

# Bret Harte:

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

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### Descriptive Summary

<b>Creator:</b>	Harte, Bret, 1836-1902
<b>Title:</b>	Bret Harte Collection
<b>Dates:</b>	1860-1916, undated
<b>Extent:</b>	1 box (.42 linear feet)
<b>Abstract:</b>	Includes manuscripts of writings and letters by the American short-story writer, poet, and journalist Bret Harte, as well as a Latin version of Harte's satirical poem "The Heathen Chinee" by Nathaniel B. Smithers. Recipients of Harte's letters include Havelock Ellis, Edward Everett Hale, Joseph Hatton, James Ripley Osgood, Walter Herries Pollock, and others.
<b>Call Number:</b>	Manuscript Collection MS-1858
<b>Language:</b>	English, German, and Latin
<b>Access:</b>	Open for research

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### Administrative Information

**Processed by:** Joan Sibley and Michael Ramsey, 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:** The University of Texas at Austin, Harry Ransom Center

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**Works:**

- Daniel Borem, handwritten manuscript, 16 pages, undated. Bound with printed copy of Dan'l Borem by E. N-S W-T-T. Bookplate of Paul Hyde Bonner. From the Hanley Collection. **Container** 1.2
- Jimmy's big brother from California, signed handwritten manuscript, 22 leaves, 18 October 1899. **Container** 1.3
- Free silver at Angels, signed handwritten manuscript, 5 pages, undated. Removed from morocco folder with bookplate of Paul Hyde Bonner. Includes typescript copy. **Container** 1.1
- Lines by an ex-schoolmaster, handwritten manuscript, 1 page, undated. Included with this: untitled poem by Bret Harte, What unto thee I can haply tell..., initialed handwritten manuscript, 1 page, undated; Harte's signature, dated 16 September 1860 written on green sheet from an album; handwritten note by Augusta A. Bloomer, 20 July 1916 stating that these sheets were written in her mother's album.
- The new assistant at Pine Clearing School, signed handwritten manuscript, 25 October 1890. From the Feldman Collection. **Container** 1.4
- Off Scarborough, 1779, signed handwritten manuscript, 6 pages, undated. **Container** 1.1
- A review of 1. Onward, a lay of the West, by A. A. Patteson; 2. Pleasant hours, by W. Frank Stewart; 3. Joaquin et. al., by C. H. Miller, handwritten manuscript, 6 pages, undated. **Container** 1.5
- Usually, whenever you free-born Americans..., handwritten manuscript, 6 pages, undated. **Container** 1.1

**Letters:**

ALS to Black, William, 21 April 1885.

**Container 1.6**

ACS to Chappell, Miss, 16 August 1894. Removed from Poems by Bret Harte (Boston, 1871). From the Drake Collection.

ALS to Collins, Arthur, undated.

ALS to Crane, 23 November 1899.

ALS to Davis, undated.

ALS to Ellis, Havelock, 21 December 1889.

ALI to Froude, Miss, 18 May 1895.

ALS to Gilbert, A. G., 29 July 1892.

ALS to Gye, 31 January 1888.

ALS to Hale, Edward Everett, 29 June 1870. Removed from PS 1831 L67 1867 copy 4 DRA. From the Drake Collection.

ALS to Hatton, Bessie, 20 May 1895.

10 ALS, 2 ALI, ALS/ incomplete to Hatton, Joseph, 1889-1901, undated.

ALS to Murray, 3 July 1885.

AL to Nan, 6 and 10 September 1878. Written from Lord Byron's ancestral home at Newstead Abbey, Nottinghamshire, England. From the Stark Collection. **Container 1.7**

ALS to Nevill, Dorothy Fanny Walpole, 30 May 1883.

**Container 1.6**

ACS to O'Connor, undated.

3 ALS to Osgood, James Ripley, 2 April 1873, 6 December 1877, 18 November no year. Transcript included with 1873 letter. From the Drake Collection.

3 ALS to Osgood, James Ripley, 1873-1877, undated. Not described in card catalog.

ALS to Osgood, James Ripley, 10 March 1887.

ALS to Osgood, James Ripley, 12 December 1889.

ALS to Pollock, Walter Herries, 15 December 1881.

ALS to Robinson, Mr., 18 March 1887.

ALS to Seith, Alicia A., 8 March 1877.

ALS to Shaw, G. A., 15 January 1884.

ALS to Shepherd, Mrs., 9 April 1887.

ALS to Tichenor, George Carter, 9 May 1884.

ALS to Wheaton, R., 22 August 1864.

**Miscellaneous:**

Bancroft, Samuel. TLS to Smalley, William F. re N. B. Smithers' Latin version of Bret Harte's *The heathen Chinee/ Veracis jacobi epistola; barbarous sinesis*, 31 October 1897. Enclosed with this: N. B. Smithers' *Veracis jacobi epistola; barbarous sinesis*, 3 typescript copies, undated. **Container** 1.8

Hatton, Joseph, 1841-1907. ALS to Harte, Bret, February 1899?

Ricmann, Hugo. APCS to Vrebr?, C., Dr., 2 July 1893. In German.

Smithers, Nathaniel B. ALS to Bancroft, Samuel re Smithers' Latin version of Bret Harte's *The heathen Chinee/ Veracis Jacobi epistola; barbarous sinensis*, 1 April 1886. Enclosed with this: Smither's *Veracis Jacobi epistola; barbarous sinensis*, handwritten manuscript, undated. In Latin.

## 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