

# R. M. (Robert Michael) Ballantyne:

## An Inventory of His Collection at the Harry Ransom Center

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### Descriptive Summary

<b>Creator:</b>	Ballantyne, R. M. (Robert Michael), 1825-1894
<b>Title:</b>	R. M. (Robert Michael) Ballantyne Collection
<b>Dates:</b>	1841-1963, undated
<b>Extent:</b>	5 boxes (2.10 linear feet), 1 oversize folder (osf)
<b>Abstract:</b>	Includes manuscripts of works by the Scottish adventure writer R. M. Ballantyne, as well as letters he wrote and received, and some personal papers. Most of the correspondents are his wife and other family members. Some diaries, journals, and sketchbooks contain sketches and drawings by Ballantyne, some in color. Most items bear numbers assigned by the former owner, Eric Quayle, and are described in his catalog, which is also included in this collection.
<b>Call Number:</b>	Manuscript Collection MS-0197
<b>Language:</b>	English, French, Italian
<b>Access:</b>	Open for research

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### Administrative Information

<b>Processed by:</b>	Joan Sibley and Sara Saastamoinen, 2012 <b>Note:</b> 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.
<b>Repository:</b>	<a href="#">Harry Ransom Center, The University of Texas at Austin</a>

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**Works:**

- Untitled poem, Bright is the dawn of morning..., handwritten manuscript with revisions, 2 pages, undated. Quayle 1250. **Container**  
1.1
- Untitled songs:
- A la claire fontaine..., handwritten manuscript / copy in hand of Jane Grant Ballantyne, 3 pages, undated. Written in French. Quayle 282. **Container**  
1.1
- I love our Scottish highland hills..., handwritten manuscript with revisions, 1 page, undated. Quayle 278.
- My comrades you must know..., handwritten manuscript, 2 pages, undated. Written on this: ANS by Jane Grant Ballantyne concerning the song. Quayle 284.
- Oh gladsome is the sea..., 2 handwritten manuscripts, 1 page; 2 pages; undated. Quayle 289 and 294.
- Oh! He dearly loves a baby stew..., 2 handwritten manuscripts, 1 page; 2 pages; undated. Quayle 293.
- Oh take that coon you gave me my love..., handwritten manuscript, 1 page, undated. Quayle 295.
- Par dirier che mon Pere á..., handwritten manuscript, 2 pages, undated. Included with this: ANS by Ballantyne which reads "Old canoe songs." Written in French. Quayle 283.
- 'Twas on a Friday morning..., 2 handwritten manuscripts, 1 page each, undated. On verso of one of these: In form & feature face & limb..., handwritten manuscript / fragment, 1 page, undated. Quayle 288.
- Away! away! to the mountain brow!, handwritten manuscript with emendations, 2 pages, undated. Quayle 277.
- Bon faleré dandé, handwritten manuscript with emendations, 2 pages, undated. Written in French. Quayle 281.
- Canadian canoe songs, 2 printed copies, one with an ANS by Ballantyne, 1 page each, undated. Written in phonetic French. Quayle 279.
- Cold water, handwritten manuscript with emendations and an initialed handwritten note by Ballantyne, 3 pages, undated. Quayle 296.
- Cornish mines (lecture), handwritten manuscript with revisions, 121 pages bound, 1868. Quayle 306. **Container**  
1.2

- Diary, handwritten manuscript with sketches, 13 pages bound, 1893. Quayle 310. **Container**  
1.3
- Fighting the flames: Chapter XXVII, handwritten manuscript with revisions, 22 pages, undated. Quayle 276. **Container**  
1.1
- Fighting the flames: Preface, signed handwritten manuscript, 1 page, 1867. Written on verso: list of illustrations. Removed from Quayle 61.
- The floating light of the Goodwin Sands, signed handwritten manuscript with numerous revisions, 376 pages, 1870. **Container**  
1.4-5
- Fire brigades and escapes (lecture), handwritten manuscript with revisions and printed paste-ins, 120 pages bound, 1867. Quayle 307. **Container**  
1.6
- The grand Muddlebury volunteer review, initialed handwritten manuscript with revisions, 25 pages, undated. Quayle 273. **Container**  
1.7
- Hector, Mary and Isobel going at sunset to see the ice cut for summer use, color sketch, 1 page, March 1861. Withdrawn from Quayle 179, A bright life by Mary Ballantyne McKenzie.
- Hudson Bay sketch book, signed sketches, 15 pages bound, circa 1841. Quayle 301. **Container**  
1.8
- Hudson's Bay, signed handwritten manuscript with revisions, 102 pages bound, circa 1855. Text and notes for lectures and book. Quayle 303. **Container**  
2.1
- Hudson's Bay: a poem, handwritten manuscript with revisions, 3 pages, 1844. Written on this: ANS by Eric Quayle, 1963. Quayle 270. **Container**  
osf 1
- In memoriam, initialed handwritten manuscript with revisions, 1 page, 1886. Quayle 1205. **Container**  
1.7
- The Irish emigrant, handwritten manuscript, 2 pages, undated. Quayle 290.
- Journal, handwritten manuscript, 44 pages bound, 1845. Quayle 302. **Container**  
2.2
- Journal of a voyage from Edinburgh to Pisa in the nineteenth century, handwritten manuscript with few emendations, 18 pages, circa 1856. Included with this: AN by Ballantine reading "when I went to fetch sister Randal home – 1856." Quayle 271. **Container**  
1.7
- The kitten pilgrims, handwritten manuscript / notes and illustrations, 13 pages, undated. Quayle 624-632.
- Life in the red brigade, initialed handwritten manuscript with revisions, 137 pages, 1871-1872. Full title: Fire!, or Life in the red brigade. Quayle 272. **Container**  
2.3

The lifeboat: a lecture, signed handwritten manuscript with revisions, 114 pages bound, 1865. Quayle 304.	<b>Container</b> 2.4
Lighthouses (lecture), signed handwritten manuscript with revisions, 110 pages bound, 1872. Quayle 308.	<b>Container</b> 2.5
Maggie, 2 handwritten manuscripts, 3 pages; undated. Written on one of these: handwritten musical notation by Ballantyne. Quayle 287.	<b>Container</b> 1.7
My brother John, initialed handwritten manuscript, 2 pages, undated. Written with this: Boat song. Quayle 778.	
Norway (lecture), handwritten manuscript with revisions, 128 pages bound, circa 1855. Quayle 305.	<b>Container</b> 2.7
Notebook, handwritten manuscript / notes with sketches, 87 pages, 1874-1876. Some notes and sketches are from visit to South Africa. Quayle 311.	<b>Container</b> 2.8
Our log, handwritten manuscript with sketches, 18 pages bound, 1876. Quayle 309.	<b>Container</b> 3.1
A sailor's life, initialed handwritten manuscript, 1 page; handwritten manuscript, 2 pages; 1877 (Nice), undated. Quayle 285 and 291.	<b>Container</b> 2.6
The settler and the savage, handwritten manuscript / fragment with revisions and inserts, 17 pages, undated. Included with this: handwritten manuscript / note by Ballantyne re the manuscript. Quayle 275.	
Sketchbook of Algiers, signed notebook, 74 pages with 2 sheets loosely laid in, 1873-1874. Quayle 316.	<b>Container</b> 3.2
Sketchbook of Cornwall and Scotland, notebook, 37 pages, undated. Quayle 315.	<b>Container</b> 3.3
Sketchbook of Scotland and Algiers, notebook, 14 pages, 1874-1875. Quayle 314. Pencil still in holder in sketchbook.	<b>Container</b> 3.4
Sketchbooks, 2 notebooks, one signed and with notes, 40 pages, 60 pages, 1871, 1875-1876. Quayle 312 and 313.	<b>Container</b> 3.5
Twenty minutes with a burglar, initialed handwritten manuscript with revisions, 14 pages, undated. Quayle 274.	<b>Container</b> 2.6

**Letters:**

ALI / draft / fragment to unidentified editor, undated. Quayle 898.

**Container**  
3.6

AL / incomplete to unidentified recipient, undated. Includes an ink sketch of Ballantyne sitting in chair. Removed from PZ 7 B211 Bla2 HRC.

2 ALI / drafts to unidentified recipient Bill, 12 November 1878, undated. Quayle 1001 and 1130.

36 ALS, 2 ALS / incomplete, 42 ALI, 5 ALI / incomplete, 4 AL / incomplete to Ballantyne, Christina Hogarth, 1855-1887?, undated. Quayle 765-1218.

**Container**  
3.7-8

AL / incomplete to Ballantyne, Christina Hogarth, undated. Removed from Quayle 56, The lifeboat.

**Container**  
4.1

ALI to Ballantyne, Christina Hogarth, 10 October 1862. Removed from Quayle 141, Personal reminiscences, with envelope tipped in.

2 ALI to Ballantyne, Edith, 6 January 1891, 10 June 1893. Quayle 1252 and 1259.

**Container**  
3.6

ALI, AL, AN to Ballantyne, Edward, undated. Quayle 1188, 1189, and 1190.

ALS / copy, ALI / draft to Ballantyne, Emma, 18 and 20 July 1887. Quayle 1225 and 1226.

4 ALS, ALI, 2 AL, ANS to Ballantyne, Isobel, 1889-1892, undated. Quayle 1196-1201, 1203, and 1270.

22 ALS, ALS / incomplete, ALS / fragment, 192 ALI, 11 ALI / incomplete, 13 ALI / fragments, 6 AL, 11 AL / incomplete, 22 AL / fragments, AN, 4 APCI to Ballantyne, Jane Grant, 1866-1894, undated. Quayle 878-1276.

**Container**  
4.2-5

ALI to Ballantyne, Jane Grant, 22 April 1876. Removed from Quayle 95, The setter and the savage.

**Container**  
3.6

ALI to Ballantyne, Jane Grant, 16 September 1877. Removed from Quayle 98, In the track of the troops.

ALI to Ballantyne, Jane Grant, 1 May 1882.

ALI to Ballantyne, Jane Grant, March 1888. Removed from Quayle 123, Blue lights.

ALI to Ballantyne, Jane Grant, 2 October 1891. Removed from Quayle 140, Personal reminiscences in book-making.

ALS / incomplete to Ballantyne, Jane Grant, 10 February 1869. Removed from HE 1021 B21 copy 3 HRC BAL.

ALS to Ballantyne, Jane Grant, undated (1891?). Not described in card catalog (purchase R13415, 1995).

2 ALS to Ballantyne, John, circa March 1 and 11 March 1863. Quayle 792 and 796.

ALI to Ballantyne, Randal, undated. Quayle 1227.

5 ALS, 2 ALI to Ballantyne, Randall S., 1849-1852?, undated. Quayle 758-763.

**Container**  
4.6

ALS to Barbour, B. McCall, 18 February 1890. Not described in card catalog (purchase R13415, 1995).

**Container**  
4.7

ALI / draft to Barry, August 1890. Quayle 1249.

ANI / draft to The Boy's own paper, undated. Quayle 1132.

ALS to Constable, Thomas, 13 March 1855. Quayle 764.

ALI / draft to Fell & Armstrong, 12 December 1893. Quayle 1269.

ALI / draft to Gifford, John, 17 January 1882. Quayle 1153.

ALS, ALI to Grant, Isabella, 6 and 15 February 1875. ALI partly by Jane Grant Ballantyne. Quayle 1048 and 1055.

6 ALS, 19 ALI, 2 AL, APCI to Grant, William, Mrs., 1873-1880, undated. Quayle 999-1143.

**Container**  
4.8

ALS to Grant, William, Mrs., 22 October 1875. Removed from Quayle 94, Under the waves.

**Container**  
4.7

ALI / draft to Harrow Liberal Club, 5 May 1886. Quayle 1215.

ALI / draft / fragment to Lippincott (J. B.) Company, Philadelphia, 6 July 1869. Quayle 897.

ALS to MacKenzie, Isobel, November 1874. Quayle 1046.

ALI / draft to Marshall, W. C., 12 January 1883. Quayle 1186.

2 ALS / drafts to Nelson (T.) & Sons, 27 July and 9 November 1893. Quayle 1260 and 1262.

ALI / copy, 2 ALI / drafts to Nisbet (James) & Co., Ltd., 1867-1884. Quayle 892, 1110, and 1204.

ALI / draft to Rindell, 12 January 1883. Quayle 1187.

ALS to Robertson, Mrs., 28 January 1880. Not described in card catalog (purchase R14286, 1998).

**Recipient:**

Unidentified author. ALS Aunt Hester to Ballantyne, 26 April 1845. Quayle 749.

**Container**  
5.1

Ballantyne, Alexander. ALI to Ballantyne, 26 May 1844. Quayle 742.

Ballantyne, James Robert, 1813-1864. 2 ALS to Ballantyne, 26 May 1844, 27 June 1849. Quayle 743 and 755.

Ballantyne, Randall H. 6 ALS to Ballantyne, 1844-1862, undated. Written with ALS of 27 August 1846: ALI Alexander Ballantyne and ALS Madalena Ballantyne to Ballantyne. Quayle 744, 747, 754, 756, 783, and 784.

**Container**  
5.2

Ballantyne, Randall S. 5 ALS, ALS / incomplete, AL / incomplete to Ballantyne, 1844-1846, undated. Written with 2 letters: ALS from other members of family. Quayle 740, 741, 745, 746, 750, 751, 752, and 753.

**Container**  
5.3

Blackwood, Stevenson Arthur, Sir, 1832-1893. ALS to Ballantyne, 30 July 1879. By secretary. Removed from Quayle 103, Post haste.

**Container**  
5.1

Bonar, James, 1852-1941. 3 ALS to Ballantyne, 1880-1887. Quayle 1133, 1134, and 1135.

Bruce, R. ALS to Ballantyne, 12 March 1869. Quayle 912.

Chalmers, John. ALS to Ballantyne, 24 February 1865. Quayle 851.

Colquhoun, R. G. ALS to Ballantyne, 28 September 1855. Quayle 767.

Cowan, Charlotte. ALS to Ballantyne, 25 February no year. Quayle 1244.

Edinburgh, City Chambers. ALS to Ballantyne, 28 October 1867. Quayle 893. Included with this: ALS / draft reply by Ballantyne, Quayle 894.

Goold, William H. ALS to Ballantyne, 28 May 1891. Removed from Quayle 135, Hunted and harried.

Grant, William. ALS to Ballantyne, 22 February 1866. Quayle 877.

Howard, Herbert. ANS to Ballantyne, 6 October 1891. Quayle 1253.

MacKenzie, Mary Ballantyne. ANS to Ballantyne, 3 June no year. Enclosure. Quayle 748.

Maclagan, Douglas, Sir, 1812-1900. ALS to Ballantyne, 12 October 1885. Removed from Quayle 116, The rover of the Andes.

Maconochie & Duncan. ALS to Ballantyne, 3 June 1859. Quayle 185.

Shaw, Eyre Massey, Sir, 1830-1908 2 ALS to Ballantyne, 15 June 1867, 27  
October 1871. Quayle 895, 968.

**Miscellaneous:**

Baker, E. ALS to Ballantyne, Bessie, September 1866. Quayle 881.

**Container**  
5.4

Ballantyne, Alexander:

Codicil to will, ADS, 1 page, 9 March 1847. Quayle 182.

**Container 5.5**

Testament testamentar, ADS / incomplete, 3 pages, 10 October 1847. Quayle 183.

Will, ADS, 3 pages, 7 March 1847. Quayle 181.

Ballantyne, Edward. ALS to Ballantyne, Jane Grant, 17 September 1882. Quayle 1176.

Ballantyne, Emma. ALS to Ballantyne, Randal, undated. Quayle 1223.

Ballantyne, Frank Grant. 3 ALS to Ballantyne, Jane Grant, 1882, undated. Quayle, 1170, 1177, and 1178.

Ballantyne, James Robert, 1813-1864. ALS to Ballantyne, Christina Hogarth, undated. Quayle 848.

Ballantyne, James Robert, 1813-1864. 3 ALS to Ballantyne, James R., Mrs., 1859-1860. Quayle 770-777.

**Container**  
5.6

Ballantyne, Jane Grant:

Certificate of deed in perpetuity for grave of son, FDS, 1 page, 3 April 1912. Written in French. Quayle 207.

**Container**  
5.5

ALS to Ballantyne, Edith, 12 May 1897. Quayle 211.

ALS to Ballantyne, John, 12 February 1894. Quayle 1278.

ALI to Grant, William, Mrs., undated. Quayle 1045.

Ballantyne, Jean. 4 ALS to Ballantyne, Jane Grant, 1894. Quayle 1272-1275.

**Container**  
5.7

Ballantyne, John. Application for aid to Alexander Hasmyth Fund, FDS, 4 pages, 7 May 1891. Quayle 210.

**Container**  
5.5

Ballantyne, John. ALS to Ballantyne, Jane Grant, 19 January 1874. Quayle 1004.

Ballantyne, Randal. ALS to Ballantyne, Edith, 11 January 1886. Quayle 1225.

Ballantyne, Randall Scott, Mrs. Testament-Dative, FDS, 4 pages, 18 June 1856. Quayle 184.

Ballantyne, Robert Michael, 1825-1894:

Addresses and notes, handwritten manuscript, 4 pages, circa 1882. On verso: sketch of dog's head. Quayle 369. **Container** 5.8

Agreement with Company of Adventurers of England, FDS, 1 page, 31 May 1841. Quayle 202. **Container** osf 1

Birth certificates, 2 FDS, 1 page each, 9 June 1871, 28 December 1874. Included with these: doctor's certificate of birth; note of baptism. Quayle 203. **Container** 5.8

Calculations for division of mother's estate, handwritten manuscript, 2 pages, undated. Quayle 186.

Certificate of deed in perpetuity for grave, FDS, 1 page, 4 May 1894. Written in Italian. Quayle 205.

Certificate of proclamation, FDS, 1 page, 29 July 1866. Quayle 199.

Certificate of proclamation, FDS, 1 page, 30 July 1866. Quayle 200.

Certificate of purchase in perpetuity of site for sister Randall's grave, FDS, 2 pages, 13 September 1864. Written in French. Quayle 193.

Commission of Captain in Edinburgh Rifle Volunteer Corps, FDS, 1 page, 16 July 1860. Quayle 196.

Commission of Captain in Edinburgh Rifle Volunteer Corps, FDS, 1 page, 27 May 1867. Quayle 197.

Commission of Ensign in Edinburgh Rifle Volunteer Corps, FDS, 1 page, 7 December 1859. Quayle 195.

Extract of marriage, FDS, 1 page, 14 August 1866. Quayle 201.

Genealogical lists, 2 handwritten manuscripts, 1 page each, undated. Quayle 191.

List of songs and notes, 5 items, undated. Quayle 299 and 300.

Memoranda, signed handwritten manuscript, 4 pages; signed handwritten manuscript, 3 pages; 9 December 1884. Quayle 189.

Memoranda regarding estate of the late Alexander Ballantyne, handwritten manuscript, 1 page, undated. Quayle 188.

Miscellaneous notes, 3 items, 6 pages, undated. Quayle 1202, 1261, and 1268.

Passport, FDS, 1 page, 9 October 1873. Quayle 194.

Plans for chalet in France, 3 items, undated. Quayle 204.

Receipts for settlement of estate, 5 ADS, 1 page each, 19-31 December 1884.  
Quayle 190.

Statement, initialed handwritten manuscript, 1 page, 16 November 1858.  
Quayle 187.

Will, TD / copy / photocopy, 2 pages, 16 March 1886. Included with this:  
certificate of probate. Quayle 206.

Brooks, J. H. Penrose, Nancherrow, St. Just, print with handwritten note by Eric  
Quayle on verso, 2 pages, undated.

**Container**  
5.4

Burns, Robert. Afton water, 2 handwritten manuscripts / copies in Ballantyne's  
hand, 5 pages, undated.

Cowan, Charlotte. ALS to Ballantyne, Jane Grant, 4 September 1875. Quayle  
1059.

Edinburgh. Artillery Volunteers, No. 1 Company. ALS to Ballantyne, Christina  
Hogarth, 24 April 1861. Quayle 781.

Grant, William, Mrs. Extracts from Grannie's diary, typescript / copy, 3 pages,  
1866.

Hallam, G. H. 4 ALS to Ballantyne, Jane Grant, 1883.

Nisbet (James) & Co., Ltd. Memorandum of agreement with executors of R. M.  
Ballantyne estate, TDS, 2 pages, 15 July 1901. Quayle 208.

Quayle, Eric. Catalog of Ballantyne collection, carbon typescript, 289 pages,  
undated.

**Container**  
5.9-10

Royal Geographical Society, London. FLS to Ballantyne, Jane Grant, 20 July 1921.  
Quayle 209.

**Container**  
5.4

## 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