

Tabb, John B., Stiles collection of

Stiles collection of John B. Tabb

1877-1971

Title Statement

Tabb, John B., Stiles collection of A Guide to the Stiles Collection of John B. Tabb, 2002 M 35

Subtitle: A Collection in Special Collections and Archives, James Branch Cabell Library, Virginia Commonwealth University, Collection number M 35.

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Profile Description

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Language Usage: Description is written in: English, Latin script.

Descriptive Rules: Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

M 35

Unit ID

/repositories/5/resources/165

Unit Date

1877-1971

Language

English .

Creator

Stiles, Mary Evelyn

Creator

Tabb, John B. (John Banister)

Extent

1 Linear Feet

Repository

VCU James Branch Cabell Library

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Collection is open to research.

Use Restrictions

There are no restrictions.

Preferred Citation

Stiles collection of John B. Tabb, Collection # M 35, Special Collections and Archives, James Branch Cabell Library, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA.

Biographical / Historical

John Bannister Tabb was born 22 March 1845 on his father's plantation, "The Forest," in Amelia County, Virginia. His parents were John Yelverton and Marianne Bertrand Archer Tabb. A Confederate blockade runner during the Civil War, Tabb's ship, the "Siren," was captured 4 June 1864, and he was imprisoned at Pt. Lookout, Maryland. There he met and befriended the Georgian poet Sidney Lanier. They remained close friends until Lanier's death in 1881. Through their friendship, Tabb began to write poetry. After the war, Tabb studied theology, expecting to become an Episcopalian priest. However, he became interested in Catholicism and converted in September 1872. He subsequently entered St. Charles College, Ellicott City, Maryland, from which he graduated in 1875. Tabb enrolled in St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore in 1881 and was ordained as a priest on 20 December 1884, though he never held a parish. He returned to St. Charles College and taught English until blindness forced him to retire in 1907. He began to write poetry during the Civil War, but his first volume, *Poems*, was not published until 1882. His metaphysical little poems gained popularity after the publication of a second volume of the same name in 1894, and he published regularly thereafter. Poor eyesight had plagued Tabb since boyhood, and he was completely blind when he died in Ellicott City, Maryland on 9 November 1909. Tabb's major works include *Poems* (1882), *An Octave to Mary* (1893), *Poems* (1894), *Lyrics* (1897), *Bone Rules: Or, Skeleton of English Grammar* (1897), *Child Verse* (1899), *Two Lyrics* (1900), *Later Lyrics* (1902), *The Rosary on Rhyme* (1884), *Quipps and Quiddits* (1907) and *Later Poems* (1910).

Scope and Contents

The collection consists of approximately 275 items of various types concerning the priest-poet, Father John B. Tabb, collected by his friend and admirer, Mary Evelyn Stiles of Richmond. Contained in the collection are a number of manuscript poems by Tabb, photocopies of letters from Tabb to Sidney Lanier, Gordon Blair, and others (1877-1909 originals at the Virginia Historical Society), and the letters and notebooks of Miss Stiles that pertain to Tabb. The collection spans the years 1877 to 1968.

Keywords

Poets, American -- 19th century.

Stiles, Mary Evelyn -- Archives

Tabb, John B. (John Banister) -- Manuscripts

Catholic Church -- Clergy

Arrangement

Collection is arranged by subject and chronological therein.

Description of Subordinate Components

Emma Gray Trigg items

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37266

Unit Date 1968-1971

Mixed Materials [A11424377676] 1 (box)

Sue Jones Correspondence

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37267

Unit Date 1968

Mixed Materials [A11424377676] 1 (box)

Mary Evelyn Stiles Correspondence, n.d.

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37268

Unit Date 1915-1952

Mixed Materials [A11424377676] 1 (box)

Cards made from Tabb poems, ca.

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37269

Unit Date 1916

Mixed Materials [A11424377676] 1 (box)

Biography of Tabb by Stiles, n.d.

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37270

Mixed Materials [A11424377676] 1 (box)

Sister Mary Paulina Finn to Stiles

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37271

Unit Date 1906-1919

Mixed Materials [A11424377676] 1 (box)

Miscellaneous Stiles papers, n.d.

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37272

Unit Date 1897-1922

Mixed Materials [A11424377676] 1 (box)

Miscellaneous Stiles papers, n.d.

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37273

Mixed Materials [A11424377676] 1 (box)

Ms Tabb Notes and Poems

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37274

Unit Date 1897-1906

Mixed Materials [A11424377676] 1 (box)

Tabb poems, n.d.

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37275

Mixed Materials [A11424377676] 1 (box)

Tabb poems, n.d.

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37276

Unit Date 1897

Mixed Materials [A11424377676] 1 (box)

Philo Tabb to J.B. Tabb, n.d.

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37277

Mixed Materials [A11424377676] 1 (box)

Clippings about Tabb

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37278

Mixed Materials [A11424377676] 1 (box)

Letters: Tabb to Gordon Blair

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37279

Unit Date 1896-1900

Mixed Materials [A11423644826] 2 (box)

Scope and Contents

All letters photocopies

Letters: Tabb to Gordon Blair

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37280

Unit Date 1901-1902

Mixed Materials [A11423644826] 2 (box)

Scope and Contents

All letters photocopies

Letters: Tabb to Gordon Blair

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37281

Unit Date 1903-1904

Mixed Materials [A11423644826] 2 (box)

Scope and Contents

All letters photocopies

Letters: Tabb to Gordon Blair

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37282

Unit Date 1905

Mixed Materials [A11423644826] 2 (box)

Scope and Contents

All letters photocopies

Letters: Tabb to Gordon Blair

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37283

Unit Date 1906-1907

Mixed Materials [A11423644826] 2 (box)

Scope and Contents

All letters photocopies

Letters: Tabb to Gordon Blair

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37284

Unit Date 1908-1909

Mixed Materials [A11423644826] 2 (box)

Scope and Contents

All letters photocopies

Letters: Tabb to Louisa Coleman Gordon Blair (Lulie)

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37285

Unit Date 1898-1909

Mixed Materials [A11423644826] 2 (box)

Scope and Contents

All letters photocopies

All letters photocopies

Letters: Tabb to Sidney and Mary Day Lanier

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37286

Unit Date 1877-1881

Mixed Materials [A11423644826] 2 (box)

Scope and Contents

All letters photocopies

Poems by Lanier

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37287

Unit Date 1880

Mixed Materials [A11423644826] 2 (box)

Letter to Maria, n.d.

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37288

Mixed Materials [A11423644826] 2 (box)

Notebook

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37289

Unit Date 1910-1913

Mixed Materials [A11423644834] 3 (box)

Notebook

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37290

Unit Date 1903-1916

Mixed Materials [A11423644834] 3 (box)

Notebook John Bannister Tabb: A Study of his Poetry by Thomas T. Price

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37291

Unit Date 1896

Mixed Materials [A11423644834] 3 (box)

Notebook, n.d.

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37292

Unit Date 1915

Mixed Materials [A11423644834] 3 (box)

Child Verse: Poems Grave and Gayby Tabb

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37293

Unit Date 1899

Mixed Materials [A11423644834] 3 (box)

Negative of a photograph, n.d. to be removed

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37294

Mixed Materials [A11423644834] 3 (box)

Articles about Tabb

Unit ID /repositories/5/archival_objects/37295

Unit Date 1945, 1953, 1956

Mixed Materials [A11423644834] 3 (box)