

Guide to the Alice Meynell Papers, approximately 1875, 1893

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Collection Summary

Repository:	Archives and Special Collections Library, Vassar College Libraries
Creator:	Meynell, Alice Christiana Thompson, 1847-1922
Title:	Alice Meynell Papers
Dates:	approximately 1875, 1893
Quantity:	0.1 cubic feet (1 box containing 9 items)
Abstract:	Papers consist of her manuscripts of two poems as well as letters to John Lane and James Carlton Young.

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Biographical Note

Alice Thompson Meynell (1847-1922), noted English poet, essayist, and journalist, was born near London but spent most of her youth in Italy and France, where she and her sister were educated by their father. She became a Roman Catholic at the age of 20 and remained profoundly religious throughout her life. An admirer of 17th-century poetry, she published volumes of verse and essays, and she edited various anthologies. Her first book of poems, Preludes, was published in 1875 and began the remarkable career that won Alice Meynell the admiring attention of the great writers of her time.

In 1877 she married the journalist Wilfred Meynell, and their modest London home became a popular gathering spot for the journalists, suffragists, Christian socialists and literati they befriended. The couple had eight children, several of whom became

significant figures in the literary world as well.

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Scope and Content Note

Papers consist of her manuscripts of two poems as well as letters to John Lane and James Carlton Young.

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Related Material

- Two of Meynell's publications are available in the Rare Book Collection: Essays (Helen Wright Collection, W/M577) and the privately printed Other Poems (PR5021.M3 A6 1896). Both are signed. The poem inscribed "for Mr. Hutchinson" was removed from Other Poems along with a photograph of Thomas Mosher and original wrappers.
- There are also materials in the Mary Thaw Thompson Papers: two letters from Meynell to Thompson, dated 12 March and 30 December 1920.

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Subject Headings

Names:

- Lane, John, 1854-1925
- Thompson, Mary Thaw, 1856-1944
- Young, James Carlton

Subjects:

- Women authors, English
- Women poets

Document Types:

- Poems

VCL Categories

- Literature and Writing

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Encoding Information

Encoded by Elizabeth Clarke, April 2007.

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Administrative Information

Preferred Citation

Alice Meynell Papers, Archives and Special Collections Library, Vassar College Libraries.

Processing Information

Original processing date unknown. Last updated by Laura Streett, May 2007.

Acquisition Information

Some items were purchased; others were gifts of Mitchell Kennerley (May 1931) and Elizabeth Thompson Reed, VC 1903

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Container List

Folder 1	Letter to John Lane, 17 May n.y. [includes typed transcript]
Solander box	3 letters to James Carlton Young, 21 Jan n.y, 16 Apr n.y., and 23 Sep n.y.
Solander box	Poem: "Renunciation," ca. 1875
Folder 2	Poem: excerpt from "Singers to Come" inscribed "for Mr. Hutchinson," 27 Sep 1893 [removed from Other Poems]
Folder 2	Photograph of Thomas Mosher [removed from Other Poems]
Folder 2	Original wrappers? [removed from Other Poems]

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▼ Details

Abstract

Papers consist of her manuscripts of two poems as well as letters to John Lane and James Carlton Young.

Finding Aid Date

Dates: approximately 1875, 1893