

COLLECTION NAME: Collins (Wilkie) collection.

Material collected by Clyde Hyder by and about the author Wilkie Collins.

MAIN ENTRY: Collins, Wilkie, 1824-1889.

DATES COVERED: 1849-1889

DATES WRITTEN: 1849-1889; 1935; n.d.

PLACE: Great Britain: London

LANGUAGE: English

US: Chicago: Sherman House

US: Boston

Belgium: Brussels: Hotel de Flandre

TYPE: Album and loose material: letters (originals, transcripts, photostats), portrait-photographs, photostat of will, clippings.

CONTENTS: [Detailed Description on pp. 2-5]

18 letters by Collins (9 originals, 5 photostated originals, 4 MS transcripts).

Recipients: W.C. Macready (actor), Herbert Watkins (photographer), H.F. Chorley (critic), Miss Doran, Th. Michaelis, Charles Kent (friend), Henry Higgins (copyist), Chatto (publisher), R.H. Dana Sr (US essayist), John Palgrave Simpson (playwright), Mrs Moulton (US literary hostess), Oliver Wendell Holmes Sr (US man of letters), Mrs Schlesinger, A. Arthur Reade (tobacco), Mark Lemon (editor), and "Dear Sir".

4 signatures by Collins on scraps of letters. Recipient of two: John Latey (editor).

1 photostat of Collins' Will.

1 carte-de-visite photograph of Collins.

1 photograph of posthumous bust of Collins.

4 clippings concerning Collins.

1 letter to Hyder from Buckston Brown, Collins' neighbor.

EXPLANATION:

In 1954 Professor Hyder gave the Universities of Kansas Libraries an album which he had filled with the original Collins letters and signatures, the photographs, and the clippings. The album is presently classed as "MS D11".

In 1983 Professor Hyder supplemented his gift with some loose material: the photostats, the MS transcripts, and the letter by Buckston Brown. This material is classed as "MS P557".

For a detailed description of the entire collection, with a chronological list of all the letters, see pp. 2-5. For a checklist of the contents of MS D11, see pp. 5-6; for a checklist of the contents of MS P557, see p. 6.

FOLIATION: None (Album originally contained 46 blank leaves; 19 items and a title-page have been tipped in or pasted in.)

AUTHOR'S HOLOGRAPH: The original letters (all also signed or initialed); the 4 scraps; the 5 photostated letters.

ORNAMENT: 2 photographs (MS D11:8; MS D11:1)

1 vignette of Hotel Sherman, Chicago, on letterhead. (MS P557A:3)

BINDING: Album: blue cloth.

BINDING TITLE: W. Wilkie Collins. 1824-1889. Autograph letters.

TITLE ON ADDED TITLE-PAGE: WILLIAM WILKIE COLLINS Novelist 1824-1889. AUTOGRAPH LETTERS.

SIZE: Album: 22.6 x 22 cm.

PUBLICATIONS: Hyder does not cite this material in his two articles "Collins and the Woman in White" (PMLA 54 1939) and "Collins in America" (Studies in English in honor of R.D. O'Leary and S.L. Whitcomb. Univ of Kansas Humanistic Studies v.6 no.4 1940), although he mentions the Will in the former and the Holmes letter in the latter.

Source: Clyde K. Hyder, professor of English, KU.

gifts

Date of acq: MS D11: 23 Dec 1954

MS P557: 30 Aug 1983

Processing: Album classed as MS BK Y38 and carded as "Autograph letters", 195-; re-classed as MS D11, 1964.

Whole collection catalogued 8 sep 83

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EMG

(T142)

LETTERS BY COLLINS.

MS

D11:2

1. 1849 June 18. To William Charles Macready, 1793-1873. MS.
38 Blandford Square.
Sending copy of Memoirs to a subscriber. 2p (1 sheet) Pp 3-4 (blank) margined.
Tipped in. (f.9)
2. 1850 June 17. To Richard Henry Dana, 1787-1879. Photostat. P557:A1
To R.H. Dana, Andover, Mass. 38 Blandford Square, 1.
Reply to letter acknowledging receipt of the biography. Thanks for Allston's
Lectures, wh Chapman forwarded to Longman. Will welcome your son in London. Our
great men now more on a level than previously; war obsolete. Prices for
Macaulay's History, Landseer's Wellington. Have just revised 2nd ed of my
Romance; reasons for being surprised at success. Enjoyed Two Years before the
Mast. Description of Wordsworth in Rome, 1837. Will probably move soon.
2 oversize photostats, folded twice: "...As I consider myself..."; "greater, as
regards England...". Signed W. Wilkie Collins. Addressed and docketed.
3. [1857x1859] Apr 24. To Herbert Watkins. MS. D11:3
11 Harley Place.
Thanks for photos of Millais and of me. Not well enough to visit the new room in
your studio yet. 2p (1 sheet). Tipped in. (f.11)
NOTE ON DATE: In Hanover Place or Howland St to May 1856; in 2 Harley Place Sept
1857; in 2a New Cavendish St May-Dec 1859; in 12 Harley St 1859-1864. NB: the
1849 Post Office Directory numbers Harley Place 1-7 only.
4. 1857 Jul 20. To Herbert Watkins. MS. (Envelope only.) D11:4
To H. Watkins, Esq., 179 Regent Street. Postmarked "8Nt. JY20 57" Laid down. (f.12)
5. 1858 Nov 5. To "Dear Sir". Transcript. P557:A6
Royal Olympic Theatre.
I have resolved not to publish or print my plays; answer such applications that the
plays are not procurable since they are not printed.
MS transcript in pencil. By Hyder? 1 piece. "...The reason which you very..."
6. 1860 Oct 8. To "My Dear Sir". Transcript. P557:A7
12 Harley Street, W.
Asks for an appointment to discuss problems of copyright in the Colonies raised by
The Woman in White.
MS transcript in pencil. By Hyder? 1 piece. "...I am in some little uncertainty..."
7. 1861 Jun 12. To Herbert Watkins. MS. D11:5
[embossed 12 Harley Street, W.]
Admirable likenesses, admirable photographs. 2p (1 sheet). Tipped in. (f.14)
8. 1865 Feb 21. To Henry F. Chorley, 1808-1872. MS. D11:6
9 Melcombe Place Dorset Square NW.
Can't accept your invitation because leaving town. 2p (1 leaf). Hinged. (f.16)
9. 1866 May 23. To Miss Doran. MS. f.18 D11:7
9 Melcombe Place NW.
Herewith my autograph; with regards to Doctor Doran [probably Dr John Doran, 1807-
1878, misc. writer, m. 1834, 1 son (Alban) and 1 daughter (Florence, m. Andreas
Holtz). DNB] 1p (1 leaf). Tipped in. (f.18)

LETTERS BY COLLINS. [contd]

MS

P557:A8

10. 1870 Apr 1. To Mark Lemon, 1809-1870. Transcript. 90 Gloucester Place, Portman Square, W.
Please consider accepting Maurice Drummond's contributions to Punch.
MS transcript in pen by Buckston Brown. 1 piece. "...You will probably receive..."
11. 1872 Jul 29. To Monsieur Th. [?] Michaelis. MS. [engraved 90, Gloucester Place, Portman Square, W.] London.
Sorry to miss you and M. Melchisedec when you called; thanks for Robagas.
Copyright Association is complaining to Lord Kimberly about the last Act of the Canadian Parliament. Docketed in French. 3p & docket (1 sheet). Tipped in. (f.22)
12. [1873] Mar 31 [?]. To J. Palgrave Simpson, 1807-1887. Photostat. To "Palgrave Simpson". [engraved 90, Gloucester Place, Portman Square, W.]
Will Mr Clayton play "Julian Gray" in my "New Magdalen"? Miss Cavendish approves.
Character of part. Why play should succeed. The script is at Temple Bar.
Probably will be produced in Germany and US before London.
Signed W.C.
NOTE ON IDENTITY: John Palgrave Simpson, the dramatist, is most probably the recipient: the actor John Clayton starred in Simpson's play All for her in 1875 (DNB). His younger brother, Palgrave Simpson, 1815?-1891, was a lawyer and musician (DNB) and appears to have dealt with the stage only through writing the music for John's operetta Bravo's heir (pNUC NS 0569907, -908). John usually uses "J. Palgrave Simpson" on title-pages.
NOTE ON DATE: The New Magdalen opened at the Olympic Theatre on 19 May 1873 starring Frank Archer and Ada Cavendish (the producer). (Robinson's biography, p. 261.)
8 photostats: "...Will Mr. Clayton..."; "how the character..."; "of what stuff..."; "on the other..."; "run the risk..."; "as well as..."; "I am having..."; "Vienna and the..."
13. 1874 Jan 17. To Mrs [Ellen Louise Chandler] Moulton, 1835-1908. Photostat. [engraved letterhead for Sherman House, Chicago (vignette).]
Mr Harper had my lecture schedule wrong, so I missed your invitation; but hope to return to Boston in a week.
[Mrs Moulton had a literary salon in Boston, and moved in Pre-Raphaelite circles.]
2 photostats: "...One line to apologise..."; "engagements in New England..."
1st photostat marked 1450.
14. 1874 Mar 7. To Oliver Wendell Holmes, 1809-1894. Photostat. To Doctor Holmes. Boston.
Farewell, with thanks; will treasure the little poem.
2 photostats: "...Twice yesterday..."; "indeed gratefully sensible..."
1st photostat marked 4443; pencilled Library of Congress.
15. 1875 Oct 17. To Mrs Schlesinger. Photostat. Hotel de Flandre, Brussels.
Could not accept invitation because abroad.
[Collins made Sebastian Benzon Schlesinger of Belgrave Square one of his executors in 1889.]
2 photostats: "...Your very kind note..."; "that you will kindly accept..."
16. 1882 Feb 10. To A. Arthur Reade, 1851- . Transcript. 90, Gloucester Place, Portman Square, W., London.
Praises tobacco.
MS transcript in pencil. By Hyder? 2 pieces. "...When I am ill..."; "(on back of first..."
[The Arents tobacco collection catalogue, entries 3268-9, contains a number of similar letters to Reade by notable contemporaries.]

LETTERS BY COLLINS. [contd]

MS

D11:10

17. 1882 May 13. To Charles Kent, 1823-1902. MS. FRAGILE
a. Green paper engraved 90, Gloucester Place, Portman Square, W., London, monogrammed. My new serial due 22 July; writing novel containing Physiology [Heart and Science]. Money for poor Miss Kelly. [some words erased?] Intro to collected stories. I dare not risk another illness by trying to write two novels together. Gout. Best to Lord Lytton.
Signed "W.C."
3p (1 sheet). GUTTER TEARING. Tipped in. (f.24)
- b. Env to Charles Kent Esq, Knebworth Park, Stevenage. Postmarked "LONDON W 2 MY 13 82" Laid down. (f.24)
18. 1883 May 8. To Henry Higgins, Esq. MS. D11:11
White paper, as 17.
To copyist: send a copy of the first act to Edgar Bruce. I'll send you third act tomorrow. [Edgar Bruce produced Rank and Riches in June 1883.] 3p (1 sheet). Tipped in. (f.26)
19. 1887 Apr 29. To Chatto. MS. D11:12
Brown paper, as 17.
Thanks for new form of The Evil Genius--my favorite colour. 1p (1 sheet). Tipped in. (f.28)

LETTERS BY COLLINS: scraps with signatures.

1. Verso: "over the 100..." [length of story] 8 lines of text. Hinged. (f.30) D11:13
2. To J.C. Latey. Verso: "can favour me with a visit..." 7 lines of text. Hinged; now loose, and removed to MS P557:D. (f.30) D11:14
3. Verso: "In the meantime" 1 line of text. Hinged; now loose, and removed to P557:D. (f.30) D11:15
4. Scrap with signature. To John Latey Esq. Printer should take care with slips 45 to 62. 6 lines of text. Hinged. (f.31) D11:16
[John Latey, 1842-1902, edited the Pehny Illustrated Paper 1861-1901, Illustrated London News 1858-1890, the Boys' Illustrated News 1881-2. New CBEL does not mention Collins' contributions to these magazines.]

COLLINS' WILL.

- 1882-1889. Photostat of clerk's copy (made after probate). P557:B
Will of William Wilkie Collins, 2 Mar 1882; codicil 18 July 1889; probate 11 Nov 1889.
5 photostats: "This is the last..."; "a plain stone cross..."; "furniture in her bedroom..."; "was born at No 33..."; "one half of such..."

PHOTOS OF COLLINS.

1. Photograph, probably of Collins. Bust facing left, thinnish beard, in his 30s? Copyright Elliott & Fry, 55 Baker St. "Carte-de-visite" 10.5 x 6.3 cm. Laid down. (f.20) D11:8
2. Photo of posthumous bas-relief of Collins, annotated "Wilkie Collins by Mr Rost" [?]. On stiff paper. Laid down. (f.7) D11:1

LETTER FROM BUCKSTON BROWN, 1935 Oct 17. MS.

To Clyde K. Hyder, Lawrence, Kansas. [On letterhead: 80 Wimpole St, Cavendish Square, W.1] London.

Memories as a neighbor of Collins. Will borrow a letter to Mark Lemon for you.

Possible research sources. I have set up a Darwin museum.

ALS 2p (2 sheets)

CLIPPINGS.

Clippings, newspaper:

D11:17-18

Clipping "Wilkie Collins's Novels". On Chatto & Windus's new library ed of the late WC. 2 16.8 cm columns. Laid down. (f.33)

Clipping. Death of Wilkie Collins. (With sketch). Annotated Pall Mall Gazette, Sept 23, 1889. Laid down. (ff. 34-36)

Clippings, bookdealers:

D11:19-20

Clipping from bookdealer's catalogue: Moonstone...privately printed play... Laid down. (f.38)

Clipping from bookdealer's catalogue: Wilkie Collins. Miss Gwilt... Laid down. (f.39)

NOTES.

Brief bibliographical notes by Hyder.

D11:21

3 bibliographical references written directly on the album page. (f.41)

CHECKLIST FOR MS D11 (empty leaves not mentioned).

ITEM ff

4. Typed title-page: "WILLIAM WILKIE COLLINS Novelist 1824-1889 AUTOGRAPH LETTERS" tipped on to f.5 (Probably added by a KU librarian).
5. "Gift from Prof. Clyde K. Hyder 12/2/54" (Annotation in pencil in gutter by a KU librarian).
1. 7. Photo of bas-relief of Collins, annotated "Wilkie Collins by Mr Rost"
2. 9. Collins. L to W.C. Macready. 18 June 1849. 2p (1 sheet) Pp 3-4 (blank) & margined. Tipped in.
3. 11. Collins. L to Herbert Watkins. April 24th. 2p (1 sheet). Tipped in.
4. 12. Env to H. Watkins, Esq., 179 Regent Street. Postmarked "8Nt. JY20 57" Laid down.
5. 14. Collins. L to Mr Watkins. June 12th 1861. 2p (1 sheet). Tipped in.
6. 16. Collins. L to Henry F. Chorley, Esq. Feb 21 1865. 2p (1 leaf). Hinged.
7. 18. Collins. L to Miss Doran. May 23 1866. 1p (1 leaf). Tipped in.
8. 20. Photograph, probably of Collins. Copyright Elliott & Fry. "Carte-de-visite" 10.5 x 6.3 cm. Laid down.
9. 22. Collins. L to Monsieur Th: Michaelis. 29th July 1872. 3p & docket (1 sheet) Tipped in.
10. 24. FRAGILE.
 - a. Collins ["W.C."]. L to "My dear Kent". 13 May 1882. 3p (1 sheet). GUTTER TEARING. Tipped in.
 - b. Env to Charles Kent Esq., Knebworth Park, Stevenage. Postmarked "LONDON W 2 MY 13 82" Laid down.
11. 26. Collins to Henry Higgins. 8 May 1883. 3p (1 sheet). Tipped in.
12. 28. Collins to Chatto. 29 April 1887. 1p (1 sheet). Tipped in.
30. Three signatures to letters. 3 pieces, hinged. (b & c have fallen off, and been removed to MS P557:D.)
13. a. Verso: "over the 100..." [length of story] 8 lines of text.

ITEM ff

14. b. To J.C. Latey Esq. Verso: "can favour me with a visit..." 7 lines of text.
15. c. Verso: "In the meantime" 1 line of text.
16. 31. Scrap with signature. To John Latey Esq. Printer should take care with slips 45 to 62. 6 lines of text. Hinged.
17. 33. Clipping "Wilkie Collins's Novels" 2 16.8 cm columns, on Chatto & Windus's new library ed of the late WC.
18. 34-36. Clipping. Death of Wilkie Collins. (With sketch). Annotated Pall Mall Gazette, Sept 23, 1889.
19. 38. Clipping from bookdealer's catalogue: Moonstone...privately printed play...
20. 39. Clipping from bookdealer's catalogue: Wilkie Collins. Miss Gwilt...
21. 41. 3 bibliographical references written directly on the album page.

Book-plate: large KU plate "Gift of Professor Clyde K. Hyder. 1954" tipped in on front board.

CHECKLIST FOR MS P557.

A. Copies of letters from Collins.

[Folder 1: photostats]

1. To R.H. Dana. 17 June 1850. 2 oversize photostats, folded twice.
"...As I consider myself..."; "greater, as regards England..."
2. To Palgrave Simpson. 31 March [1873]. 8 photostats.
"...Will Mr Clayton..."; "how the character..."; "of what stuff..."; "on the other..."; "run this risk..."; "as well as..."; "I am having..."; "Vienna and the..."
3. To Mrs Moulton. 17 Jan 1874. 2 photostats.
"...One line to apologise..."; "engagements in New England..."
4. To Doctor Holmes. 7 March 1874. 2 photostats.
"...Twice yesterday..."; "indeed gratefully sensible..."
5. To Mrs Schlesinger. 17 Oct 1875. 2 photostats.
"...Your very kind note..."; "that you will kindly accept..."

[Folder 2: MS transcripts]

6. To "Dear Sir". 5 Nov 1858. 1 piece. In pencil.
"...The reason which you very..."
7. To "My Dear Sir". 8 Oct 1860. 1 piece. In pencil.
"...I am in some little uncertainty..."
8. To Mark Lemon. 1 April 1870. 1 piece. In ink.
"...You will probably receive..."
9. To A. Arthur Reade. 10 Feb 1882. 2 pieces. In pencil.
"...When I am ill..."; "(on back of first..."

B. Will. 5 photostats, in folder.

"This is the last..."; "a plain stone cross..."; "furniture in her bedroom..."; "was born at No 33..."; "one half of such..."

C. Letter from Buckston Brown to Clyde Hyder. 17 Oct 1935.

ALS 2p (2 sheets). In folder.

D. Loose material from MS D11, in folder.

- MS D11:14. Collins' signature on scrap addressed to J.C. Latey.
MS D11:15. Collins' signature.