

Yale University Library
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Joaquin Miller Collection

YCAL MSS 861



Beinecke Staff

April 2014

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

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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CALL NUMBER: YCAL MSS 861

CREATOR: Miller, Joaquin, 1837-1913

TITLE: Joaquin Miller Collection

DATES: 1870-1931

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 0.42 linear feet (3 boxes)

LANGUAGE: English

SUMMARY: The collection is comprised of correspondence, writings, photographs, and printed material documenting the life and career of American poet Joaquin Miller. Correspondence consists of Miller's outgoing letters; recipients include friends, family, editors, and publishers. Autographs -- one of which is signed on a photograph -- are part of the correspondence. The collection includes correspondence and clippings sent from Joaquin Miller's daughter, Juanita Joaquina Miller, to Laura Stedman. Autograph manuscripts and page proofs of several of Miller's poems can be found in the collection. Drafts of Miller's writings and correspondence with publishers provides insight into his creative process and experience publishing. A printer's copy of Miller's poem "Rough Times in Idaho" is notable because it is written in the hand of author Ina Donna Coolbrith and corrected by author Bret Harte (who published the poem in *The Overland Monthly*).

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

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.millerj>.

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

Administrative Information

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Acquired from various sources. For more information see catalog cards filed in the collection.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Joaquin Miller 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

Joaquin Miller Collection. Yale Collection of American Literature, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library.

Processing Information

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 as they are acquired, and does more extensive processing of higher priority collections as time and resources permit.

This collection received a basic level of processing in 2014, including rehousing and minimal organization. This finding aid was produced from a previously existing card set in the Manuscripts Catalog. All pertinent bibliographical information has been retained.

This collection includes materials previously identified by the following call number: Za Miller, Joaquin.

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

Joaquin Miller (1837-1913)

Joaquin Miller (1837-1913), American poet.

Scope and Contents

The collection is comprised of correspondence, writings, photographs, and printed material documenting the life and career of American poet Joaquin Miller. Correspondence consists of Miller's outgoing letters; recipients include friends, family, editors, and publishers. Autographs -- one of which is signed on a photograph -- are part of the correspondence. The collection includes correspondence and clippings sent from Joaquin Miller's daughter, Juanita Joaquina Miller, to Laura Stedman. Autograph manuscripts and page proofs of several of Miller's poems can be found in the collection. Drafts of Miller's writings and correspondence with publishers provides insight into his creative process and experience publishing.

A printer's copy of Miller's poem "Rough Times in Idaho" is notable because it is written in the hand of author Ina Donna Coolbrith and corrected by author Bret Harte (who published the poem in *The Overland Monthly*).

Arrangement

Organized into three series: I. Correspondence, 1871-1931. II. Writings, 1870-1905. III. Other Papers, 1872-1901.

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence, 1871–1931

Series I is arranged alphabetically by recipient.

b.1	Alger, Abbie, 2 autograph letters, signed, Washington	1883 November 21, undated
b.1	"Babes in the woods," 1 autograph letter, signed, to "my dear babes in the woods," The Hights, California	1894 January 14
b.1	Bliss, ---, 1 autograph letter signed, to "My dear Bliss," London	1875 April 8
b.1	Carmany, John H., 5 autograph letters, signed Removed from <i>Songs of the Sunlands</i> , 1873.	1872 July 12- September 6
b.1	<i>Century</i> , editors, 1 autograph letter, signed, The Hights, Dimond, California	1906 April 5
b.1	Conway, ---, 1 autograph letter, signed, Boston, Massachusetts	1873(?) September 13
b.1	<i>The Critic</i> , editors, 1 autograph letter, signed, San Francisco, with manuscript corrections and directions to the printer by the editors of <i>The Critic</i>	1886 September 9
b.1	File, Franklin, 1 autograph letter, signed, Oakland, California	1890 July 20
b.1	Hall, Gertrude, 1 autograph letter, signed, Oakland, California	1888 August
b.1	<i>The Independent</i> , 1 autograph letter, signed, London	1875 April 8
b.1	Johns, ---, 1 autograph letter, signed, Dimond, California	1904(?) May 8
b.1	Kervy, H.P., 1 autograph letter, signed, Oakland, California, with addressed, stamped envelope	1887 August 13
b.1	Leland, Abigail, 1 autograph letter, signed, New Orleans	188(?) February 21
b.1	<i>Life</i> , editor, 1 autograph letter, signed, to the editor of <i>Life</i> , Washington, D.C.	1885 April
b.1	Mcall, ---, 1 autograph letter, signed, New York	1882 January 25
b.1	Miller, Dewitt, 1 autograph letter, signed, Oakland, California	1892 October 20
b.1	Niles, ---, 2 autograph letters, signed, New York, New York	1879 November 17, undated
b.1	<i>The Overland Monthly</i> , editor, 2 autograph letters, signed, New York City and London	1871-1872
b.1	Roberts Brothers, 1 autograph letter, signed, Oakland, California	1881(?) August 6
b.1	Roosevelt, Theodore, 1 autograph letter, signed, Washington, D.C. Includes 1 autograph letter, signed, to "my dear boy," one of Theodore Roosevelt's sons, April 2, 1903, the Hights, Dimond, California.	1887, 1903

b. 1	Routledge, George, & Sons, 1 autograph note, signed, Oakland, California On a notecard and with printed biographical sketch, corrected, enclosed.	1885(?)
b. 1	<i>St. Nicholas</i> , editor, 1 autograph letter, signed, to the editor, New York Submitting a story "Capt. Duck," of which a brief summary in an unidentified hand appears on the verso of the letter.	1883 January 29
b. 1	Stedman, Edmund Clarence, autograph inscription written on reverse of a photograph	1872 June 27
b. 1	Stedman, Laura Woodworth, 1 autograph letter, signed, Oakland, California Includes miscellaneous material connected with Joaquin Miller including newspaper clippings, postal cards, pictures, pamphlets. From the estate of Stedman.	1912, undated
b. 1	Stedman, Laura Woodworth, from Juanita Miller, 26 autograph letters, signed, and autograph notes, signed, 9 autograph notes signed on miscellaneous cards <i>2 Folders</i> Includes photographs, picture-post cards, clippings from magazines and newspapers about Juanita Miller, annotated.	1902-1931
b. 1	Stone and Kimball, 3 autograph letters, signed, from Miller, Oakland, California Concerning the publication of his <i>The Building of the City Beautiful</i> .	1895 April-July 15
b. 1	Woodward, Fred E., 1 autograph letter, signed, from Miller, Oakland, California, with original addressed envelope 1 autograph letter signed from Miller to Fred E. Woodward, December 7, 1911, Oakland, California. With original addressed envelope.	1911 December 7
Unidentified correspondents		
b. 1	1 autograph note, signed, from Miller to unidentified recipient	1877 December 10
b. 1	1 autograph note signed from Miller to "My Dear B"	1893 April 7
b. 1	1 autograph letter, signed, from Miller to unidentified correspondent (Carmany?), New York.	August 21
b. 1	1 autograph letter, signed, from Miller to "My very dear fellow Senlire(?)," Fruitvale, California.	1912 October 11
b. 1	1 autograph note, signed, from Miller to "My dear Miss H--"	1899 November 9
b. 1	1 autograph letter, signed, from Miller to unnamed correspondent, Dimond, California	1908 January 28
b. 1	1 autograph letter, signed, from Miller to "My dear P.(?)," Washington	1885 December 6
b. 1	1 autograph letter, signed, from Miller to "S.," The Hights, California On stationary bearing his printed account of "The Arbor day cross" at top.	1892 November 18

Series II: Writings, 1870–1905

Series II is organized into two subseries: Poetry and Other Writings.

Poetry

b. 1	"Alone," autograph manuscript, signed, Boston, one 7-line stanza	1876 August 17
b. 1	"By the Sun-down Seas," page proof of pages 1-2 and 9-10, with notes by Miller, "A Picture," proof, 27 lines, with note, signed	1873 February 27, undated
b. 1	"The Lost Regiments (A Legend of the Late War)," original manuscript, 7 stanzas	undated
b. 1	"New York City," corrected proof, with manuscript title and signature A poem of 3 ten-line stanzas, used without title, as epigraph to part 2, "On Fifth Avenue," of his <i>The Baroness of New York</i> (Published G.W. Carlton & Co., 1877).	before 1877
b. 1	"A Pioneer of Idaho," printer's copy of original manuscript in hand of Ina Donna Coolbrith, with corrections by Bret Harte Published in <i>The Overland Monthly</i> , September 1870, v.5, p.280-286. Published under the title "Rough Times in Idaho."	before September 1870
b. 1	"Rome," manuscript, signed, Chicago, Illinois, one 5-line stanza, with positive photostat	1875 November 6
b. 1	"A Sioux Lodge," original manuscript, 10 stanzas, signed	undated
b. 1	"With Walker in Nicaragua," autograph manuscript of prefatory verses beginning "Come to my Sunland," 8 lines, signed	undated
b. 1	"Woman," autograph manuscript, signed, one 8-line stanza	undated
b. 1	Unidentified verse, autograph manuscript, signed, Oakland, one 4-line stanza beginning with the line "Why, I would rather stoop and bear..."	1888 February

Other Writings

b. 1	<i>The Building of the City Beautiful</i> , autograph manuscript, in the hand of an emanuensis, with 20 pages in the author's autograph Published: Albert Brandt, Trenton, New Jersey, 1905.	before 1905
b. 1	Unidentified manuscripts in Miller's handwriting, with his signature	undated
b. 1	Miscellaneous folio pages and scraps of typewritten and autograph manuscript and notes, 47 leaves, with 2 leaves bearing clipped printed poems	undated

Series III: Other Papers, 1872–1901

b.1	Autograph inscription	1893 July 28
b.1	Autograph inscription, Oakland, California, on printed stationery headed: Joaquin Miller Lecture Season, 1900-1901, on verso: photographs of Joaquin Miller at different ages	1901 March 9
b.1	Autograph inscription signed, Boston	1877 October
b.1	"Isles of the Amazons," manuscript contract for the publication of poem in <i>The Overland Monthly</i> , signed by Miller, San Francisco	1872 June 22
b.2	Photographs Contains portrait photographs of Joaquin Miller and snapshots of Joaquin and Juanita Miller. Candid photographs include Joaquin Miller hiking in Alaska (1898) and a snapshot his home in Canyon City, Oregon. A series of snapshots show Juanita Miller creating potpourri sachets.	1898-1915, undated
b.3	Portrait photograph of Joaquin Miller by James E. Purdy, Boston	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.

Subjects

American literature -- 19th century
American literature -- West (U.S.)
Authors, American -- 19th century -- Archives
Poets, American -- 19th century -- Archives

Genres / Formats

Photographic prints -- United States -- 19th century
Photographs -- United States -- 19th century

Occupations

Authors -- United States -- 19th century
Poets -- United States -- 19th century

Names

Coolbrith, Ina D. (Ina Donna), 1841-1928
Harte, Bret, 1836-1902
Miller, Joaquin, 1837-1913
Miller, Juanita Joaquina, 1880-1970
Stedman, Laura, 1881-1939