

Frederick Rolfe:

An Inventory of His Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Rolfe, Frederick, 1860-1913
Title:	Frederick Rolfe Collection
Dates:	1891-1972, undated
Extent:	6 boxes (2.52 linear feet), 4 galley folders (gf)
Abstract:	Includes some manuscripts and letters of Frederick Rolfe, the English writer better known as Baron Corvo. His principal correspondents include Charles Masson Fox, John Lane, Leonard Parker Moore, Henry John Newbolt, and James B. Pinker. There are also a large number of manuscripts and letters about Rolfe, chiefly by Bertram W. Korn, Leonard Parker Moore, A. J. A. Symons, Donald Weeks, and Cecil Woolf.
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-3595
Language:	English
Access:	Open for research

Administrative Information

Processed by:	Joan Sibley and Katherine Noble, 2013 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:

Don Renato: notes on several characters, handwritten manuscript, 1 page, undated.

Container
1.1

Hubert's Arthur, handwritten manuscript / fragment with emendations, 2 pages, undated. Included with this: ANS by Bertram W. Korn identifying the fragment.

Nicholas Crabbe, or the one and the many, proof copy signed by Cecil Woolf, 254 pages, 4 July 1958. Bookplate of Bertram W. Korn.

Container
1.2

Letters:

- 3 ALS to Bullen, Arthur Henry, 21 and 22 July 1903, 22 January 1904. **Container**
1.3
- 12 ALI, 5 AL, 5 APC, telegram to Fox, C. Masson, 1909-1910, undated. Included with these: Great Britain Foreign Office telegram to C. Masson Fox, 22 April 1910. Also included are 2 picture post cards of Venice, not written on. **Container**
1.4
- Letters to Fox, C. Masson, 24 typed transcripts, 77 pages; 24 typed transcripts, 76 pages bound, with B. W. Korn bookplate; 1909-1910. Includes telegram from the British Foreign Office. **Container**
1.5-6
- 3 ALS "Frederick Baron Corvo" to Lane, John, 11 March 1899, 12 February 1900, 27 December 1902. ALS 12 February 1900 includes a colophon proposed by Rolfe for the Toto stories, typescript and typed carbon copies enclosed. **Container**
1.3
- 2 TL / copies, TccL / copy "Frederick Baron Corvo" to Lane, John, 12 February 1900, 31 January 1902, 7 July 1904.
- 2 ALS to The monthly review, 25 and 26 September 1903.
- 34 ALS, ALI, APCI to Moore, Leonard Parker, 1903-1913, undated. Published in 1960 centenary edition. **Container**
1.7
- Letters to Moore, Leonard, typed and carbon copy manuscript / transcript, 45 pages bound, 1903-1913. Bertram W. Korn bookplate. **Container**
1.8
- 30 ALS, PCI to Newbolt, Henry John, Sir, 1902-1903. Includes one envelope separated from a letter. **Container**
1.9
- 52 ALS, 3 APCI, 3 telegrams to Pinker, James B., 1902-1904, undated. First 8 letters are signed "Frank English." **Container**
1.10-2.2
- ALS to The Royal Literary Fund, 24 September 1903. **Container** 1.3
- ALS to Scott-Hall, W. E., 23 December 1898. TL / copy enclosed.
- 11 TccL / copies, TD / copy to Walsh, James J., 1903-1911. Included is photocopy of ADS, 12 May 1908.
- ALS to Williamson, _____, 31 May 1909. TccL / copy enclosed. Printed in The quest for Corvo.

Recipient:

Royal Literary Fund. ALS to Rolfe, 9 July 1903.

Container 2.3

Walsh, James Joseph, 1865-1942. TccL / copy to Rolfe, 16 August 1910.

Miscellaneous:

The Aylesford review. ALS, 2 TLS editor Brocard Sewell to Korn, Bertram Wallace re Rolfé and a Korn article, 1957-1958. **Container** 2.4

Bartholomew, Augustus Theodore, 1882- . Scrapbook of Rolfé material, ALS, TLS, APCS, APCI, handwritten and typescript notes, newspaper clippings, printed leaflets and flyers, photographs, 190 pages, undated. Includes letters from John Lane, Grant Richards, Christopher Millard, members of Rolfé's family. Bertram W. Korn bookplate. **Container** 2.5

Douglas, Alfred Bruce, Lord, 1870-1945. 2 ALS "Bosie" to Symons, Alphonse James Albert "Ajaccio," 9 and 11 February 1934. **Container** 2.4

Gardner, J. ALS to unidentified recipient, 13 April 1934. From Rolfé's landlord in Bournemouth re disposal of manuscripts and drawings left there by Rolfé.

Gosse, Edmund William, Sir. ALS to Newbolt, Henry John, Sir, 12 May 1903.

Grant, John (Bookseller), Edinburgh. Bill to J. M. Heckler, 27 September 1927.

Greening & Co., Ltd. TLI to Pinker, James B. re Don Renato, 4 June 1903.

Gregory, Maundy, 1877-1941. ALS to Holland, Vyvyan Beresford, 4 January 1930. Included with this: TN to Bertram W. Korn from G. F. Sims re this letter.

Griffiths, Catherine M. ALS to Newbolt, Henry John, Sir, 13 August 1903.

Hall, Victor. TLS to Roberts, Francis Warren, 31 July 1967.

Hancox, Alan (firm), Cheltenham. TLI to Korn, undated. Removed from AP 4 L416 vol. 1, no. 2, 1928 copy 1.

Heinemann (William) Publisher. APCI on printed form card to Pinker, James B. re Hadrian the seventh, 17 September 1903.

Korn, Bertram Wallace:

The anatomy of Corvinism, typescript with handwritten revisions, 6 pages; 4 carbon typescripts, 5 pages each; undated. Published in Corvo, 1860-1960. Enclosed with these: handwritten manuscript / notes, 3 pages. **Container** 2.7

Correspondence with book dealers, ALS, TLS, TPCS, TPC, invoices, 137 items, 1955-1961. **Container** 2.8-9

Correspondence with Corvinists, ALS, TLS, APCS, TccL, 13 pages, 1957-1960. **Container** 2.6

Corvo collection, lists of items in collection and desiderata, handwritten, typed, and carbon copy manuscripts, 18 pages, undated.

Essay on his Rolfe collection, typescript with handwritten revisions, 3 pages; carbon typescript with few handwritten corrections, 4 pages; carbon typescript, 4 pages; undated. Re disposal of his collection.

Notes for the introduction to The centenary edition of the letters of Frederick William Rolfe, II, Leonard Moore, handwritten manuscript / notes, 6 pages, undated.

TccL to Manuscripts re Rolfe letters for Centenary edition, 7 November 1958.

TccL to Roth, Cecil, 7 July 1957.

TccL to Smith, Timothy d'Arch re Corvo exhibit, 1960.

6 TccL to Woolf, Cecil, 1955-1960.

Leslie, John Randolph Shane, Sir, 1885- . ALS to Moore, Leonard Parker, 4 January 1925. **Container** 2.10

Maguay, Nina. 2 ALS to Newbolt, Henry John, Sir, 27 November and 2 December 1903.

Moore, Leonard Parker:

Epilogue to The centenary edition of the letters of Frederick William Rolfe, II, Leonard Moore, typescript with handwritten emendations, 7 pages; carbon typescript with handwritten emendations, 7 pages; undated. **Container** 2.10

More about Corvo, handwritten manuscript / draft and notes re Rolfe with handwritten revisions, 39 pages, undated. Includes notes on conversations with Rolfe. Published in The bookman, April 1934. **Container** 2.11

Note on the origin of the name Corvo, ANI / marginalia on printed page, 1 page, undated. Comment on letter to editor from Stuart Mason (Christopher Millard) on page 637 torn from The London mercury, October 1923. **Container** 2.10

TL / copy to Symons, Alphonse James Albert, 28 March 1929.

Oxford. University. Bodleian Library. Rolfe manuscripts in the Walpole Collection at the Bodleian Library, typescript, 1 page, undated.

Philadelphia. The free library. Letters from the reference librarian to Bertram Wallace Korn re Corvine exhibit of his collection and exhibit labels, 1959. **Container** 2.12

Quaritch (Bernard) Ltd. TLS to Korn, Bertram Wallace, 3 June 1957. Enclosed with this: invoice. Removed from TEMP R644ch 1901 HRC. **Container** 2.10

Rolfe, Frederick William, 1860-1913:

Don Renato / An ideal content: memorandum to James B. Pinker re publication, handwritten manuscript, 1 page, undated. **Container** 3.2

Don Renato: memorandum of agreement with Francis Griffiths, TD / copy, 3 pages, 29 October 1907.

For Who's who, handwritten manuscript, 2 pages, undated. Short biographical sketch sent to Leonard P. Moore. Woolf and Korn suppose it was sent with ALS to Leonard Moore, 4 October 1903. Included with this: AN by Korn re manuscript.

Indenture agreement between Rolfe and Serjeant, J. S., TD / copy, 5 pages, 11 December 1912.

Letters by, to and about Frederick William Rolfe, TL / copies with handwritten corrections by Symons, Alphonse James Albert, approximately 680 pages, 1891-1913. Includes transcripts of the Aberdeen Free Press articles. Bertram W. Korn bookplate. **Container** 3.3-4.1

Letters to James Walsh by Frederick William Rolfe (Baron Corvo); introduction and notes by Donald Weeks, typescript with handwritten revisions, 71 pages, 1972. **Container** 4.2

Note re a Toto story, handwritten manuscript / notes, 2 pages, undated. Contains also an address and the names Francesco Sforza / Miss Frances O'Sponge. **Container** 3.2

The songs of Meleagros (sic, Meleager): memorandum of agreement with Francis Griffiths, TD / copy, 3 pages, 5 November 1907.

The weird of the wanderer: memorandum of agreement with William Rider and Son, TD / copy, 4 pages, 3 April 1912.

Rota, Anthony. TPCS to Korn, B. with mention of Rolfe and A. J. A. Symons, 14 November 1961 (postmark date). **Container** 3.1

Roth, Cecil, 1899- . 3 TLS to Korn, Bertram Wallace, 1957-1958.

Roth, David. ALS to Korn, Bertram Wallace, 21 June 1957.

Serjeant, Justus Stephen. Deed of assignment of literary rights to Symons, Alphonse James Albert, TD / copy, 3 pages, 6 March 1929. Included with this: receipt signed by Symons, 28 March 1929, for deed and Rolfe manuscript.

Serjeant, Justus Stephen. 3 ALS to Moore, Leonard Parker, 1913-1925.

Sims, George. A Rolfe scrapbook, miscellaneous loose printed items and letters, approximately 300 pages, undated. **Container** 4.3-4

Sims, George. A Rolfe scrapbook, printed items with few letters pasted in dummy of A. J. A. Symons A nineties bibliography, Baron Corvo volume, approximately 110 pages bound, undated. Contains galley proofs for Cecil Woolf's Rolfe bibliography together with varied Corvo ephemera. **Container** 4.5

Smith, Timothy d'Arch. 2 TLS to Korn, Bertram Wallace re Corvo exhibit. 1 and 28 September 1960. **Container** 3.1

Sturgis, Julian, 1848-1904. 2 ALS to Newbolt, Henry John, Sir, 14 May and 3 November 1903.

Symons, Alphonse James Albert, 1900-1941:

Untitled fragment: drafts of an opening sentence re nineteenth century literature, handwritten manuscript with emendations, 3 pages, undated. **Container** 3.1

ALS, TLS to Moore, Leonard Parker, 25 March 1925, 5 April 1929.

Baron Corvo, proof copy with handwritten emendations, 40 pages, 1927. Sette of odd volumes, no. 81. From Vyvyan Holland's collection in an envelope endorsed in his hand. **Container** 4.6

Weeks, Donald:

ALS, ANS, 27 TLS, APCS, 5 Chanukah and Passover cards to Korn, Bertram Wallace, 1957-1960, undated. Enclosed with TLS, 20 September 1959, are transcripts of three newspaper articles and a Rolfe poem. **Container** 5.1

Corvo:

Titled The raven called Corvo, typed and carbon copy manuscript with handwritten revisions and inserts, 441 pages, undated. First draft. **Container** 5.2-4

Signed typed and carbon copy manuscript with handwritten emendations, 411 pages, undated. Revised draft. **Container** 5.5-7

Typed and carbon copy manuscript with handwritten revisions and printer's marks, 487 pages, 1971. **Container** 5.8-6.2

Wells, Herbert George, 1866-1946. ALS to Symons, Alphonse James Albert re Rolfe and The quest for Corvo, 23 January 1934. **Container** 3.1

Woolf, Cecil:

A bibliography of Frederick Rolfe: illustrations, proofs, 7 pages, circa 1957. **Container** 3.1

- 16 ALS, 37 TLS, 2 telegrams, New Year's card to Korn, Bertram Wallace, 1955-1961. **Container**
6.3
- The centenary edition of the letters of Frederick William Rolfe:
- I, C. H. C. Pirie-Gordon, carbon typescript with signed inscription to Bertram Korn and handwritten emendations, 200 pages, 1958. Bertram W. Korn bookplate. **Container**
6.4
- II, Leonard Moore, edited and with an introduction by Cecil Woolf and Bertram W. Korn, carbon typescript with handwritten emendations, 16 pages, 4 November 1959. **Container**
6.5
- II, Leonard Moore, galley proofs, 25 pages, 1960. Bertram W. Korn bookplate. **Container**
gf 1
- III, D. W. Dawkins, carbon typescript with handwritten emendations, 138 pages, 1962. Many pages lacking. **Container**
6.6
- III, D. W. Dawkins, galley proofs with handwritten corrections, 62 pages, 1962. **Container**
gf 2
- Corvo, 1860-1960, signed galley proofs with handwritten corrections, 46 pages, 1960. Includes duplicate galley sheets for the Korn essay. **Container**
gf 3
- Corvo, 1860-1960, page proofs with signed inscription to Bertram W. Korn, 155 pages, 21 April 1961. **Container**
gf 4

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