

The New York Public Library
Manuscripts and Archives Section

Ann S. Stephens
Papers, 1830-1937

Compiler VW
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Ann S. Stephens Papers, 1830-1937

Size: .4 linear ft., 1 Box

Access information: No restrictions; the photograph is damaged.

Source: Mrs. J. M. Winterbotham

Biographical statement: Ann S. Stephens (1813-1886), was an author and associate editor of Ladies Companion; she published over twenty-five historical romance and domestic novels.

Description: The papers (1830-1937), consist of letters, manuscripts of poems, novels (including The Heiress of Greenhurst), articles, printed material and a photograph of Stephens. The papers are primarily letters (1829-1882) to her daughter. The remainder, of the papers, general correspondence (1830-1847) and letters regarding Stephens (1936-1937).

Special formats: Photographs

ANN S. STEPHENS PAPERS

Ann Sophia Stephens (1810-1886), was an author and associate editor of Ladies Companion; she published over twenty-five historical romance and domestic novels. Stephens was born in Humphreysville (later Seymour), Connecticut, the daughter and third of ten children of John and Ann (Wrigley) Winterbotham, emigrants from England. In 1831, she married Edward Stephens, a merchant, and moved with him to Portland, Maine. Ann S. Stephens edited and contributed to her husband's magazine Portland Magazine between 1834-1836, where her popular poem The Polish Boy appeared.

The Stephenses moved to New York in 1837, where Mrs. Stephens continued her career with various magazines. She became associate editor of Ladies Companion, joined the staff of the Graham's Magazine and contributed to various other magazines including Frank Leslie's Ladies Gazette of Fashion. Stephens's novels include The Old Homestead (1855).

During her lifetime, Stephens remained a popular literary figure, especially during the years 1840-1870. She died of nephritis on August 20, 1886 at the age of seventy-five in Newport, Rhode Island. Stephens is buried in Greenwood Cemetery, Brooklyn, New York.

ANN S. STEPHENS PAPERS

Scope and Contents

The papers, 1830-1937, contain general correspondence, 1830-1847; Ann S. Stephens's letters to her daughter, 1829-1882; letters regarding Stephens, 1936-1937; manuscripts of poems, plays and articles, printed material, miscellany and a photograph of Stephens.

The bulk of the collection consists of the letters written by Stephens to her daughter. The manuscripts contain Stephens's poems, including Polish Boy and The Widowed Bride. There is also a holograph manuscript of The Heiress of Greenhurst, with a second incomplete (?) version. The other writings are finished and unfinished poems (including one volume), articles and dramas. Page proofs, printed material and a portrait photograph of Stephens constitute the remainder of the collection.

Related material: Related material (not exclusive) may be found at the Boston Public Library, Brown University Library, Connecticut Historical Society, Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Huntington Library and the New York Historical Society. See also James A. Eastman "Ann Sophia Stephens" (master's thesis, Columbia University 1952).

ANN S. STEPHENS PAPERS

Container list

f.1	General Correspondence 1830-1847; n.d.
2	Stephens to her daughter 1829-1882; n.d.
3	Letters regarding Stephens 1936-1937
4	Incomplete letters Unfinished mss. reply to Victor Hugo regarding John Brown. ^{Ferry} Miss ^{Miss} After ^{After} Harper
	Writings
5	Notes
6-7	Poems
8	Poem: The Widowed Bride
9	Drama: The Heiress of Greenhurst
10	Incomplete version (?)
11-13	Unfinished manuscripts

14 Page Proofs
15 Miscellaneous
16 Photograph: Ann S. Stephens

Poems 1856 1 vol.

See also * K 6 A Beadle Collection (~~in Stephens Room~~)
under Stephens, A. S. Ankers & Co