



The New York Public Library
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

Langdon Mitchell letters to Dorothy Thomas

1917-1935

MssCol 17780

Summary

Creator: Mitchell, Langdon Elwyn, 1862-1935

Title: Langdon Mitchell letters to Dorothy Thomas

Date: 1917-1935

Size: .2 linear feet (1 box)

Abstract: Langdon Elwyn Mitchell (1862-1935), American poet and playwright, used the pseudonym John Philip Varley. His best-known plays were *Becky Sharp* (1899) and *The New York Idea* (1906). He taught playwriting at the University of Pennsylvania from 1928 to 1930. His father was S. Weir Mitchell, neurologist and author. Approximately forty letters, 1917-1935, from Langdon Mitchell to Dorothy Thomas, a daughter of a family friend who became his lover when he was 55 and she 22. Most of the collection consists of love letters expressing his longing and devotion. The letters also contain a few mentions of his writing, and his encouragement of her own literary efforts. The original letters are supplemented by typed transcripts made by Thomas. A transcript of a letter from Charles Hanson Towne to Mitchell with comments on Thomas' writing is also present.

Access: Advance notice required.

Preferred citation: Langdon Mitchell letters to Dorothy Thomas, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

Creator History

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Scope and Content Note

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Key Terms

Subjects

Love-letters

Names

Mitchell, Langdon Elwyn, 1862-1935

Thomas, Dorothy