

Alice Montgomery Lawrence papers 4079011

This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on September 22, 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>

Table of Contents

| | |
|---|----|
| Summary Information | 3 |
| Biographical / Historical | 3 |
| Summary | 4 |
| Arrangement | 4 |
| Administrative Information | 4 |
| Controlled Access Headings | 5 |
| Collection Inventory | 6 |
| Series I: Cataloged Correspondence, Manuscripts, and Documents | 6 |
| Series II: Amateur Theater | 11 |
| Series III: Scrapbooks | 11 |
| List of photographs transferred from the Alice and Rita Lawrence Scrapbooks to the Dramatic Museum Ephemera: Portrait File. | 12 |

Summary Information

| | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Repository: | Rare Book and Manuscript Library |
| Creator: | Lawrence, Alice Montgomery, approximately 1865-1895 |
| Title: | Alice Montgomery Lawrence papers |
| ID: | 4079011 |
| ID: | MS#0749 |
| Date [inclusive]: | 1874-1935 |
| Physical Description: | 6.5 linear feet 1 document box, 5 cmi boxes |
| Language of the Material: | English |

Preferred Citation

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

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Biographical / Historical

Alice Montgomery Lawrence (ca. 1865-1895) and Rita (Margarita) Woodhull Lawrence (ca. 1867-1939?) were well-known amateur actresses in New York City during the 1880s and 1890s. Many of their performances were benefits for various charities. Rita Lawrence also wrote an autobiographical memoir, *AMATEURS & ACTORS OF THE 19TH-20TH CENTURIES (AMERICAN, ENGLISH, ITALIAN)* (Menton, Fr., 1936).

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Summary

Correspondence, programs, clippings, and other theatrical memorabilia relating the the careers of Alice and Rita Lawrence.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrangement

Arranged.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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>

Revision Description

File created. EAD created by PTL EAD was imported spring 2019 as part of the ArchivesSpace Phase II migration. 2009-06-26 2012-01-13 2019-05-20

Restrictions on Access

Box 1 is located on-site.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Conditions Governing Access

Boxes 2-6 are located off-site. You will need to request this material at least three business days in advance to use the collection in the Rare Book and Manuscript Library reading room.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of acquisition--Brander Matthews Dramatic Museum. Method of acquisition--Transfer; Date of acquisition--1971. Accession number--M-71.

Transferred from the Brander Matthews Museum, 1971.

Processing Information

Cataloged Christina Hilton Fenn 07/--/89. Processed by Henry Rowen in June 1979; revised by M. MacLean May 2000

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.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Controlled Access Headings

- Amateur theater -- New York (State) -- New York
- Theater -- New York (State) -- New York
- Performing arts -- New York (State) -- New York
- New York (N.Y.) -- Social life and customs
- Actresses
- Lawrence, Margarita Woodhull, approximately 1867-1939?

Collection Inventory

Series I: Cataloged Correspondence, Manuscripts, and Documents

Scope and Contents

This series contains incoming and outgoing correspondence to Alice and Rita Lawrence, and is arranged in alphabetical order by name.

| Title/Description | Instances |
|--|-----------|
| Allen, Edward Heron "I love you so!" [n.p.], 5 February 1888 1 page a.ms.s. (poem)1, February 1888 | box 1 |
| Amory, Rhina [Mrs. William, Jr.] To Rita Lawrence [New York], 12 February 1887 2 page a.l.s.1, February 1887 | box 1 |
| Amory, William Jr. To Rita Lawrence [New York], 20 February 1887 2 page a.l.s., February 1887 | box 1 |
| Backus, George To Rita Lawrence [New York], 1893 2 page a.l.s., 1893 | box 1 |
| Barber, M. Louise To Alice M. Lawrence Brooklyn, 15 January 1886 4 page a.l.s., January 1886 | box 1 |
| Barber, M. Louise To Rita W. Lawrence Brooklyn, 16 January 1886 4 page a.l.s., January 1886 | box 1 |
| Barnard, Anna E. To Alice & Rita W. Lawrence [New York], 14 May 1888 1 page a.l.s., May 1888 | box 1 |
| Barry, Helen To Rita Lawrence [New York], 1890 2 page a.l.s., 1890 | box 1 |
| Bloom, Edward L. Receipt for Theatre Rental New York, 6 February 1893 1 page a.d.s., February 1893 | box 1 |
| Bond, Frederick To Rita Lawrence [New York], 1888 2 page a.l.s., 1888 | box 1 |
| Bond, Frederick To Rita Lawrence [New York], 23 March 1888 3 page a.l.s., March 1888 | box 1 |
| Booth, Agnes To Alice M. Lawrence [New York], 6 March 1888 2 page a.l.s., March 1888 | box 1 |
| Burroughs, William To Alice M. Lawrence Larchmont, NY, 10 April 1892 3 page a.l.s., April 1892 | box 1 |
| Carter, Edward To Rita Lawrence New York, 23 April 1888 2 page a.l.s., April 1888 | box 1 |
| Collins, Laura Sedgwick Receipt for Salary [n.p.], 19 May 1892 1 page a.d.s, May 1892 | box 1 |

Alice Montgomery Lawrence papers 4079011

| | |
|---|-------|
| Corlies, Susan M. To Alice M. Lawrence Pelham Manor [NY], 11 November 1888 4 page a.l.s., November 1888 | box 1 |
| Coward, Edward Fales To Rita Lawrence [New York], 11 February 1887 1 page a.l.s., February 1887 | box 1 |
| Curtis, Henry Holbrook To William Thomas Lawrence [New York], 1890 2 page a.l.s., 1890 | box 1 |
| Cutting, Robert Livingston Jr. To Rita Lawrence [New York], [1890] 3 page a.l.s. | box 1 |
| de Blossieres, A. G. To Miss Lawrence [New York], 17 April 1888 1 page a.l.s., April 1888 | box 1 |
| De Forest, Fanny A. To Miss Lawrence [n.p.], 18 February 1893 3 page a.l.s., February 1893 | box 1 |
| De Forest, Harriet To Miss Lawrence Summit, NJ, 18 February 1893 2 page a.l.s., February 1893 | box 1 |
| de Wolfe, Elsie Anderson To Alice M. Lawrence [New York], [23 February 1888] 2 page a.l.s. | box 1 |
| Dixey, Henry E. To Alice Lawrence [New York], 22 December 1885 1 page a.l.s., December 1885 | box 1 |
| Drew, Josephine Baker (Mrs. John) To Alice M. Lawrence [New York], [n.d.] 2 page a.l.s. | box 1 |
| Eldridge, Louisa To Alice M. Lawrence [New York], 20 February 1889 2 page a.l.s., February 1889 | box 1 |
| Fitch, Clyde To Alice M. Lawrence [New York], 9 April 1892 3 page a.l.s., April 1892 | box 1 |
| Frohman, Daniel Statement about Alice M. & Rita Lawrence New York, 1890 1 page t.ms. (carbon), 1890 | box 1 |
| Gaunt, Percy Receipt for Orchestra Payment New York, 189- 1 page a.d.s | box 1 |
| Gwynne, Edith To Alice M. Lawrence [New York], [ca. December 1887] 4 page a.l.s | box 1 |
| Gwynne, Edith To Alice M. Lawrence [New York], [ca. January 1888] 4 page a.l.s | box 1 |
| Gwynne, Edith To Alice M. Lawrence [New York], 1 January 1888 1 a.p.c., January 1888 | box 1 |
| Henderson, Grace R. To Alice M. Lawrence [New York], 1890 1 page a.l.s., 1890 | box 1 |
| Henderson, Grace R. To Alice M. Lawrence [New York], [1890 ?] 2 page a.l.s. | box 1 |
| Hoey, Josephine To Alice M. Lawrence [New York], 14 February 1889 2 page a.l.s., February 1889 | box 1 |

Alice Montgomery Lawrence papers 4079011

| | |
|--|-------|
| Jackson, Sir Harry V. To Alice M. Lawrence London, 8 July 1835 1 page t.l.s., July 1835 | box 1 |
| Kelcey, Caroline Hill (Mrs. Herbert) To Alice M. Lawrence [London], [December n.y.] 1 a.n. | box 1 |
| Kelcey, Herbert To Alice M. Lawrence [New York}, 19 March 1889 2 page a.l.s., March 1889 | box 1 |
| Kelcey, Herbert To Alice M. Lawrence [New York], 1890 1 page a.l.s., 1890 | box 1 |
| Kelcey, Herbert To Alice M. Lawrence New York, [4 February 1890] 2 page a.l.s. | box 1 |
| Laughton, Mrs. Lily McAllister To Alice M. Lawrence Washington, 17 February 1886 1 telegram, February 1886 | box 1 |
| Laughton, Mrs. Lily McAllister To Sophie Clinch Tilley Lawrence Washington, 18 February 1886 1 telegram, February 1886 | box 1 |
| Lawrence, Alice Montgomery [to Herbert Kelcey] To Alice M. Lawrence [New York], [1890] 3 page a.l.s. | box 1 |
| Lawrence, Alice Montgomery Copyright Certificate Washington, 4 March 1891 1 page ms.d., March 1891 | box 1 |
| Lawrence, Rita Woodhull Diary [v.p.], 1891-1895 1 volume a.ms.s., 1891-1895 | box 1 |
| Lawrence, William Thomas To Alice M. Lawrence New York, 14 April 1892 1 page a.l.s., April 1892 | box 1 |
| Lawrence, William Thomas "Fresh Air Home" Account New York, 15-18 February 1889 2 page a.d., February 1889 | box 1 |
| Nicholas, George W. Receipt New York, 20 February 1889 1 page a.d.s., February 1889 | box 1 |
| Lawrence, William Thomas Account Book New York, 28 March - 12 April 1892 ? 1 page a.d., April 1892 | box 1 |
| Lewis, James To Rita Lawrence New York, 13 April 1892 1 page a.l.s., April 1892 | box 1 |
| Lyman, Laura C. To Alice M. Lawrence New York, 9 December 1892 4 page a.l.s., December 1892 | box 1 |
| Lyon, B. de (Mrs. John Doane) To Alice M. Lawrence New York, 2 March n.y. 1 page a.l.s. | box 1 |
| Madison, Mathilde To Alice M. Lawrence [n.p.], [n.d.] 2 page a.l.s. | box 1 |
| Madison, Mathilde To Alice M. Lawrence New York, 1 November 1886 2 page a.l.s., November 1886 | box 1 |
| Madison, Mathilde To Rita Lawrence New York, ca. February 1887 2 page a.l.s., February 1887 | box 1 |

| | |
|---|-------|
| Manierre, Alfred Lee To Rita Lawrence New York, 22 April 1898 3 page a.l.s., April 1898 | box 1 |
| Martin, Mary T. To Alice M. Lawrence New York, 23 May n.y. 3 page a.l.s. | box 1 |
| Meyer, Charles Receipt for Wigs New York, 22 April 1893 1 page a.d.s., April 1893 | box 1 |
| Ninton, Telfair Mariott To Rita Lawrence [n.p.], 1890 1 card a.n.s., 1890 | box 1 |
| Murray, Henry Alexander To Alice M. Lawrence New York, 5 January 1886 2 page a.l.s., January 1886 | box 1 |
| Pierson, Henrietta B.H. To Sophie Clinch Tilley Lawrence New York, 1 March 1889 2 page a.l.s., March 1889 | box 1 |
| Potter, Cora Urquhart (Mrs. James Brown) To Alice M. Lawrence [n.p.], [n.d.] 2 page a.l.s. | box 1 |
| Potter, Cora Urquhart (Mrs. James Brown) To Alice M. Lawrence New York, ca. 1884 1 page a.l.s., 1884 | box 1 |
| Potter, Cora Urquhart (Mrs. James Brown) To Alice M. Lawrence New York, February 1886 6 page a.l.s. Note: With copies of 3 related letters, February 1886 | box 1 |
| Potter, Cora Urquhart (Mrs. James Brown) To Alice M. Lawrence [n.p.], 24 May 1886 1 page a.l.s., May 1886 | box 1 |
| Potter, Cora Urquhart (Mrs. James Brown) To Alice M. Lawrence [London], 28 July 1886 6 page a.l.s., July 1886 | box 1 |
| Pryor, Sara Agnes Rice (Mrs. Roger Atkinson) To Alice M. Lawrence New York, 7 December 1888 3 page a.l.s., December 1888 | box 1 |
| Pryor, Sara Agnes Rice (Mrs. Roger Atkinson) To Rita Lawrence New York, 7 December 1888 2 page a.l.s., December 1888 | box 1 |
| Reeve, C.C. To Alice M. Lawrence New York, 21 January 1893 1 page t.l.s., January 1893 | box 1 |
| Roberts, R.A. To Alice M. Lawrence New York, 1891 1 page a.l.s., 1891 | box 1 |
| Roeder, Benjamin A. To Rita Lawrence New York, 29 March 1890 1 page a.l.s., March 1890 | box 1 |
| Roosa, Daniel Bennett St. John To Sophie Clinch Tilley Lawrence New York, 11 December 1892 2 page a.l.s.1 Russell, Robert Howard To Alice M. Lawrence New York, 20 March 1889 2 page a.l.s., December 1892, March 1889 | box 1 |
| Ryan, J.S. To Rita Lawrence New York, 16 November 1890 1 page a.l.s., November 1890 | box 1 |

| | |
|---|-------|
| Shortridge, Laura Virginia To Alice M. Lawrence New York, 1892 2 page a.l.s., 1892 | box 1 |
| Shortridge, Laura Virginia To Alice M. Lawrence New York, 7 December 1892 7 page a.l.s., December 1892 | box 1 |
| Suydam, Walter L. To Alice M. Lawrence New York, 2 April 1893 1 page a.l.s., April 1893 | box 1 |
| Teall, Florence Rissell (Mrs. Oliver Sumner) and Cora Urquhart Potter (Mrs. James Brown) To Alice M. Lawrence Washington, 18 February 1886 1 page telegram, February 1886 | box 1 |
| Tosti, Francesco Paolo To Alice M. Lawrence London, 16 December n.y. 4 page a.l.s. | box 1 |
| Warner, Franklin Mott To Rita Lawrence New York, 1890 1 page a.n., 1890 | box 1 |
| Weekes, Frederic Delano To Rita Lawrence New York, 1888 1 page a.l.s., 1888 | box 1 |
| Wendell, Evert Janson To Alice M. Lawrence New York, 24 February 1891 2 page a.l.s., February 1891 | box 1 |
| Wendell, Evert Jansen To Rita Lawrence New York, 3 January 1915 2 page t.l.s., January 1915 | box 1 |
| Wheatcroft, Nelson To Alice M. Lawrence [n.p.], [n.d.] 1 page a.n.s. | box 1 |
| Wheatcroft, Nelson To Rita Lawrence New York, 1890 2 page a.l.s., 1890 | box 1 |
| Wheatcroft, Nelson To Sophie Clinch Tilley Lawrence New York, 26 march 1890 2 page a.l.s., 1890 | box 1 |
| Wheatcroft, Nelson To Sophie Clinch Tilley Lawrence New York, 14 April 1890 2 page a.l.s., April 1890 | box 1 |
| Wheatcroft, Nelson To Alice M. Lawrence New York, 21 April 1890 1 page a.l.s., April 1890 | box 1 |
| Wheatcroft, Nelson To Rita Lawrence New York, 6 May 1890 1 page a.l.s., May 1890 | box 1 |
| Wheatcroft, Nelson To Rita Lawrence New York, 25 June 1890 2 page a.l.s., June 1890 | box 1 |
| Wheatcroft, Nelson To Rita Lawrence New York, 9 December 1890 2 page a.l.s., December 1890 | box 1 |
| Wheatcroft, Nelson To Alice M. Lawrence New York, 21 February 1891 1 page a.l.s., February 1891 | box 1 |
| Wheatcroft, Nelson To Rita Lawrence New York, 17 April 1891 1 page a.l.s., April 1891 | box 1 |
| Wheatcroft, Nelson To Rita Lawrence New York, 25 January 1893 1 page a.n.s., January 1893 | box 1 |

| | |
|---|-------|
| Wheatcroft, Nelson To Alice M. Lawrence New York, 25 April 1893 2 page a.l.s., April 1893 | box 1 |
| Williard, Paul To Alice M. Lawrence New York, 20 April 1893 1 page a.l.s., April 1893 | box 1 |
| Yrmonde, Eugene To Alice M. Lawrence New York, 1892 1 page a.l.s., 1892 | box 1 |
| Yrmonde, Eugene Receipt for Salary New York, 9 April 1892 1 page ms.d.s., April 1892 | box 1 |
| Unidentified Correspondence [n.p.], 10-11 May 1892 5 items 1 Folder, May 1892 | box 1 |

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series II: Amateur Theater

Scope and Contents

The series contains material related to the Lawrence sisters' work with theater, other personalities in theater, and charitable efforts.

| Title/Description | Instances |
|---|----------------|
| Note: The series contains material related to the Lawrence sisters' work with theater, other personalities in theater, and charitable efforts. | box 1 |
| Invoices, property lists New York, 1892-1893 | box 1 |
| Programs, flyers, awards New York, 1887-1892 Note: Including list of photographs transferred from the Alice and Rita Lawrence Scrapbooks to the Dramatic Museum Portrait File, 1887-1892 | box 1 |
| Clippings New York, 1889-1896 | box 1 |
| Clippings on Sir Squire and Lady Bancroft New York, [n.d.] &, 1926 | box 1 |
| My Turn Next and The Serenade [n.p.], 15 October 1892 1 poster, October 1892 | mapcase 15-G-3 |
| Ladies Society Presented to Misses Lawrence for the December 4 1888 production of Blue and Cherry [n.p.], 1888 1 satin banner Note: For the relief of sufferers of yellow fever, 1888, 1888 | mapcase 15-G-3 |

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

Series III: Scrapbooks

Scope and Contents

Note: The series contains five scrapbooks from the Lawrences' acting careers. The scrapbooks contain programs, souvenirs, and clippings.

| Title/Description | Instances |
|---|------------------|
| Rita Lawrence Scrapbook Book 1, 1882-1891 | cmibox 2 |
| Alice Lawrence Scrapbook Book 1, 1874-1889 | cmibox 3 |
| Rita Lawrence Scrapbook Book 2, 1890-1893 | cmibox 4 |
| Alice Lawrence Scrapbook Book 2 , 1890-1892 | cmibox 5 |
| Alice Lawrence Scrapbook Book 3, 1893-1895 | cmibox 6 |

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)

List of photographs transferred from the Alice and Rita Lawrence Scrapbooks to the Dramatic Museum Ephemera: Portrait File.

| Title/Description | Instances |
|--|------------------|
| Allen, Edward Heron (2) | |
| Amory, Mathilde see: Madison, Mathilde | |
| Barnard, Nanette (Mrs Horace) see: Widdleton, Nanette | |
| Barry, Helen | |
| Bedlow, Henry | |
| Belasco, David (2) | |
| Bond, Frederick (2) | |
| Boynton, C. E. | |
| Brady, Katheryn M. | |
| Burroughs, William (2) | |
| Cary, John D. | |
| Cayvan, Georgia with: Kelcey, Herbert | |
| Collins, Laura Sedgwick | |
| Coolidge, Palmer with: Lawrence, Alice Montgomery | |
| Cutting, Robert Livingston, Jr. with: Lawrence, Alice Montgomery | |
| Croly, Vida | |
| Denison, Mathilde (Mrs. Charles) see Madison, Mathilde | |
| Dyas, Ada and H. J. Montague | |

Gale, Minna K. (4)

Gale, Minna K. (5) with: Lawrence, Rita Woodhull

Griswold, Mrs Daniel Payne see: Robe, Annie

Grovesteen, Bessie(2) with: Lawrence, Rita Woodhull

Harris, Katharine (Mrs Sidney) see: Brady, Katheryn M.

Haynes, Minna see: Gale, Minna K.

Heaton, Gilbert

Henderson, Grace

Hendrickson, Mrs George Lincoln See: Vaux, Marion

Hill, Caroline (2)

Hopper, Will

Ireland, Joseph N.

Jackson, Ann

Kelcey, Herbert (3)

Kelcey, Herbert & Georgia Cayvan

Kelcey, Caroline Hill (Mrs Herbert) see: Hill, Caroline

Kershaw, Edmund (2)

Lamb, Herbert see: Kelcey, Herbert

Lawrence, Alice Montgomery (4)

Lawrence, Alice Montgomery & Rita Woodhull

Lawrence (3)

Lawrence, Alice M., Rita W.

Lawrence, & Sophie Clinch Tilley

Lawrence, Sophie Clinch Tilley (Mrs W.T.) (5)

Lawrence, Alice M., Rita W.

Lawrence, Minna K. Gale, Henry Miller, &George W.

Nicholas (2) Lawrence, Alice M., Rita W. Lawrence, &Robert
Lee Morrell (2)

Lawrence, Alice M., Rita W.

Lawrence, & Henry Miller

Lawrence, Alice M., Rita W.

Lawrence, Horace Porter, & Mr. Proctor (2)

Lawrence, Alice M., Rita W.

Lawrence, Palmer Coolidge, Robert Livingston Cutting, Jr.,
& Robert Lee Morrell (2)

Lawrence, Rita Woodhull (8)

Lawrence, Rita W. & Henry Miller

Lawrence, Rita W. Minna K. Gale, & three others

Lawrence, Rita W. Minna K. Gale, Bessie Grovestein, &
Charles C. Ransom (2)

Lawrence, Sophie Clinch Tilley (Mrs William Thomas)
with:Lawrence, Alice M. Leslie, Elsie (2)

Madison, Mathilde (2)

Merrill, W. A.

Miller, Henry with; Lawrence, Alice M.

Miller, Henry with: Lawrence, Rita W.

Montague, Harry J.

Montague, Harry J. with: Dyas, Ada

Morrell, Robert Lee with: Lawrence, Alice M.

Nicholas, George W.

Nicholas, George W. with: Lawrence, Alice M.

Pauling, Gracie

Porter, Horace with: Lawrence, Alice M. .

Potter, Cora Urquhart (Mrs James Brown) (2)

Potter, Cora Urquhart (Mrs James Brown) & Alice M.
Lawrence

Potter, Cora Urquhart (Mrs James Brown) & her daughter
Anne Urquhart Potter Stillman

(Mrs James A.)

Proctor, Mr with: Lawrence, Alice M.

Ramsay, Walden

Ransom, Charles C. with: Lawrence, Rita W.

Robe, Annie (Mrs Daniel Payne Griswold) (2)

Stanhope, Adeline

Stillman, Anne Urquhart Potter (Mrs James A.) with: Potter,
Cora Urquhart

Stoddard, Lorimer

Thorpe, Courtenay (2)

Throop, George Enos

Tilley, Mary Madison see: Lawrence, Rita W.

Vaux, Marion (3)

West, Percita

Wheatcroft, Adeline Stanhope (Mrs Nelson see: Stanhope, Adeline)

Wheatcroft, Nelson (5)

Whitten, Mrs Thomas

Widdleton, Nanette

Williams, Sally

Winter, Elsie Leslie (Mrs Jefferson) see: Leslie, Elsie

Wood, William T.

[^ Return to Table of Contents](#)