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American Literature

Guide to the

William Douglas O'Connor collection of papers

1863-1888

Berg Coll MSS O'Connor, WD

Processed by Staff.

Summary

Creator: O'Connor, William Douglas, 1832-1889

Title: William Douglas O'Connor collection of papers

Date: 1863-1888

Size: 241 items

Source: This is a synthetic collection, created from materials acquired through gift and purchase from various sources.

Abstract: This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts and correspondence.

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Preferred citation: [Identification of the item]. The Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature, The New York Public Library.

Processing note: Processed by Staff; Machine-readable finding aid created by Lynn Lobash and Nina Schneider.

Related Materials:

Consult the Berg Collection staff for additional unprocessed material of this author.

Creator History

William Douglas O'Connor was an American novelist, essayist, editor, and journalist.

Custodial History

Previous owners include Bliss Perry and W. T. H. Howe.

Scope and Content Note

This is a synthetic collection consisting of manuscripts and correspondence by and relating to the author. The manuscripts consist of notes, essays, and articles, some of which relate to Walt Whitman. The correspondence consists of letters, dating from 1866 to 1883, from the author to Matthew Arnold, G. W. Curtis, J. R. Gilmore, and others, as well as a letter transcribed by the author, dated 1866, from Julius Bing to Joseph H. Ashton, and an undated letter to Moncure D. Conway transcribed by Walt Whitman but signed by O'Connor. There are letters to O'Connor from Charles Wesley Eldridge, Lafcadio Hearn, H. J. Raymond, Thomas Jefferson Whitman, Walt Whitman, and others, dating from 1863 to 1888.

Key Terms

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Correspondence

Names

O'Connor, William Douglas, 1832-1889
Arnold, Matthew, 1822-1888
Ashton, J. Hubley (Joseph Hubley), 1836-1907
Bing, Julius
Conway, Moncure Daniel, 1832-1907
Curtis, George William, 1824-1892
Eldridge, Charles Wesley
Gilmore, James R. (James Roberts), 1822-1903
Hearn, Lafcadio, 1850-1904
Howe, W. T. H. (William Thomas Hildrup)
Perry, Bliss, 1860-1954
Raymond, Henry J. (Henry Jarvis), 1820-1869
Whitman, Thomas Jefferson, 1833-1890
Whitman, Walt, 1819-1892

Container List

Manuscripts

- Manuscript box [Autobiographical notes] Holograph n.d. (4 p) (4 p)
Bliss Perry; Howe
- Manuscript box Copy of his opinion of Dr. Lambdin, originally written on margin of extract forwarded to Dr. R. M. Bucke. Manuscript n.d. (1 p) (1 p)
Bliss Perry; Howe
- Cased [Defence of Walt Whitman written in the form of a letter to R. M. Bucke, Washington, Feb. 22, 1882, and published as "Introductory letter" in his "Walt Whitman." Also page of holograph in Whitman's hand; incorporated by Bucke in his "Introduction"] Bound n.d. (1 v) (1 v)
H.
- Manuscript box Notes on Walt Whitman as poet and person. By John Burroughs. New York, American news company, 1867 [review of Burroughs' book] Holograph draft 1867 (10 p) (10 p)
Bliss Perry; Howe
- Manuscript box Unlikeness of mind and style in Bacon and Shakespeare [reply to Richard Grant White] Holograph, signed "Hamlet's Note-book" n.d. (4 p) (4 p)
Bliss Perry; Howe
- Manuscript box Who wrote "Rock me to sleep?" To the editor of the Times. Incomplete holograph n.d. (79 p) (79 p)
Bliss Perry; Howe

Correspondence

Outgoing Correspondence

- Manuscript box Arnold, Matthew. Holograph copy of his letter to. Relates to Walt Whitman 1866 Oct. 14 (5 leaves) (5 leaves)
Bliss Perry; Howe
- Manuscript box Curtis, G. W. Holograph copy of his letter to 1883 July 13 (2 p) (2 p)
Bliss Perry; Howe
- Manuscript box Fields, J. T. Draft of AL to. Relates to Whitman 1868 Nov. 23 (2 leaves) (2 leaves)
Bliss Perry; Howe
- Manuscript box Gilmore, J. R. Holograph copy of his letter to. Relates to Whitman 1866 Oct. 13 (3 p) (3 p)
Bliss Perry; Howe
- Oversize (+) Harlan, Secretary. Draft of AL to. Relating to the dismissal of Walt Whitman from the Office of the Interior 1865 July 21 (15 p) (15 p)
With 4 pages of suggestions for the letter in Whitman's hand. H.
- Manuscript box Independent. Letterpress copy of an ALS to the editor 1867 Nov. 9 (18 p) (18 p)
Bliss Perry; Howe
- Manuscript box Nation. ALS to the editor. Never sent 1867 Dec. 16 (1 leaf) (1 leaf)
Bliss Perry; Howe
- Manuscript box Rice, Miss S. S. Draft of an AL to. Mentions Poe monument and Whitman 1875 (20 p) (20 p)
With a holograph index, 2 p.; Bliss Perry; Howe

Incoming Correspondence

- Manuscript box Arnold, Matthew. ALS to O'Connor. Relates to Whitman 1866 Sept. 16 (2 leaves) (2 leaves)
Bliss Perry; Howe

Correspondence (cont.)
Incoming Correspondence (cont.)

Manuscript box	Curtis, George William. Typewritten copy of a letter to O'Connor 1865 Oct. 29 (2 p) (2 p) With accompanying letter of enclosure from H. L. Koopman to [Ellen M. O'Connor], March 24, 1905. Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Eldrige, Charles Wesley. ALS to O'Connor. Relates to Walt Whitman [1865] Jan. 22 (6 p) (6 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Eldrige, Charles Wesley. ALS to [O'Connor] 1884 Feb. 19 (5 leaves) (5 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Eldrige, Charles Wesley. ALS to O'Connor. Relates to Walt Whitman 1885 Aug. 10 (3 leaves) (3 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Eldrige, Charles Wesley. ALS to [O'Connor] 1886 Sept. 1 (3 p) (3 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Eldrige, Charles Wesley. ALS to O'Connor. Relates to Walt Whitman 1888 Mar. 21 (2 leaves) (2 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Hay, John. Typescript of a note to [William D.] O'Connor 1863 Oct. 29 (1 item) (1 item) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Hearn, Lafcadio. ALS to O'Connor [1883] Feb. 10 (2 p) (2 p) H.
Cased	Hearn, Lafcadio. ALS to O'Connor. Date from postmark 1883 Mar. 14 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) H.
Cased	Hearn, Lafcadio. ALS to O'Connor. Relates to Walt Whitman 1883 Aug. 9 (8 p) (8 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Hearn, Lafcadio. ALS to O'Connor. Relates to Walt Whitman 1884 Feb. 5 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Hearn, Lafcadio. ALS to O'Connor. Date from postmark 1884 Mar. 7 (12 p) (12 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Hearn, Lafcadio. Copy of letter to O'Connor. In the hand of Ellen O'Connor Calder 1884 May 15 (1 p) (1 p) H.
Cased	Hearn, Lafcadio. ALS to O'Connor 1884 May 25, 1884 June 29 (7 p) (7 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Hearn, Lafcadio. ALS to O'Connor 1885 Mar. 8 (4 leaves) (4 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Hearn, Lafcadio. ALS to [O'Connor]. Headed: Big P. S. No. 1 [2] 1885 Mar. 8 (3 p) (3 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Hearn, Lafcadio. ALS to O'Connor 1885 July 13 (7 p) (7 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Hearn, Lafcadio. ALS to O'Connor 1886 Apr. 12 (6 p) (6 p) Bliss Perry; Howe

Correspondence (cont.)	
Incoming Correspondence (cont.)	
Cased	Hearn, Lafcadio. ALS to O'Connor 1886 Apr. 25 (4 p) (4 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Hearn, Lafcadio. ALS to O'Connor 1887 Feb. 12 (3 p) (3 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Hearn, Lafcadio. ALS to O'Connor 1887 Mar. 3 (7 p) (7 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Morgan, James Appleton. ALS to O'Connor. Relates to Walt Whitman 1883 Aug. 28 (2 leaves) (2 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box (O'Connor, W. D.)	Newman, Francis W. ALS to O'Connor 1866 Apr. 24 (4 leaves) (4 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box (O'Connor)	Newman, Francis W. ALS to O'Connor 1866 Oct. 16 (3 p) (3 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Phillips, Wendell. ALS to O'Connor 1866 June [21 (4 leaves) (4 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box (O'Connor, W. D.)	Raymond, H. J. 6 ALS to [O'Connor]. Relates to Walt Whitman 1866 Apr. 2 - 1867 Mar. 27 (6 letters) (6 letters) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Rosetti, William Michael. ALS to [O'Connor] [1869] Nov. 20 (2 leaves) (2 leaves)
Manuscript box	Stedman, Edmund Clarence. Circular letter (reproduction of holograph) asking for autographs to extra-illustrate his own copy of his "Poets in America." Addressed to W. D. O'Connor 1886 Jan. 22 (1 p) (1 p) Signed. With ALS to W. D. O'Connor, New York, Jan. 22, 1886 in margins
Manuscript box	Traubel, Horace L. Typescript of a letter to O'Connor. Mentions Burroughs and Whitman 1888 Sept. 26 (3 p) (3 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box (O'Connor, W. D.)	Walker, Thomas D. ALS to [O'Connor] 1885 Aug. 13 (3 p) (3 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box (O'Connor, W. D.)	Walker, Thomas D. ALS to [O'Connor] 1885 Aug. 17 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Thomas Jefferson. ALS to O'Connor 1865 Mar. 16 (2 p) (2 p)
Manuscript box	Whitman, Thomas Jefferson. ALS to O'Connor 1869 Mar. 28 (2 p) (2 p)
Manuscript box	Whitman, Thomas Jefferson. ALS to O'Connor 1869 Apr. 18 (2 leaves) (2 leaves)
In: Whitman, Walt. A backward glance on my own road. Galley proof of the article published in the Critic, New York, Jan. 5, 1884, in the margin	Whitman, Walt. AN to O'Connor 1884? Jan. 11 (1 letter) (1 letter) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ANS to [O'Connor] 186--? (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1864 June 25 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1864 July 5 (2 leaves) (2 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1864 July 24 (2 leaves) (2 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe

Correspondence (cont.)
Incoming Correspondence (cont.)

Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ALS to O'Connor [1864?] Aug. 2 (2 leaves) (2 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1864 Sept. 11 (2 leaves) (2 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] [1864?] Oct. 10 (2 leaves) (2 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ALS to O'Connor [1864] Oct. 14 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1865 Jan. 6 (2 leaves) (2 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1865 Jan. 20 (3 p) (3 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to O'Connor 1865 Mar. 26 (2 leaves) (2 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1865 Apr. 7 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ANS to [O'Connor] 1866 Jan. 25 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] [1866] Aug. 26 (2 leaves) (2 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ALS to O'Connor [1867] May 5 (2 leaves) (2 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] [1867] May 12 (3 p) (3 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] [1867] Sept. 15 (2 leaves) (2 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1867 Sept. 27 (2 leaves) (2 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] [1867] Nov. 27 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1868 Sept. 27 (2 leaves) (2 leaves) With note to Ellen M. O'Connor at end. Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1868 Oct. 4 (3 p) (3 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1868 Oct. 14 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ALS to O'Connor 1869 Aug. 23 (2 leaves) (2 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1869 Dec. 23 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ALS to O'Connor 186--? (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. Letter to [O'Connor]. Dictated by Whitman and in the hand of "A. H. R." 1870 May 11 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] [1871] July 14 (2 leaves) (2 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe

Correspondence (cont.)
Incoming Correspondence (cont.)

Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ALS to O'Connor [1871] July 26 (2 leaves) (2 leaves) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. 107 postal cards and 3 correspondence cards to O'Connor 1882 May 3 - 1889 May 6 (110 cards in 6 cases) (110 cards in 6 cases) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to O'Connor 1882 May 7 (3 p) (3 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] [1882] May 25 (5 p) (5 p) Accompanied by 2 ALS from O'Connor to Whitelaw Reid, May 19 and 26, 1882 with 4 letters from Reid to O'Connor, May 27-Oct. 7, 1882, relating to articles on Whitman submitted by O'Connor to the New York Tribune. Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to O'Connor 1882 May 28 (1 p) (1 p) Also a "synopsis" of "Emerson talk on the Commons in 1860," 1 p., probably the enclosure mentioned in the letter. Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. AL to O'Connor. Contains further notes about the relationship between Whitman and Emerson 1882 May 30 (5 p) (5 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] [1882] June 18 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] [1882] June 28 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. 2 ALS to O'Connor 1882 July 6, [1882 July 9 (1 p.; 1 leaf) (1 p.; 1 leaf) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ANS to O'Connor [1882] Sept. 22 (1 p) (1 p) Encloses: Riley, William Harrison. Copies, in an unknown hand, of 3 letters to Whitman, March 5, April 2 and 4, 1879. 5 p.; 3 p.; 4 p.; Also: Bathgate, W. J. Copy, in an unknown hand, of a letter to Whitman, Jan. 31, 1880. 3 p.; Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to O'Connor [1882] May 17 (2 p) (2 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to O'Connor 1882 Oct. 7 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to O'Connor 1882 Oct. 29 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to O'Connor 1882 Nov. 12 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) Encloses his: Whispers of heavenly death. Galley proof of 5 poems. Also a letter from Ezra H. Heywood. Nov. 5, 1882, relating to Leaves of Grass; 2 clippings. Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to O'Connor 1882 Dec. 17 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1882 Dec. 27 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1883 Feb. 19 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS and ANS to [O'Connor] 1883 Feb. 21, [1883 Feb. 23 (1 leaf; 1 p) (1 leaf; 1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1883 Mar. 14 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1883 Mar. 16 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) Bliss Perry; Howe

Correspondence (cont.)
Incoming Correspondence (cont.)

Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] [1883] Mar. 25 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] [1883] Mar. 29 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1883 Mar. 31 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] [1883] Apr. 14 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1883 June 13 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1883 June 27 (1 p) (1 p) Lacking clippings originally enclosed. Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1883 July 20 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ANS to [O'Connor]. Written on the face of an envelope addressed to Whitman from Salt Lake City 1883 Sept. 13 (1 item) (1 item) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. AN to [O'Connor]. Suggesting a note, "About Walt Whitman. Dr. Bucke's book," to be used to accompany a letter to the editor of the New York Sun. 1883 Sept. [19 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1884 Sept. 29 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1885 June 11 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1886 Jan. 4 (? (1 p) (1 p) Written on the 4th page of an ALS from W. S. Kennedy to Whitman. Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1886 Jan. 22 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] [1886] Apr. 12 (1 leaf) (1 leaf) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1886 May 26 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1886 Nov. 19 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1888 Jan. 14 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ALS to O'Connor 1888 Apr. 12 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to O'Connor 1888 Apr. 18 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] [1888] Apr. 25 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ALS to O'Connor 1888 June 14 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1888 Aug. 4 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe

Correspondence (cont.)

Incoming Correspondence (cont.)

Cased	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] 1888 Nov. 9 (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ALS to [O'Connor] n.d. (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. ANS to [O'Connor] n.d. (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Whitman, Walt. AN to [O'Connor]. With suggestions to be used in the latter's letter to W. M. Rossetti n.d. (1 p) (1 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Related Correspondence	
Manuscript box (O'Connor, W.)	Bing, Julius. Copy in W. D. O'Connor's hand, of letter to Joseph Hubley Ashton. Relates to Whitman's Leaves of grass 1866 Oct. 1 (5 p) (5 p) Bliss Perry; Howe
Manuscript box	Letter to Moncure D. Conway in answer to his letter of Oct. 12 [1866?] Written throughout in Whitman's hand but intended to be signed by O'Connor who may have written the first draft n.d. (7 p) (7 p) Bliss Perry; Howe