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Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library

# Guide to the Victor Hugo Collection

GEN MSS 412



by Kathryn Rawdon

November 1998

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## 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 412

**CREATOR:** Hugo, Victor, 1802-1885

**TITLE:** Victor Hugo collection

**DATES:** 1816-1876

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.6 linear feet (2 boxes) + 1 broadside folder

**LANGUAGE:** French

**SUMMARY:** Collection contains letters to and from Victor Hugo, as well as holographs of writings by Hugo. Correspondence includes letters to Hugo from Juliette Drouet, Aleksandr Herzen, comte Léopold Hugo, Jules Janin, Jean Toussaint Merle, and Jules Michelet. Letters from Hugo include letters to Laure Junot, duchesse d'Abrantès, A. de Beauchesne, Alexandre Dumas, and Almire Gandonnière. Writings contain holograph drafts of fragments of several works, including poems from Châtiments and Toute la lyre, fragments of chapters from L'Homme qui rit and Les Misérables, corrected proofs for several pages of Napoléon le petit, and a holograph of the play "Irtamène."

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

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## 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.hugo>.

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

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## Administrative Information

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### 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.

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## Conditions Governing Use

The Victor Hugo 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.

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## Preferred Citation

Victor Hugo Collection. General Collection, Beinecke Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Yale University.

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## Processing Information

This finding aid is updated periodically to account for new materials that have been 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 acquired for the collection since the last update, please consult the Public Service Desk.

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## Scope and Contents

This finding aid encompasses accessions of single manuscripts and small groups of manuscripts and other papers, by or pertaining to Victor Hugo, acquired by the library from a variety of sources. Materials incorporated into the collection prior to November 1998 have been organized into three series. [Series I, Jean Gaudon Collection](#), contains letters to Hugo and his wife, Adèle, from various individuals, as well as small holograph fragments of drafts of several of his works. [Series II, Bronson Pinchot Collection](#), contains letters from Hugo to various people, letters to Hugo from Juliette Drouet, and several holographs by Hugo, mostly untitled. [Series III, Materials from Other Sources](#), contains additional letters and writings by Hugo.

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## Collection Contents

### Series I: Jean Gaudon Collection, 1832-1873

*0.2 linear feet (1 box)*

Purchased from Jean Gaudon on the Edwin J. Beinecke Book Fund, 1978

#### LETTERS FROM HUGO

b. 1, f. 1	Unidentified Regarding Hugo's failure to be elected to the Académie française	n.d.
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#### LETTERS TO HUGO

b. 1, f. 2	Aubert, ----	1841 Nov 17
b. 1, f. 3	Ballanche, [Pierre Simon]	1842 Feb 2
b. 1, f. 4	Barbier, [Auguste]	1859 Nov 27
b. 1, f. 5	Beauchesne, A. de (Alcide)	1845 Apr 24
b. 1, f. 6	Bonnely, A.	n.d.
b. 1, f. 7	Cornélie, ----	1873 Jul 10
b. 1, f. 8	Crestadoro, Andrea	1861 Sep 13
b. 1, f. 9	Destrem, Jean	1873 Jan 3
b. 1, f. 10	[Dorval, Marie]	[1832?]
b. 1, f. 11	Dufour, Albert	1872 Aug 18
b. 1, f. 12	Esquivos, Pancrasse	1851 Oct 8
b. 1, f. 13	Forget, J. C.	1864 Mar 17
b. 1, f. 14	[Foucher, Pierre]	[1845 Feb 28?]
b. 1, f. 15	Gonzales, Emmanuel	[1843]
b. 1, f. 16	Guiraud, Alexandre	1840 Jan 20
b. 1, f. 17	Herzen, Aleksandr	1857 Oct 4
b. 1, f. 18	Hugo, Léopold, comte (nephew)	1860 May 21
b. 1, f. 19	Janin, Jules Gabriel	1856 Apr 8
b. 1, f. 20	Joffroy, J. H.	1873 Apr 24
b. 1, f. 21	Lassailly, Charles	1840 Apr 29
b. 1, f. 22	Lavaneau, M[?]	1842 Jul 9
b. 1, f. 23	Lefebvre, Gilbert	1873 Mar 16

## LETTERS TO HUGO (continued)

b. 1, f. 24	Le Marchand, E[?]	1872 Dec 9
b. 1, f. 25	Martha, Félix Includes: Holograph poem in Hugo's hand	1841 Jun 30
b. 1, f. 26	Merle, M. (Jean Toussaint)	1841 [Jan 8]
b. 1, f. 27	Michelet, Jules	1870 May 5
b. 1, f. 28	Pongerville, ----	[1841 Jan 7]
b. 1, f. 29	E. R.	n.d.
b. 1, f. 30	Roger, Jean-François	1834 Apr 25
b. 1, f. 31	Rougier, Mme ----	1872 Oct 9
b. 1, f. 32	Terrier, Dr. ----	1860 Nov 18
b. 1, f. 33	Weill, Alexandre	1847 Jan 18
b. 1, f. 34	Unidentified	[1851?] Nov 22
b. 1, f. 35	Unidentified	n.d.
LETTERS TO ADELE HUGO		
b. 1, f. 36	Lacombe, Francis	1851 Dec 4
WRITINGS BY HUGO		
b. 1, f. 37	"A Juvénal," poem from <i>Châtiments</i> (VI, 13), holograph fragment On envelope dated 27 January 1853	[1853?]
b. 1, f. 38	"L'Ame à la poursuite du vrai," poem from <i>L'Art d'être grand père</i> (XVIII, 5), holograph	n.d.
b. 1, f. 39	<i>Amy Robsart</i> , holograph cover for the manuscript	1864 Aug 8
b. 1, f. 40	"L'Empereur s'amuse," poem from <i>Châtiments</i> (III, 10), holograph On back of letter signed "Duriez" dated 15 November 1857[?]	n.d.
b. 1, f. 41	"L'Expiation," poem from <i>Châtiments</i> (V, 13), holograph drafts of sections I, II, IV and VII	n.d.
b. 1, f. 42	Holograph drafts of several poems from <i>Châtiments</i> On back of official form from the Dead Letter Office of Jersey to Hugo, dated 30 November 1852  Includes: Fragments from "A l'obéissance passive" (II, 7), "Cette nuit- là" (I, 5), "Apothéose," "Joyeuse vie" (III, 1), "On est Tibère..." (V, 6), "Applaudissement" (VI, 16), "Force des Choses" (VII, 12), and notes from other works, possibly <i>Théâtre en liberté</i>	n.d.
b. 1, f. 43	<i>L'Homme qui rit</i> , holograph draft of part of one chapter (VII, 4)	n.d.
b. 1, f. 44	<i>Les Misérables</i> , holograph draft of part of one chapter (V, 6, 2) On envelope dated 10 April 1861	[1861?]

## WRITINGS BY HUGO (continued)

b. 1, f. 45	<i>Nouveaux Châtiments</i> , holograph fragment	n.d.
b. 1, f. 46	<i>Théâtre en liberté</i> , holograph fragment	n.d.
b. 1, f. 47	"Umbra," poem from <i>Toute la Lyre</i> (III, 45), holograph fragment	n.d.
b. 1, f. 48	Unidentified holograph fragments related to Hugo's time in Jersey and his experience with spiritualism	n.d.
b. 1, f. 49	Unidentified poem, holograph fragment	ca. 1846

**Series II: Bronson Pinchot Collection, 1828-1876***0.3 linear feet (.75 box)*

Gift of Bronson Pinchot (Yale Class of 1981), 1996; Purchased from Sotheby Co., 1994-1995, from the collection of Bronson Pinchot

## LETTERS FROM HUGO

b. 2, f. 50	Abrantès, Laure Junot, duchesse d'	n.d.
b. 2, f. 51	Baze, Jean-Didier	[1876] May 17
b. 2, f. 52	Beauchesne, A. de (Alcide)	[n.y.] Feb 14
b. 2, f. 53	Bertin, Armand	1846 [Feb 15]
b. 2, f. 54	Briseaux, Auguste	n.d.
b. 2, f. 55	Bryan, William A.	1870 Jun 29
b. 2, f. 56	Buloz, François	[1842], n.d.
b. 2, f. 57	Cressonnois, J.	1862 Feb 12
b. 2, f. 58	Crestadoro, Andrea	1861 [Sep 20]
b. 2, f. 59	David, ----	n.d.
b. 2, f. 60	Denis, Achille	[1859] Oct 16
b. 2, f. 61	Dumas, Alexandre	[1867] Jun 17
b. 2, f. 62	Gandonniere, Almire	n.d.
b. 2, f. 63	Hugo[?], Charles	n.d.
b. 2, f. 64	Jouslin de la Salle, M. ----	n.d.
b. 2, f. 65	Landolphe, P. F.	[1852] Sep 19
b. 2, f. 66	Langlé, Ferdinand	1845 Apr 20
b. 2, f. 67	Laurent-Pinchat, Léon	1853 Aug 7
b. 2, f. 68	Meurice, Paul	1869 Oct 12
b. 2, f. 69	Noël, Alphonse Léon	[n.y.] Feb-Dec
b. 2, f. 70	Pavie, Victor	1828 Oct 30
b. 2, f. 71	Robelin, Charles	1847 Jul 8
b. 2, f. 72	[Solitis, Marie de]	1854 May 6
b. 2, f. 73	Théâtre Victor Hugo	n.d.
b. 2, f. 74	"Aux femmes de Guernesey," in the hand of Julie Chenay	1870 Jul 22
b. 2, f. 75	To his son	[1843] May 22



## LETTERS FROM HUGO (continued)

b. 2, f. 76	Unidentified doctor	[n.y.] Mar 3
b. 2, f. 77	Unidentified Justice of the Peace	[1848] Nov 21
b. 2, f. 78	Unidentified woman	[1868] May 8
b. 2, f. 79	Unidentified woman	[n.y.] May 16
b. 2, f. 80	Unidentified, presenting a song	[n.y.] Sep
b. 2, f. 81	Unidentified	[1830?] Sep 9
b. 2, f. 82	Unidentified	1855 Jun 30
b. 2, f. 83	Unidentified	1870 Dec 13
b. 2, f. 84	Unidentified	[n.y.] May 26
b. 2, f. 85	Unidentified	[n.y.] Aug 19
LETTERS TO HUGO		
b. 2, f. 86	<a href="#">Drouet, Juliette</a>	1850
WRITINGS BY HUGO		
b. 2, f. 87	<i>Napoléon le Petit</i> , corrected proofs of the first 16 pages	n.d.
b. 2, f. 88	"Ordre à suivre," holograph poem	n.d.
b. 2, f. 89	Untitled holograph	n.d.
b. 2, f. 90	Untitled holograph about political figures from Henry VIII to Louis Napoleon	n.d.
b. 2, f. 91	Untitled holograph poem	n.d.
	Untitled holograph poem on verso of drawing of a soldier in a café, entitled "Garde National de Paris" signed "Par Philipotteaux" Stored in: Oversize, bsd, folder 105	n.d.
OTHER PAPERS		
b. 2, f. 92	Empty paper wrapper entitled "Choses personnelles - Notes pour des éclaircissements ou faits qui me concernant"	n.d.
b. 2, f. 93	Envelope with holograph notes and shopping list	[1883?]
b. 2, f. 94	Receipt to M. Renduel	1836 Dec 31

**Series III: Materials from Other Sources, 1816-1871***0.1 linear feet (.25 box)*

Acquired by gift or purchase from various sources, as indicated on individual folders

## LETTERS FROM HUGO

b. 2, f. 95	Achard, Amédée	1845 Apr 22
b. 2, f. 96	Guiraud, Alexandre	1835 Dec 27
b. 2, f. 97	Hugo, Charles	1859 May 19
b. 2, f. 98	du Meril, P[?]	[n.y.] Mar 2
b. 2, f. 99	Noël, Alphonse Léon	1830 Oct 4
b. 2, f. 100	Stevens, M. ---- In the hand of Juliette Drouet, signed by Hugo	[ca. 1851-70?]
b. 2, f. 101	Unidentified Acc #: 550722-b	1871 Nov 27
b. 2, f. 102	Unidentified	[n.y.] Jul 5

## WRITINGS BY HUGO

b. 2, f. 103	<i>Irtamène</i> , holograph play	1816 Jul-Dec
b. 2, f. 104	<a href="#">Notebook with holograph notes and drawings, regarding a trip through France</a> Includes: 2 poems published in <i>Les Chants du crépuscule</i>	1835 Aug

**Oversize, n.d.**

b. bsd, folder 105 Untitled holograph poem on verso of drawing of a soldier in a café (in Series II) n.d.

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## 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

Authors

Authors, French -- 19th century

### Names

Abrantès, Laure Junot, duchesse d', 1784-1838

Beauchesne, A. de (Alcide), 1804-1873

Drouet, Juliette, 1806-1883

Dumas, Alexandre, 1802-1870

Gandonnière, Almire, 1813-1863

Herzen, Aleksandr, 1812-1870

Hugo, Léopold, comte, 1828-1895

Hugo, Victor, 1802-1885

Janin, Jules, 1804-1874

Merle, Jean Toussaint, 1785-1852

Michelet, Jules, 1798-1874