



The New York Public Library
Carl H. Pforzheimer Collection of Shelley and His Circle

Guide to the

Leroux of Long Melford commonplace book

1821-1827?

Pforz Ms

Summary

Title: Leroux of Long Melford commonplace book

Date: 1821-1827?

Size: 1 volume (169 leaves, some blank)

Abstract: Possibly put together by relatives of the Reverend John Leroux, Rector of Long Melford, Suffolk, who died in 1819. He had two children: George Wilson Leroux, an army officer who died in 1822 at the age of 27; and Louisa Mary Leroux, who died in 1836. Mixed volume of manuscript and printed material. On the front free endpaper (half of which is cut away) is scripted in ink, on the verso, "Began in the year 1821," followed by a later pencil addition, "by [?] Leroux of Long Melford." Leaves 1-52 and 75-77 are in manuscript, in divers hands, and contains a mixture of prose and verse, the prose typically being anecdotes of famous people. A short poem criticizing Shelley's Prometheus Unbound is on leaf 41 recto; another on Byron's Cain is on leaf 42 recto. Leaves 78-122 contain mostly pasted-in printed material (clippings of newspaper stories and poems) but also two small pasted-in manuscript pieces: a short letter addressed to "Madam" dated 1827, and a four-line joke. Also included in this section is a small broadside, "Memoirs of Buonaparte," with a hand-colored "hieroglyphic portrait" of Napoleon; and a handbill, "To the Capital Burgesses, and Burgesses at large of the Town of Wisbech," by Thomas Skrimshire. The remainder of the volume is mostly blank with occasional printed illustrations pasted in, including an engraving of "Long Melford Hall, Suffolk" and two hand-colored etchings by T. L. Busby: "More free than welcome" and "Many a slip between the cup the Lip" (dated Feb. 1827). Laid in is a post card with an engraving of Woodhill House in Danbury and "With Best Wishes" printed at the bottom.

Preferred citation: Leroux of Long Melford commonplace book, Carl H. Pforzheimer Collection of Shelley and His Circle, The New York Public Library

Creator History

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Scope and Content Note

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Key Terms

Subjects

Celebrities -- Great Britain -- Anecdotes

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Clippings

Commonplace books

Geographic Names

Long Melford (England)

Names

Busby, Thomas Lord

Byron, George Gordon Byron, Baron, 1788-1824. Cain

Napoleon I, Emperor of the French, 1769-1821

Shelley, Percy Bysshe, 1792-1822. Prometheus unbound