "Sketches by Boz"	1836-1837
b. 2, f. 10-11	Etchings "The Months"	undated
<p>Other Papers Correspondence, writings, prints, and sketches by George Cruikshank. Also included are Shepard Krech's catalog cards of his collection.</p>		
b. 2, f. 12	19 plates for the Irish Rebellion	undated
b. 2, f. 13-14	25 plates for the Tower of London	undated
b. 6, f. 64-72	[Catalog cards] Typescript index cards created by Krech listing printed and manuscript items in his collection of George Cruikshank.	undated
b. 1, f. 3	[Correspondence] Letters addressed to Henry Mayhew, Captain I. C. Rogers, Harrison Ainsworth, Robins, and others. Some of the documents also include sketches by Cruikshank. Accompanied by auction catalogue description from Parke-Bernet Galleries.	1823-1871, undated
b. 1, f. 4	[Correspondence, clipped signatures, and other papers] Some of the documents also include sketches by Cruikshank. Accompanied by auction catalogue description from Parke-Bernet Galleries.	1820-1869, undated
b. 2, f. 15-22	Cruikshank lampshade Paper lampshade panels featuring Cruikshank's etchings illustrating Adelbert von Chamisso's <i>Peter Schlemihl</i> . With hand coloring.	undated
b. 1, f. 5-6	Cruikshank - Miscellaneous plates	1836, undated
b. 5, f. 63	George Cruikshank autograph manuscripts with original sketches Bound volume. Includes "The Hatchet - 1822", "King Robert the Bruce", and "The Young Lady's Own Book".	1822, undated
b. 2, f. 23	[Shepard Krech box labels] Autograph manuscript labels from two solander boxes that original housed the collection.	undated

## **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.

### **Occupations**

Cartoonists -- Great Britain  
Illustrators -- Great Britain -- 19th century

### **Genres / Formats**

Drawings (visual works)  
Engravings (prints)  
Etchings (prints)

### **Subjects**

English literature -- 19th century  
English wit and humor, Pictorial  
Political satire, English -- 19th century

### **Names**

Cervantes Saavedra, Miguel de, 1547-1616  
Cruikshank, George, 1792-1878  
Dickens, Charles, 1812-1870