Abstract: This collection comprises materials collected by Horace Traubel, American journalist, on his longtime friend, poet Walt Whitman.
Descriptive Summary

Identification: MSS 099, F819
Creator: Traubel, Horace, 1858-1919.
Title: Horace Traubel collection of Walt Whitman papers
Inclusive Dates: 1854–1916
Extent: 23 items
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Citation: MSS 099, F819, Horace Traubel collection of Walt Whitman papers, Special Collections, University of Delaware Library, Newark, Delaware.

Shelving Summary: Shelved in SPEC MSS 099; Shelved in SPEC MSS 099 oversize (18 inch); Shelved in SPEC MSS 099 vault

Location: Special Collections Department, University of Delaware Library Newark, Delaware 19717-5267 Phone: 302-831-2229 Fax: 302-831-6003 URL: http://www.lib.udel.edu/ud/spec/

Source: Unknown.
Processing: Processed and encoded by Anita Wellner, April 2008.
Access Restrictions: The collection is open for research.

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Biographical Note

Walt Whitman (1819–1892)

American poet Walt Whitman was born on May 31, 1819, in West Hills, Long Island, New York and died on March 26, 1892, in Camden, New Jersey. Whitman published nine separate editions of his most well-known work, Leaves of Grass beginning in 1855. Over the next thirty-seven years, Whitman revised the poems, as well as adding new poems and deleting other poems from each edition. In 1881 Whitman settled on the final arrangement of the poems and thereafter no further revisions were made. All new poems written after 1881 were added as annexes to subsequent additions of Leaves of Grass.

Sources:

Horace Traubel (1858–1919)

American journalist, editor, and author, Horace Traubel (1858–1919) was best known for his multivolume, With Walt Whitman in Camden: A Diary, a detailed account of his close association with the famous poet between March of 1888 and January of 1889. A friend of Whitman's from 1873 until his death, he became one of Whitman's literary executors and subsequently an editor of In Re Walt Whitman (1893) and the ten-volume Complete Writings of Walt Whitman (1902). In 1890 Traubel founded and edited a monthly magazine, the Conservator, which promoted Marxian socialism and reflected Whitman's substantial influence. From 1903 to 1907 he served as editor of the Artsman, a publication of the Rose Valley Movement, a communal enterprise located southwest of Philadelphia. Traubel also wrote prose verse and published two volumes, Chants Communal (1904) and Optimos.

Sources:
Scope and Content Note

Horace Traubel, Whitman's friend and one of his literary executors, collected this batch of printed newsletters, an engraving, and ephemera, as well as an autograph note written by Whitman to his friend John Burroughs. The brief autograph letter to Burroughs is matted with an printed engraving of Walt Whitman. The printed material includes nine issues of the Walt Whitman Fellowship Papers (1894–1904) and the February 19, 1916 issue of Revolt, which bears inscriptions by Traubel. Additionally the collection has a prospectus, subscription list, and blank order form for a facsimile of the 1860–1861 edition of Leaves of Grass, to be printed by Horace Traubel; a prospectus with order form for Richard Maurice Bucke's Notes and Fragments: left by Walt Whitman; a reprint from The Era Magazine (1903) of Traubel's article, "Walt Whitman at Fifty Dollars a Volume, and How He Came to It;" a clipping from The New York Times (February 24, 1906) which included a review of Traubel's book, With Walt Whitman in Camden. There are also three printed images of Whitman and one print of his birthplace in Long Island, all of which appear to have been cut from a book.
Selected Search Terms

Personal Names

Bucke, Richard Maurice, 1837-1902.

Burroughs, John, 1837-1921.

Whitman, Walt, 1819-1892.

Topical Terms

American literature--19th century--History and criticism--Sources.

American poetry—History—19th century--Sources.

Poets, American—History—19th century—Sources.

Form/Genre Terms

Letters (correspondence)

Clippings (information artifacts)

Periodicals.

Prospectuses.

Subscription lists.

Order forms.

Engravings (prints)

Occupation

Poets.

Editors.

Personal Contributors

Whitman, Walt, 1819-1892.
Arrangement

The collection is arranged in chronological order.
Detailed Description of the Collection

Walt Whitman letter to John Burroughs, [1874] [Box vault F819]

1 item (1 leaf)

One letter handwritten by Walt Whitman to John Burroughs regarding his recent health and possible publications. Although the letter is undated, the content suggests that it was written in later 1873 or early 1874. The letter is currently mounted in a matte with a print of an engraving of Whitman.

Printed engraving of Walt Whitman, undated [Box vault F819]

1 item (1 leaf)

A print of an engraving of Walt Whitman mounted in a matte with an autograph note written by Whitman to John Burroughs.

Suppressed issue of Revolt, 1916 February 19 [Box ovs F819]

The February 19, 1916 issue of Revolt, an anarchist paper published in Philadelphia. This issue was suppressed and is inscribed by Horace Traubel.

Walt Whitman Fellowship Papers, 1894–1904 [Box 54 F819]

10 items

Nine issues of the Walt Whitman Fellowship Papers, plus one Treasurer's Memoranda. Horace Traubel was the secretary and treasurer for the organization.

Printed images of Whitman and his birth home, 1854–1890 [Box 54 F819]

4 items (4 leaves)

Includes three images of Walt Whitman, dated 1854, 1859, and 1890. Also includes a printed image of Whitman's birthplace on Long Island.

Prospectus, blank order form, and subscription list for a facsimile of the 1860–1861 edition of Leaves of Grass, 1902 [Box 54 F819]

3 items

Prospectus, blank order form, and subscription list for a facsimile of the 1860–1861 edition of Leaves of Grass which Horace Traubel proposed to print in 1902. The prospectus includes a sample page which reproduces a page from the manuscript.

Reprint of Horace Traubel's article, "Walt Whitman at Fifty Dollars a Volume, and How He Came to It", 1903 June [Box 54 F819]

Prospectus for *Notes and Fragments: left by Walt Whitman*, 1888–1889 [Box 54 F819]

Prospectus with order form for *Notes and Fragments: left by Walt Whitman*, as edited by Dr. Richard Maurice Bucke and published in 1899.

Review of *With Walt Whitman in Camden*, 1906 February 24 [Box ovs F819]