Abstract: The letter and three sheets of poetry in this collection, which were originally laid in a copy of Elihu Vedder's book of poetry, *Miscellaneous Moods in Verse* all appear to bear some connection to Vedder.
Descriptive Summary

Identification: MSS 099, F895
Creator: Child, William B.
Title: William B. Child letter to Ferris Greenslet with Elihu Vedder poems
Inclusive Dates: circa 1867-1923
Extent: 4 items (6 p.)
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Citation: MSS 099, F895, William B. Child letter to Ferris Greenslet with Elihu Vedder poems, Special Collections, University of Delaware Library, Newark, Delaware.
Shelving Summary: Box 61, F895: Shelved in SPEC MSS 099 manuscript boxes
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: Originally laid in a copy of Elihu Vedder's Miscellaneous Moods in Verse (Spec PS 3543 .E13 M5 1914).
Processing: Processed and encoded by Anita Wellner, October 2011.
Access Restrictions: The collection is open for research.
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Biographical Notes

William B. Child

William B. Child was the librarian for the Union League Club of New York.

On January 14, 1897, in a letter to the membership of the Union League Club of New York, Chairman Horace B. Fry announced that the new librarian of the club would be William B. Child.

Ferris Greenslet

Editor, publisher, and biographer Ferris Greenslet was born June 30, 1875, in Glens Falls, New York.

After graduating from Wesleyan University in 1897, Greenslet earned both an M.S and Ph.D. from Columbia University, finishing in 1900. In 1901, he moved to Boston, where after working at the Boston Public Library and the Boston Advertiser, be became the associate editor of The Atlantic Monthly in 1902.

In 1907, he became the literary editor of Houghton Mifflin Publishing Company, continuing that employment for fifty-two years.

Ferris Greenslet wrote several biographies, including Walter Pater (1903), The Life of James Russell Lowell (1905), The Life of Thomas Bailey Aldrich (1908) and The Lowells and Their Seven Worlds (1946). He also wrote a collection of reminiscences, Under the Bridge published in 1943.

Ferris Greenslet wrote an article for Outlook magazine titled "Elihu Vedder in Rome," which is the subject of the letter in this collection.

Ferris Greenslet died in Cambridge, Massachusetts, on November 19, 1959.

Elihu Vedder

American artist and occasional poet Elihu Vedder was born February 26, 1836, in New York.


Vedder published three books: Miscellaneous Moods in Verse (1914), Doubt and Other Things (1922), and The Digressions of V (1910), which was his memoir.

Sources:


Scope and Content Note

The letter and three sheets of poetry in this collection, which were originally laid in a copy of Elihu Vedder's book of poetry, *Miscellaneous Moods in Verse* all appear to bear some connection to Vedder.

In a handwritten letter, dated April 19, 1911, Union League Club Librarian William B. Child wrote to American editor and biographer Ferris Greenslet. Child inquired as to the author of a motto which appeared with an illustration used in Greenslet's article on Elihu Vedder, published in *Outlook*. A handwritten note on the bottom of the letter indicates that the verse was written by Elihu Vedder, being the first stanza of his poem, "Man's Guess," which was published in *Miscellaneous Moods in Verse*.

The three sheets of poems and notations are unsigned. However, two sheets are stationery printed with Vedder's home address. The handwriting of these poems resembles that of Vedder's when compared to some of the handwritten notes found throughout the copy of *Miscellaneous Moods in Verse* in which these sheets originally were found.
Selected Search Terms

Personal Names

Vedder, Elihu, 1836-1923.
Greenslet, Ferris, 1875-1959 --Correspondence.
Child, William B.--Correspondence.

Corporate Names

Union League Club (New York, N.Y.)

Topical Terms

American poetry--20th century--Correspondence.

Form/Genre Terms

Correspondence.
Poems.

Personal Contributors

Greenslet, Ferris, 1875-1959, correspondent.
Vedder, Elihu, 1836-1923.

Related Materials in this Repository

This item forms part of MSS 099 Miscellaneous Literary and Historical Manuscripts.
Detailed Description of the Collection

Autograph letter signed, 1911 April 19 [Box 61 F895]
1 item (1 p.)
The letter has an autograph note in another hand on the bottom of the page answering the question posed in the letter.

Autograph poems, [1867-1923] [Box 61 F895]
1 item (3 p.)
A sheet of stationery, printed with Elihu Vedder's home address in Rome: "34 Porta Pincianna p. p.," includes, on the front and verso, three poems and a couple of notations. The first lines of the poems are: "Beneath a shady tree they sat," "A great Congregational Preacher," and "A Certain Miss Susin Van Doosen."

Autograph poem, [1867-1923] [Box 61 F895]
1 item (1 p.)
A sheet of stationery, printed with Elihu Vedder's home address in Rome, bears a poem with the first line: "My soul is far away tonight."

Autograph poem, [1867-1923] [Box 61 F895]
1 item (1 p.)
A plain leaf of paper bears a handwritten poem with the first line: "Old men say."