

Yale University Library
Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Guide to the Walter Crane Collection

GEN MSS 1418



by Sandra Markham and Francesca Tancini

2016

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Collection Overview

REPOSITORY: Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library
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CALL NUMBER: GEN MSS 1418

CREATOR: Crane, Walter, 1845-1915

TITLE: Walter Crane Collection

DATES: 1876–1915

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 3.79 linear feet (4 boxes)

LANGUAGE: In English.

SUMMARY: The collection contains original sketches, drawings, autograph manuscripts, and autograph letters, signed, by the English illustrator Walter Crane. Prominent are the original drawings for two of Crane's illustrated books, *Queen Summer, or The Tourney of the Lily and the Rose* (London: Cassell & Co., 1891) and *A Floral Fantasy in an Old English Garden* (New York and London: Harper and Bros., 1899). Correspondents include Kineton Parkes and Frederic Shields. Also present is a ceramic tile bearing an image by Crane, and his watercolor landscape titled "Swedish Twilight."

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

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.cranecoll>.

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

Acquired by gift and purchase, 1956-2016. For more information, see the finding aid.

Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

The Walter Crane 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

Walter Crane Collection. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

Processing Information

Prior to 2016, the manuscripts and artwork related to Walter Crane were kept together as one collection and primarily filed under the call number MS Vault Crane. When the material was processed in 2016 it was decided to extract and reassemble the Catharine T. Patterson Collection of Walter Crane (under call number GEN MSS 1386), and to describe the remaining Crane material—items purchased by the library or received as gifts from other donors—separately as the Walter Crane Collection (under GEN MSS 1418).

This finding aid was produced from a previously existing card set in the Manuscripts Catalog and the library's accession files; and all pertinent bibliographical information has been retained. The information drawn from those sources was greatly enhanced through the efforts of the Crane scholar Francesca Tancini, an A. Bartlett Giamatti Fellow at Beinecke Library in 2015, who examined all the Walter Crane material in the library's collection and cataloged the original (non-print) items. Many of her descriptions and narratives form the basis of this finding aid, and the library is enormously grateful for her careful work.

Former call numbers: MS Vault Crane, MS Vault Shelves Crane, Uncat MS Vault File

Walter Crane (1845-1915)

Walter Crane (1845-1915), English author and illustrator best known for his work in children's literature. Among the most important illustrators of the nineteenth century, Crane was also a painter, essayist, and decorative artist who created designs for wallpapers, tiles, printed textiles, posters, stained glass, embroideries, and pottery. His formal education consisted of an apprenticeship served with the wood engraver and illustrator W. J. Linton from 1858 to 1862; later he was a founder of The Art-Workers' Guild (1884) and a founder and first president of The Arts and Crafts Exhibition Society (1888).

Scope and Contents

The collection contains original sketches, drawings, autograph manuscripts, and autograph letters, signed, by the English illustrator Walter Crane. Prominent are the original drawings for two of Crane's illustrated books, *Queen Summer, or The Tourney of the Lily and the Rose* (London: Cassell & Co., 1891) and *A Floral Fantasy in an Old English Garden* (New York and London: Harper and Bros., 1899). Correspondents include Kineton Parkes and Frederic Shields. Also present is a ceramic tile bearing an image by Crane, and his watercolor landscape titled "Swedish Twilight."

Arrangement

Organized into two series: I. Correspondence, 1876-1915. II. Artwork and Writings, 1878-1909.

Collection Contents

Series I: Correspondence, 1876–1915

0.42 linear feet (1 box)

Arranged alphabetically by recipient.

b. 1, f. 1	Begbie, Agnes Helen Purchased from Paul C. Richards Autographs on the Starling W. Childs Library Fund, 1964.	1909 March 5
b. 1, f. 2	Bell, Mackenzie Purchased on the Robert Metzdorf on the Naphtali Daggett Fund, 1957.	1895–1897
b. 1, f. 3	Bunce, John Thackray Gift of Mace Neufeld (Yale 1948) in honor of Mr. and Mrs. M. Katz, 1963.	1890 January 11
b. 1, f. 4	Burnett, Brandon Removed from <i>Renascence: a Book of Verse</i> , by Walter Crane (BEIN J18 C851 891Rd); gift of Philip M. Neufeld, 1969.	1892 June 29
b. 1, f. 5	Cobden-Sanderson, T. J. (Thomas James) Purchased Charles A. Stonehill, Jr. on the Frank Altschul Fund, 1963.	1897 October 14
b. 1, f. 6	Conway, William Martin, Sir Gift of Philip M. Neufeld in honor of Catharine Tinker Patterson, 1958.	1888–1889
b. 1, f. 7	Deschamps, Charles Gift of Mace Neufeld (Yale 1948) in honor of Mr. and Mrs. M. Katz, 1963; letter of April 4, 1881, gift of Donald C. Gallup (Yale 1934), 1986.	1878–1881
b. 1, f. 8	Fothergill, George Algernon Letter from 1911 purchased from Charles Hamilton on the Edward Wells Southworth Fund, 1958; letter from 1915 purchased from W. R. Benjamin on the Plain Fund, 1957.	1911, 1915
b. 1, f. 9	Gaskin, Mrs. Purchased from Paul C. Richards Autographs on the Chauncey Brewster Tinker Prize Fund, 1964.	1876 April 27
b. 1, f. 10	Jones, T. E. Purchased from Paul C. Richards Autographs on the Starling W. Childs Library Fund, 1964.	1898 November 23
b. 1, f. 11	Kirkwood, Mr. Purchased from John Wilson on the Starling W. Childs Library Fund, 1986.	1891 July 27
b. 1, f. 12	Marzials, Theophilus Concerning their work on <i>Pan-Pipes</i> (London: G. Routledge and Sons, 1883). Gift of Donald C. Gallup (Yale 1934), 1986.	1880 January 16

b. 1, f. 13	Mills, Mrs. Concerning the death of Frederic Shields. Purchased on the William L. Phelps Fund, 1958.	1911 February 28
b. 1, f. 14	<i>The New Age</i> (editor) Inscribed at top: "Socialism and Art." Purchased from Howard S. Mott on the Douglas M. Moffat Fund, 1962.	1907 November 2
b. 1, f. 15	Parkes, Kineton Concerning a proof of his poems; accompanied by an autograph poem, "Rondeau: Written Upon a Settle." Removed from Crane's <i>Renascence</i> (BEIN J18 C851 891Rc); gift of Philip M. Neufeld in honor of Catharine Tinker Patterson, 1958.	1889, 1890
b. 1, f. 16	Parkes, Kineton Purchased from Paul C. Richards Autographs on the Herman W. Liebert Book Fund, 1964.	1901 June 21
b. 1, f. 17	Prang, Louis Purchased from Paul C. Richards Autographs on the Chauncey Brewster Tinker Prize Fund, 1965.	1891 November 21
b. 1, f. 18	Rersol, M. Balarsfy Gift of Philip M. Neufeld in honor of Charles Frost, 1960.	1900 January 22
b. 1, f. 19	Royal Institute of Painters in Water Colour (Great Britain) Two letters to H. F. Phillips, secretary, concerning the cover of an exhibition catalogue. Purchased from Paul C. Richards Autographs on the Starling W. Childs Library Fund, 1964.	1883
b. 1, f. 20	Sandford, Herbert Bruce Gift of Mace Neufeld (Yale 1948) in honor of Mr. and Mrs. M. Katz, 1963.	1889 January 23
b. 1, f. 21	Shields, Frederic Concerning the decoration of the Chapel of the Ascension, Bayswater Road, London. Purchased on the William L. Phelps Fund, 1956. Letter of June 9, 1898, purchased from Paul Richards on the Starling W. Childs Library Fund, 1964.	1897-1903
b. 1, f. 22	Skeen, A. E. Gift of Philip M. Neufeld in honor of Catharine Tinker Patterson, 1958.	1901 November 12
b. 1, f. 23	Sumner, Heywood Gift of Philip M. Neufeld in honor of Catharine Tinker Patterson, 1958.	1893 July 30
b. 1, f. 24	Trist, John Gift of Philip M. Neufeld in honor of Charles Frost, 1960.	1912

b. 1, f. 25	Valpy, Arthur Sutton Gift of Philip M. Neufeld in honor of Catharine Tinker Patterson, 1958.	1879 February 1
b. 1, f. 26	Whelen, Frederick Requesting that his name be added to a telegram to Maxim Gorky. Purchased from John Wilson on the Starling W. Childs Library Fund, 1986.	1911 December 9
b. 1, f. 27	Withers, Mr. Gift of Philip M. Neufeld in honor of George Alpert, 1961.	1912-1913
Unidentified recipients		
b. 1, f. 28	To "Dear Sir" Gift of Mace Neufeld (Yale 1948) in honor of Mr. and Mrs. M. Katz, 1963.	1885 May 7
b. 1, f. 29	To "Dear Sir" Gift of Philip M. Neufeld in honor of Catharine Tinker Patterson, 1958.	1889 December 14
b. 1, f. 30	To "Dear Sir" Purchased from Brick Row Bookshop on the Chauncey Brewster Tinker Prize Fund, 1966.	1894 October 21
b. 1, f. 31	Christmas greeting card Printed card with autograph note on verso: On verso: "Beaumont Lodge. Xmas. 1890. Fridays. 4-6" Purchased from Collectors' Editions on the Chauncey Brewster Tinker Prize Fund, 2002.	1890
b. 1, f. 32	To "Dear Madam" Advising her that his early toy and picture books are being reissued. Purchased from Maggs Brothers Ltd. on the Hubert Amer McGuire Memorial Fund, 1960	1910 June 26
b. 1, f. 33	Autograph Source unknown.	1907 October

Series II: Artwork and Writings, 1878–1909*3.05 linear feet (3 boxes)*

b. 1, f. 34	<p>"Illusions"</p> <p>Autograph manuscript; 1 p.; poem published in his compilation <i>Renascence</i>.</p> <p>Purchased from William Reese Company (Bonhams sale, 2016 June 8, lot 87), on the Edwin J. Beinecke Book Fund, 2016.</p>	undated
b. 1, f. 35	<p><i>Folk and Fairy Tales</i>, by Constance Burton Harrison (London: Ward and Downey, 1885)</p> <p>Drawing for "The Story of the Moorish Dish"; ink and Chinese white on card. The book was issued in the United States as: <i>Bric-a-Brac Stories</i> (New York: Charles Scribner's Sons, 1885).</p> <p>Purchased from Charles on the William L. Phelps Fund, 1957</p>	1885
b. 2	<p><i>A Floral Fantasy in an Old English Garden</i> (New York and London: Harper and Bros., 1899)</p> <p>Nineteen drawings in watercolor on paper for endpapers and for illustrations on pp. [1], [2], 6-7, 9, 11, 15, 17-18, 20, 22-26, 38, and 45; also, a drawing with crane and brushes, not used. The drawings are interleaved with the printed version, first edition, bound in green full levant morocco by Riviere & Son. Inscribed on verso of leaf 3: "Mary Frances Crane with the author's love, Dec. 31, 1898."</p> <p>Gift of Philip M. Neufeld in honor of Catharine Tinker Patterson, 1958.</p>	1898
b. 1, f. 36	<p>"Flood at Winterburg"</p> <p>Ink on paper; titled and signed at lower right corner. Crane recounted his visit to Winterburg (Vimperk, Czech Republic), and the flood there on page 347 of his autobiography, <i>An Artist's Reminiscences</i>(1907).</p> <p>Purchased from William Reese Company (Bonhams sale, 2016 June 8, lot 87), on the Edwin J. Beinecke Book Fund Fund, 2016.</p>	1890
b. 1, f. 37	<p>"Fortune and the Boy" from <i>The Baby's Own Aesop</i></p> <p>Transfer-printed, polychromed, glazed earthenware tile manufactured by the Wheeling Pottery Company, Wheeling, West Virginia.</p> <p>Purchased from Howard S. Mott, Inc., on the Hall Park McCullough Fund, 1963.</p>	circa 1892
b. 1, f. 38	<p>"On the Suppression of Free Speech in Chicago"</p> <p>Autograph manuscript, signed; 1 p.</p> <p>Gift of Philip M. Neufeld in honor of Catharine Tinker Patterson, 1958.</p>	1886 June
b. 1, f. 39	<p>"Original sketch for modern walking dress"</p> <p>Gouache and ink on illustration board; title from inscription by Crane on verso.</p> <p>Purchased from Walter Schatzki on the Elizabeth W. Manwaring Fund, 1969.</p>	1904

b. 3	<i>Queen Summer, or the Tourney of the Lily and the Rose</i> (London: Cassell & Co., 1891)	1891
	Twenty-seven drawings in black ink and watercolor on paper, inserted in printed large paper copy, first edition, rebound. Drawings are for front and back covers and for illustrations on pp. 1-2, 6, 12, 16-17, 20-26, 28-32, and 34-40; also, a preparatory drawing for illustration on p. 2, not used.	
	Gift of Charles J. Rosenbloom (Yale 1920), 1972.	
b. 1, f. 40	Sketchbooks	1900
	Two notebooks with autograph notes, sketches and drawings made May 1, 6-7, 19, and July 4-5, 7, 1900. Contents include several drawings from nature at the Labour Day at the Crystal Palace (May 1, 1900); notes and drawings from his trip to Hungary; notes for his <i>Line and Form</i> (London : George Bell & Sons, 1900); and notes for his directorship of the Art Department at Reading College.	
	Gift of Robert J. Barry, 1956.	
b. 4 (Oversize), f. 42	"Swedish Twilight"	1909
	Watercolor on paper mounted on board; signed lower left: "Walter Crane / 1909" with monogram. Inscribed by Crane on verso of mount: "No. 7 / Swedish Twilight / Walter Crane R. W. S. 13 Holland St. Kensington London W."	
	Gift of Mace Neufeld (Yale 1948) in honor of Mr. and Mrs. M. Katz, 1963.	
b. 1, f. 41	<i>Travels with a Donkey in the Cévennes</i> (London, C. K. Paul & Co., 1879)	circa 1878
	Frontispiece drawing; ink, graphite, wash, and Chinese white on tracing paper, with a note from Lionel Crane authenticating the sketch.	
	Removed from <i>Travels with a Donkey in the Cevennes</i> , by Robert Louis Stevenson (BEIN 1976 +147); scene described on page 61 of the volume; gift of Charles J. Rosenbloom (Yale 1920), 1970.	

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

Artists -- Great Britain
Children's literature -- Illustrations
Illustration of books -- Great Britain
Illustrators -- Great Britain

Genres / Formats

Illustrations (layout features) -- Great Britain --
19th century
Sketchbooks -- Great Britain -- 19th century
Tile (material) -- United States -- 19th century
Watercolors (paintings) -- Great Britain -- 19th
century

Occupations

Artists -- Great Britain -- 19th century
Illustrators -- Great Britain -- 19th century

Names

Crane, Walter, 1845-1915
Parkes, Kinton, 1865-1938
Shields, Frederic, 1833-1911