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Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and  
American Literature

Guide to the

**Robert Malise Bowyer Nichols collection of papers**

1911-1941

Berg Coll MSS Nichols

Processed by Staff.

## Summary

**Creator:** Nichols, Robert, 1893-1944

**Title:** Robert Malise Bowyer Nichols collection of papers

**Date:** 1911-1941

**Size:** 365 items

**Source:** This is a synthetic collection, created from materials acquired through gift and purchase from various sources.

**Abstract:** This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts, typescripts, correspondence, portraits, and pictorial works.

**Conditions Governing Use:** For permission to publish, contact the Curator, The Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature.

**Preferred citation:** [Identification of the item]. The Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature, The New York Public Library.

**Processing note:** Processed by Staff; Machine-readable finding aid created by Lynn Lobash and Nina Schneider.

## Creator History

Robert Malise Bowyer Nichols was an English poet and playwright.

## Custodial History

Previous owners include Clement King Shorter.

## Scope and Content Note

This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts, typescripts, correspondence, portraits, and pictorial works. The manuscript and typescript include poems, drafts of stories, and notes. The correspondence consists of letters from the author, dating from 1915 to 1941, to Arnold Bennett, Sir Edward Howard Marsh, Sarah St. Benedict Mayer, Harold Monroe, Siegfried Sassoon, Clement King Shorter, and others, as well as letters relating to the author, dating from 1919 to 1940, between various correspondents, including Robert Graves, Henry Head, James Burton Pond, Siegfried Sassoon, and the literary firm of James B. Pinker and Son. There are letters to Nichols from Edmund Charles Blunden, Roy Campbell, Paul Claudel, Eugene Goossens, Aldous Huxley, John Masefield, Ezra Pound, Bertrand Russell, Siegfried Sassoon, and Stephen Spender, dating from 1922 to 1940.

## **Key Terms**

### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Correspondence

### **Names**

Nichols, Robert, 1893-1944  
Bennett, Arnold, 1867-1931  
Blunden, Edmund, 1896-1974  
Campbell, Roy, 1901-1957  
Claudel, Paul, 1868-1955  
Goossens, Eugene, 1893-1962  
Graves, Robert, 1895-1985  
Head, Henry, Sir, 1861-1940  
Huxley, Aldous, 1894-1963  
Marsh, Edward Howard, Sir, 1872-1953  
Masefield, John, 1878-1967  
Mayer, Sarah St. Benedict  
Monroe, Harold, 1879-1932  
Pond, James B. (James Burton), 1838-1903  
Pound, Ezra, 1885-1972  
Russell, Bertrand, 1872-1970  
Sassoon, Siegfried, 1886-1967  
Shorter, Clement King, 1857-1926  
Shorter, Clement King, 1857-1926  
Spender, Stephen, 1909-1995  
James B. Pinker and Son

## Container List

### Manuscripts and Typescripts

#### Manuscripts and Typescripts written by Nichols

Manuscript box	Before the Cenotaph. Holograph poem n.d. (2 p) (2 p) Signed. Came with Clement King Shorter's correspondence
Laid in: Nichols, R. M. B. ALS to Mr. [W--? Macdonald] Mackay. Aug. 10, 1920. 1 l.	Danae; mystery in eight poems. Holograph. Additional title: Op. II. 1911 - 1913 (8 p) (8 p) Signed. Published in Ardours and Endurances, London, Chatto & Windus, 1917
Manuscript box	[Don Juan. Six songs] Typescript (carbon) with the author's ms. notes in margins n.d. (8 p) (8 p) Signed
Manuscript box	Duet. Holograph poem 1917 (3 p) (3 p) Signed. Came with Clement King Shorter's correspondence
Manuscript box	"How should he this August night not waken." Holograph poem 1919 Aug. 12 (1 p) (1 p) Signed. "Inscribed to the memory of Germaine Thys." Sent to Sir Edward Howard Marsh
Manuscript box	"I, poet, voice of voiceless thousands." Holograph poem n.d. (1 p) (1 p) Signed. Came with Clement King Shorter's correspondence
Manuscript box	Nazi decalogue, A. Holograph poem 1940 (2 p) (2 p) Came with J. B. Pinker, firm, correspondence
Manuscript box	[Night bombardment] Holograph poem n.d. (4 p) (4 p) In: Ardours and endurances, London, Chatto, 1917. Sent with marginal holograph notes to Sir Edward Howard Marsh
Manuscript box	On a certain actor in a new role. Holograph poem 1940 Oct. 28 (5 p) (5 p) Came with J. B. Pinker, firm, correspondence
Manuscript box	On a certain actor in a new role. Holograph poem. Later draft 1940 Nov.? (5 p) (5 p)
Manuscript box	Palmer, The. Holograph sketch for poem 1938 June (2 p) (2 p) Signed. Sent to Sir Edward Howard Marsh
Manuscript box	Pilgrim, The. Holograph poem 1917 (1 p) (1 p) Signed. Came with Clement King Shorter's correspondence
Manuscript box	Pilgrim, The. Love poem. Holograph poems n.d. (1 p) (1 p) With: mutilated galley proof, corrected in an unidentified hand. Came with Clement King Shorter's correspondence
Manuscript box	[Poems (2)] Holographs. One entitled "Hero song" and one beginning "Slumber the silent sea," the latter followed by Siegfried Sassoon's ms. comments n.d. (2 items) (2 items) In his: 38 ALS, 5 ANS, etc. to Siegfried Sassoon. Folders 2 and 6
Manuscript box	[Poems (3)] Something; The visitor; Plaint. Holograph 1918 (1 p. each) (1 p. each) Signed
Manuscript box	Reply to an imaginary invitation. Holograph poem 1917 (2 p) (2 p) Signed. Came with Clement King Shorter's correspondence
Manuscript box	"See, seem my own sweet jewel." Holograph stanza, written on Sir Edward Howard Marsh's Gray's Inn notepaper n.d. (1 p) (1 p)

Manuscripts and Typescripts (cont.)

Manuscripts and Typescripts written by Nichols (cont.)

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| Manuscript box   | Seventeen. Holograph poem. "From Idylls and elegies of the English fields." 1919 July 30 - 1919 Aug. 3 (3 p) (3 p)<br>Signed. With holograph list of emendations, 1 p.; Sent to Sir Edward Howard Marsh  |
| Manuscript box   | Sheer wickedness (Strictly between ourselves!) Holograph poetic conversation n.d. (2 p) (2 p)<br>Signed with initials N.; With marginal caricature of Sir Edward Howard Marsh  |
| Oversize (+)   | [Sir Perseus and the fair Andromeda] Holograph notes for story n.d. (11 p) (11 p)  |
| Oversize (+)   | [Sir Perseus and the fair Andromeda] Holograph. "For Edmund Gosse." 1920 June - 1921 Dec (146 p) (146 p)<br>Signed   |
| Oversize (+)   | [Sir Perseus and the fair Andromeda] Typescript (incomplete) with the author's ms. corrections 1920 June - 1921 Dec (39 p) (39 p)<br>With carbon, with the author's ms. corrections. Undated. 53 p.; Published in Fantastica, London, Chatto & Windus, 1923  |
| Cased  | Some poems of Robert Nichols copied out by him for Flora stark together with some notes as to the geneses of certain poems. Holograph 1937 [Dec. 25 (1 v) (1 v)]<br>Signed. Presentation inscription   |
| Manuscript box.<br>In: Aurelia and<br>other poems, N.Y.<br>Dutton [1920]   | Songs of the enigma. Two holograph poems 1918 May (2 p) (2 p)<br>Signed with initials. Also: another draft with an additional poem added, dated May-July, 1918. 3 p.; another poem, headed "Intended as one of the Songs of the enigma" and with holograph marginal note to Sir Edward Howard Marsh, Oct. 27, 1919. 1 p. |
| Manuscript box.<br>In: Aurelia and<br>other poems, N.Y.<br>Dutton [1920]   | [Sonnets to Aurelia. II] "Seeing our eyes I know what sorrow is." Holograph poem 1919 Dec. 4 (1 p) (1 p)<br>Sent with marginal holograph note to Sir Edward Howard Marsh   |
| Manuscript box   | Sprig of lime, The. Holograph poem. "From English Idylls." Dedicated to Sir Edward Howard Marsh 1919 July 25, 1919 July 26 (4 p) (4 p)<br>Signed. With: 2 accompanying letters to Sir Edward Howard Marsh, listing emendations. [July, 1919] 1 p.; Aug. 1 [1919] 3 p.  |
| Manuscript box.<br>In: Aurelia and<br>other poems. N.<br>Y., Dutton [1920] | Stranger, The. Holograph poem 1918 (1 p) (1 p)<br>Signed. Sent to Sir Edward Howard Marsh  |
| Manuscript box   | Sunvassal's evensong. Holograph poem n.d. (1 p) (1 p)<br>Signed. Sent to Sir Edward Howard Marsh   |
| Manuscript box.<br>In: Aurelia and<br>other poems. N.<br>Y., Dutton [1920] | Swansong [4] Holograph poem 1919 Oct. - 1919 Nov (1 p) (1 p)<br>Signed with initials. With holograph note of emendations sent to Sir Edward Howard Marsh.<br>Sent to Sir Edward Howard Marsh   |
| Manuscript box.<br>In: Aurelia and<br>other poems. N.<br>Y., Dutton [1920] | [Swansong. 2] "O nightingale my heart." Holograph poem 1918 Aug. (1 p) (1 p)<br>Signed with initials. Sent with marginal holograph note to Sir Edward Howard Marsh   |
| Manuscript box.<br>In: Aurelia and<br>other poems. N.<br>Y., Dutton [1920] | [Swansong 5] "Put by the sun my joyful soul." Holograph poem n.d. (1 p) (1 p)<br>Signed. With marginal holograph note. Sent to Sir Edward Howard Marsh   |
| Manuscript box   | Three poems from "Plaints of the Book of love." Holograph poem 1918 May (2 p) (2 p)<br>Signed with initials. Sent to Sir Edward Howard Marsh   |

Manuscripts and Typescripts (cont.)

Manuscripts and Typescripts written by Nichols (cont.)

Manuscript box. In: Ardours and endurances, London, Chatto, 1917 [To-] Holograph poem. "First copy of first poem in A[rdours] and E[ndurances.]" 1918 Aug. 16 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)  
With signed marginal note to Sir Edward Howard Marsh

Manuscript box Triumph, The. Holograph poem 1916 (2 p) (2 p)  
Signed. Came with Clement King Shorter's correspondence

Manuscripts and Typescripts relating to Nichols

Manuscript box Bennett, Arnold. Robert Nichols. Holograph 1923 Jan. 16 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)  
B.

Correspondence

Outgoing Correspondence

Manuscript box Hone, Joseph. ALS to. Relates to D. H. Lawrence 1918 Jan. 26 (2 leaves) (2 leaves)

Laid in: Nichols, R. M. B. ALS to Mr. [W--? Macdonald] Mackay. Aug. 10, 1920 Mackay, Mr. [W--? Macdonald]. ALS to 1920 Aug. 10 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)  
With: Nichols, Robert Malise Bowyer. Danae; mystery in eight poems. Holograph

Manuscript box Marsh, Sir Edward Howard. 2 ALS to 1917 June?, 1917 July 1 (1 leaf; 1 p) (1 leaf; 1 p)  
Letter includes errata list for the writer's Ardours and endurances. Removed from his: Ardours and endurances. London, 1917

Manuscript box Marsh, Sir Edward Howard. 2 illustrated letter cards to 1919 June 25 (2 cards) (2 cards)

Manuscript box Marsh, Sir Edward Howard. ALS to 1926 Mar. 4 (3 p) (3 p)

Manuscript box Marsh, Sir Edward Howard. ALS to. Humorous letter of thanks for loan n.d. (1 p) (1 p)

Manuscript box Mayer, Sarah ("Sally") St. Benedict. 11 ALS, 1 postcard to 1936 Mar. 13 - 1936 July 26 (12 letters in 3 folders) (12 letters in 3 folders)

Manuscript box Monro, Harold. 3 ALS, 1 postcard to 1919 July 17 - 1919 Aug. 28 (1 leaf each) (1 leaf each)

Manuscript box Morgan, Edward. ALS to 1924 Sept. 29 (1 p) (1 p)

Manuscript box Pinker and son, James B. LS, ALS, etc. to 1915 - 1934 (193 letters) (193 letters)  
Letter of April 10, 1930 encloses: Goosens, Eugene. Letter, signed Gene, to Robert Nichols. July 19, 1928. 2 p.; B.

Manuscript box Sassoon, Siegfried. 38 ALS, 5 ANS, 2 TLS, 10 postcards to 1918 May 24 - 1939 Dec. 29 (55 letters in 9 folders) (55 letters in 9 folders)  
Accompanied by his: [Poems (2)] Holographs

Manuscript box Secker, Martin. TLS (carbon) to 1928 Aug. 3 (3 p) (3 p)

Manuscript box Shorter, Clement King. 3 ALS to. One undated 1917 Dec. 12, 1917 Dec. 19 (1 p.; 1 leaf each) (1 p.; 1 leaf each)

Manuscript box Smith, Logan Pearsall. ALS to 1941 Apr. 7 (3 p) (3 p)

Incoming Correspondence

Manuscript box Blunden, Edmund Charles. ALS to Nichols 1929 Jan. 4 (2 leaves) (2 leaves)

Manuscript box Blunden, Edmund Charles. ALS to Nichols 1940 Aug. 28 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)

Manuscript box Campbell, Roy. ALS to Nichols [n.y.] [Apr. 25? (9 p) (9 p)

Manuscript box (Nichols) Claudel, Paul. 2 ALS to Nichols 1922 July 17, 1923 Nov. 23 (2 leaves each) (2 leaves each)

Correspondence (cont.)

Incoming Correspondence (cont.)

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|----------------|--|
| Manuscript box | Goosens, Eugene. Letter to Nichols 1928 July 19 (2 p) (2 p)<br>With: Nichols, Robert. LS, ALS to J. B. Pinker, April 10, 1930                |
| Manuscript box | Huxley, Aldous. ALS to Nichols 1931 Jan. 18 (2 leaves) (2 leaves)  |
| Manuscript box | Huxley, Aldous. ALS to Nichols 1933 Aug. 22 (2 leaves) (2 leaves)  |
| Manuscript box | Huxley, Aldous. ALS to Nichols 1933 Oct. 9 (2 leaves) (2 leaves)   |
| Manuscript box | Huxley, Aldous. ALS to Nichols 1937 Feb. 16 (2 leaves) (2 leaves)  |
| Manuscript box | Masefield, John. TLS to Nichols. Mentions William Butler Yeats n.d. (1 leaf) (1 leaf)  |
| Manuscript box | Pound, Ezra Loomis. Postcard to Nichols [1934] Aug. 6 (1 card) (1 card)  |
| Manuscript box | Russell, Bertrand Russell, 3rd earl. ALS to Nichols 1923 June 17 (3 leaves) (3 leaves)<br>Came with Sir Edward Howard Marsh's correspondence |
| Cased          | Sassoon, Siegfried. 6 ALS to Nichols 1932 Feb. 20 - [n.y.] May 15 (1 v) (1 v)  |
| Manuscript box | Spender, Stephen. ALS to Nichols 1931 Oct. 4 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)   |

Related Correspondence

- |                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Manuscript box                       | Graves, Robert. 4 ALS to James Burton Pond. Mentions John Masefield, Robert Nichols and Siegfried Sassoon [1919] June 17 - [1926 July (1 leaf; 1 leaf; 1 p.; 1 p) (1 leaf; 1 leaf; 1 p.; 1 p) |
| Manuscript box (Nichols)             | Head, Henry. TLS to Siegfried Sassoon. Relates to Robert Malise Bowyer Nichols 1922 Dec. 9 (1 p) (1 p)  |
| Manuscript box (Pinker, J. B., firm) | Letters, ALS, telegrams, etc. from various publishers, etc. to the firm of James B. Pinker and son as literary agent for Robert Nichols 1919 - 1940 (21 letters) (21 letters)<br>B.           |

Portraits

- |                |   |
|----------------|---|
| Manuscript box | Sketch (2 reproductions) of Robert Malise Bowyer Nichols. 18 x 15 cm. 1921 (2 items) (2 items)<br>Signed "John" |
| Manuscript box | Photographs (2) of Robert Malise Bowyer Nichols. 9 x 6 cm. n.d. (2 items) (2 items)                             |