

E. F. (Edward Frederick) Benson:

An Inventory of His Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Benson, E. F. (Edward Frederick), 1867-1940
Title:	E. F. (Edward Frederick) Benson Collection
Dates:	1894-1939, undated
Extent:	2 boxes (.84 linear feet)
Abstract:	Includes manuscripts and letters written by the English novelist, biographer, memoirist, and short story writer E. F. Benson. A number of accompanying letters and documents regarding Benson originated from the files of literary agent William Morris Colles and The Authors' Syndicate.
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-0339
Language:	English
Access:	Open for research

Administrative Information

Processed by:	Joan Sibley and Jamie Hawkins-Kirkham, 2011 Note: This finding aid replicates and replaces information previously available only in a card catalog. Please see the explanatory note at the end of this finding aid for information regarding the arrangement of the manuscripts as well as the abbreviations commonly used in descriptions.
Repository:	Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin

Works:

- The Brontës, signed handwritten manuscript with emendations, 12 pages, undated. **Container**
1.1
- Charlotte Brontë, volume ii, signed handwritten manuscript / incomplete / second draft with emendations in notebook, 167 pages and 34 loose pages, undated (published 1930?). **Container**
1.2
- Guy's candidate, handwritten manuscript, 22 pages, undated. **Container** 1.1
- Life of Ferdinand Magellan, handwritten manuscript with revisions, 272 pages, 26 January 1929. **Container**
1.3
- The myth of R. L. Stevenson, handwritten manuscript with many revisions, pages 1-90 with pages missing, undated. **Container**
1.4
- R. L. S., typescript with extensive handwritten revisions, 30 pages, undated. **Container**
1.1
- Review of The Victorians and their reading, by Amy Cruse, typescript with handwritten corrections by Benson and notes and markings by printer, 11 pages, undated.
- Sir Francis Drake, signed handwritten manuscript with revisions, 275 pages in 2 volumes, 6 July - 17 August 1926. **Container**
1.5-2.1
- Sir Francis Drake, chapter I, handwritten manuscript, 5 pages, undated. **Container**
1.1
- The story of a mazurka, handwritten manuscript with revisions, 28 pages, undated.

Letters:

- 4 ALS to unidentified recipient, 1896-1932. **Container 2.2**
- 6 ALS to unidentified recipients, 1922-1926, undated.
- 8 ALS to Ainslie, Douglas, undated.
- ALS to Beare, Miss, 4 December no year. Enclosed in ALS Beare to Margaret Collins.
- ALS to Bramley, Charles, 14 September 1937.
- 33 ALS, 1 telegram to The Authors' Syndicate, most directed to W. M. Colles, 1899-1925, undated. **Container 2.3**
- 7 ALS to Colles, William Morris, 1901-1923, undated. **Container 2.2**
- ALS to Collins, Margaret, 21 July 1912.
- ALS to Fowler, John, 7 October 1924.
- 74 ALS to Gill, Mrs., 1894-1931, undated. Benson's typist. **Container 2.4**
- 2 ALS to Gillett, Eric, 29 April 1935, 2 May 1939. **Container 2.2**
- ALS to Glyn?, Miss, undated.
- ALS to James, Montague Rhodes, undated.
- ALS to Jeune, Lady, undated.
- 2 ALS to Lane, John, 31 October no year, undated.
- 5 ALS to Le Blond, Elizabeth Alice Frances Hawkins-Whitshed, 1930-1932.
- ALS to Mew, Egan, 2 December 1897.
- ALS to Nelson, George M., 11 March 1929.
- ALS to Whitefriars Club, 8 September no year.

Recipient:

Hodder and Stoughton, Ltd. TLS from R. Percy Hodder-Williams to Benson, 18 June 1931.

Container
2.5

Keighley Public Library. TLS from R. S. Crossley (Librarian) to Benson, 10 June 1931.

Nicholson, Graham and Jones Solicitors, 2 TLS to Benson, 2 and 6 July 1931.

Robinson, Frances Mabel. ALS to Benson, 27 June no year.

Miscellaneous:

Ainslee's Magazine. TLS to The Authors' Syndicate, directed to W. M. Colles, 6 December 1902. **Container 2.6**

The Amalgamated Press (1922) Limited. 3 TLS Marjorie Pryor (Editress) to The Authors' Syndicate, 1925.

Benson, E. F. (Edward Frederic), 1867-1940:

3 autographs, 1 page each, 5 October 1918, undated. **Container 2.6**

4 cancelled checks endorsed by Benson, 1931-1934.

Memorandum of agreement with Thomas Nelson and Sons, signed carbon typescript document with handwritten insertions and deletions, 3 pages, 23 July 1913.

Memorandum of agreement with G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1 signed printed document with handwritten deletions and insertions, 2 pages; 3 typescript / copies, 2 pages each, 1 December 1895. **Container 2.7**

Cox, Percy L. ALS to Colles, William Morris, 17 July 1906. **Container 2.6**

Harper & Brothers. TLS Cass Canfield to The Authors' Syndicate, 5 August 1925.

MacCarthy, Desmond, 1878-1952. Review of Charlotte Brontë by E. F. Benson, 1932. Accompanied by TLS from British Broadcasting Company to Longmans Green and Company, Ltd., 21 April 1932.

National Provincial Bank Limited. TLS to The Authors' Syndicate, directed to W. M. Colles, 20 May 1925.

Nelson (Thomas) and Sons. TLI to The Authors' Syndicate, directed to W. M. Colles, 4 November 1916.

Pears (A. & F.) Ltd. TLS Leslie W. E Sherwood (Advertising Department) to The Authors' Syndicate, directed to W. M. Colles, 26 February 1925.

Putnam's (G. P.) Sons. TLS to The Authors' Syndicate, 28 March 1912.

Stuart, Esme. 2 ALS to The Authors' Syndicate, 25 and 27 February 1925.

The Windsor Magazine. 10 TLS, TL / copy, APCS A. Hutchinson to The Authors' Syndicate, directed to W. M. Colles, 1925, undated.

Explanatory Note Concerning Manuscript Collections Cataloged in the Card Catalog

Prior to 1990 when archival cataloging procedures were adopted at the Ransom Center, all manuscript collections were described in a card catalog.

Organization of Collections:

- Manuscripts for each author collection were organized into four categories:
- **Works:** manuscripts by the author, arranged alphabetically by title;
- **Letters:** the author's outgoing correspondence, arranged alphabetically by recipient name;
- **Recipient:** the author's incoming correspondence, arranged alphabetically by the author of the letter; and
- **Miscellaneous:** all other manuscripts and correspondence, arranged alphabetically by creator.

Materials that did not fit into these categories, such as art, photographs, books, and near-print materials such as newspaper clippings, were dispersed to other Ransom Center collections for cataloging and storage.

Abbreviations Used in Descriptions:

The symbols below were used in combinations. For example **ALS** means autograph letter signed; **Tccms** means typed carbon copy manuscript, etc.

- **A** = autograph (i.e., handwritten)
- **T** = typed
- **S** = signed
- **I** = initialed
- **Ms** = manuscript
- **Mss** = manuscripts
- **L** = letter
- **FL** = form letter
- **N** = note
- **D** = document
- **C** = card
- **PC** = post card
- **cc** = carbon copy
- **p** = page
- **pp** = pages
- **l** = leaf
- **ll** = leaves
- **nd** = no date
- **inc d** = incomplete date