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Mark Twain papers 4078617

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on January 13, 2025.

Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.
New York, NY 10027

Business Number: (212) 854-5153

Fax Number: (212) 854-1365

rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu

URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Twain, Mark, 1835-1910
Title:	Mark Twain papers
ID:	4078617
ID:	MS#1265
Date [inclusive]:	1900-1968
Physical Description:	1 linear feet 2 boxes; 1 volume; 1 oversize folder
Language of the Material:	English .

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Mark Twain papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Library.

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Biographical Note

Clemens -- Mark Twain -- was born in Florida, Missouri in 1835 and was raised in Hannibal on the Mississippi River. In 1856 he apprenticed himself to become a riverboat pilot and spent the next five years navigating the Mississippi. In 1862 he began work as a feature writer for the Virginia City Territorial Enterprise and began to sign his work Mark Twain. The report of his journey to Europe *Innocents Abroad* 1869 became his first best-seller. In 1876 he published *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* and in 1894 he published *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. Some modern readers are offended by the language Twain's books. His realistic prose style influenced numerous American writers. Twain was liberal on racial and social issues. One of the themes of *Huckleberry Finn* is equality for people of all races. Towards the end of his life Clemens was troubled by bad investments the loss of loved ones and depression. He died on 21 April 1910 and is buried in Woodlawn Cemetery Elmira New York

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Summary

The collection consists of 32 letters written by Samuel L. Clemens to Mary Benjamin Rogers (Mrs. H.H.), his niece by marriage, and four letters written to Clemens and forwarded by him to Mrs. Rogers with comments. The letters are very personal in tone, full of Clemens' well-known wit, and revealing of his personal characteristics. There are a few clippings, cartoons, and one photograph. Also, a collection of 18 letters written by Clemens to Dorothy Sturgis, 1908-1909, relating to the "Angel-Fish Aquarium." There is also one typescript of the Constitution of the Club "The Aquarium, Issued by the Admiral;" and a photograph album of the Mark Twain Dinner, 1905.

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Arrangement

This collection is arranged into 4 series.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

Legacy finding aid created from Pro Cite. EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2010-01-21 2019-05-20

Restrictions on Access

This collection is located on-site.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

Reproductions may be made for research purposes. The RBML maintains ownership of the physical material only. Copyright remains with the creator and his/her heirs. The responsibility to secure copyright permission rests with the patron.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of acquisition--Rogers, Mrs. H. H. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--1953. Accession number--M-53.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

18 letters to D. Sturgis: Source of acquisition--Benjamin, Henry Rogers. Method of acquisition--Gift; Date of acquisition--1966. Accession number--M-1966.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Photo album: Source of acquisition--Dramatic Museum. Method of acquisition--Transfer; Date of acquisition--1977. Accession number--M-1977.

Ownership and Custodial History

Gift of Mrs H.H. Rogers, 1953.

Ownership and Custodial History

Gift of Henry Rogers Benjamin, 1966.

Ownership and Custodial History

Transferred from the Dramatic Museum, 1977.

Processing Information

Cataloged Christina Hilton Fenn 05/04/1989.

Processing Information

18 letters to D. Sturgis Cataloged 1966.

Processing Information

Photo album Added to collection 1977.

Accruals

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared.
Contact rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Albums (books)
- Cartoons (working drawings)
- Constitutions
- Photographs
- Photographic prints
- Authors, American
- Harvey, George Brinton McClellan, 1864-1928
- Rogers, Mary Benjamin
- Sturgis, Dorothy

Collection Inventory

Series I: Cataloged Correspondence	
Title/Description	Instances
Clemens To Mary Benjamin Rogers	box 1
Clemens To [?]	box 1
Clemens To H. Q. Russ	box 1
Clemens To E. Ducan Lucas	

	box 1
Clemens To Mr. Bangs	box 1
Clemens To Dorothy Sturgis	box 1
Grant, Percy S. To Mary Benjamin Rogers	box 1
Harvey, George To Samuel L. Clemens	box 1
Kellog, Lois To Samuel L. Clemens	box 1
Lyon, Mrs. I. To Samuel L. Clemens	box 1

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Series II: Cataloged Manuscripts

Title/Description	Instances
Clemens, Samuel L. The Aquarium, Issued by the Admiral Redding <u>Physical Description:</u> t.ms., 8pp.	box 1
Portraits of Samuel L. Clemens <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 1
Newspaper clippings, cartoons and photographs <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 1
Miscellaneous material relating to the collection <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 folders	box 1

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Series III: Books

Title/Description	Instances
Magazine excerpts, 1885-1902 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 volume	box 2
Mark Twain's Letters to Mary <u>Physical Description:</u> 2 copies	box 2
Photostatic copies of Clemens' letters to Mary Rogers	box 2

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Series IV: Oversize

Title/Description	Instances
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Mark Twain Dinner, Delmonico's, December 5, 1905 <u>Physical Description:</u> 1 volume of photographs	cmibox 3
Folder containing offprint from Life, December 20, 1968	cmibox 3
A copy of Harpers Weekly, September 26, 1891	cmibox 3

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