



A GUIDE TO THE

PERCY FLORENCE SHELLEY

MANUSCRIPT MATERIAL

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

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Identification	Sir Percy Florence Shelley (1819-1889), third baronet, son of Percy Bysshe Shelley, the poet, and Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley, the novelist.
Associated NYPL catalog record	Percy Florence Shelley manuscript material
Size	46 items
Date range	1830-1886
Preferred citation	The Carl H. Pforzheimer Collection of Shelley and His Circle – The New York Public Library – Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations.
Access	Access is granted by Pforzheimer Collection staff.

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.

Holdings and provenance

This guide lists and describes manuscript material held by the Pforzheimer Collection that was created by Percy Florence Shelley. These items have been acquired throughout the history of the Collection, and are kept at the New York Public Library.

The first Percy Florence Shelley letter added to the Collection was the one to “Charles” (surname unidentified), which was purchased at the sale of the stock of the late George D. Smith in May of 1920. Sporadic accession of Percy Florence Shelley manuscripts continued over the next several decades, leading to the accumulation of a dozen by the time of the death of Carl H. Pforzheimer I in 1957.

In the following years, under the auspices of the Pforzheimer Library, the Collection acquired several Percy Florence Shelley manuscripts, including the letter he wrote on his eleventh birthday to his grandfather, Sir Timothy Shelley. Since the Collection's move to the New York Public Library in 1986, thirteen Percy Florence Shelley manuscripts have been accessioned, including the bound collection of those to Claire Clairmont.

Related materials

In addition to manuscripts in the hand of Percy Florence Shelley, the Pforzheimer Collection also holds letters to him by his mother, Mary Shelley, as well as by Leigh Hunt and Gustav Doré. Also held is his [Album Orné](#), full of artwork by his friends, some pieces possibly being his; and a copy, in a scribal hand, of a legal document "Release of freehold hereditals called Coakham Farm at Westerham & Edenbridge Kent" (S'ANA 0072), to George Holmden, dated 21 Nov 1845. Two printed music-related works by Percy Florence Shelley are held ([Lord Bateman at Home](#), a burletta arranged by him; and [Words of the Songs in Carlmilhan](#)), as are several books formerly owned him.

Additional Percy Florence Shelley manuscript material at the New York Public Library can be found in the George Arents Collection and the Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature.

Arrangement

This guide considers the Percy Florence Shelley manuscript material in the Pforzheimer Collection in two series: Series I, Writings; and Series II, Correspondence. The correspondence is listed alphabetically, by recipient.

Scope and content

The Percy Florence Shelley manuscript material in the Pforzheimer Collection consists of writings and correspondence. The writings include two holograph poems, "Giovanni at Putney" and "Song of Venus to the Ground Shark." The bulk of the correspondence is dated between 1862 and 1886. Correspondents include: Claire Clairmont, of the Shelley circle (his mother's step-sister); Leigh Hunt, poet, journalist and critic; Sir Timothy Shelley, second baronet (his grandfather); T. J. Wise, book collector and forger; and over a dozen others.

Series I: Writings

LOCATION	ITEM	REFERENCES
<i>*Pforz 558L 08</i>	· Holograph poems, "Giovanni at Putney" and "Song of Venus to the Ground Shark" : [no date] : (S'ANA 1060) : 2 pages (single sheet) : [no place] : beginning, "Don Giovanni sits within his hall / And music sounds about ..." and "I walked on a river's bank / And Cupid trotted to my side ...," respectively. Mounted in the Album of Letters of Sir Percy and Mary Shelley to Claire Clairmont.	

Series II: Correspondence

LOCATION	ITEM	REFERENCES
	· To "Dear Charles" :	
<i>SC File</i>	— 1 autograph letter signed : 15 Feb 1847 : (S'ANA 0073) : 3 pages (double sheet) : from 24 Chester Square : begins, "The moment you come to town I have to leave it. I am going tomorrow to St. Leonard's"	
	· To Claire Clairmont , of the Shelley circle (his mother's step-sister):	
<i>*Pforz 558L 08</i>	— 1 autograph letter signed : 29 Nov 1838 : (S'ANA 1050) : 4 pages (double sheet) : from Camb[ridge] Trin[ity] Coll[ege] : begins, "Your letters come seldom, but business, I suppose" Mounted in the Album of Letters of Sir Percy and Mary Shelley to Claire Clairmont.	
<i>*Pforz 558L 08</i>	— 1 autograph letter signed : 4 Feb 1839 : (S'ANA 1051) : 3 pages (double sheet) : from Camb[ridge] : begins, "I am sorry if you dislike my writing, however you must write and tell me so if you do" Mounted in the Album of Letters of Sir Percy and Mary Shelley to Claire Clairmont.	
<i>*Pforz 558L 08</i>	— 1 autograph letter signed : 12 Aug 1842 : (S'ANA 1052) : 3 pages (double sheet) : from Dresden : begins, "I have not written to you for ever so long and now that I do I will commence with a bit of advice" With an autograph letter to Clairmont from Mary Shelley on page 4 of the double sheet (MWS 0412). Mounted in the Album of Letters of Sir Percy and Mary Shelley to Claire Clairmont.	
<i>*Pforz 558L 08</i>	— 1 autograph letter signed : 27 Oct 1842 : (S'ANA 1053) : 4 pages (double sheet) : from Florence : begins, "I thought I remembered distinctly writing a letter to you since the one I got from you at Dresden" Mounted in the Album of Letters of Sir Percy and Mary Shelley to Claire Clairmont.	
<i>*Pforz 558L 08</i>	— 1 autograph letter signed : 23 Jan [no year] : (S'ANA 1054) : 2	

pages (double sheet) : [no place] : begins, "I am very much obliged to you for the delicate attention of the rug" With an autograph letter to Clairmont from Mary Shelley on pages 3-4 of the double sheet (MWS 0413). Mounted in the Album of Letters of Sir Percy and Mary Shelley to Claire Clairmont.

- *Pforz 558L 08* — 1 autograph letter signed : 13 Aug 1846 : (S'ANA 1055) : 4 pages (double sheet) : from Cowes : begins, "Very kind of you to write to me. It is with very mingled feelings I look at the letters that people bring in from the Post" Mounted in the Album of Letters of Sir Percy and Mary Shelley to Claire Clairmont.
- *Pforz 558L 08* — 1 autograph letter signed : 4 Dec 1848 : (S'ANA 1056) : 3 pages (double sheet) : from 77 Warwick Square, Pimlico : begins, "The madre has been so unwell these last few days – with the tic in her head – for her illness seems to change very frequently and oddly – that she cannot write to answer your note" Mounted in the Album of Letters of Sir Percy and Mary Shelley to Claire Clairmont.
- *Pforz 558L 08* — 1 autograph letter signed : 26 Jan 1849 : (S'ANA 1057) : 3 pages (double sheet) : from Field Place : begins, "You will see that we have got back to Field Place – and both ladies are very well" Mounted in the Album of Letters of Sir Percy and Mary Shelley to Claire Clairmont.
- *Pforz 558L 08* — 1 autograph letter signed : 8 Mar 1849 : (S'ANA 1058) : 4 pages (double sheet) : [no place] : begins, "I will call on Robinson as soon as I can, but we are in such a bother now, trying to get out of this dreadful hotel" Mounted in the Album of Letters of Sir Percy and Mary Shelley to Claire Clairmont.
- *Pforz 558L 08* — 1 autograph letter signed : 10 Mar 1849 : (S'ANA 1059) : 3 pages (double sheet) : from 25 Upper Seymour Street, Portman Square : begins, "I went today to Robinson. You never told me which King William Street" Mounted in the Album of Letters of Sir Percy and Mary Shelley to Claire Clairmont.

· To **Mary Cowden Clarke**, literary scholar and writer :

SC File — 1 autograph addressed envelope (empty) : 31 Mar 1879 (London postmark) : (S'ANA 0079b) : with postmarks from Genova, Italy dated 1 and 2 Apr 1879.

SC File — 1 autograph letter signed : 17 Feb 1880 : (S'ANA 0079a) : 4 pages (double sheet) : from Shelley House, Chelsea Embankment, S.W. (embossed stationery) : begins, "I thank you very much for the copy of the index to the Shakespeare Key which reached me safely"

· To **Percy Hetherington Fitzgerald**, author and critic :

SC File — 1 autograph letter signed : 10 Sep 1886 : (S'ANA 0758) : 3 ½ pages (double sheet) : from Boscombe Manor, Bournemouth, Hants. (embossed stationery) : begins, "I enclose the proofs which arrived here an hour ago – and which both my wife and I have read with much interest"

· To **Charlotte Emma French** (née Bennet), wife of Col. Patrick French, M.P., and former pupil of Claire Clairmont :

SC File — 1 autograph letter signed : 28 Apr 1873 : (S'ANA 0302) : 2 pages (double sheet) : from Boscombe Place, Bournemouth, Hants. (embossed stationery) : begins, "I shall be very glad indeed to see you again -- and my wife and self will call at Warwick Square very soon after you arrive in London"

· To **Frederick James Furnivall**, textual scholar and editor :

SC File — 1 autograph letter signed : 27 May 1886 : (S'ANA 0080) : 2 ½ pages (double sheet) : from 19, Wetherby Gardens, S.W. (embossed stationery) : begins, "I shall be very glad to lend you the 2 works you wish to reprint"

SC File — 1 autograph letter signed : 2 Jun 1886 : (S'ANA 0081) : 1 page (single sheet) : from 19, Wetherby Gardens, S.W. (embossed stationery) : begins, "I do not think there would be any objection to letters already published (and of which I have the copyright) being added to the proposed reprint"

SC File — 1 autograph letter signed : 19 Sep 1886 : (S'ANA 0084) : 2 ⅔ pages (double sheet) : from Boscombe Manor,

Bournemouth, Hants. (embossed stationery) : begins, "I have been considering this morning how to manage about this copy of the letter to Lord Ellenborough"; with some annotations in Furnivall's hand.

· To **Leigh Hunt**, poet, journalist and critic :

SC File — 1 autograph letter signed : 6 Feb 1851 : (S'ANA 0074) : 3 pages (double sheet) : from 24 Chester Square : begins, "I am sure that you will be much grieved to hear that my dear mother died last Saturday night"; with mourning border.

· To **Thornton Leigh Hunt**, journalist, son of Leigh Hunt :

SC File — 1 autograph letter signed : 25 Sep 1859 : (S'ANA 0075) : 2 pages (double sheet) : from North Leasowes, Malvern : begins, "I have the pleasure to enclose a cheque for £30"

SC File — 1 autograph letter signed : 9 Aug 1861 : (S'ANA 0891) : 2 ½ pages (double sheet) : from R[oyal] Y[acht] S[quadron] Flirt, Cowes : begins, "I had forgotten your address – but meant to find you when I should go to London"

SC File — 1 autograph letter signed : 7 Mar 1862 : (S'ANA 0076) : 2 ⅓ pages : from 103, Victoria Street S.W. (embossed stationery) : begins, "Thank you very much for the copy of your book"

SC File — 1 autograph letter signed : 11 Mar 1862 : (S'ANA 0077) : 2 pages (double sheet) : from 103, Victoria Street S.W. (embossed stationery) : begins, "I write in the hope that this may reach you before you have found your opportunity of sending back the letters"

· To **Charles Kent**, writer and journalist :

SC File — 1 autograph letter signed : 20 Feb 1882 : (S'ANA 1102) : 2 pages (single sheet) : from Shelley House, Chelsea Embankment. S.W. (embossed card) : begins, "I could see you here tomorrow at two o'clock and add my name to the signatures of the memorial ..."; with the stamped, postmarked envelope with embossed address on seal flap.

· To **Alma Murray** [married name Forman], actress :

SC File

- 1 autograph letter signed : 6 Sep 1886 : (S'ANA 0541) : 2 pages (double sheet; most of second sheet cut away) : from Boscombe Manor, Bournemouth, Hants. (embossed stationery) : begins, "Lady Shelley is charmed with the portrait and we both think it is an admirable photograph, though, as you say, the dagger does not quite tell its story"

· To **J. S. Oxley**, Esq. :

SC File

- 1 autograph letter signed (copy) : 28 Feb 1866 : (S'ANA 0078j) : 4 pages (double sheet) : from Boscombe, Ringwood, Hants. : begins, "When I requested Mr. Stedman to let me know whether it was likely that you would buy my land at Worth I did not expect to have the agreement to purchase signed at once ..."; with mourning border; enclosed with letter of the same date to William Stedman (see below).

· To **James Bertrand Payne**, manager of Edward Moxon & Co. publishing firm :

**Pforz 558L 07*

- 1 autograph letter signed : 8 Oct 1866 : (S'ANA 0126) : 4 pages (double sheet) : from Boscombe, Ringwood, Hants. (embossed stationery; "Ringwood" in manuscript, replacing embossed "Christchurch," cancelled) : begins, "We shall be very glad to see you here ..."; including, "I do not think that the public are at all anxious at this moment for a life of my father" Mounted in the Whitall-Clawson album of Shelleyana.

· To **George Peile**, Esq. :

SC File

- 1 autograph letter signed : 18 Apr 1867 : (S'ANA 0619) : 2 ²/₃ pages (double sheet) : from Boscombe, Ringwood, Hants. (embossed stationery) : begins, "Messrs. [Humbart?] have forwarded to me a letter from you enquiring about a lithograph of my father's portrait just printed by them"

· To **Sir Timothy Shelley**, second baronet (his grandfather) :

SC File

- 1 autograph letter signed : 12 Nov 1830 : (S'ANA 0550) : 2 pages (single sheet) : from 33 Somerset St. : begins, "I am

very much obliged to you for your kindness in thinking of your little grandson, and in sending me a fine bright sovereign"

· To **William Stedman**, Horsham solicitor :

- *Pforz*
- 1 autograph letter signed : 7 Feb 1851 : (S'ANA 1020) : 1 ½ pages (double sheet) : from 24 Chester Square ["Boscombe Lodge, Christchurch, Hants" added in what might be Lady Shelley's hand] : on the death of Mary Shelley; begins, "You will have heard before this of the grievous calamity that has befallen me; with mourning border. The letter is framed behind glass, with ½ page postscript on page 2 of the 4-page lettersheet obscured; postscript reads: "Of course you will be / good enough to make / the payments to my name / only for the future. / Pray remember me kindly / to Mrs Stedman."
- SC File*
- 1 autograph letter signed : 7 Dec 1865 : (S'ANA 0078a) : 2 ½ pages (double sheet) : from Boscombe, Ringwood, Hants. : begins, "I shall not require the lodgings at Lewes on the occasion of these next assizes .."; with a mourning border.
- SC File*
- 1 autograph letter signed : 9 Dec 1865 : (S'ANA 0078b) : 7 ½ pages (2 double sheets) : from Boscombe, Ringwood, Hants. (embossed stationery; "Ringwood" in manuscript, replacing embossed "Christchurch," cancelled) : begins, "I have now Mr. Sturgess's estimate of the value of my property at Turner's Hill &c."
- SC File*
- 1 autograph letter signed : 13 Dec 1865 : (S'ANA 0078c) : 4 pages (double sheet) : from White Hart, Lewes : begins, "I am glad to hear that you have asked Mr Oxley to call upon you"
- SC File*
- 1 autograph letter signed : 17 Dec 1865 : (S'ANA 0078d) : 4 pages (double sheet) : from Boscombe, Ringwood, Hants. (embossed stationery) : begins, "I found on my arrival here yesterday, a note from Mr Sturgess telling me that he has arranged to go over Balcombe on Wednesday"
- SC File*
- 1 autograph letter signed : 22 Feb 1866 : (S'ANA 0078e) : 6 pages (1 double sheet; 1 single sheet) : from Boscombe,

Ringwood, Hants. (embossed stationery) : begins, "Mr. Sturgess is content to finish the survey of my estate without reference to anything further"

SC File — 1 autograph letter signed : 28 Feb 1866 : (S'ANA 0078f) : 3 1/2 pages (double sheet) : from Boscombe, Ringwood, Hants. : begins, "I enclose a letter I have received from Mr Oxley. I have answered him, and send you a copy..."; with a mourning border; along with the enclosed letter copy (see above, to Oxley).

SC File — 1 autograph letter signed : 11 Mar 1866 : (S'ANA 0078g) : 1 2/3 pages (double sheet) : from Boscombe, Ringwood, Hants. (embossed stationery) : begins, "The last entry in my book is dated November 27 1865"

SC File — 1 autograph letter signed : 18 Mar 1866 : (S'ANA 0078h) : from Boscombe, Ringwood, Hants. : begins, "I have received the audit"

SC File — 1 autograph letter signed : 8 Apr 1866 : (S'ANA 0078i) : 1 2/3 pages (double sheet) : from Boscombe : begins, "I enclose an estimate of the timber marked by Mr. Sturgess"

· To **William Tegg**, publisher :

SC File — 1 autograph letter third person : 6 Feb 1862 : (S'ANA 0542) : 1 2/3 pages (double sheet) : from 103, Victoria Street S.W. (embossed stationery) : enclosing "a copy of the 'Shelley Memorials' having had notice from Mr Langford to do so"

· To the Rev. **H. G. West**, of Bournemouth :

SC File — 1 autograph letter signed : 19 Nov 1886 : (S'ANA 0611) : 2 pages (double sheet) : from Boscombe Manor, Bournemouth, Hants. (embossed stationery) : begins, "Pray accept the best & most cordial thanks of my wife & myself for your kindness for so promptly acceding to our request for a sight of the enclosed letter ..."; followed on the same lettersheet by an autograph postscript to West by Lady Shelley.

· To **W. S. Williams**, literary adviser to Smith & Elder, publishers :

SC File

- 1 autograph letter signed : 25 Sep 1859 : (S'ANA 0739) : 2 ³/₄ pages (double sheet) : from North Leasowes, Malvern : begins, "I have informed Lady Shelley that your advice to me was that the 'Shelley Memorials' should not be published till the end of October ..."; with the excised front panel of the envelope, with the postmark, and a printed memo note accomplished in a clerical hand, recording the letter's answered date as 27 Sep.

· To **T. J. Wise**, book collector and forger :

SC File

- 1 autograph letter signed : 22 Jun 1886 : (S'ANA 0082) : 2 pages (double sheet) : from Boscombe Manor, Bournemouth, Hants. (embossed stationery) : begins, "I have delayed answering your note of the 10th [?] until I returned to Boscombe. Lady Shelley will be very glad to give permission to include in your proposed volume, The Essay on Christianity"

SC File

- 1 autograph letter signed : 8 Aug 1886 : (S'ANA 0083) : 3 pages (double sheet) : from Boscombe Manor, Bournemouth, Hants. (embossed stationery) : begins, "Nothing could be more satisfactory than the conditions you suggest, if it were possible for me at this moment to comply with your request"

· To an unidentified recipient :

SC File

- 1 autograph letter signed to "My dear Sir" : 2 Apr 1856 : (S'ANA 0468) : 2 pages (double sheet) : from Boscombe, Christchurch, Hants. : begins, "The cases arrived safely this morning. On looking over the instructions I find that it is recommended that the positive proof immediately after printing should be placed in a bath of hyposulphite of soda"

Call number index

	Call number	Item
1	(S'ANA 0073)	ALS to Charles [?], 15 Feb 1847
2	(S'ANA 0074)	ALS to Leigh Hunt, 6 Feb 1851
3	(S'ANA 0075)	ALS to Thornton Hunt, 25 Sep 1859
4	(S'ANA 0076)	ALS to Thornton Hunt, 7 Mar 1862
5	(S'ANA 0077)	ALS to Thornton Hunt, 11 Mar 1862
6	(S'ANA 0078a)	ALS to William Stedman, 7 Dec 1865
7	(S'ANA 0078b)	ALS to William Stedman, 9 Dec 1865
8	(S'ANA 0078c)	ALS to William Stedman, 13 Dec 1865
9	(S'ANA 0078d)	ALS to William Stedman, 17 Dec 1865
10	(S'ANA 0078e)	ALS to William Stedman, 22 Feb 1866
11	(S'ANA 0078f)	ALS to William Stedman, 28 Feb 1866
12	(S'ANA 0078g)	ALS to William Stedman, 11 Mar 1866
13	(S'ANA 0078h)	ALS to William Stedman, 18 Mar 1866
14	(S'ANA 0078i)	ALS to William Stedman, 8 Apr 1866
15	(S'ANA 0088j)	ALS (copy) to J. S. Oxley, 28 Feb 1866
16	(S'ANA 0079a)	ALS to Mary Cowden Clarke, 17 Feb 1880
17	(S'ANA 0079b)	Envelope to Mary Cowden Clarke, 31 Mar 1879
18	(S'ANA 0080)	ALS to F. J. Furnivall, 27 May 1886
19	(S'ANA 0081)	ALS to F. J. Furnivall, 2 Jun 1886
20	(S'ANA 0082)	ALS to T. J. Wise, 22 Jun 1886
21	(S'ANA 0083)	ALS to T. J. Wise, 8 Aug 1886
22	(S'ANA 0084)	ALS to F. J. Furnivall, 19 Sep 1886
23	(S'ANA 0126)	ALS to J. B. Payne, 8 Oct 1866
24	(S'ANA 0302)	ALS to Charlotte French, 28 Apr 1873
25	(S'ANA 0468)	ALS to [?], 2 Apr 1856
26	(S'ANA 0541)	ALS to Alma Murray, 6 Sep 1886
27	(S'ANA 0542)	ALS to William Tegg, 6 Feb 1862
28	(S'ANA 0550)	ALS to Timothy Shelley, 12 Nov 1830
29	(S'ANA 0611)	ALS to H. G. West, 19 Nov 1886
30	(S'ANA 0619)	ALS to George Peile, 18 Apr 1867
31	(S'ANA 0739)	ALS to W. S. Williams, 25 Sep 1859
32	(S'ANA 0758)	ALS to P. H. Fitzgerald, 10 Sep 1886
33	(S'ANA 0891)	ALS to Thornton Hunt, 9 Aug 1861
34	(S'ANA 1020)	ALS to William Stedman, 7 Feb 1851
35	(S'ANA 1050)	ALS to Claire Clairmont, 29 Nov 1838
36	(S'ANA 1051)	ALS to Claire Clairmont, 4 Feb 1839
37	(S'ANA 1052)	ALS to Claire Clairmont, 12 Aug 1842
38	(S'ANA 1053)	ALS to Claire Clairmont, 27 Oct 1842
39	(S'ANA 1054)	ALS to Claire Clairmont, 23 Jan [no year]
40	(S'ANA 1055)	ALS to Claire Clairmont, 13 Aug 1846
41	(S'ANA 1056)	ALS to Claire Clairmont, 4 Dec 1848
42	(S'ANA 1057)	ALS to Claire Clairmont, 26 Jan 1849
43	(S'ANA 1058)	ALS to Claire Clairmont, 8 Mar 1849
44	(S'ANA 1059)	ALS to Claire Clairmont, 10 Mar 1849
45	(S'ANA 1060)	Poems, "Giovanni at Putney" and "Song of Venus to the Ground Shark," [no date]
46	(S'ANA 1102)	ALS to Charles Kent, 20 Feb 1882