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**Summary**

**Main Entry:** Elizabeth Oakes Smith  
**Title:** Papers, 1834-1893 (bulk dates 1849-1891)  
**Size:** 1.7 linear ft. (3FB, 1 vol., 1 clamshell box)  
**Source:** Purchased from Miss Geraldine Oaksmith, 1935; purchased from James Lowe Autographs, 1 item 1993.

**Biographical Statement**  
Elizabeth Oakes (Prince) Smith (1806-1893) was an author, lyceum lecturer, and early activist on behalf of women's rights.

**Description**  
The papers document Smith's literary career as poet, playwright, journalist, and novelist; her interest and participation in various reform movements; her career as a lyceum lecturer during the 1850's; her writings and activities in support of woman suffrage and women's rights; and her friendship with prominent authors such as Ralph Waldo Emerson, Edgar Allen Poe, Horace Greeley, and William Cullen Bryant.

**Additional formats**  
The papers have been microfilmed; the film does not reflect the current arrangement and additions (master negative *ZZ-15538*). The film does not include material added in 1993 (Box 1, f. 6B).

**Special formats**  
Photographs; silhouette; pencil drawings

**Related material**  
Related collections in the New York Public Library - Manuscripts Section: Seba Smith Papers; Rare Books Section: Beadle Dime Novels


The Papers (1834-1893; 1.7 linear ft.) consist of Smith's manuscript autobiography (ca. 1885); diary for 1887; manuscripts (some incomplete and most unpublished) for several works, including: a life of George Washington, "Ralph Waldo Emerson: Or Recollections of Him", "A Calendar of the Foot-prints of Time", "Messiniello" (a play), sonnets and other poems, "Thomas Anderson: The Exile of Fayal" (a novel); clippings of her newspaper and periodical contributions; published reviews of her work; two scrapbooks of her published and unpublished writings; and a small quantity of correspondence.
BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Elizabeth Oakes (Prince) Smith was born 12 August 1806 near North Yarmouth, Me., the second of two daughters of David and Sophia (Blanchard) Prince. When Smith was two her father, a ship captain, was lost at sea. Her mother soon married a well-to-do merchant who moved the family to Portland, Me. in 1814. Despite suffering a mental breakdown at age 6, Smith was a precocious child who aspired to be a schoolteacher. Bowing, however, to her mother wishes, Smith at age 16 married, on 6 March 1823, Seba Smith, editor of the Portland Eastern Argus who was twice her age. Over the next 14 years, Smith managed a large household which eventually included five sons (Appleton, Rolvin, Alvin, Sidney, and Edward--all given the surname "Oaksmith") in addition to several printers and apprentices.

Smith was captivated by Portland's social and intellectual life. Due in part to her husband's occupation and social position, Smith was able to meet many prominent political and literary figures of the time, and she soon began contributing poems and sketches to local newspapers and periodicals. Smith was also enthusiastically followed the various reform movements of the day, joining the American Peace Society and the Unitarian Church, and attending lectures by antislavery and temperance advocates.

Seba Smith unexpectedly rose to national prominence in 1830 when his "Major Jack Downing Letters", written for his newly-founded newspaper, the Portland Courier, gained wide popularity. His land speculations, however, plunged the family into bankruptcy in 1837, forcing them to move in with relatives in Boothbay, Me. After an unsuccessful trip in 1839 to Charleston, S.C., where Seba Smith tried to interest planters in a Maine-invented cotton gin, the family moved to New York City. There Seba edited a series of short-lived journals and contributed pieces to other journals and newspapers.

In order to ease the family's financial difficulties, Smith embarked upon her own literary career. Often using the pseudonyms "Oakes Smith" and "Ernest Helfenstein", Smith contributed dozens of poems, stories, and essays to newspapers and prominent magazines such as Godey's Lady's Book, Ladies' Companion, Graham's Magazine, and the Southern Literary Messenger. With the publication of The Sinless Child, and Other Poems in 1843, Smith gained national attention and her literary career soon eclipsed that of her husband. During the 1840's Smith also published The Western Captive (1842), her first novel; The Salamander (1848), a Gothic tale based on the supernatural; several collections of poetry and children stories; and edited several gift-books. Attracted to the theatre during the late 1840's, Smith completed and staged two plays, including "Old New York" (1853). Most of her literary energies during the 1850's, however, were devoted to journalism and contributions to her husband's literary journals: The United States Magazine, Emerson's Magazine and Putnam's Monthly, and The Great Republic.

The Smiths, and especially Elizabeth, soon became prominent in New York literary and intellectual circles, counting among their friends Edgar Allan Poe, William Cullen Bryant, and
Horace Greeley. Smith also began to participate much more actively in the various reform movements to which she was attracted. An 1839 lecture by Frances Wright helped stimulate Smith's strong interest in women's rights. Smith attended the Women's Rights Convention in Seneca Falls, N.Y. in 1848 and was nearly chosen president of the second convention held in Worcester, Mass. in 1851. In the late 1840's Smith also began to advocate woman suffrage and women's rights through her journalism, and in 1851 she launched a career as one of the first female lecturers on the lyceum circuit. Until ill health restricted her travels in 1857, Smith regularly toured throughout the United States speaking on women's rights.

Her husband's declining health prompted the family to move to "The Willows", their home in Patchogue, N.Y. in 1860. There Smith began a new and successful career as an author of several "dime novels", such as Bald Eagle (1867). Smith also remained active in women's affairs, helping to form Sorosis--the first women's club in the United States--in 1868 and serve as its vice president in 1869, but she became increasingly preoccupied with religion and an interest in Roman Catholicism, though she never converted.

The death of two of her sons, followed by the death of her husband on 28 July 1868, were severe blows to Smith. She moved in with her son Alvin's family in Blue Point, NY., eventually left to become pastor of an independent congregation in Canastota, N.Y. from April to December 1877, and then moved to Hollywood, N.C. to join her son Appleton's family in 1878. During the 1870's and 1880's Smith continued to write--contributing dozens of poems, stories, and short sketches to many newspapers and periodicals, particularly Baldwin's Monthly and The Home Journal, and writing her autobiography--and occasionally lectured on women's rights and famous literary figures she had known. Smith died 15 November 1893 in Hollywood and was buried in Patchogue, N.Y.

PROVENANCE NOTE

The Papers consist of items saved by Elizabeth Oakes Smith and in her possession at the time of her death in 1893. In 1924 these papers were in the possession of one of Smith's granddaughters, Miss Geraldine Oaksmith of Newport, N.C.. The New York Public Library purchased the papers in 1935 from Miss Oaksmith; before the sale, however, Miss Oaksmith removed approximately 90 letters from the collection and sent them to the University of Virginia Library.

Also in 1935 the New York Public Library acquired from the same source a small collection of papers relating to Smith's husband, Seba Smith (1792-1868). These have been catalogued separately.

In 1993 the New York Public Library purchased a Smith letter from James Lowe Autographs Ltd. dated 15, October 1853 Brooklyn, L.I. [NY] to John Hesbreck Esqr..
The Papers of Elizabeth Oakes Smith (1.7 linear ft., ca. 1834-1893) consist of letters, manuscripts, writings, clippings and a few miscellaneous items. The collection is a small and uneven one which cannot in and of itself illuminate any aspect of Smith's life in much detail. However, individual pieces in the collection offer important biographical information, insights into Smith's literary career, and information on her activities as lyceum lecturer and early women's rights advocate.

The papers contain virtually no documentation on Smith's life prior to ca. 1850, save for a valuable manuscript autobiography. Smith's lengthy account, written during the 1880's, essentially ends in the mid-1850's. Smith did not conceive of her autobiography as a straightforward narrative retelling of her life, and researchers seeking such factual information will be disappointed. Rather, in keeping with her profession as writer and novelist, Smith fashioned her autobiography out of a series of many short, thematic sections--especially profiles of people she had known. Hence its value lies, not only in the richness of its anecdotal material, but in insights it provides into Smith's personality, inner feelings, and intellectual development. The autobiography is most helpful for its coverage of Smith's childhood and life in Portland, Me. but considerably less so for her New York City years, where comments on her own literary activities, lecturing, and women's rights advocacy are few. It suffers somewhat from having been written long after the events described: Smith displays a pronounced tendency to discuss what she thinks a late-19th century audience would expect to hear rather than what she may personally have considered most significant in her life, and to write journalistically, keeping her comments brief. Smith's manuscript recollections of Ralph Waldo Emerson, written at the same time as her autobiography, are much richer in detail and suggest how much Smith failed to record about her life. The autobiography was published in 1924 in a heavily condensed and partially rewritten version which should be used with caution.

Apart from a passing mention in her autobiography, Smith's early literary career prior to her move to New York in 1839 is completely undocumented in the papers. Also slighted is Smith's emergence during the 1840's as a popular poet, essayist, and editor. The retained clippings of Smith's writings which date from this period represent only a fraction of her total output; and there is virtually nothing pertaining to Smith's editing of gift books, The Sinless Child and other long poems, or her lengthier prose works. Smith's literary activities during the 1850's are somewhat better documented. There are some interesting materials, including an incomplete draft of an unpublished play, relating to Smith's brief career as a dramatist. Several manuscript chapters of her unfinished Life of Washington show Smith's engaging in installment publication during the late 1850's, a time when she and her husband were struggling to keep their literary magazine afloat.

Most of the manuscripts, though, date from the last 30 years of her life. And because most are incomplete and unpublished, they are not necessarily representative of her "oeuvre." One exception is the incomplete draft of an unpublished novel, Thomas Anderson, which may date
from the 1860's, when Smith was writing "dime novels": Smith's prose outline and polished draft show how she may have composed these novels. Other manuscripts and clippings show how Smith continued to write up to the time of her death, earning money by contributing poems and short prose pieces to newspaper and magazines. Smith has annotated many of the later clippings as to source, thus easing the work of any bibliographer seeking to locate Smith's many periodical contributions.

Documentation of Smith's career as an early advocate of women's rights, lyceum lecturer, and reformer during the late 1840's and 1850's is weak but helpful. Particularly useful are the clippings Smith mounted in the bound "Miscellanies" scrapbook. Many document Smith's own views on women's issues, her interest in the plight of poor women, her analyses of female characters in the works of Shakespeare and other authors, and her use of journalism to promote reformist views. The clippings, many of which have been annotated by Smith, also provide some notion of the extent of her public speaking career and popular reactions to her lectures. Also of considerable interest are Smith's manuscript recollections of her lectures in Concord, Massachusetts and subsequent several weeks' stay in Ralph Waldo Emerson's household in 1852, which give some sense of life on the lyceum circuit. Smith's autobiography slights her own activities but provides perceptive sketches of several prominent women authors and reformers.

The papers offer interesting glimpses into Smith's lifelong fascination with spiritualism and the adult lives of her children. Due to her engaging personality and prominence in New York social and literary circles, Smith made the acquaintance of many prominent writers. Her autobiography and clippings contain interesting profiles and anecdotal accounts of Emerson, Edgar Allan Poe, Horace Greeley, and William Cullen Bryant, among others.

Very little correspondence is included in the papers. What is included offers insight into the planning of Smith's lecture tours. There is also very little material pertaining to Smith's husband Seba Smith. (The Manuscripts Section, however, owns material relating to Seba Smith which may have been separated from this collection.) In her autobiography, Smith is reticent in discussing her husband's own literary career and their relationship, though she does provide a valuable account of their financial difficulties and bankruptcy during the late 1830's.
Series Descriptions

Series I. Correspondence 1849-1891
(Box 1, .04 Linear ft.)

The correspondence is arranged alphabetically by correspondent. It includes four letters (1883-1884) from Helen Stuart (Weeks) Campbell (1839-1918), literary and household editor of "The Continent", requesting Smith to write her reminiscences of Ralph Waldo Emerson; a clipping of a letter from Lucretia (Coffin) Mott (1793-1880) concerning Smith's proposed visit to Philadelphia in March 1852 to lecture on women's rights; four letters (1888-1892) from Mrs. C.A. Munson recalling their earlier experiments in spiritualism and a recent séance she attended; a letter (1849) from her son Sidney describing his visit to a horse race; and seven letters (1865-1866) from her attorney, John R. Reid, concerning preparations for defending Smith against a lawsuit.

A few other letters to Smith are found elsewhere in her papers:
Rouquette, Adrian--Two letters (1867-1868) concerning his poetry and missionary work among Cherokee Indians are tipped into Smith's manuscript "Autobiography", pp. 584,586-589 (clamshell box).

Sigourney, Lydia Howard Huntley (1791-1865)--one printed letter (1848) relating literary gossip is mounted in Smith's "Scrapbook" (Box 3 f.1).

Clippings of a few of Smith's published letters to editors of various newspapers are located elsewhere in her Papers:
Writings: Prose: Clippings of Published Writings (Box 2 f.8)
Scrapbooks (Bound volume, and Box 3 f.1)

The addition to the papers is a letter from Smith to John Hesbrick Esqr. dated 15 October 1853 regarding her upcoming lectures in 1854 and other issues.

Series II. Writings Ca. 1843-1893
(Boxes 2-3, Bound Volume, Clamshell Box, 1.4 Linear ft.)

Smith's writings are arranged by genre, and alphabetically by title within each genre. The writings include an autobiography, a diary, a play, journalistic contributions, poetry, and fragments of two novels and a biography. All but one of the manuscripts are in Smith's hand. Most are incomplete and unpublished, though two significant manuscripts--Smith's autobiography and her recollections of Ralph Waldo Emerson--have been published in part. There are no manuscripts for prose works published during Smith's lifetime, and most of the poetry manuscripts appear to be fair copies. In date they range from the 1850's up to Smith's death in 1893. Supplanting the manuscripts are dozens of clippings of Smith's published
newspaper and periodical contributions: poems, stories, sketches, letters to the editors, book reviews, etc. These range in date from ca.1843 to 1891, though a few may possibly be earlier. The majority have been mounted by Smith in two scrapbooks. Also included are some clippings of reviews of Smith's lectures and writings.

**A Human Life: Being the Autobiography of Elizabeth Oakes Smith**--This 599 page manuscript autobiography was largely written during the early 1880's and completed ca. 1885, though some portions may be earlier. Some chapters and other text portions are composed of mounted clippings of previously published essays, poems, letters, some of which have been revised by Smith in manuscript. Included are previously published sections of at least two autobiographical accounts and several profiles of people Smith had known. Also tipped in are two manuscripts letters (1867-1868) to Smith from Father Adrian Rouquette, and a silhouette of Smith's son Rolvin Oaksmith, age 6 [ca. 1834].

Smith's autobiography consists of a series of 142 short sketches arranged in rough chronological order. [A table of contents has been prepared and placed with the manuscript.] After a prologue on her ancestry and especially her grandfather Blanchard, Smith provides an extended recounting of her childhood in and around Portland, Maine, the family's way of life, her inner feelings, her education, and her ambitions of becoming a schoolteacher, which were thwarted by her mother and an early marriage. Smith's account of her life in Portland after marriage focuses on raising her children, her religious beliefs, psychic experiences, social activities, enthusiastic participation in Portland's intellectual life, and exposure to antislavery, temperance, and other reform movements. Smith had little to say about her husband Seba Smith, and his literary career, though she discusses his financial speculations and business failures in the late 1830's at some length. Smith's account of life in New York City is primarily an intellectual autobiography: profiles of famous figures she had known, such as Horace Greeley and Edgar Allan Poe, are interspersed with accounts of women authors and women's rights advocates, the condition of women in New York, and how Smith's own advocacy of women's rights cost her many friends among the literati. Very little is said about Smith's career as a lyceum lecturer or her attendance at women's rights conventions. Similarly, Smith largely ignores her own literary career, save for a chapter on her poem "The Sinless Child." The autobiography essentially ends in the mid-1850's, though the final sections discuss Smith's increasing preoccupation with religion and interest in Roman Catholicism during the 1860's.

Portions of the original autobiography were originally published serially in the *Lewiston (Me.) Journal* and then collected in *Selections from the Autobiography of Elizabeth Oakes Smith*, ed. Mary Alice Wyman (Lewiston, Me.: Lewiston Journal Co., 1924). The published version, however, is heavily condensed, rearranged, and substantially rewritten, with most passages silently altered in significant ways. The editor also inserted material from Smith's other autobiographical writings which Smith did not incorporate into this manuscript.

**Diary**--Smith's autobiography is supplemented by a diary for 1887. The diary was kept sporadically--entries for many days are lacking--and all entries are short. In her diary Smith
recorded personal and family activities, notes on her reading, accounts of letters and poems written, and her thoughts on political and religious matters.

**Messiniello**--The only dramatic manuscript in the Smith Papers is an apparently incomplete and unpublished draft of the first four acts of "Messiniello", a romantic tragedy based on the life of a Neapolitan fisherman who led a 1647 uprising against Spanish rule. The manuscript is undated but may have been written in the early 1850's.

**A Calendar of the Foot-prints of Time, Daily Oracles**--Smith compiled this manuscript calendar ca.1885, but never published it. The manuscript, which is complete, provides for each day of the year a short list of notable historical events, births, and deaths which took place on that day, as well as one or more quotations, aphorisms, and poems, including many written by Smith. A significant number of the quotations and poems are clippings from various newspapers and periodicals, dating back to the 1850's, which have been cut from Smith's scrapbooks and reused in this manuscript.

**Life of Washington**--The Papers include three manuscript chapters (51-53) from an unfinished biography of George Washington, which Smith began serializing in the July 1858 issue of "Emerson's Magazine and Putnam's Monthly". These chapters cover events of November and December 1776; Washington's unsuccessful defense of New York, the insubordination of General Charles Lee, and maneuvers leading up the Battle of Trenton. Also included are several news clippings collected by Smith when researching this biography.

**Ralph Waldo Emerson: Or, Recollections of Him**--Manuscript of a lecture written by Smith ca. 1884, with later revisions. In this lecture Smith recounts her experiences as a lyceum lecturer in Concord, Mass. and as a guest in Emerson's household for several weeks during the winter of 1852. Included are lengthy, admiring descriptions of Emerson's character; anecdotes of Henry David Thoreau, A. Bronson Alcott, and life in Emerson's household; and accounts of Emerson's views on genius, Edgar Allan Poe, and other topics. Portions of this manuscript have been published in Selections from the Autobiography of Elizabeth Oakes Smith, ed. Mary Alice Wyman (Lewiston, Me.: Lewiston Journal Co., 1924), p. 134-148.

**Thomas Anderson: The Exile of Fayal**--Manuscript of an unfinished and undated novel concerning the adventures of an American merchant seaman during the early 19th century. Included is a detailed 74-page prose outline of the novel and the first 17 pages of a polished draft which, however, differs significantly from the outline.

**Fragment of an unidentified novel**--Pages 3-21 only of an undated manuscript draft of a novel. Written in the first person, the novel relates the inner feelings of a deeply religious woman who vows to remain unmarried and devote her life to God.
Clippings of published writings-Miscellaneous loose newspaper and periodical clippings of Smith's prose writings, saved by Smith but not mounted into scrapbooks. Included are letters to the editor, short stories, character profiles, and sketches.

Poetry--Several of Smith's poems are present in manuscript drafts or fair copies; only one--"To Francis Ann Kemble"--is not in Smith's hand. Sonnets and Occasional Sonnets are two made up booklets, part in manuscript and part consisting of clippings of previously published poems, which have been numbered and foliated consecutively as if intended for publication in book form. Sonnets contains 30 sonnets on 26 leaves and appears to have been compiled in the early 1870's. Occasional Sonnets contains 45 sonnets on 34 leaves and was compiled ca. 1874-1875, with additions dating to 1884. Smith has annotated both booklets to indicate where various sonnets had been published or, for later poems, where she had submitted them for publication. The poetry manuscripts are supplemented by a folder of miscellaneous unmounted clippings of Smith's published poetry.

Much additional poetry by Smith--both printed and manuscript--will be found in two scrapbooks compiled by Smith and described below.

Miscellanies--A one-volume, bound scrapbook compiled by Smith ca.1859. The volume consists of 264 leaves in three sections (two foliated and one unfoliated)--the many gaps in numbering suggest that at least 30 leaves were lacking at the time the scrapbook was rebound at the New York Public Library. Miscellanies consists primarily of mounted clippings of Smith's published prose ca.1843-1857, with some duplication; very little poetry is included. although few clippings are identified by source, Smith has added explanatory annotations to some. Included are letters to the editor, stories, short sketches, and book reviews, as well as a few clippings signed by other writers. The clippings are primarily of Smith's writings on women's rights. Other topics covered to a lesser extent include antislavery; the plight of women in prison and of prisoners awaiting execution; profiles of women (usually poor and downtrodden) whom Smith had encountered; Shakespeare and various characters (especially females) in his plays; George Ripley and Brook Farm; and spiritualism. Supplementing the clippings are various manuscript writings, most notably a number of journal entries for August and September 1859.

Scrapbook--This scrapbook, now disbound, consists of 77 leaves (not all of which have been used) and several unmounted items laid in. Smith apparently began to compile it ca.1885 and continued to add material until 1893. Its contents consist primarily of mounted clippings of poems, stories, and articles written by Smith during the last 10 years of her life. Smith has dated or added the source of some clippings in manuscript. Also included are some manuscript poems; a few diary entries for 1889, 1890, and 1893; and clippings concerning Smith's relatives in North Carolina. The scrapbook originally was a ledger containing 23 leaves of accounts, December 1853 - May 1854, for shipments of coffee and logwood sent from Haiti by S[dney] Oaksmith to A[ppleton?] Oaksmith in New York. Sidney and Appleton Oaksmith were two of Smith's sons.
Reviews of Smith's writings and lectures--Miscellaneous loose clippings of book reviews of Smith's published writings, and newspaper accounts of various lectures delivered by Smith. Included is a review by Edgar Allan Poe of Smith's "Poetical Writings" (New York: Redfield, 1845) published in "Godey's Lady Book and Magazine", v.31 (December 1845), p. 261-264, and one-page manuscript diary entry (4 July 1853) concerning Smith's play, The Roman Tribute, and her playwriting.

Series III. Spiritualism
(Box 3)

This series contains several items illuminating Smith's interest in one aspect of spiritualism; psychometry, or the determination of a person's character through handwriting analysis. Included is a one-page manuscript "psychometrical reading" of Smith's character by Mrs. J.R. Mettler, "Psychomagnetic Physician" of Hartford, Conn., dated 9 October 1852; a two-page manuscript note (19 May 1869) by Smith explaining the circumstances behind Mettler's reading; and an article from an unidentified journal (May 1852) reviewing Smith's recent lectures in Cincinnati and appending two psychometrical readings of Smith's character.

4. Children of Elizabeth Oakes Smith
(Box 3, .05 linear ft.)

Miscellaneous clippings concerning three of Smith's five sons--Alvin, Appleton, and Sidney Oaksmith--and an inscribed copy of Appleton Oaksmith's pamphlet, Southern States Debts and the National Currency: their Evils and Their Remedy: A Financial Essay (Baltimore: Turnbull Brothers [1874])

See Also: Box 1 f. 5 for a letter from Sidney Oaksmith to Elizabeth Oakes Smith, and Box 3 f. 1 for an account book recording activities undertaken by Sidney and Appleton [?] Oaksmith.

5. Photos and Drawings (Box 3, .01 linear ft.)

Three items: a small portrait in pencil captioned "Sinless Child/Eva/By H. Jenks"; a small unsigned landscape drawing in pencil; and an unidentified photo of a woman's head in profile, trimmed and mounted on card.
ELIZABETH OAKES SMITH PAPERS

Container list

CORRESPONDENCE

Box 1  f.1  Campbell, Helen Stuart (Weeks), 1883-1884  4 letters
        f.2  Maddly, Marie Louise, 1891  1 letter
        f.3  Mott, Lucretia (Coffin), 1852  1 clipping
        f.4  Munson, Mrs. C.A., 1888-1892  4 letters
        f.5  Oaksmith, Sidney, 1849  1 letter
        f.6  Reid, John R., 1865-1866  7 letters

        f.6B  ADDITION:  Smith, Elizabeth Oakes 1853
              1 letter  (Not on microfilm)

WRITINGS

Smith [ca.1885}  599 leaves
        location: clamshell box

Box 1  f.7  Diary, 1 January - 3 December  1887  1 vol.

        f.8  Drama:  Messiniello: A Tragedy  (fol. 51 lacking)

        Prose
        f.9-20  A Calendar of the Foot-prints of Time. Daily Oracles [ca.1885]  ca. 375 leaves
        f.9  January
        f.10  February
        f.11  March
        f.12  April
        f.13  May
        f.14  June
        f.15  July
        f.16  August
        f.17  September
        f.18  October
        f.19  November
        f.20  December

Box 2  f.1-4  Life of Washington  [ca.1860]
        f.1  Chapter 51: Battle of Chatterton Hill, Loss of  Fort Washington  14 leaves
f.2 Chapter 52: Betrayed in Friendship 15 leaves
f.3 Chapter 53 [untitled] 8 leaves (fol. 1-3.5-9 [fol. 4 lacking])
f.4 Newsclippings collected for Life of Washington (1857-1858) 6 clippings

Container list

Box 2  f.5 Ralph Waldo Emerson: Or, Recollections of Him [ca.1884] 59 leaves

f.6 Thomas Anderson: The Exile of Fayal 74 pp.

f.7 [fragment of an unidentified novel] 19 leaves (fol. 3-21)

f.8 Clippings of published writings [ca.1857-1891]

Poetry
f.9 An Answer to My Doubt 1 leaf
f.10 Distrust (1848) 1 leaf
f.11 He Kept His word, or Bill McCoy 4 leaves
f.12 On the Death of Edward My Summer-Child (1860) 1 leaf
f.13 Sonnets and Occasional Sonnets [ca.1850-1884]

f.14 To Frances Ann Kemble (1893) 1 leaf
f.15 To Mrs. Frances Cleveland 1 leaf
f.16 [untitled fragment] 1 leaf
f.17 Clippings of published poems [ca.1857-1891]

Scrapbooks
Bound volume Miscellanies [ca.1843-1859] 1 vol. (264 leaves)

Box 3  f.1 Scrapbook [ca.1856-1893, bulk 1885-1891] 1 vol. (77 leaves + several items laid in)

Reviews of Smith's Writings and Lectures
Box 3  f.2 Drama [ca.1853]. 5 items
  f.3 Poetry and Prose [ca.1845-1891] 12 clippings
  f.4 Lectures [ca.1850-1869]. 10 clippings

Spiritualism
f.5 Psychometrical Readings of Elizabeth Oakes Smith's Character, 1852-1869. 4 items

Children of Elizabeth Oakes Smith
Box 3  f.6  Oaksmith, Alvin. Clipping (1876) 1 clipping

f.7-8  Oaksmith, Appleton. Southern State Debts and the National Currency System (Baltimore [1874]); Clippings 1879-1884. 7 items

f.9 Oaksmith, Sidney. Clippings 1866-1871. 3 items

f.10  Photos and Drawings 3 items