

James Russell Lowell:

An Inventory of His Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

Descriptive Summary

Creator:	Lowell, James Russell, 1819-1891
Title:	James Russell Lowell Collection
Dates:	1823-1929, undated
Extent:	2 document boxes, 1 oversize box (2.51 linear feet)
Abstract:	Includes manuscripts and letters written by the American poet, critic, and editor James Russell Lowell. Nine letters written by Lowell to Edgar Allan Poe are present in the collection.
Call Number:	Manuscript Collection MS-2562
Language:	English and Spanish
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:

- Untitled poem, I go to the ridge in the forest..., signed handwritten manuscript, 1 page, 7 January 1869. Removed from 61-4407. **Container** 1.1
- The Bigelow papers, second series: Ketelopotomachia, page proofs with handwritten corrections, 4 sheets (pages 186-197), undated. Included with these: envelope with ANS by C. E. Norton. From the Hanley Collection.
- Elmwood, 1846, handwritten manuscript, 5 pages, undated. From the Hanley Collection.
- For an autograph, handwritten manuscript, 1 page, 23 July 1876. Written on verso: For an autograph, handwritten manuscript with revisions, 1876. The two poems are entirely different texts. From the Hanley Collection.
- The fountain of youth (poem), signed handwritten manuscript, 4 pages, undated.
- The independent in politics, handwritten manuscript / draft fragment with revisions, 1 page, undated. Written on top of page: ANI by Charles Eliot Norton identifying this text. From the John Stuart Groves Collection. **Container** 1.2
- An ode for the Fourth of July 1876, handwritten manuscript / fragment with revisions, 1 page, undated. Part of second strophe of part III. From the Hanley Collection. **Container** 1.1
- The queen is dead (poem), signed handwritten manuscript with one revision, 1 page, 2 February 1879. Written on bottom of page: copied for Eliza Field.
- Quotations, handwritten manuscript / lines and fragments in the hand of Mary G. P. Field, 3 leaves, 1838-1842. Prose and verse quotations, and quotations from letters by Lowell.
- Shakespeare once more, handwritten manuscript / fragment with revisions, 12 leaves, undated. Included with this: handwritten manuscript / notes in an unidentified hand re the essay, 4 pages. From the Hanley Collection. **Container** 1.3
- The vision of Sir Launfal, handwritten manuscript on vellum / calligraphic copy by Alberto Sangorski, signed by him and with his illuminated borders and painted miniatures, 15 leaves, 1929. Portrait miniature of Lowell on title page. In a full morocco jeweled binding by Riviere. From the Hanley Collection. **Container** 3.1
- A winter-evening hymn to my fire, handwritten manuscript with revisions, 6 pages, undated. From the Hanley Collection. **Container** 1.4

Letters:

- ALS to unidentified recipient, 2 February no year. **Container 1.5**
- ALS to unidentified recipient, 16 October 1875. From the Hanley Collection.
- ALS to unidentified recipient, 10 September 1876. From the Hanley Collection.
- ALS to unidentified recipient, 2 April 1881. From the Hanley Collection.
- ALS to Abbott, Edwin H., 17 December 1863. Removed from Mark Twain scrapbook.
- ALS to Anderson, Rev., 19 March 1870. From the Hanley Collection.
- ANS to Bôcher, Ferdinand?, undated (watermark 1860). Removed from 60-1642.
- ALS to Boyle, Mary, 25 June 1884. From the Hanley Collection.
- ALS to Chilton, Robert S., 17 December 1885. From the Hanley Collection.
- ALS to Coates (J. H.) & Co., 7 October 1876.
- 4 ALS, 3 ALI, AL to Field, Eliza, 1879-1882, undated. Signature cut from letter dated 9 March 1880. From the Mark Liddell Papers at the Barker Texas History Center. **Container 1.6**
- 51 letters to Field, John W., 1870-1886. 14 letters also addressed to Eliza Field. From the Mark Liddell Papers at the Barker Texas History Center. **Container 1.7**
- ALS to Gray, Horace, 5 July 1865. From Hanley II. Was matted and framed with a photograph of Lowell. **Container 1.5**
- 2 ALS to Houghton, Henry Oscar?, 13 March 1886, 24 December 1890. From the Hanley Collection.
- ALS to Lane, William Coolidge, 21 November 1890. From the Hanley Collection.
- ALS to Mead, R. re Wrenn, John Henry, undated.
- ALS to Minor, Lucian, Mrs., 11 July 1848. From the Hanley Collection.
- ALS to Neal, John, 18 November 1842. Was bound with letters from Lowell to E. A. Poe and Robert Carter in binding by Stikeman & Co., New York. **Container 1.8**
- ALS to Owen, John, 21 June 1842. From the Hanley Collection. **Container 1.5**

ALS to Parker, Theodore, 28 July no year. From the Hanley Collection.

ALS to Parsons, Theophilus, 23 December 1843. From the Hanley Collection.

3 ALS, 4 ALI, 2 AL to Poe, Edgar Allan, 1842-1844, undated. Lowell's signature has been cut from 2 of these letters. Removed from a binding by Stikeman & Co., New York. Also removed from this binding: ALS from Lowell to John Neal, 18 November 1842 and ALS from Robert Carter to E. A. Poe, 19 June 1842. **Container**
1.9

ALS to Smalley, Ida, 22 February 1884. From the Hanley Collection. **Container**
1.5

Letters to Smalley, Phoebe Garnaut, TL / copies, 317 pages, 1880-1890. **Container**
1.10-11

6 ALS to Story, Emelyn Eldredge, 1843-1856, undated. **Container** 2.1

3 ALS, 8 ALI to Story, William Wetmore, 1844-1890, undated. **Container**
2.2

ALS to Streatfield, George Sidney, 13 September 1883. From the Wrenn Collection. Removed from Wx L951 848ma. **Container**
1.5

2 ALS to Ware, William Robert, 13 November 1871, 7 October 1874.

ALS to Warren, Joseph, 1 September 1858. From the Stark Collection.

Recipient:

Müller, Friedrich Max, 1823-1900. ALS to Lowell, 6 May 1881.

Container
2.3

Miscellaneous:

Unidentified author. AL to Lowell, Charles, 15 February 1842. From the Hanley Collection. **Container 2.4**

Bancroft, George, 1800-1891. ALS to Lowell, Charles, 19 December 1824. Written at end is AN signed by James Russell Lowell.

Bradbury & Soden, Boston. Advertisement for the Boston miscellany of literature as published in the Boston daily advertiser, handwritten manuscript / copy in an unidentified hand, 1 page, 2 November 1841. From the Hanley Collection.

Carter, Robert, 1819-1879. AL to Poe, Edgar Allan, 19 June 1843. Signature has been cut from this letter. Was bound with letters from James Russell Lowell to E. A. Poe and John Neal in binding by Stikeman & Co., New York.

El Consejo de Ministros. 2 handwritten invitations to unidentified recipient, 23 January no year, 7 October no year. In Spanish. From the Mark Liddell Papers at the Barker Texas History Center.

Lowell, James Russell, 1819-1891. Bank draft on the Charles River National Bank, made payable to himself, signed handwritten document, 1 leaf, 5 July 1877. From the Wrenn Collection. Removed from Wx L951 871m.

Lowell, Maria White, d. 1853. ALS to Norton, Catherine Eliot, undated. Removed from 60-1656.

Reed. Handwritten telegram to unidentified recipient, undated.

Miscellaneous notes. **Container 2.5**

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