



A GUIDE TO THE

# SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE

MANUSCRIPT MATERIAL

IN THE PFORZHEIMER COLLECTION.

*COMPILED BY*

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The New York Public Library

THE CARL H. PFORZHEIMER COLLECTION OF SHELLEY AND HIS CIRCLE

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### A Guide to the Samuel Taylor Coleridge Manuscript Material in the Pforzheimer Collection

|                                  |                                                                                                                                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Identification:                  | Samuel Taylor Coleridge (1772-1834), English poet, philosopher and critic.                                                        |
| Associated catalog record title: | <a href="#">Samuel Taylor Coleridge manuscript material</a>                                                                       |
| Size:                            | 37 items                                                                                                                          |
| Date range:                      | 1792-1832                                                                                                                         |
| Access:                          | Admission granted by Pforzheimer Collection staff.                                                                                |
| Citation:                        | The Carl H. Pforzheimer Collection of Shelley and His Circle – The New York Public Library – Astor, Lenox and Tilden Foundations. |

## The Pforzheimer Collection

The Carl H. Pforzheimer Collection of Shelley and His Circle is one of the world's leading repositories for the study of British Romanticism. Comprising over 20,000 items, the collection is conceptually centered on the life and works of the poet Percy Bysshe Shelley and his friends, relatives, and contemporaries. Formerly a part of the much larger and now dispersed Pforzheimer Library, the Pforzheimer Collection came to The New York Public Library in 1986.

## Holdings and provenance

This finding aid is for manuscript materials held by the Pforzheimer Collection that were created by Samuel Taylor Coleridge. These materials have been acquired throughout the history of the Collection, and are kept on-site at the New York Public Library, filed in acid-free paper envelopes.

The first acquisitions of Coleridge manuscript material were from the sales of the effects of major collectors of the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. In 1919, Carl Pforzheimer bought several holograph poems and nine letters (all to the women of the Evans family) from the Sotheby's sale of the English collector Alfred Morrison's autograph letters and historical documents. The following year, more poems and letters were purchased from the sale of the estate of New York book dealer George D. Smith. For nearly the next half-century, very few Coleridge materials were added to the collection. 1969 saw the purchase of eight more items via Sotheby's, and most of the Coleridge items acquired since then were purchased individually, from various dealers.

Because the Pforzheimer Collection collects actively, its holdings in Samuel Taylor Coleridge manuscript material may grow in the future as items become available for purchase.

## Related materials

In addition to manuscript material created by Samuel Taylor Coleridge, the Pforzheimer Collection also holds about thirty editions of his works published during his lifetime, including his son Derwent's copy of the first edition of *Lyrical Ballads*.

Also held are a few manuscript letters addressed to Coleridge, several letters by his relatives, and two Coleridge poems in the hand of Mary Shelley (MWS 0237). A small folder of poems and miscellaneous scribbles was purchased along with several other Coleridge items, and once were thought to be in the hand of Coleridge (MISC 0087-88). About them, a note from Coleridge scholar Kathleen Coburn says:

The hands here are unknown to me. F[ort] T[odd] largely? 1825. They look like the hands of the generation just a decade or two younger than Coleridge – some resemble J. H. Green's hand, but I think are not his. – K. C.

Additional Samuel Taylor Coleridge manuscript material at the New York Public Library can be found in The Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of English and American Literature, and in the Manuscripts and Archives Division.

## Scope and content

The Samuel Taylor Coleridge manuscript material in the Pforzheimer Collection consists of writings and correspondence. The writings include: a holograph corrected proof of his "Sonnet 8: To the Author of the 'Robbers'"; several holograph poems; and two poems by William Lisle Bowles copied out in Coleridge's hand. The bulk of the correspondence is dated between 1792 and 1794 and discusses both his professional and personal lives, most of which is published in the edition of Coleridge's letters edited by E. L. Griggs. Correspondents include: Sara Fricker Coleridge, his wife; Mary "Perdita" Robinson, author and actress; Charles Augustus Tulk, Swedenborgian, writer and politician; and over a dozen others.

## Arrangement

This guide considers the manuscript material in two series: Series I, Writings; and Series II, Correspondence.

### Series descriptions

**Series I : Writings.** Listed chronologically by date of creation. Items that appear in the Bollingen edition of Coleridge's works are listed with reference.

**Series II: Correspondence.** Listed alphabetically and chronologically, by recipient. Letters that appear in Leslie Griggs's edition of Coleridge's letters are listed with reference.

## Series I: Writings

### ITEM

### REFERENCES

· Corrected proof of “Sonnet 8: To the Author of the ‘Robbers’” : ca. 1796 : (MISC 0074) : with autograph strikethroughs and additions, including an extra verse. Coleridge’s hand is endorsed by Joseph Cottle.

· 3 holograph verses<sup>1</sup> :

- “Written at the King’s Arms, Ross – once the House of Mr. Kyrle, the ‘Man of Ross’” : [1794] : (MISC 0083) : published as “Lines on the ‘Man of Ross.’” It is possible that this version has no textual authority (cf. Bollingen ed.).

*Bollingen #70*

- “On Bala Hill” : [1794] : (MISC 0084) : first published as Coleridge’s in the 1893 *Poetical Works*, but a variation of the poem was published in Robert Southey’s *Poems* (Bristol, 1797). Apparently, Southey sent the poem to Coleridge in early September 1794. Coleridge changed Southey’s “Lansdown” to “Bala.” It should be noted that Coleridge did not actually claim the poem as his own.

*Bollingen #78*

- “Song” : [1794] : (MISC 0085) : published as “The Sigh.”

*Bollingen #75*

· Copies of two poems by William Lisle Bowles : [?Feb 1792] : (MISC 0086) : in Coleridge’s hand; including, “Elegy written at the Hot Wells, Bristol” and “The Grave of Howard.”

· Autograph signature on legal document fragment : Feb 1805 : (MISC 4115) : fragment begins, “...is the true copy of a power of Attourney exhibited before me and this day sworn to be a true & original one.”

· Holograph poem, “Love’s Apparition and Evanishment: An Allegoric Romance” : no date : (MISC 0089) : begins, “Like a lone Arab, old and blind ...” Although Mays attributes the hand to

*Bollingen #688*

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<sup>1</sup> Katheleen Coburn, Coleridge scholar, has noted, “these may all be STC’s autograph, early, but there is a shade of doubt.”

Coleridge, he is contradicted by a note from Kathleen Coburn on an old Pforzheimer Library catalog card.

· Holograph poem, “Dear Charlotte”<sup>2</sup> : no date : (MISC 1905) : fragment, begins, “There are, dear Charlotte! who pretend / A Love which neither wears the name / Of Son, of Brother, or of Friend ...”

· Holograph verse with prose, “Extremes meet: A Fil-A-Sopha-Col Note” : no date : (MISC 1906).

*Bollingen #433*

· Holograph poem, “The Blue, the rosy Red” : no date : (MISC 1907).

*Bollingen #431*

· Holograph verse letter, “In reply to your note” : no date : (MISC 1908).

*Bollingen #445*

· Holograph poem, “The Blossoming of the Solitary Date-Tree” : no date : (MISC 1909) : begins, “Hard is my Lot, a Life of stifled Pain!”

*Bollingen #396*

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<sup>2</sup> Charlotte Brent was the sister of Mary Morgan. Coleridge was close friends with the two women, as well as with Mary’s husband, John James Morgan.

## Series II: Correspondence

### ITEM

### REFERENCES

· To **Sara Fricker Coleridge**, his wife :

- 1 autograph letter (fragment) : no date : (MISC 1781) : anticipating her return, and the joy it will bring their children; begins, “I awoke before my usual time on the Sunday Morning in consequence of having slept with the thought of the dear children ...” Removed from the Mary Ann Humble autograph album.

*Not in Griggs*

· To **Joseph Cottle**, bookseller and author :

- 1 autograph letter signed : 30 Sep 1795 : (MISC 2096) : begins, “I am returned \_\_ I shall do myself the pleasure of sleeping at your house tomorrow evening ...”

*Griggs 89 : v. I, p. 159*

· To **Samuel Curtis** [?], nurseryman and magazine editor :

- 1 autograph letter signed : [ca. 6 Nov 1818] : (MISC 2178) : regretting that he is too upset by his daughter’s illness to write more, acknowledging receipt of the corrected “Prospectus”; begins, “I have received by the Morning’s post a letter from Keswick ...”

*Not in Griggs*

· To **Anne Evans**, sister of Tom and Mary Evans :

- 1 autograph letter signed : 14 Feb 1792 : (MISC 0067) : begins, “To be sure, I felt myself rather disappointed at my not receiving a few lines from you ...”

*Griggs 14 : v. I, p. 29*

- 1 autograph letter signed : 10 Feb 1793 : (MISC 0071) : begins, “A little before I had received your Mamma’s letter, a bird of the air had informed me of your illness ...”

*Griggs 27 : v. I, p. 54*

· To **Mrs. Charlotte Evans**, mother of Tom and Mary Evans :

- 1 autograph letter signed : 13 Feb 1792 : (MISC 0065) *Griggs 12 : v. I, p. 21*  
: begins, "What word shall I add sufficiently  
expressive of the warmth which I feel?"
- 1 autograph letter signed : 22 Feb 1792 : (MISC 0068) *Griggs 16 : v. I, p. 32*  
: begins, "The incongruity of the dates in these  
letters you will immediately perceive ..."
- To **Mary Evans**, his first love, sister of his friend Tom Evans from  
Christ's Hospital :
  - 1 autograph letter signed : 13 Feb 1792 : (MISC 0066) *Griggs 13 : v. I, p. 24*  
: begins, "Ten of the most talkative young ladies now  
in London — !!!!!"
  - 1 autograph letter signed : 22 Feb [1792] : (MISC  
0069) : begins, "Writing letters is not the fault, into  
whi[ch] I am most apt to fall..." *Griggs 15 : v. I, p. 31*
  - 1 autograph letter signed : 7 Feb 1793 : (MISC 0070) : *Griggs 25 : v. I, p. 49*  
begins, "I would to Heaven, my dear Miss Evenas,  
that the God of Wit, or News, or Politics, would  
whisper in my ear something ..."
  - 1 autograph letter signed : [Nov 1794] : (MISC 0072) : *Griggs 71 : v. I, p. 129*  
begins, "Too long has my Heart been the torture  
house of Suspense."
  - 1 autograph letter signed : 24 Dec 1794 : (MISC  
0073) : begins, "I have this moment received your  
letter, Mary Evans!" *Griggs 76 : v. I, p. 144*
- To **Joseph Henry Green**, surgeon and natural philosopher :
  - 1 autograph letter signed : 6 Aug 1832 : (MISC 0082) *Griggs 1752 : v. VI, p. 918*  
: begins, "H.N.C. and Sara being very desirous that I  
should be present at the christening of my Grand-  
daughter, Edith to be -- ..."
- To **John Kenyon**, poet and philanthropist :
  - 1 autograph letter signed : 3 Nov 1814 : (MISC 0077) : *Griggs 954 : v. III, p. 540*  
from Mr. B. Morgan's, Bath; begins, "At Binns's,  
Cheap Street, I found Jer. Taylor's Dissuasive from  
Popery ..."

· To **Longman & Co.**, publishers :

- 1 autograph letter signed : 2 May 1811 : (MISC 0076) : *Griggs 824 : v. III, p. 324*  
begins, “I hereby, if this were a sufficient memorial,  
should make over to you the full and entire Copy-  
right of a Volume of 360 pages ...”

· To **Basil Montagu**, author and legal reformer :

- 1 autograph letter signed : 31 May 1809 : (MISC 0075) : from Keswick; begins, “I have been severely indisposed.” *Griggs 750 : v. III, p. 183*

· To **John James Morgan**, close friend :

- 1 autograph letter signed : 26 Nov 1807 : (MISC 1902) *Not in Griggs*  
: begins, “In a handsome parlour, appropriate to  
myself ...” With a manuscript copy of the letter in a  
later hand.
- 1 autograph letter signed : 7 Dec 1807 : (MISC 1903) : *Not in Griggs*  
begins, “The day after I wrote you, just before I was  
going ...” Addressed to “Dear Friends,” including  
John’s wife Mary. With a manuscript copy of the  
letter in a later hand.
- 1 autograph letter signed : 29 Feb 1812 : (MISC 1904) *Not in Griggs*  
: begins, Tho’ from a joint forgetfulness of Mrs. C. &  
the Servants ...” With a manuscript copy of the letter  
in a later hand.

· To **Mary “Perdita” Robinson**, author and actress :

- 1 autograph letter signed : 19 Oct 1800 : (MISC 3605) *Not in Griggs*  
: fragment, expressing “deep sympathy” for her poor  
health, etc. In the post-script: “To morrow is my  
Birthday. 28 years old! – How soon had [sic] Time,  
the subtle thief of Youth, &c!”

· To Messrs. **Taylor and Hessey**, booksellers :

- 1 autograph letter signed : 16 Apr 1819 : (MISC 0079) *Griggs 1191 : v. IV, p. 934*  
: from Highgate; begins, “I hope, nay I feel  
confident, that you will interperet this note in its

real sense ...” A copy of the publishers’ reply is enclosed.

· To **Charles Augustus Tulk**, Swedenborgian writer and politician :

- 1 autograph letter signed : [5 Oct 1823]: (MISC 3966) *Griggs 1351 : v. V, p. 303*  
: begins, “Whether my ilde prejudice against French Books has prevented the little work from bearing any impression on my memory, I cannot say ...”  
Tipped into the grangerized copy of Hazlitt’s *Spirit of the Age*. Shelved under “Hazlitt” with bound manuscript material.
- 1 autograph letter signed : [Jul 1823] : (MISC 0080) : *Griggs 1339 : v. V, p. 281*  
begins, “The several friends whom I have had the opportunity of consulting since the (to me at least) delightful afternoon ...”

· To **Dr. Williamson** of the Literary and Philosophical Society at Leeds :

- 1 autograph letter signed : 10 Nov 1823 : (MISC 0081) *Griggs 1358 : v. V, p. 308*  
: from Highgate; begins, “This answer goes by the first Post after my first perusal of your last Favor ...”

· To the **Rev. Francis Wrangham**, writer and Church of England clergyman :

- 1 autograph letter signed : 5 Jun 1817 : (MISC 0078) : *Griggs 1059 : v. II, p. 196*  
from Highgate; begins, “A bad Correspondent my dear Wrangham!”

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| 2  | (MISC 0066) | ALS to Mary Evans, 13 Feb 1792                                  |
| 3  | (MISC 0067) | ALS to Anne Evans, 14 Feb 1792                                  |
| 4  | (MISC 0068) | ALS to Charlotte Evans, 22 Feb 1792                             |
| 5  | (MISC 0069) | ALS to Mary Evans, 22 Feb [1792]                                |
| 6  | (MISC 0070) | ALS to Mary Evans, 7 Feb 1793                                   |
| 7  | (MISC 0071) | ALS to Anne Evans, 10 Feb 1793                                  |
| 8  | (MISC 0072) | ALS to Mary Evans, [Nov 1794]                                   |
| 9  | (MISC 0073) | ALS to Mary Evans, 24 Dec 1794                                  |
| 10 | (MISC 0074) | Corrected proof of "Sonnet 8: To the Author of the 'Robbers'"   |
| 11 | (MISC 0075) | ALS to Basil Montagu, 31 May 1809                               |
| 12 | (MISC 0076) | ALS to Longman & Co., 2 May 1811                                |
| 13 | (MISC 0077) | ALS to John Kenyan, 3 Nov 1814                                  |
| 14 | (MISC 0078) | ALS to Francis Wrangham, 5 Jun 1817                             |
| 15 | (MISC 0079) | ALS to Taylor and Hessey, 16 Apr 1819                           |
| 16 | (MISC 0080) | ALS to C. A. Tulk, [Jul 1823]                                   |
| 17 | (MISC 0081) | ALS to Dr. Williamson, 10 Nov 1823                              |
| 18 | (MISC 0082) | ALS to J. H. Green, 6 Aug 1832                                  |
| 19 | (MISC 0083) | Verse, "Written at the King's Arms, Ross"                       |
| 20 | (MISC 0084) | Verse, "On Bala Hill"                                           |
| 21 | (MISC 0085) | Verse, "Song"                                                   |
| 22 | (MISC 0086) | Copies of William Lisle Bowles poems                            |
| 23 | (MISC 0089) | Poem, "Love's Apparition and Evanishment: An Allegoric Romance" |
| 24 | (MISC 1781) | AL (fragment) to Sara Fricker Coleridge, [no date]              |
| 25 | (MISC 1902) | ALS to J. J. Morgan, 26 Nov 1807                                |
| 26 | (MISC 1903) | ALS to J. J. Morgan, 7 Dec 1807                                 |
| 27 | (MISC 1904) | ALS to J. J. Morgan, 29 Feb 1812                                |
| 28 | (MISC 1905) | Poem, "Dear Charlotte"                                          |
| 29 | (MISC 1906) | Verse with prose, "Extremes meet: A Fil-A-Sopha-Col Note"       |
| 30 | (MISC 1907) | Poem, "The Blue, the rosy Red"                                  |
| 31 | (MISC 1908) | Verse letter, "In reply to your note"                           |
| 32 | (MISC 1909) | Poem, "The Blossoming of the Solitary Date-Tree"                |
| 33 | (MISC 2096) | ALS to Joseph Cottle, 30 Sep 1795                               |
| 34 | (MISC 2178) | ALS to Samuel Curtis, [ca. 6 Nov 1818]                          |
| 35 | (MISC 3605) | ALS to Mary Robinson, 19 Oct 1800                               |
| 36 | (MISC 3966) | ALS to C. A. Tulk, ca. 1820                                     |
| 37 | (MISC 4115) | Signature on legal document fragment, Feb 1805                  |