Finding Aid for the Pierre Louÿs Collection 1889-1912

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Pierre Louÿs Collection, 1889-1912

Collection number: MS.2010.001

Creator: Louÿs, Pierre 1870-1925

Extent: 1 box (2.5 linear inches)

Repository: University of California, Los Angeles. William Andrews Clark Memorial Library

Los Angeles, California 90095-1490

Abstract: Manuscripts and drafts of letters written by French writer Pierre Louÿs.

Physical location: Clark Library

Language of Material: Collection materials in French

Access

Collection is open for research.

Publication Rights

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Preferred Citation


Acquisition Information


Processing History

Processed by Rebecca Fenning, January 2010

Biography

Pierre Louÿs, born December 10, 1870 in Ghent, Belgium, spent most of his life and career in France. A writer and poet, famous for his treatment of lesbian and Classical themes, some of Louÿs' most famous works include Les chansons de Bilitis and Aphrodite (moeurs antiques).

Scope and Content

Manuscripts and drafts of letters written by French writer Pierre Louÿs. Items include notes on writers and writing, drafts of letters, and a contract drafts for a work to be entitled Le livre ancien. Most items are undated, but fall roughly between the years 1889 and 1912.

Related Material

Other manuscript material by Pierre Louÿs at the Clark Library:
Letter, 1891 November 29, to Oscar Wilde. Wilde Box 40, Folder 26.

Indexing Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the library's online public access catalog.

Subjects

Authors, French--19th century
French poetry--19th century

Genres and Forms

Contracts--France--20th century
Notebooks--France--19th century
Box 1, Folder 1  
**Notecards on mathematical and scientific subjects, undated**  
Scope and Content Note  
8 pages of notes on multiplication and division, optics and reflection, hydraulics, heat, electricity, mechanics, cosmography and Kepler's laws.

Box 1, Folder 2  
**Quatrains on "Aphrodite," undated**

Box 1, Folder 3  
**Stylistical study, [October 1889]**  
Scope and Content Note  
A pair of essays describing "la mer vue de le cote, le soleil au soleil couchant" from the viewpoints of an ancient Greek and a modern Frenchman. Date written in pencil in a different hand.

Box 1, Folder 4  
"La Bataille de Pelleas," undated  
Scope and Content Note  
Notes commending the talent of Victor Hugo, quoting a line from Hernani.

Box 1, Folder 5  
"Fragment du Narcisse," undated  
Scope and Content Note  
A passage from Paul Valéry's "Fragments du Narcisse."

Box 1, Folder 6  
"La femme machine : traduit de l'Italien," undated  
Scope and Content Note  
Manuscript booklet, with a note in Louÿs' hand that reads "Traduction de la Disputatio perjucunda (1595)."

Box 1, Folder 7  
**Unbound notes and fragments, undated**  
Scope and Content Note  
A series of unbound notes and fragments, written on uniformly sized paper, treating topics from the Sorbonne to readings on historical subjects, Pierre Corneille and Madame Bovary.

Box 1, Folder 8  
**Drafts of two letters, undated**  
Scope and Content Note  
Rough drafts of two letters, one written to a M. Bidou concerning Corneille, and another to a huissier (possibly) named Cormier.

Box 1, Folder 9  
"Institut Impérial," undated  
Scope and Content Note  
Bound manuscript booklet in Louÿs' hand, containing a eulogy for a surgeon, Sabatier, headed "Institut Impérial." The cover the the booklet reads "Le Moniteur Universel, No. 215, du samedi 3 août 1811."

Box 1, Folder 10  
**Newspaper clipping and notes in German, undated**  
Scope and Content Note  
Poem clipped from a newspaper, with notes by Louÿs in German below.

Box 1, Folder 11  
**Notes on the Veinant sale and Bigarrures, undated**  
Scope and Content Note  
Notes on a 1614 Bigarrures from the "Vente Veinant."

Box 1, Folder 12  
**Draft contracts for Le livre ancien, ca. 1912**  
Scope and Content Note  
Notes and drafts of a contract between Louÿs, Louis Loviot and M. de Boccard of Fontemoing and Cie., regarding the publication of Le livre ancien.