



The New York Public Library  
Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and  
American Literature

Guide to the

**Charlotte Yonge letters**

1880s-1900

Berg Coll MSS 186078

Processed by Amy Lau in 2022.

## Summary

**Creator:** Yonge, Charlotte M. (Charlotte Mary), 1823-1901

**Title:** Charlotte Yonge letters

**Date:** 1880s-1900

**Size:** 0.21 linear feet (1 box)

**Source:** Purchased from Whitmore Rare Books in 2021.

**Abstract:** Charlotte Yonge (1823-1901) was a prolific 19th century English writer, best known for her romantic novel, *The Heir of Redclyffe* (1853). The Charlotte Yonge letters, dating from the 1880s to 1900, document her correspondence with various acquaintances in the later years of her life.

**Preferred citation:** Charlotte Yonge letters, Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature, The New York Public Library

**Language of the Material:** English

**Processing note:** Processed by Amy Lau in 2022.

**Related Materials:**

Charlotte Mary Yonge manuscript material, 1865-1871

## Creator History

Charlotte Mary Yonge (born 1823 in Otterbourne, England) was a profuse 19th century English novelist. She was best known for her romantic novel, *The Heir of Redclyffe* (1853). Yonge was educated at home by her father, William Yonge, and spent more than a decade leading a writing group for her younger girl cousins. She also taught at the local Sunday School in Otterbourne, England.

Yonge died in 1901 in Otterbourne, England.

## Scope and Content Note

The Charlotte Yonge letters, dating from the 1880s to 1900, feature envelopes and letters from Yonge to acquaintances in the later years of her life. The collection contains two envelopes, four complete and two fragmented handwritten and signed letters, and six clipped signatures.

In one of the complete letters, dated 1889, Yonge introduces a school girl's writing to a possible patron. Two of the letters, dated 1889 and 1900, are addressed to a son and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Leathes. Yonge writes about exchanging novels and poetry with the recipients and praises *The Autobiography of Mrs. Gilbert* (1874) by Ann Taylor. The two envelopes in the collection pair with the letters written to the mother and son. In the last complete letter, Yonge accepts an invitation from "my dear Mrs. Shipley."

The two longer fragmented letters impart Yonge's exhibition recommendations at the British Museum and her attempts to fetch books from her collection and the library. The rest of the fragmented letters consist of the end of a sentence, the complimentary close, and Yonge's signature.

**Arrangement:** The collection is arranged chronologically.

## Key Terms

### Subjects

Authors, English -- 19th century -- Correspondence  
Women authors, English  
Women educators

### Occupations

Authors.

### Genre/Physical Characteristic

Correspondence

### Geographic Names

England -- Social life and customs -- 19th century

### Names

Yonge, Charlotte M. (Charlotte Mary), 1823-1901