



A GUIDE TO THE
ORIGINAL MANUSCRIPTS OF THE CONTENTS OF
THE KEEPSAKE
FOR 1831

IN THE HANDWRITING
OF THE SEVERAL AUTHORS

A MANUSCRIPT ALBUM IN THE PFORZHEIMER COLLECTION



COMPILED BY

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The New York Public Library

THE CARL H. PFORZHEIMER COLLECTION OF SHELLEY AND HIS CIRCLE

Table of Contents

Summary	4
The Pforzheimer Collection.....	5
Contents.....	6

A Guide to The Keepsake for 1831 Manuscript Album in the Pforzheimer Collection

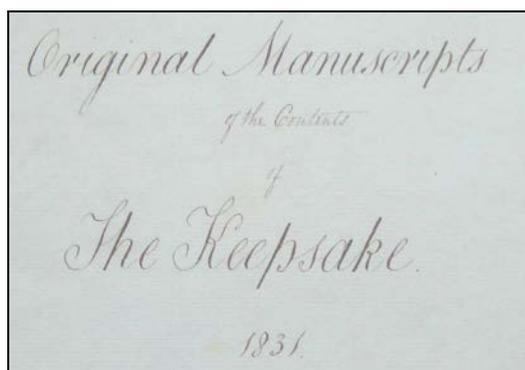
Associated NYPL Catalog record:	Original manuscripts of the contents of The Keepsake, 1831. : In the handwriting of the several authors [manuscript album].
Size:	1 volume (230 leaves); 26 cm.
Date range:	ca. 1825-1830
Abstract:	A collection of twenty-two literary manuscripts by various writers, comprising nearly half of the content of The Keepsake for MDCCCXXXI.
Access:	Admission to the Pforzheimer Collection is granted through application. Please direct e-mail inquiries to pforzref@nypl.org .
Citation:	The Carl H. Pforzheimer Collection of Shelley and His Circle – The New York Public Library – Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations.

19 Jul 2011

Summary

The Keepsake was an anthology of poetry and short stories, published annually in London from 1828 to 1857. Illustrated with fine copper engravings and festively bound (early issues in bright red watered silk), the annual was sold during Christmastime, often given as a gift. *The Keepsake* featured works by some of the most prominent writers of the era, including Wordsworth, Coleridge, and Mary Shelley. Several of Mary Shelley's short stories were first published in *The Keepsake*, credited to "The Author of Frankenstein."

The New York Public Library holds the entire run of *The Keepsake*, some issues in multiple copies. In the Library's Carl H. Pforzheimer Collection of Shelley and His Circle is an album which contains the original manuscripts of nearly half of the pieces published in the 1831 issue of *The Keepsake*.¹ Among the contents of the twenty-two manuscripts within the album are, by Lady Blessington, a prose fragment ("Remorse"); by L.E.L., a poem ("Legendary Fragments"); and by Mary Shelley, two short stories ("Transformation" and "The Swiss Peasant"), and two autograph letters to *Keepsake* editor Frederic Mansel Reynolds.



From the manuscript title-page, in an unidentified hand.

¹ Also held by the Pforzheimer Collection is a separate manuscript album of literary submissions to *The Keepsake*, some of which were published and some not, from the 1830's and 1840's.

The Pforzheimer Collection

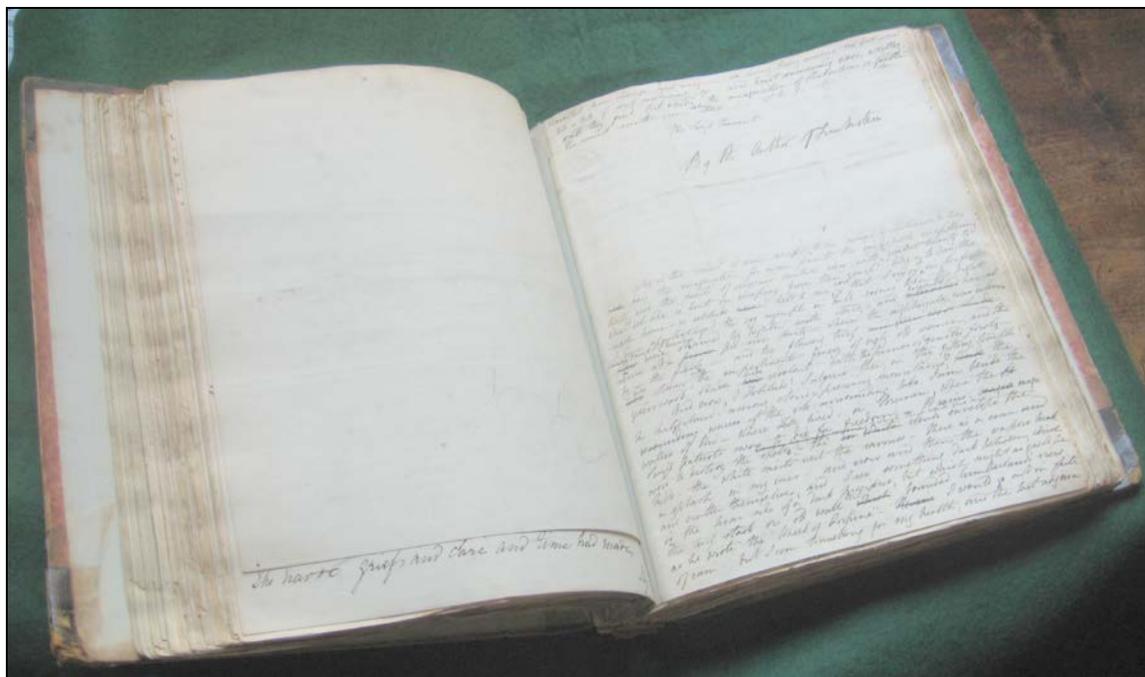
The Carl H. Pforzheimer Collection of Shelley and His Circle is one of the world's leading repositories for the study of British Romanticism. Comprising over 20,000 items, the collection is conceptually centered on the life and works of the poet Percy Bysshe Shelley and his friends, relatives, and contemporaries. Formerly a part of the much larger and now dispersed Pforzheimer Library, the Pforzheimer Collection came to The New York Public Library in 1986.

Contents

CALL NUMBER	AUTHOR	ITEM
(S'ANA 1074a)	Dover, George Agar Ellis, Baron, 1797-1833.	· Holograph article, "Chesterfield & Fanny" : [watermark = 1828] : 21 p. (21 leaves) : on the liaison of Lord Chesterfield and Lady Fanny Shirley; begins, "It must be a sad disappointment to those, who delight in the gossip of the olden time, as it relates to English Society, to find how little of this kind of information has come down to us ..."
(MWS 0381)	Shelley, Mary Wollstonecraft, 1797-1851.	· Holograph story, "Transformation" : [watermark = 1830] : 31 p. (16 leaves) : begins, "I have heard it said, that, when any supernatural, strange, and necromantic adventure has occurred to a human being, that that being, however desirous they he may be to conceal the same, feels and at certain periods torn up, as it were, by an intellectual earthquake ..."
(S'ANA 1074b)	Lover, Samuel, 1797-1868.	· Holograph story, "Twice Lost, but Saved. By the O'Hara Family" : [ca. 1830] : 29 p. (28 leaves) : begins, "Perhaps there is no country so little susceptible, generally speaking, of public sensations as England ..."
(S'ANA 1074c)	C., L----x.	· Holograph poem, "Faith" : [ca. 1830] : 2 p. (1 leaf) : translation from the German of a poem by Friedrich von Matthisson; begins, "The touch of fate our holiest joys may blight ..."
(S'ANA 1074d)	[?]	· Story, "The Coward" : [watermark = 1829] : 23 p. (12 leaves) : with the

subtitle, "A Tale of the time of Charles 1st, lately discovered among the MSS belonging to the family"; begins, "The authenticity of the following tale may be questioned because I therein Criminate myself ..."; leaf 1 has been partially torn and carefully stitched back together with thread.

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| (S'ANA 1074e) | [?] | · Story, "The Two Brothers" : [watermark = 1828] : 23 p. (12 leaves) : begins, "It is much to be lamented, that we form too decided and hasty judgments of character upon slights [sic] grounds ..." |
| (S'ANA 1074f) | [?] | · Poem, "Nestor and Tydides" : [watermark = 1829] : 2 p. (1 leaf) : copied in the hand of F. Mansel Reynolds; begins, "The reverend charioteer directs the course ..." |
| (S'ANA 1074g) | Ravensworth, Henry Thomas Liddell, Earl of, 1797-1878. | · Holograph poem, "Stanzas" : [ca. 1830] : 3 p. (2 leaves) : begins, "At times in summer hours are seen / Light clouds, by viewless currents driven ..." |
| (S'ANA 1074h) | Carlisle, George William Frederick Howard, Earl of, 1802-1864. | · Holograph story, "A Story of Modern Honor" : [watermark = 1829] : 13 p. (7 leaves) : begins, "I was well acquainted with two young men who made their first appearance in the society of London at about the same period ..." |
| (S'ANA 1074i) | C., L----x. | · Holograph poem, "Chorus of Virgins at the Tomb of Julia Alpinula" : [watermark = 1828] : 5 p. (3 leaves) : epigraph from F. Von Matthisson; poem begins, "Hither, ye virgins come! For here are laid / The relics of the broken hearted maid ..." |



"The Swiss Peasant," by Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley

- (MWS 0382) Shelley, Mary Wollstonecraft, 1797-1851. · Holograph story, "The Swiss Peasant" : [ca. Jul 1830] : 21 p. (12 leaves) : begins, "Why is the mind of man so apt to be swayed by contraries?" Contained within three postmarked letters to Frederick Mansell Reynolds (MWS 0342-0344).
- (S'ANA 1074j) Blessington, Marguerite, Countess of, 1789-1849. · Holograph story, "Remorse, a Fragment" : [ca. 1830] : 12 p. (6 leaves) : epigraph, "No weapon can such deadly wounds impart / As conscience roused, inflicts upon the heart." Story begins, "Postilion, cried a feeble but sweet voice ..."
- (S'ANA 1074k) M----, E----, Lady. · Holograph poem, "To a Lady Singing" : [ca. 1830] : 1 p. (1 leaf) : begins, "The Music Springs from thy calm breast / Like Venus from the Sea ..."

- (S'ANA 1074L) Carne, John, 1789-1844. · Holograph story, "The dead and the living husband" : [watermark = 1829] : 8 p. (4 leaves) : begins, "It is said, that there are realities in life, more sad & wild than the boldest inventions of fancy ..."
- (S'ANA 1074m) L. E. L. (Letitia Elizabeth Landon), 1802-1838 · Holograph poem, "Legendary Fragments" : [ca. 1830] : 6 p. (6 leaves) : lengthy motto begins, "The Lady turned her weary from a world..."; poem begins, "And meet we thus again he said / And meet we thus again ..."
- (S'ANA 1074n) Nugent, George Nugent Grenville, Baron, 1788-1850. · Holograph story, "Mrs. Allington's Pic Nic" : [watermark = 1825] : 17 p. (9 leaves) : epigraph from Macbeth, "Thou hast a speculation in thine eyes." Story begins, "Shall I own it at once, and at starting? Yes I will."
- (S'ANA 1074o) Reynolds, Frederic Mansel, d. 1850. · Holograph poem, "Moral song" : [watermark = 1830] : 4 p. (2 leaves) : motto, "Vanitas vaniatum et omnia vanitas." Poem begins, "Though at certain times exempt / Don't indulge in those that tempt."
- (S'ANA 1074p) Bernal, Ralph, 1783-1854. · Holograph story, "Saumur, a Tale of Real Life" : [watermark = 1828] : 39 p. (20 leaves) : begins, "France! la belle France! how delightful are thy skies ..."
- (S'ANA 1074q) Hook, Theodore Edward, 1788-1841. · Holograph story, "The Brighton Coach" : [watermark = 1830] : 21 p. (21 leaves) : begins, "I was once in my life placed in a situation of peculiar embarrassment ..."
- (S'ANA 1074r) Howden, John Hobart Caradoc, Baron, 1799-1873. · Holograph poem, "Written on the wall of the Alhambra at Granada, May 1820" : [watermark = 1828] : 3 p. (2 leaves) : begins, "Land of the

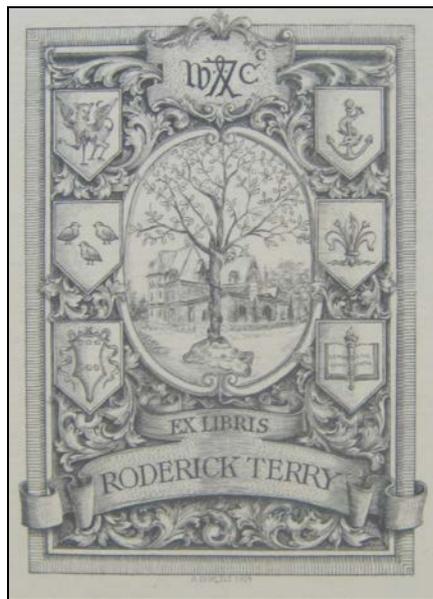
raven brow, and eagle glance, / of glowing deeds, and beauty, and romance ..."

(S'ANA 1074s) Phipps, Charles Beaumont, Sir, 1801-1866.

· Holograph story, "Arthur Chamberlayne, or The Secret" : [watermark = 1829] : 19 p. (19 leaves) : begins, "It is at all times difficult for a man to be his own historian."

(S'ANA 1074t) [?]

· Manuscript story, "The ~~Welsh~~ Orphan Boy of Pontneathvaughn" : [ca. 1830] : 22 p. (12 leaves) : begins, "Short and simple are the annals of the poor." Followed by the galley proof of the story (4 p.), with ink alterations and corrections.



*The book-plate of the Rev. Dr. Roderick T. Terry,
of Newport, Rhode Island.*