Henry James Manuscript Collection MS-0411

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Contributing Institution: Special Collections & University Archives
Title: Henry James Manuscript Collection
Creator: James, Henry
Identifier/Call Number: MS-0411
Physical Description: 0.42 Linear Feet
Date (inclusive): 1867-1912
Language of Material: English
Scope and Contents
This collection consists of fourteen outgoing letters from Henry James; one book review manuscript; one letter from William James; one letter from Henry James, Sr., and two letters presumed to be from Henry James, son of William James.
Arrangement Note
The items are arranged alphabetically by correspondent’s last name, then chronologically. Items relating to Henry James are first, then other family members.
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Source of Acquisition
John and Jane Adams
Related Materials
Henry James Book Collection:
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Preferred Citation
Identification of item, folder title, box number, Henry James Manuscript Collection, Special Collections and University Archives, San Diego State University Library.
Biographical Note
Henry James was an American novelist, essayist, and critic.
Accruals
9999-146
Subjects and Indexing Terms
James, Henry, 1843-1916--Correspondence
Personal Papers
James, William, 1842-1910--Correspondence

box 1, item 1  Colles [William Morris]. ALS, 4 pages Item 1 June 19th, 1899.
Scope and Contents
James writes from Rome and agrees to write a short story, setting forth several conditions.
box 1, item 2 Holland, Dr. [Josiah]. ALS, 4 pages Item 2 May 3rd
Scope and Contents
James informs Holland that he has posted to Holland a recently finished story, which he thinks "is quite as good as anything I have done." He promises the 4th and 5th installments within the month. He asks Holland for prompt payment. He adds a plea to the printers on the subject of typographical errors: "It is a great affliction to me in a thing of this importance that I don't see a proof. I write an abominable hand & my Ms. is rich in erasures, so that misprints are very easy; but I beg on my bended knees & with tears in my eyes that they be as nearly as possible avoided." [3, Bolton Street, Piccadilly. W.]

box 1, item 3 Lang, Nora. ALS, 3 pages Item 3 August 20th, 1912
Scope and Contents
Written to Mrs. Lang apparently upon the death of her husband, James writes about Mr. Lang's "extraordinary gifts" and "his so individual literary + scholarly figure." He ends by expressing his desire to come to London soon and by wishing her "all possible peace." [Lamb House, Rye, Sussex]

box 1, item 4 Lindsay, Lady [Caroline Blanche Elizabeth]. ALS, 4 pages Item 4 Friday, n. d.
Scope and Contents
James presents Lady Lindsay with two tickets to an unnamed play, and apologizes for not being able to grant her attention during "the misery + bewilderment of rehearsal." [34 De Vere Gardens. W.]

box 1, item 5 Lindsay, Lady [Caroline Blanche Elizabeth]. ALS, 3 pages Item 5 July 6th
Scope and Contents
James thanks Lady Lindsay for her "sketch" recently sent to him, and declares that "it can't fail to excite further sympathy with the capital cause...". He informs her that he is sending the magazine to America, and tells her he is feeling better, "ut this inhuman summer puts a premium upon neuralgia." [3, Bolton Street, Piccadilly. W.]

box 1, item 6 Lindsay, Lady [Caroline Blanche Elizabeth]. ALS, 2 pages. Item 6 January 28th
Scope and Contents
In a brief note, James apologizes for not coming to see her, as he "had to go to Hampstead to see a dying friend--poor Cotter Morton." [34 De Vere Gardens W.]

box 1, item 7 Lindsay, Lady [Caroline Blanche Elizabeth]. ALS, 8 pages Item 7 August 23rd
Scope and Contents
From Dover, James writes Lady Lindsay to excuse him for not being in touch as his sister has been very ill and he was occupied with her lately. He says he will be abroad for a few weeks, and hopes to see her after his return. He hopes that "your wearisome ordeal is drawing to a close and that you are on the point of being restored to your friends."

box 1, item 8 Lindsay, Lady [Caroline Blanche Elizabeth]. ALS, 10 pages Item 8 October 18th
Scope and Contents
James thanks Lindsay for the book of her poetry that she recently sent to him [About Robins], and praises her efforts. She has apparently injured her ankle: "But surely rabbit-holes and ankles and sofas are minor matters, are indeed conscientious traps, when you turn your misfortunes to such account as in the delightful picture & poetry book." He praises her drawings, "reproduced by such an effective process, are full of observation + vividness." He promises to see her upon his return from Paris in six weeks. [34 De Vere Gardens]
Lindsay, Lady [Caroline Blanche Elizabeth]. ALS, 4 pages Item 9 November 4th, 1894
Scope and Contents
James thanks Lady Lindsay for her gift of the "charming volume" of her poetry, and praises her talents. He bemoans his own lack of talent writing verse. [34 De Vere Gardens. W.]

Lindsay, Lady [Caroline Blanche Elizabeth]. ALS, 4 pages. Item 10 July 31st, 1898
Scope and Contents
James writes from Rye and thanks Lady Lindsay for her note earlier in the month, and begs forgiveness for not having been in touch. He is anxious for news of her and asks for further contact. [Lamb House, Rye]

Lindsay, Lady [Caroline Blanche Elizabeth]. ALS, 4 pages Item 11 April 2nd, 1900
Scope and Contents
James asks forgiveness for not having been in touch, excusing himself by listing his many activities. He asks Lindsay to "do please send me as many of the beautiful little printlings as five shillings will purchase," and praises her poetry. He announces that he has just received word and is shocked to hear from Edith Peruzzi "the notification of poor dear gallant old Simone's death." He comments that he is worried about Edith and hopes she can come to England from Italy. [Lamb House, Rye]

Terry, Ellen. ALS [fragment], 2 pages (5-6) Item 12 unknown
Scope and Contents
James wishes Miss Terry all "peace and plenty, the highest possible good fortune" in her efforts, and assures her that Mr. Irving hopes the same. He notes the effort that must be involved in "mounting or presenting" a play, and admires her work at the Lyseum. [34 De Vere Gardens.W.]

Terry, Ellen. ALS, 3 pages Item 13 May 25th, 1895
Scope and Contents
James tells Miss Terry not to trouble to "send back my Scenario," as he has a duplicate for working purposes. [34 De Vere Gardens.W.]

Terry, Dame Ellen. ALS, 2 pages Item 14 September 7th, 1899
Scope and Contents
James thanks Miss Terry for the "wondrous green pouches - the beautiful fan-pockets, or pocket-fans." He hopes that she is well but fears "reality or rehearsal are again upon you." [Lamb House, Rye, Sussex]

"Life and Letters of Madame Swetchine," manuscript book review Item 15 1867
Scope and Contents

Offprint, "The Science of Criticism," with added manuscript title page bearing title in author's hand and autograph Item 16

William James to Mr. Hale, ALS, 3 pages Item 17 December 23rd, 1907
Scope and Contents
William James discusses his desire to sell his part of an estate, and his opinion of Elizabethtown versus East Hill or Chocorna.

Phelps, Mrs. ALS, 3 pages Item 18 Friday, n.d.
Scope and Contents
By Henry James, son of William? Apologizes for double-booking engagements--his niece accepted an invitation in his absence. [28 Wilton Place, Belgrave Square]
box 1, item 19  [unknown correspondent]. ALS, 2 pages Item 19 May 26, 188?

Scope and Contents
By Henry James, son of William? Is enclosing small subscription to the Leeman Memorial Fund, and asks to be told if any further funds are ever needed. [28, Wilton Place, Belgrave Square]

box 1, item 20  [unknown correspondent]. ALS, 4 pages Item 20 January 10th, [1872]

Scope and Contents
By Henry James, Sr? He writes from Cambridge. He is apparently replying to an inquiry on his thoughts on spiritualism, and declares he has never been particularly interested in the subject and has “felt personally indifferent to the alleged manifestations.” He does not believe in the authenticity of the communications. He refers the correspondent to his forthcoming article on spiritualism in The Atlantic Monthly, which will tell more than he can in a letter.