E. F. Ellet Correspondence with Index
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress

Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2024

Contact information: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact

Catalog Record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm2020086359

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms020020

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Manuscript Division staff, 2020
Revised 2024 May
Collection Summary
Title: E. F. Ellet Correspondence with Index
Inclusive Dates: 1835-1865
Bulk Dates: 1848-1850
ID no.: MSS86359
Creator: Ellet, E. F. (Elizabeth Fries), 1818-1877
Extent: 185 items
Extent: 1 container
Extent: 0.2 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm2020086359
Summary: Author, poet, and historian. Correspondence with index relating chiefly to her research for The Women of the American Revolution.

Acquisition Information
The correspondence with index of E. F. Ellet was purchased by the Library of Congress in 2020. An addition was purchased in 2022.

Processing History
The correspondence with index of E. F. Ellet was arranged and described by Rachel Telford in 2020. An addition was processed and the finding aid revised by Rachel McNellis in 2024.

Copyright Status
The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of E. F. Ellet is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.) and other applicable international copyright laws.

Access and Restrictions
The correspondence with index of E. F. Ellet are open to research. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting.

Preferred Citation
Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, E. F. Ellet Correspondence with Index, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1818, Oct. 18</td>
<td>Born, Sodus Point, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>circa 1835</td>
<td>Married William Henry Ellet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1848-1850</td>
<td>Published The Women of the American Revolution (3 volumes). New York: Baker and Scribner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1877, June 3</td>
<td>Died, New York, N.Y.</td>
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Scope and Content Note

The correspondence with index of Elizabeth Fries Lummis Ellet spans the years 1835-1865, with the bulk of the material dating from 1848 to 1850. The collection documents Ellet's research for the publication of her three-volume work, The Women of the American Revolution (1848 and 1850), the first history of women’s participation in the American Revolution. The papers are in English.

The correspondence documents Ellet's research and writing process as she worked on The Women of the American Revolution. Ellet researched the lives of women by requesting information from their descendents through correspondence, receiving letters from more than 100 individuals. Correspondents included women relatives such as Lucy Knox Thatcher, Susan J. Donaldson, Eliza Susan Quincy, and Delia Tudor (Stewart) Parnell; prominent politicians and writers such as Henry Clay, John C. Calhoun, Washington Irving, James Fenimore Cooper, George Washington Parke Custis, and Robert Jefferson Breckinridge. Ellet also corresponded with noted historians of the day such as Henry Onderdonk Jr., Jared Sparks, William Hickling Prescott, and George Washington Greene, the grandson of Catherine Littlefield Greene and Revolutionary war hero Nathaniel Greene. The collection includes letters excerpted in The Women of the American Revolution, as well as unpublished material. Also included is an index to the correspondence, presumably created by Ellet, though some letters listed are not part of this collection.

The 2024 Addition consists of a letter written by Ellet to author and editor Sarah Josepha Buell Hale. Ellet discusses her own translation of a poem by Alphonse de Lamartine, the New York production of her play Teresa Contarini (1835), publication opportunities, and reprinting her poetry in Hale's American Ladies' Magazine, later known as Godey's Lady Book.

Arrangement of the Collection

This collection is arranged alphabetically by name of correspondent, followed by an index and an addition.

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
Breckinridge, Robert J. (Robert Jefferson), 1800-1871--Correspondence.
Calhoun, John C. (John Caldwell), 1782-1850--Correspondence.
Clay, Henry, 1777-1852--Correspondence.
Cooper, James Fenimore, 1789-1851--Correspondence.
Custis, George Washington Parke, 1781-1857--Correspondence.
Donaldson, Susan J. (Susan Jane), 1808-1866--Correspondence.
Ellet, E. F. (Elizabeth Fries), 1818-1877.
Ellet, E. F. (Elizabeth Fries), 1818-1877. The women of the American Revolution. 1848-1850.
Greene, George Washington, 1811-1883--Correspondence.
Hale, Sarah Josepha Buell, 1788-1879--Correspondence.
Irving, Washington, 1783-1859--Correspondence.
Onderdonk, Henry, Jr., 1804-1886--Correspondence.
Parnell, Delia Tudor, 1816-1898--Correspondence.
Prescott, William Hickling, 1796-1859--Correspondence.
Quincy, Eliza Susan, 1798-1884--Correspondence.
Sparks, Jared, 1789-1866--Correspondence.
Thatcher, Lucy Knox, 1776-1854--Correspondence.

Subjects
American literature--Women authors.
Women--United States.
Places
United States--History--Revolution, 1775-1783--Women.

Titles
American ladies' magazine.
E.F. Ellet papers
Elizabeth Fries Ellet papers

Occupations
Authors.
Historians.
Poets.
# Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Correspondence, A-G, 1842-1865</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Correspondence, H-O, 1842-1865</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Correspondence, P-W, 1842-1865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Index, undated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>2024 Addition</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Letter to Sarah Josepha Buell Hale, 1835, May 2</td>
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