



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

Guide to the

**Anne Brontë papers**

circa 1840s-1895

Berg Coll MSS 186118

Processed by Amy Lau in 2022.

## Summary

**Creator:** Bronte\_, Anne, 1820-1849

**Title:** Anne Brontë papers

**Date:** circa 1840s-1895

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

**Source:** W. T. H. Howe; purchased for The Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature by Albert A. Berg, 1940.

**Abstract:** Anne Brontë (1820-1849) was an English writer and poet and the sister of Charlotte, Emily, and Patrick Branwell Brontë. Her papers consist of three holograph poems, dated circa 1844, and supplemental material, dated approximately 1895, by Thomas James Wise (1859-1937) about the history of the poems.

**Preferred citation:** Anne Brontë papers, 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.

## Creator History

Anne Brontë (born 1820 in Thornton, England) was an English writer and poet best known for the novels *Agnes Grey* (1847) and *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* (1848). She was the youngest sibling of the English writers Charlotte, Emily, and Patrick Branwell Brontë.

Brontë was educated at home and at Roe Head School and worked as a governess. In 1846, Brontë published twenty-one poems in the poetry collection, *Poems* by Currer, Ellis, and Acton Bell under the pseudonym, Acton Bell. Her first novel, *Agnes Grey* (1847), was published in conjunction with her sister Emily's novel, *Wuthering Heights* (1847).

In 1848, Brontë became ill shortly after publishing her second novel, *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall* (1848).

She died in 1849 in Scarborough, England.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The Anne Brontë papers contain three of her holograph poems, dated around 1844, and additional materials, dated approximately 1895. The first line of the text was used to identify poems without titles. Of the holograph poems, one is a fragment that begins, "Yes, I will take a cheerful tone" (January 26, 1844), while the other two poems are complete, "The Student's Serenade" (February 1844) and "When sinks my very heart" (1840s).

Handwritten descriptions by the British bibliographer and forger Thomas James Wise comprise the additional materials. The manuscripts describe the poems' provenance, publication history, and place within the Brontë canon.

## **Key Terms**

### **Subjects**

Authors, English -- 19th century  
English poetry -- 19th century  
English poetry -- Manuscripts  
Women authors, English

### **Occupations**

Authors.  
Poets.

### **Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Manuscripts for publication

### **Names**

Brontë, Anne, 1820-1849  
Wise, Thomas James, 1859-1937

## Container List

- b. 1 f. 1-2    Fragment "Yes, I will take a cheerful tone," "The Student's Serenade," and  
                  "When sinks my heart" 1840s, circa 1895