

Florence Hamilton Collection Relating to Edwin Markham

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress

Washington, D.C.

2007

Contact information: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm78031393>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms007095>

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Collection Summary

Title: Florence Hamilton Collection Relating to Edwin Markham

Span Dates: 1857-1959

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1926-1942)

ID No.: MSS31393

Collector: Hamilton, Florence, 1873-1968

Creator: Markham, Edwin, 1852-1940

Extent: 11,000 items

Extent: 22 containers plus 15 oversize

Extent: 12 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm78031393>

Summary: Poet and lecturer. Correspondence, poetry, articles and speeches, biographical material, scrapbooks, photographs, memorabilia, printed matter and other papers pertaining mainly to the poet Edwin Markham.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Hamilton, Florence.

Howells, William Dean, 1837-1920.

Markham, Anna Catherine, 1859-1938--Correspondence.

Markham, Edwin, 1852-1940--Correspondence.

Markham, Edwin, 1852-1940.

Markham, Edwin, 1852-1940. Florence Hamilton collection relating to Edwin Markham. 1869-1956.

Walgreen, Charles R. (Charles Rudolph), 1873-1939.

Walgreen, Myrtle R. Norton, 1879-

Subjects

Literature.

Poetry.

Places

New York (State)--Social life and customs.

United States--Religion.

United States--Social conditions.

Titles

Florence Hamilton papers

Occupations

Lecturers.

Poets.

Provenance

The collection of Florence Hamilton, poet and lecturer, relating to Edwin Markham was given to the Library of Congress by Hamilton from 1937 to 1962. The Rare Book and Special Collections Division transferred some material to the Manuscript Division in 1943 and 1945.

Processing History

The Florence Hamilton Collection Relating to Edwin Markham was arranged and described in 1983. The register was revised and the collection reprocessed in 2007. An exhibition of the collection was held at the Library of Congress in 1942.

Transfers

Some photographs have been transferred to the Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as part of the Florence Hamilton Collection Relating to Edwin Markham.

Related Material

Additional material relating to Edwin Markham includes the [Edwin Markham Papers](#) in the Manuscript Division and the Edwin Markham Archives in the Horrmann Library, Wagner College, New York, N.Y.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright of the unpublished writings in the Florence Hamilton Collection Relating to Edwin Markham is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The Florence Hamilton Collection Relating to Edwin Markham is open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Florence Hamilton Collection Relating to Edwin Markham, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Edwin Markham

Date	Event
1852, Apr. 23	Born Charles Edward Anson Markham, Oregon City, Oregon Territory
1857-1870	Attended school in Suisan and Santa Clara valleys, Calif.
circa 1870	Obtained teaching certificate, California College, Vacaville, Calif.
1872	Graduated, San Jose Normal School, San Jose, Calif.
1874	Attended Christian College, Santa Rosa, Calif.
1875	Married Annie Cox (divorced 1884)
1875-1899	Teacher, principal, and school superintendent in Southern California
1880	Published "The Gulf of Night"
1887	Married Caroline E. Bailey (divorced)
1898	Married Anna Catherine Murphy (died 1938)
1899	Published "The Man with the Hoe," <i>San Francisco Examiner</i> Published <i>The Man with the Hoe</i> . New York: Doxey's
circa 1900	Moved to New York, N.Y.

1901	Published <i>Lincoln and Other Poems</i> . New York: McClure, Phillips
1902	Met Florence Hamilton, later his confidential secretary and lecture manager
1910	Charter member, Poetry Society of America
1914	Published with Benjamin B. Lindsey and George Creel <i>Children in Bondage</i> . New York: Hearst's International Library
	Published <i>California the Wonderful</i> . New York: Hearst's International Library
1915	Published <i>The Shoes of Happiness, and Other Poems</i> . Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, Page
1920	Published <i>Gates of Paradise and Other Poems</i> . Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, Page
1921-1940	Poet laureate of Oregon
1922	Read "Lincoln, Man of the People" at dedication of Lincoln Memorial, Washington, D.C.
1925	Published <i>Foundation Stones of Success</i> . Chicago: Howard-Severance Co.
1926	Publication of "The Ballad of the Gallows Bird," <i>Century Magazine</i>
1927	Published <i>The Book of Poetry</i> . New York: W. H. Wise
1929	Elected to the Academy of Arts and Letters
1930	Published <i>Songs and Stories</i> . Los Angeles: Powell Publishing Co.
1932	Published <i>New Poems: Eighty Songs at Eighty</i> . Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday, Doran.
1933	Awarded honorary Literary Doctorate, St. Lawrence University, Canton, N.Y.
1936	Lecture tour in Mexico
1937	Published <i>The Star of Araby</i> . Stapleton, N.Y.: J. Willig Press
	Awarded \$5,000 prize by Academy of American Poets
	Declared mentally incompetent by a court in New York
1938	Recorded "Edwin Markham Himself," a phonograph album of his principal poems
1940, Mar. 7	Died, Staten Island, N.Y.

Florence Hamilton

Date	Event
1873, July 20	Born Florence Danforth, Upper Jay, N.Y.
circa 1890	Married Ernest Hamilton
circa 1920-1936	Confidential secretary and lecture manager for Edwin Markham
1930s-1950s	Member and elected official, National League of American Pen Women, Poetry Forum, and Congress of American Poets
	Lecturer on poetry
1934	Founding member, Academy of American Poets
1936	Dean of women, Summer School of Poetry, National University of Mexico, Mexico City, Mexico
1939	Published <i>A Moment's Monument</i> . New York: Klein-Heimbinder Co.
1942	Published <i>Mirrors and Human Voices</i> . Prairie City, Ill.: James A. Decker Press
1968, Apr. 14	Died, Richmond, Va.

Scope and Content Note

The collection of Florence Hamilton (1873-1968) relating to Edwin Markham spans the years 1857-1959, with the bulk of the material dating from 1926 to 1942. The papers are organized in the following series: [Correspondence](#), [Poetry](#), [Speeches and Writings](#), [Unpublished Biography](#), [Scrapbooks](#), [Photographs and Prints](#), [Memorabilia](#), [Miscellany](#), [Addition](#), and [Oversize](#).

The [Correspondence](#) consists of letters to and from Edwin Markham, Florence Hamilton, and others. A majority of the letters, however, are written by Markham to Hamilton and concern his lecture tours, stays with Charles R. Walgreen, his health, the poetry of others, and his thanks to Hamilton for her assistance. The correspondence reveals a relationship between the two with some of Markham's letters to Hamilton addressed as "Dear Child" and simply signed as either "A" or "Aprile."

The [Poetry](#) series contains poems by Markham and includes his most famous work, "The Man with the Hoe," as well as "Lincoln, the Man of the People," "Ode to Lincoln," "Ballad of the Gallows Bird," and "Our Israfel." His notebooks of poems span the length of his career. Of interest also is the guestbook in which Markham wrote poems when staying at Hamilton's home in Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts, a place he referred to as "The House with the Smiling Face."

The [Speeches and Writings](#) file includes articles, speeches, a radio script, and a motion picture script. Many of Markham's works cover social and religious issues as well as poetry. Markham also wrote about individuals including the American realist author and literary critic William Dean Howells.

The [Unpublished Biography](#) series consists largely of Hamilton's typescript of "The Man with the Hoe, the Poem, the Poet, and the Problem: The Intellectual Biography of Edwin Markham" that was to have been published in 1936. Included also are biographical sketches of Markham, letters authorizing Hamilton to write his biography, drafts of the work, and a photograph of Markham and Hamilton.

The [Scrapbooks](#) series includes clippings, photographs, programs, correspondence, and poems covering the personal lives and writings of Markham and Hamilton. Volumes 3 and 10 pertain mostly to Hamilton and document her poetry, her relationship to Markham, and her life as a poet in New York. Volume 8 contains a copy of Markham's will, while Volume 7 is filled with his obituary notices from 1940. Many of Markham's poems in the scrapbooks have been inscribed to Hamilton.

Other photographs are located in the [Photographs and Prints](#) series as well as a print of the painting "The Man with the Hoe" by the French artist Jean-François Millet. The [Memorabilia](#) series includes a plaster cast of Markham's hand, a strand of his hair, and horoscopes written for him.

The [Miscellany](#) is largely comprised of books inscribed by Markham to Hamilton or annotated by him. Eleven volumes were authored by Markham's friend, Thomas Lake Harris, and others were written or edited by Markham. Of interest among Markham's personal documents is a copyright certificate from the Library of Congress dated 1900 for the poem "Lincoln, the Great Commoner." The printed matter consists of annotated articles, clippings, programs, and prose and poems about and by Markham, many of which seemed to have been collected by Hamilton for her biography of him.

The [Addition](#) includes programs, poems, and articles pertaining to Hamilton; some correspondence of Markham's wife, Anna Catherine Markham; and a book of poems by Markham's mother, Elizabeth Markham, published in 1921.

The [Oversize](#) is comprised of poems, scrapbooks, photographs, and memorabilia.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in ten series:

- [Correspondence, 1900-1950](#)
- [Poetry, 1881-1936](#)
- [Speeches and Writings, 1917-1932](#)
- [Unpublished Biography, 1922-1959](#)
- [Scrapbooks, 1872-1955](#)
- [Photographs and Prints, 1869-1935](#)
- [Memorabilia, 1880-1936](#)
- [Miscellany, circa 1876-1950](#)
- [Addition, 1857-1958](#)
- [Oversize, 1869-1953](#)

Description of Series

Container	Series
BOX 1-2	<p><u>Correspondence, 1900-1950</u></p> <p>Letters to and from Markham, Hamilton, and others, with most from Markham to Hamilton. Hamilton's letters from Markham are organized separately from her general correspondence; both files are arranged chronologically. Markham's correspondence with others is organized according to letters received and sent and therein chronologically.</p>
BOX 3-5	<p><u>Poetry, 1881-1936</u></p> <p>Handwritten, typescript, and printed copies of poems by Markham with some in notebooks and some in sheet music.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by title or type of material. The notebooks are arranged chronologically.</p>
BOX 6	<p><u>Speeches and Writings, 1917-1932</u></p> <p>Handwritten and typescript copies of speeches, articles, a radio script, and a motion picture script.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by title.</p>
BOX 7	<p><u>Unpublished Biography, 1922-1959</u></p> <p>A typescript, drafts, authorization letters, biographical sketches, and a photograph relating to Hamilton's unpublished biography of Markham, "The Man with the Hoe, the Poem, the Poet, and the Problem: The Intellectual Biography of Edwin Markham."</p> <p>Arranged by type of material.</p>
BOX 7	<p><u>Scrapbooks, 1872-1955</u></p> <p>Scrapbooks of clippings, photographs, correspondence, programs, poems, and photocopies pertaining to Markham and Hamilton.</p> <p>Arranged by volume number assigned by Hamilton or by title.</p>
BOX 7	<p><u>Photographs and Prints, 1869-1935</u></p> <p>Photographs of Markham and Hamilton and others and a print of the original painting "The Man with the Hoe."</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by type of material.</p>
BOX 7	<p><u>Memorabilia, 1880-1936</u></p> <p>A plaster cast of Markham's hand, a strand of his hair, and horoscopes.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by type of material or title.</p>
BOX 8-17	<p><u>Miscellany, circa 1876-1950</u></p> <p>Inscribed books, mostly by Markham to Hamilton, and personal documents and printed matter.</p> <p>Arranged by type of material.</p>
BOX 18-22	<p><u>Addition, 1857-1958</u></p> <p>Correspondence, poems, articles, printed matter, scripts, and photographs.</p> <p>Arranged alphabetically by type of material and thereunder by name of person.</p>
BOX OV 1-OV 15	<p><u>Oversize, 1869-1953</u></p> <p>Poems, scrapbooks, photographs, and memorabilia.</p>

Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-2	Correspondence, 1900-1950 Letters to and from Markham, Hamilton, and others, with most from Markham to Hamilton. Hamilton's letters from Markham are organized separately from her general correspondence; both files are arranged chronologically. Markham's correspondence with others is organized according to letters received and sent and therein chronologically.
BOX 1	Hamilton, Florence
BOX 1	General, 1931-1940, 1950, undated
BOX 1	Markham, Edwin
BOX 1	1923-1932 (7 folders)
BOX 1	1933
BOX 1	Jan.-Oct.
BOX 2	Nov.-Dec.
BOX 2	1934-1936, undated (6 folders)
BOX 2	Markham, Edwin
BOX 2	Received, 1911-1912, 1919, 1931-1936, undated
BOX 2	Sent, 1900, 1919, 1925-1938, undated
BOX 3-5	Poetry, 1881-1936 Handwritten, typescript, and printed copies of poems by Markham with some in notebooks and some in sheet music. Arranged alphabetically by title or type of material. The notebooks are arranged chronologically.
BOX 3	Guestbook of poems by Markham composed at Hamilton's house, 1924-1932
BOX 3	Notebooks
BOX 3	No. 1, circa 1881
BOX 3	No. 2, 1883
BOX 3	No. 3, circa 1918
BOX 3	No. 4, 1927
BOX 3	No. 5, 1929-1934
BOX 3	No. 6, 1931-1934
BOX 3	No. 7, 1933
BOX 3	No. 8, 1935
BOX 3	No. 9, 1935
BOX 3	No. 10, 1936
BOX 3	Enclosures, 1882-1883, undated
BOX 4	Sheet music, 1899, 1906-1916, 1932-1936, undated
BOX 4	Titled poems
BOX 4	"A" miscellaneous, 1931-1936, undated
BOX 4	"Ballad of the Gallows Bird," 1935

Poetry, 1881-1936

Container

Contents

BOX 4	"B-F" miscellaneous, 1929-1936, undated
BOX 4	"G-H" miscellaneous, 1929-1936, undated
BOX 4	"I-K" miscellaneous, 1931-1936, undated
BOX 5	"Lincoln, the Man of the People," 1936 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 5	"L" miscellaneous, 1924, 1931-1935, undated
BOX 5	"The Man with the Hoe," 1933, undated <i>See also Oversize</i>
BOX 5	"M-N" miscellaneous, 1921, 1931-1936, undated
BOX 5	"Ode to Lincoln," 1936 <i>See also Oversize</i>
BOX 5	"Our Israfel," 1925 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 5	"O-S" miscellaneous, 1929-1936, undated
BOX 5	"The Twin Flags," 1936 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 5	"T-Z" miscellaneous, 1899, 1929-1936, undated
BOX 5	Untitled and fragments, undated
BOX 6	Speeches and Writings, 1917-1932 Handwritten and typescript copies of speeches, articles, a radio script, and a motion picture script. Arranged alphabetically by title.
BOX 6	"A-F" miscellaneous, 1917, undated
BOX 6	"G-L" miscellaneous, undated
BOX 6	"The Man with the Hoe and the Storm It Started," undated
BOX 6	"M-P" miscellaneous, 1923-1930, undated
BOX 6	"S-T" miscellaneous, undated
BOX 6	"William Dean Howells," undated
BOX 6	"W" miscellaneous, undated
BOX 6	Unidentified, fragments, and notes, 1920, 1932, undated (2 folders)
BOX 7	Unpublished Biography, 1922-1959 A typescript, drafts, authorization letters, biographical sketches, and a photograph relating to Hamilton's unpublished biography of Markham, "The Man with the Hoe, the Poem, the Poet, and the Problem: The Intellectual Biography of Edwin Markham." Arranged by type of material.
BOX 7	Authorization letters, biographical sketches, and a photograph, 1922-1934, undated
BOX 7	Drafts, undated
BOX 7	Typescript, 1930-1934, 1959 (9 folders)
BOX 7	Scrapbooks, 1872-1955 Scrapbooks of clippings, photographs, correspondence, programs, poems, and photocopies pertaining to Markham and Hamilton. Arranged by volume number assigned by Hamilton or by title.
BOX 7	Vols. 1-2, 1872, 1899-1946, undated <i>See Oversize</i> (2 vols.)

Scrapbooks, 1872-1955

Container	Contents
BOX 7	Vols. 3-4, 1919-1952, undated See Oversize (2 vols.)
BOX 7	Vol. 5, 1932-1952, undated See Oversize
BOX 7	Vol. 6, 1899-1941, 1948-1955, undated See Oversize
BOX 7	Vols. 7, 9-10, 1933-1953, undated See Oversize (3 vols.)
BOX 7	Vol. 8, 1882, 1923-1942, 1952-1953, undated See Oversize
BOX 7	Oregon friends, 1921 See Oversize
BOX 7	Photographs and Prints, 1869-1935 Photographs of Markham and Hamilton and others and a print of the original painting "The Man with the Hoe." Arranged alphabetically by type of material.
BOX 7	Photographs, 1869, 1880, 1903-1907, 1918-1935, undated See Oversize
BOX 7	Print, "The Man with the Hoe," undated See Oversize
BOX 7	Memorabilia, 1880-1936 A plaster cast of Markham's hand, a strand of his hair, and horoscopes. Arranged alphabetically by type of material or title.
BOX 7	<i>Astrological Review</i> , 1936 See Oversize
BOX 7	Hair strand of Markham, 1880 See Oversize
BOX 7	Horoscopes for Markham, circa 1935 See Oversize
BOX 7	Plaster cast of Markham's hand, undated See Oversize
BOX 8-17	Miscellany, circa 1876-1950 Inscribed books, mostly by Markham to Hamilton, and personal documents and printed matter. Arranged by type of material.
BOX 8	Books
BOX 8	By Thomas Lake Harris, circa 1876, 1878, 1886-1892
BOX 9-12	Inscribed to Hamilton, 1887-1910, 1916-1933, 1943
BOX 13-15	Written or edited by Markham, 1899, 1909-1938
BOX 16	Personal documents of Markham, 1879-1883, 1900-1924
BOX 16	Printed matter
BOX 16	Annotated articles and clippings, 1898, 1911, 1924-1938, 1947-1950, undated
BOX 16	Programs, 1881, 1917, 1926-1942, undated
BOX 16	Prose and poems
BOX 16	About Markham
BOX 16	1899-1902, 1916-1940 (2 folders)
BOX 17	Undated
BOX 17	By Markham 1880, 1899-1943, undated (6 folders)
BOX 18-22	Addition, 1857-1958 Correspondence, poems, articles, printed matter, scripts, and photographs.

Addition, 1857-1958

Container

Contents

Arranged alphabetically by type of material and thereunder by name of person.

BOX 18	Correspondence
BOX 18	Hamilton, Florence, 1926-1956, undated (5 folders)
BOX 19	Markham, Anna Catherine, 1909, 1919-1923, 1932-1935, undated
BOX 19	Markham, Edwin 1899-1936, undated (5 folders)
BOX 19	Miscellany, 1918, 1926, 1933-1941, undated
BOX 20	Literary file
BOX 20	Hamilton, Florence, drafts, notes, and poems, 1940, undated (2 folders)
BOX 20	Markham, Edwin
BOX 20	Articles and drafts, 1918, 1930, undated
BOX 20	Newsreel documentary, "The Romantic Days of '49," circa 1914
BOX 20	Poems, 1900-1935, undated (2 folders)
BOX 21	Miscellany
BOX 21	Articles and poems about Markham, 1932-1941, undated (2 folders)
BOX 21	Books annotated and dedicated by Markham
BOX 21	1857, 1884, 1903 (3 folders)
BOX 22	1916
BOX 22	Correspondence, notes, photographs, and poems, 1930-1942, undated
BOX 22	Radio broadcasts and a speech, 1921, 1932, undated
BOX 22	Printed matter
BOX 22	Hamilton, Florence, 1930-1950, 1958, undated
BOX 22	Markham, Edwin, 1899-1903, 1916-1917, 1926, 1932-1942, 1948, 1954-1955, undated
BOX 22	Miscellany, 1921, 1926, 1930-1948, undated
BOX OV 1-OV 15	Oversize, 1869-1953 Poems, scrapbooks, photographs, and memorabilia. Arranged and described according to the series, containers, and folders from which the items were removed.
BOX OV 1	Poetry
BOX OV 1	Titled poems
BOX OV 1	"Lincoln, the Man of the People," 1936 (Container 5)
BOX OV 2	"The Man with the Hoe," 1933, undated (Container 5)
BOX OV 3	"Ode to Lincoln," 1936 (Container 5)
BOX OV 4	"Our Israfel," 1925 (Container 5)
BOX OV 5	"The Twin Flags," 1936 (Container 5)

Oversize, 1869-1953

Container	Contents
BOX OV 6	Scrapbooks (Container 7)
BOX OV 6	Vols. 1-2, 1872, 1899-1946, undated
BOX OV 7	Vols. 3-4, 1919-1952, undated
BOX OV 8	Vol. 5, 1932-1952, undated
BOX OV 9	Vol. 6, 1899-1941, 1948-1955, undated
BOX OV 10	Vols. 7, 9-10, 1933-1953, undated
BOX OV 11	Vol. 8, 1882, 1923-1942, 1952-1953, undated
BOX OV 12	Oregon friends, 1921
BOX OV 13	Photographs and Prints (Container 7)
BOX OV 13	Photographs, 1869, 1880, 1903-1907, 1918-1935, undated
BOX OV 14	Print, "The Man with the Hoe," undated
BOX OV 15	Memorabilia (Container 7)
BOX OV 15	<i>Astrological Review</i> , 1936
BOX OV 15	Hair strand of Markham, 1880
BOX OV 15	Horoscopes for Markham, circa 1935
BOX OV 15	Plaster cast of Markham's hand, undated