Summary

Creator: Clarke, Mary Cowden, 1809-1898

Title: Mary Cowden Clarke manuscript material

Date: 1845-1896

Size: 22 items

Abstract: Mary Cowden Clarke, English literary scholar and writer. She was the eldest daughter of musician Vincent Novello, through whom she met some of the most prominent authors of Romantic period, including John Keats, Mary Shelley, and Charles and Mary Lamb. It was the Lambs' Tales from Shakespeare (1807) that ignited in her a lifelong passion for the works of the Bard of Avon. Along with her husband, Charles Cowden Clarke, she published various books and essays related to Shakespeare throughout her life. - Holograph essay signed, in the form of a letter to the Editor of "The Illustrated London News" : 7 Nov 1895 : (S'ANA 0010) : 10 leaves, stitched together at top left corner : an article on John Keats, recalling her personal encounters with Keats at the home of her father, Vincent Novello, when Shelley was one of the company; also discussing Keats's poetry.

Access: Restricted access.

Physical Location: Pforz MS

Preferred citation: Mary Cowden Clarke manuscript material : 22 items, Carl H. Pforzheimer Collection of Shelley and His Circle, The New York Public Library

Creator History

Mary Cowden Clarke, English literary scholar and writer. She was the eldest daughter of musician Vincent Novello, through whom she met some of the most prominent authors of Romantic period, including John Keats, Mary Shelley, and Charles and Mary Lamb. It was the Lambs' Tales from Shakespeare (1807) that ignited in her a lifelong passion for the works of the Bard of Avon. Along with her husband, Charles Cowden Clarke, she published various books and essays related to Shakespeare throughout her life.
Scope and Content Note

· Holograph essay signed, in the form of a letter to the Editor of "The Illustrated London News" : 7 Nov 1895 : (S'ANA 0010) : 10 leaves, stitched together at top left corner : an article on John Keats, recalling her personal encounters with Keats at the home of her father, Vincent Novello, when Shelley was one of the company; also discussing Keats's poetry.

· Holograph manuscript, "Mamillius's Story" : ca. 1880 : (S'ANA 0180) : within the Three Eastern Tales manuscript volume, which also contains two stories by Charles Cowden Clarke in Mary's hand. In contemporary Italian vellum binding with gilt lettering. Shelved as *Pforz A-LU 09.

· Holograph poems, "Two sonnets, after re-perusal of 'Endymion'" : 2 Apr 1884 : (S'ANA 0702b) : both poems refer to Keats's "friend Charles."

· Transcription of Shelley poems : Mar 1876 : (S'ANA 0705) : "Three of Percy Bysshe Shelley's M.S. Poems copied out for Charles Cowden Clarke by Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley and transcribed for H. Buxton Forman by Mary Cowden Clarke, March 1876." 5 folded leaves, fastened together with red string at top left corner.

· Autograph note signed on a drawing by Queen Victoria : 13 May 1886 : (MISC 1328) : attesting her contribution of the drawing [of a hand] to a birthday album for her grand-niece Vittoria Beatrice Gigliucci; the drawing also bears a note in the hand of Charles Cowden Clarke, explaining the provenance of the drawing. Filed in Oversized Miscellaneous Manuscripts file.

· Autograph note signed : [no date] : (H'ANA 0100) : pasted onto an 1813 letter from Leigh Hunt to Charles Cowden Clarke (LH 0207); "This alludes to a hamper of fresh vegetables, which Charles sent every Saturday to the Surrey Jail for dear Leigh Hunt.".

· Autograph transcription of letter from John Saunders to herself : 13 Apr 1847 : (S'ANA 0555) : 4 pages (double sheet) : [no place] : begins, "I have just heard from Mr. Clarke (Darlington) and as if to enhance the altogether gratifying circumstances attending the commencement of our acquaintance he is just about to do me a great service ..."; line-by-line copy in a neater hand, apparently to improve legibility, underneath each line, written directly on the original manuscript letter. Filed under "Saunders."

· To Charles E. Flower, brewer and writer on Shakespeare : 1 autograph letter signed : 13 Oct 1887 : (S'ANA 0261) : thanking him for the copy of his Shakespeare on Horseback, and for quoting her husband in it.

· To Harry Buxton Forman, bibliographer and forger : 9 autograph letters signed : 29 Apr 1877 - 30 Jul 1896 : (S'ANA 0695-0703) : including printed announcements of the deaths of Charles Cowden Clarke and J. Alfred Novello ; and a prospectus to the Clarkes's Shakespeare Key. Housed together in blue cloth folder with the bookplate of Maurice Buxton Forman.

· To "My dearest Sib" : 1 autograph letter signed : 25 Jul 1875 : (S'ANA 0939a) : on family gossip and news. Probably to her sister, Sabilla Novello.

· To H. B. Peacock, Manchester magazine editor : 3 autograph letters signed : 22 Sep 1845 -- 25 May 1847 : (S'ANA 0191-0192) (S'ANA 0554) : including an account of a performance of Johnson's "Every Man in His Humour," with Charles Dickens, John Forster, Mark Lemon, Douglas Jerrold, and Henry Mayhew in the cast (S'ANA 0191).
· To Thomas Pickering, friend of the Novellos and the Cowden Clarkes : 13 Feb 1856 : (S'ANA 0746) : on a forthcoming farewell lecture tour to be undertaken by her husband before their leaving England for Nice.

· To a Mrs. Wright : 1 autograph letter signed : 14 Jul 1885 : (S'ANA 0939b) : accepting an invitation on behalf of herself and her sister Sabilla.

Key Terms

Subjects
Authors, English -- 19th century -- Correspondence
English essays -- 19th century -- Manuscripts -- Specimens
English poetry -- 19th century -- Manuscripts -- Specimens
Short stories, English -- 19th century -- Manuscripts -- Specimens

Titles
Clarke, Mary Cowden : manuscript material

Names
Clarke, Charles Cowden, 1787-1877
Clarke, Mary Cowden, 1809-1898
Flower, C. E. (Charles Edward), 1830-1892
Forman, H. Buxton (Harry Buxton), 1842-1917
Keats, John, 1795-1821
Keats, John, 1795-1821. Endymion
Novello, Sabilla, -1904
Peacock, H. B., 1801-1876