

A Guide to the Silas Weir Mitchell Collection

Silas Weir Mitchell Collection 1870-1911

1870-1911

A Collection in the Clifton Waller Barrett Library of American Literature 6337-b

Special Collections Department, University of Virginia Library

1997

History

Processed by: Special Collections Department Staff

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Title Statement

A Guide to the Silas Weir Mitchell Collection

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Collection: 6337-b

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Revision Description

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Descriptive Summary

Collection Number

6337-b

Language

English

Extent

ca. 65 items

Repository

University of Virginia. Library. Special Collections Dept.

Alderman Library
University of Virginia
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903
USA

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection is open to research.

Use Restrictions

See the [University of Virginia Library's use policy](#).

Acquisition Information

Deposit 1963 Dec 17

Funding Note

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Preferred Citation

Silas Weir Mitchell Collection, Accession 6337-b, Special Collections Department, University of Virginia Library

Item Listing

Manuscripts

Poem, " Friendship"

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

TMs,
1 p.

Westways

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

AMs,
15 p.

Scope and Content

[Early draft of the beginning of Westways, 1913.]

Letters

Silas Weir Mitchellto Mr. Barney

Unit Date 1870 Jan 26

Extent

ALS,
2 p.

Scope and Content

[Gives thanks for satisfactory closure on sale of land; asks for account of sale of 160 acres.]

Silas Weir Mitchell to William B. Dayton

Unit Date 1870 Mar 3

Extent

ALS,
1 p.

Scope and Content

[Encloses account for consultations.]

Silas Weir Mitchell to John Cadwalader

Unit Date 1877 Feb 24

Extent

ALS,
3 p.

Scope and Content

[Says he has letter from Cadwalader's grandfather and will keep it for him or send it to him; offers him and his wife money if they need it; offers hospitality in Philadelphia.]

Silas Weir Mitchell to "Dear Madam"

Unit Date 1887 Jul

Extent

ALS,
1 p.

Scope and Content

[Responds to request for an autograph; says he is unable to write a selection.]

Silas Weir Mitchell to "My Dear Sir"

Unit Date 1890 Jan 23

Extent

ALS,
2 p.

Scope and Content

[Gives dates on which he could meet Howard Pyle in New York; discusses a poem and illustration which will appear in a magazine.]

Representative of Houghton, Mifflin Co. to H. O. H. and Co.

Unit Date 1892 Oct 25

Extent

ANS,
2 p.

Scope and Content

[Informs company that Silas Weir Mitchell approved the page proof; wants manuscript of his preface returned so he may make corrections; encloses a copy of page proof, 3 pages of Francis Drake: A Tragedy of the Sea; includes AN by Silas Weir Mitchell approving the page and requesting the manuscript of the preface for corrections.]

Silas Weir Mitchell to Robert Underwood Johnson

Unit Date 1893 Jan 4

Extent

ALS,
4 p.

Scope and Content

[Says he read the book sent to him when he was ill; discusses the merits of poetry and Johnson's, Richard Watson Gilder's, and his own work; promises to send his new book "for revenge."]

Silas Weir Mitchell to "Dear Sir"

Unit Date 1897 Nov 20

Extent

ALS,
2 p.

Scope and Content

[Says he is willing to read for 20 minutes later on in the program when the audience has quieted down; thinks that too many readers are on the program for the time available; suggests that program be altered because, in its present form, it appears to be a commercial affair.]

Lionel A. Tollemache to Silas Weir Mitchell

Unit Date 1899 Aug 14

Extent

ALS,
4 p.

Scope and Content

[Replies to his letter to Beatrice Tollemache; discusses his own writings, especially the character sketches, "talks with Mr. Gladstone," and a small volume sent to Mitchell containing reminiscences of Lewis Carroll; talks at length about poetry, Mitchell's "When all the Woods are Green"; believes Mitchell's verses are reminiscent of Rudyard Kipling's "Recessional Hymn"; mentions his schoolfellow, George Trevelyan; refers to a friendly review of Characteristics in The Spectator of August 12.]

Beatrice Tollemache to Silas Weir Mitchell

Unit Date 1899 Aug 15

Extent

ALS,
4 p.

Scope and Content

[Thanks him for books; mentions Characteristics, "When all the Woods are Green," and her own attempt to write character sketches; discusses an old saying from Cheshire; relates stories about her nephew's exploits in the Rockies and in Africa; tells a story about a Benedictine monk who was sent from England to America.]

Silas Weir Mitchell to Virginia Moore

Unit Date 1900 Nov 23

Extent ALS, 3 p.w/env

Scope and Content

[Discusses details of speaking engagement at Smith College.]

Silas Weir Mitchellto Centurion

Unit Date 1906 Oct 27

Extent ALS,1 p.initialled

Scope and Content

[Responds to inquiry.]

Silas Weir Mitchellto Wolcott Gibbs

Unit Date 1906 Nov 26

Extent

TLS,
2 p.

Scope and Content

[Speaks with affection about Gibbs' deceased sister and her hospitality to him; sends him some theses that give evidence of the activity in Smith's department.]

Silas Weir Mitchellto [Walter George] Smith

Unit Date 1908 Jun 4

Extent

ALS,
1 p.

Scope and Content

[Responds to request for and autograph.]

Silas Weir Mitchellto Miss Belton

Unit Date 1908 Dec 10

Extent TLS,2 p.w/env

Scope and Content

[Regrets that he is unable to attend the funeral of his old friend; promises to write again in a few days; sends regards to Emily Tuckerman.]

Silas Weir Mitchellto Miss Belton

Unit Date 1908 Dec 15

Extent ALS,3 p.w/env

Scope and Content

[Expresses feelings on the death of her uncle; fears the slow decay of old age; talks affectionately about [Oliver Wolcott Gibbs], his old friend.]

Silas Weir Mitchellto Joseph A. Stetson

Unit Date 1909 Feb 11

Extent

TLS,
1 p.

Scope and Content

[Praises Arthur Hale as a proper member of the Players; says he cannot promise to autograph book because he may not be in New York for months.]

Silas Weir Mitchellto Walter George Smith

Unit Date 1909 Feb 18

Extent AN,1 p.w/env

Scope and Content

[Expresses thanks.]

Silas Weir Mitchell to Walter George Smith

Unit Date 1909 Mar 3

Extent

TLS,
1 p.

Scope and Content

[Remarks on the sonnets of the "Wingless Hours" by an unnamed author he sent to him; believes the author to be an invalid lacking in self-criticism; comments that he himself does not know how to use the "terrible" sonnet form.]

Silas Weir Mitchell to William Morton Payne

Unit Date 1911 Apr 15

Extent

TLS,
2 p.

Scope and Content

[Gives him the times he can see him in Chicago; asks to see some people while there as well as Payne's museum in the Park; requests hotel arrangements for himself and his valet; declines a fee; AN accepts cost of travel and hotel only.]

Silas Weir Mitchell to Rev. Frank B. Reazer

Unit Date 1912 Mar 25

Extent

TLS,
1 p.

Scope and Content

[Thanks him for an encouraging letter concerning "his best work"; believes that although the book did not sell as well as others, there were rewards of another nature; mentions the many letters from people with similar histories who came to him; singles out letter of woman who told about the influence of drink on her husband.]

Silas Weir Mitchell to Francis F. Browne

Unit Date [ca. 1890] Dec 24

Extent ALS, 3 p.w/env

Scope and Content

[Says he is glad to receive The Dial; wishes that magazine luck, larger space, and competent length of reviews; believes that reviews ought to be signed by the reviewers; speculates that George E. B. Saintsbury wrote an article on "Chicago Fair"; calls Saintsbury "really a pestilent fellow"; recommends that Browne reprint Saintsbury's article on Lowell and the Civil War which Saintsbury called "a parochial disturbance"; praises H. B. Fuller's The Cliff Dwellers.] (Includes 2 typed carbon copies)

Silas Weir Mitchell to William Morton Payne

Unit Date [ca 1911] May

Extent

ALS,
3 p.

Scope and Content

[Wonders about the rooms that were engaged for them in Chicago; sends a list of people he wants to see, especially Dr. Billings and [Patriott]; hopes a lot of doctors will attend his lecture; promises it will be

brilliant and original; asks for travel expenses only because he never takes a fee for lectures.]

Silas Weir Mitchell to Countess Iddesleigh

Unit Date Jul 5

Extent

ALS,
2 p.

Scope and Content

[Sends her one of his books, which was very successful in America; speaks about a young man he felt sorry for but was unable to help.]

Silas Weir Mitchell to "Dear Sir"

Unit Date Oct 4

Extent

ALS,
3 p.

Scope and Content

[Says he will send out invitations later than the correspondent will send his announcements; believes Professor Barker will be more helpful than Wood.]

Silas Weir Mitchell to "Dear Sir"

Unit Date Oct 5

Extent

ALS,
2 p.

Scope and Content

[Requests 2 copies of Hephzibah Guinness for minor corrections; says no corrections are needed for Wear and Tear; asks that he find the number of editors and the publisher of the first edition of Wear and Tear.]

Silas Weir Mitchell to Newbold

Unit Date Nov

Extent

ALS,
2 p.

Scope and Content

[Complains that he finds the commercial side of his life distasteful; insists that his own doctor take fees; sends him his consultant account.]

Silas Weir Mitchell to [Thomas Bailey?] Aldrich

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

ALS,
4 p.

Scope and Content

[States that Aldrich has recovered from illness and has returned to making verse about Longfellow; says he is working on the third copy of his new novel which will appear next November in The Century; mentions that [Richard Watson] Gilder is excited about the novel; believes it to be a good sign in an editor; refers to his son's new play.]

Silas Weir Mitchellto Rofe Cholim

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

ALS,
2 p.

Scope and Content

[Expresses interest and comments on book Cholim sent to him on Cholim's "race."]

Silas Weir Mitchellto "Dear Sir"

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

ALS,
1 p.

Scope and Content

[Remarks that a book presented to Thomas Jeffersonwould be worth more if it has Jefferson's signature.]

Silas Weir Mitchellto Miss Forbes

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

ALS,
2 p.

Scope and Content

[Advises her to go without Bismuth for some time; recommends four books to be read to her father; mentions a nice note he received from Mrs. Forbes.]

Silas Weir Mitchellto Wolcott Gibbs

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

ALS,
4 p.

Scope and Content

[Speaks about telepathic sympathies between them; admires Gibbs' handwriting which belies his age; describes his visits to his patients; notes that he works as a doctor only in the winter and spends summers fishing for salmon and writing fiction in Maine; believes some essential difference exists between scientific work and creative fiction.]

Silas Weir Mitchellto Miss Harris

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

ALS,
1 p.

Scope and Content

[Sends regrets because he is unable to undertake "this pleasant and interesting matter."]

Silas Weir Mitchell to Mrs. Russell

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

ALS,
4 p.

Scope and Content

[Turns down trip to Buffalo to see a mental patient; discusses the problems of diagnosing and treating mental patients; asks for contribution to enlarge his nervous hospital; reports that Mr. Robb is very well, but unaware of the peril he was in.]

Silas Weir Mitchell to Charles Strong

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

ALS,
1 p.

Scope and Content

[Feels that members of the W. Island Club that are not present should be able to vote on new members; thinks it should use the same procedure as in the Round Table Club; suggests that Strong make some change in the laws.]

Silas Weir Mitchell to "Dear Ann"

Unit Date n. d.

Extent AN, 2 p. initialed

Scope and Content

[Says number 5-c has been ready for her for awhile; fears that it will be part of a collection nobody will buy.]

Document

Legal agreement for publication of A Christmas Venture

Unit Date 1908 Jan 29

Extent

TDS,
2 p.

Scope and Content

[Signed by Silas Weir Mitchell and George William Jacobs & Co. and witnessed by Cosntance J. Greer and Pariau S. Parsons.]

Photograph

Magazine reproduction of Silas Weir Mitchell in profile

Unit Date 1914 [Jan]

Extent

Photograph

Scope and Content

[Includes biographical sketch listing Mitchell's accomplishments as a physician and writer

Miscellaneous

Silas Weir Mitchellto Mr. [Dutihl]

Unit Date 1874 Jan 1

Extent

Receipt

Scope and Content

[For medical attendance.]

" >A Prayer" by Silas Weir Mitchell

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

Broadside

Scope and Content

[Includes 2 copies of a poem.]

" Ave Pennsylvania"

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

Leaflet,
3 p.

Scope and Content

[Poem, signed by Silas Weir Mitchell.]

Autograph Book

"Autographs of Poets"

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

AMsS,
45 p.

Scope and Content

[Volume bound in dark blue leather with gilt ornamentation; includes following items.]

Robert Browningto Mr. Field

Unit Date 1883 Feb 8

Extent

ALS,
4 p.

Scope and Content

[Reflects on six weeks spent in Venice.]

Henry Wadsworth Longfellowto [Silas Weir Mitchell]

Unit Date 1866 Dec 13

Extent

ALS,
3 p.

Scope and Content

[Thanks him for the book which he is looking forward to reading.]

"I see the immediation sweet . . ." by Ralph Waldo Emerson

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

AMsS,
1 p.

[James] Bayard Taylorto [John Kearsley Mitchell]

Unit Date 1854 Nov 4

Extent

ALS,
4 p.

Scope and Content

[Recommends his brother for the position of physician at Lazarette.]

Dante Gabriel Rossettito "My dear sir"

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

ALS,
1 p.

Scope and Content

[Regrets that he cannot help with the binding.]

[Fitz-Greene] Halleckto John Kearsley Mitchell

Unit Date 1840 Feb 26

Extent

ALS,
1 p.

Scope and Content

[Declines invitation.]

Poem, " Identity" by Thomas Bailey Aldrich

Unit Date 1905 Mar 19

Extent

AMsS,
1 p.

Scope and Content

[Inscribed to Silas Weir Mitchell.]

Oliver Wendell Holmesto [John Kearsley Mitchell]

Unit Date 1846 Dec 14

Extent

ALS,
2 p.

Scope and Content

[Says he is pleased by comment about poem; includes AN on verso, initialed W. M., 1892, describes when Holmes gave Mitchell the poem and letter.]

Poem, " Old Ironsides" by Oliver Wendell Holmes

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

AMsS,
2 p.

Francis Scott Key to John Kearsley Mitchell

Unit Date 1841 Sep 25

Extent

ALS,
2 p.

Scope and Content

[Discusses his publishing projects.]

[William Cullen] Bryant to John Kearsley Mitchell

Unit Date 1840 Feb 26

Extent

ALS,
1 p.

Scope and Content

[Declines invitation.]

Poem, " Lincoln" by James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1905 Feb 12

Extent

Broadside

Scope and Content

[Includes signed autograph dedication to Silas Weir Mitchell.]

Florence Marion Howe Hall to Mrs. Mitchell

Unit Date Jul 11

Extent

ALS,
2 p.

Scope and Content

[Asks her to send copy of " Battle Hymn of the Republic. "]

Florence Marion Howe Hall to [Silas Weir] Mitchell

Unit Date Jul 16

Extent

ALS,
4 p.

Scope and Content

[Encloses autograph copy of " Battle Hymn of the Republic"; claims share of credit for writing it since her mother wrote while staying with her; compliments his book.]

Poem, " Battle Hymn of the Republic" by Julia Ward Howe

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

AMsS,
3 p.

Scope and Content

[Inscribed to Silas Weir Mitchell.]

Poems, " Hymn of the Marches" and " Individuality" by Sidney Lanier

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

AMsS,
7 p.

Scope and Content

[Signed by author.]

Poem, " Chopion" by [Helen] Grace Smith

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

AMsS,
1 p.

Printed poem, " On a soldier fallen in the Phillippines" by William Vaughn Moody

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

Clipping

Fragment of poem, "From the forest down to the river were ten broad ditches or more, . . ." by Carl Benson(Charles Astor Bristed)

Unit Date Aug 7

Extent

AMsS,
3 p

List of words or terms regarding Morris-dancing

Unit Date n. d.

Extent

AMs

Scope and Content

[Laid in back of volume.]

Printed card for Social Art ClubDinner

Unit Date Sep 16

Extent

Printed Card

Scope and Content

[Includes 17 autographs, 10 identifiable as Moncure Daniel Conway, John W. [Karlson], Stanley Matthews, Andrew D. White, Weir Mitchell, E. R. Robinson, [J. F. Davies], James MacAlister, George Sechel Pepper, William Pepper.]

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