

THE NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY  
RARE BOOKS AND MANUSCRIPTS DIVISION  
ACCESSION SHEET

Accession # \*86 M 16

Location Annex  
5-f-1 (R)

Title Alice H. Donlevy Papers

Approximate inclusive dates 1860 - 1911

Bulk dates 1875 - 1905

Date of receipt June 1914

Received from Alice H. Donlevy

Volume on arrival

Number of boxes (after reboxing) 8 AB, 1 oversize folder; 3.5 l.f.

Condition fair (most correspondence in good condition/ some printed matter quite brittle)

Restrictions none

Description Alice H. Donlevy (1846-1929) was an artist and an advocate of Industrial Art Education in the schools. Donlevy worked as a painter and illustrator and wrote and lectured on the art of illumination. She was also a weaver and exhibited her tapestries at the Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893.

In 1867 Donlevy became a founding member of the Ladies' Art Association and subsequently served as their recording secretary and as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee. The Ladies' Art Association worked to promote industrial and applied art and design education in the schools and to promote the interests of women artists. The Association held classes, provided studio space and exhibited women's art.

Donlevy also worked with the Woman's South African League and the Woman's Auxiliary League of the Boer Relief Fund. Both of these organizations were engaged in raising money for Boer victims and prisoners of war during the Boer War and in promoting the Boer cause in the world.

Donlevy also served as the Secretary of the Woman's Memorial Fund which was formed to complete two statues - one of Susan B. Anthony and one of Mary Hamilton Schuyler. The statues were to be exhibited at the 1893 Columbian Exposition in Chicago and were to represent "Woman as Reformer" and "Woman as Philanthropist".

The papers of Alice Donlevy span the years 1860-1911 and contain personal correspondence and writings and papers, correspondence and ephemera relating to Donlevy's involvement in the Ladies' Art Association, the Woman's Memorial Fund, the Woman's Auxiliary League of the Boer Relief Fund and the Woman's South African League.

The correspondence (1860-1889) is made up of letters to Donlevy, many of them addressed to her in her capacity as secretary of the Ladies' Art Association. These letters pertain to arrangements for classes, lectures, exhibits, studio space and other programs sponsored by the

Special Formats  Photographs  Maps  Audio Tapes  Films  Graphics  
 Artifacts  Machine-readable records  
 Other (list) A watercolor sketch

NOTE: one photograph only (of E. V. Richards)

Temporary catalog card added entries

See attached list

Accessioned by FP

Date 3/12/86

Association. Some of the letters, both personal and Association related, offer interesting documentation of the lives of women in the latter part of the 19th century. There are descriptions of daily life and of frustrations with the social constraints and conventions which confronted women in general and women artists in particular. Correspondence related to the Woman's Memorial Fund Association includes several letters from Susan B. Anthony and a series of letters regarding legal proceedings on the Mary Hamilton Schuyler statue. The correspondence also includes letters related to Donlevy's Boer Relief activities and discussing the conditions of Boer prisoners of war in Bermuda and South Africa. Other correspondents in this series not already noted include Clara Barton (2 letters), L.A. Bradbury, Samuel Gompers (1 letter), Carl Guthertz, Isabel F. Hapgood, John A. Hassell, J. Scott Hartley, C.E. and A.C. Kihn, E. Myers and Frances Willard (1 letter).

Papers of the Ladies' Art Association (1867-1900) include correspondence, the Association's Constitution, annual reports, committee reports, financial records, minutes of monthly meetings (all with gaps), records of contributions, printed matter consisting of the Association's own brochures, programs, tickets, schedules of classes, etc. and also printed matter of a similar nature from related organizations. Twelve notebooks (1875-1894) include records of accounts, classes and paintings borrowed for exhibits.

The Woman's Memorial Fund papers (1889-1895) include correspondence, legal papers and printed matter relating to the completion of two statues for the Columbian Exposition of 1893. The legal papers relate to legal proceedings by the Schutler family to prohibit the exhibition of Mary Hamilton Schuyler's statue.

Material related to the Woman's Auxiliary League of the Boer Relief Fund and the Woman's South African League (c. 1900-1903) includes correspondence, printed matter, the notebook of Eliza Verplanck Richards (president of the Woman's South African League) and a photograph of her. The correspondence in this series is mainly that of Jessie Fara, secretary of both organizations. (There are also a few letters in the notebook of E.V. Richards). It includes general correspondence, letters regarding the condition of Boer prisoners and a series of letters from G.D. Joubert from Argentina where he was attempting to organize a Boer colony. Printed matter includes programs of fundraising events, brochures and newsclippings. Other papers include lists of patrons and donations, petitions and records of relief packages sent overseas for Boer prisoners and refugees.

Alice H. Donlevy Papers

Box Number	Contents
1	<u>Correspondence (Letters to Alice Donlevy)</u> 1860 - 1890
2	1891 - 1902
3	1903 - 1911; undated
4	<u>Ladies' Art Association</u> Papers 1867 - 1900
5	Printed Matter Notebooks (12 volumes)
6	<u>Woman's Memorial Fund</u> Papers 1889 - 1895
7	<u>Woman's Auxiliary League of the Boer Relief Fund and</u> <u>The Woman's South African League</u> Jessie Fara Correspondence 1892 - 1906
8	Jessie Fara Correspondence undated Papers c. 1900 - 1903 Notebook of Eliza Verplanck Richards Photographs
Oversize folder	Writings of Alice Donlevy Miscellaneous notes Watercolor sketch of Afrikaner house by Miss Outerbridge