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Guide to the

Ward's diary, or Journal of a tour in France & Italy, A.D. 1826, & of a residence in those countries, A.D. 1827

Pforz BND-MSS (Ward, E. Ward's diary)

Summary

Creator: Ward, Edward, -1842 or 1843?

Title: Ward's diary, or Journal of a tour in France & Italy, A.D. 1826, & of a residence in those countries, A.D. 1827

Size: 2 volumes (156 manuscript pages, 78 total leaves; 152 manuscript pages, 76 total leaves)

Abstract: A number of biographical details of the Rev.d Edward Ward remain uncertain. His diary records his marriage to an unnamed bride on 5 June 1827 in Leghorn; marriage records reveal her to be Emma Crump (1800-1856). She was the daughter of the Rev. Henry Crump of Leighton, Shrewsbury, and his wife, Elizabeth, née Price (or "Pryse"). In 1845, after Edward's death, Emma married John Davies Corrie (1797-1878), a Welsh solicitor. The author of the diary is possibly the same "Reverend Edward Ward, clerk" whose will was probated in London on 24 January 1843, naming his wife, "Emma Ward," and his daughter, "Ellen Sarah Ward," as heirs. That Edward Ward was present at the 1842 marriage of his daughter, in Liverpool, to Samuel Sampson, attorney, and was probably the son of the Liverpool merchant Robert Ward (d. 1830) of Liscard, Chester. Not to be confused with the Rev. Edward Ward (1771-1835), minister of Iver and author of a number of published sermons. Red roan-backed notebooks containing the manuscript account of an Englishman's two tours on the continent: one from January to July 1826, and one from April 1827 to January 1828. On the first trip he departs from Shrewsbury to London, sails to Calais, then travels to Paris, Orleans, Tours, Bordeaux, Toulouse, Montpellier and Marseilles before going on to Italy. He travels to Leghorn, Florence, La Spezia ("by the gulph of that name Mr. Shelley was drowned, his body burnt upon the shore"), and finally to Lucca, to visit his "fair English friend," with whom he spends a good deal of time. On his way home he travels back through Florence, over the Alps to Chambéry, back up to Paris and through Calais back to England. On his second trip he passes quickly through France (to Lyon, Avignon and Marseille) before reuniting with his English friend in Lucca and marrying her. The couple departs from Italy, going over the Alps up to Lyon, Dijon and Paris, where they spend some weeks before heading home to England. A number of theatrical productions are attended, and visits to art galleries, including the Louvre, are described. The author's signature is on the front pastedown of both volumes ("Rev.d Edward Ward") and the first volume carries the stationer's ticket of Lavallard of Paris. A third volume, cataloged separately, contains Ward's "Translations of Amatory Poems."

Preferred citation: Ward's diary, or Journal of a tour in France & Italy, A.D. 1826, & of a residence in those countries, A.D. 1827, 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

Genre/Physical Characteristic

Diaries

Geographic Names

France -- Description and travel

Italy -- Description and travel