

Claire Sallard notebooks

Ms. Coll. 971

Finding aid prepared by Aleth Tisseau des Escotais.

Last updated on July 25, 2014.

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

2014 April 23

Table of Contents

Summary Information.....	3
Biography/History.....	4
Scope and Contents.....	4
Administrative Information.....	5
Controlled Access Headings.....	5
Collection Inventory.....	6

Summary Information

Repository	University of Pennsylvania: Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	Sallard, Claire, -1896
Title	Claire Sallard notebooks
Call number	Ms. Coll. 971
Date	circa 1824-1836
Extent	0.6 linear feet (2 boxes)
Language	French
Language Note	French
Abstract	This collection contains 47 notebooks, dating from 1824 to 1836, written by Claire Sallard (circa 1821-1896), which provide examples of the type of education received by prosperous young ladies in France in the 1820s and 1830s. With a focus on the skills of literary form, the notebooks contain short stories, moral speeches, diary entries, and a “cahier de bonne conduite” (a good conduct notebook).

Cite as:

Claire Sallard notebooks, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts,
University of Pennsylvania

Biography/History

Claire Sallard (circa 1821-1896) was the daughter of a military officer and the great-niece of French composer Nicolas Dalayrac. She spent much of her childhood in Le Mans in France, a part of a prosperous family during the Restoration. She was taught by tutors and was educated in the bourgeois style of the times, with particular focus on becoming a good wife and mother. Her lessons highlighted the ideology of her social class, the established morals, and the accepted position attributed to women in 1820s and 1830s.

On August 21, 1843, at the age of 21, Claire Sallard married Paul Huet (1804-1869), a successful landscape artist. According to the Galerie Michael, he “was a well-known and appreciated artist during his time.” Claire and Paul Huet were the parents of Rene and Edme and, after 1863, lived in Chaville, near Paris. Huet died in 1869. Claire lived until 1896.

Scope and Contents

This collection contains 47 notebooks, dating from 1824 to 1836, written by Claire Sallard, as a young woman. The notebooks were a result of her education by a tutor and provide evidence of the type of education received by prosperous young ladies in France in the 1820s and 1830s. With a focus on the skills of literary form, the notebooks contain short stories, moral speeches, diary entries, and a “cahier de bonne conduite” (a good conduct notebook). These notebooks are arranged in chronological order. While the majority of the material is in the handwriting of Claire Sallard, there is evidence of at least two other contributors: probably a tutor and a relative or a friend.

The earliest pieces are probably in her tutor’s hand, but she seems to have been producing extensive dictations and compositions shortly thereafter. Among the early pieces are a few leaves from a notebook entitled ‘9eme annee de Claire. Cahier de bonne conduit,’ in which she receives points and comments for her behavior. The longer pieces, all in prose, are original compositions based on personal observation and reflection and contain a large amount of autobiographical material. There are several pieces in the form of a journal covering the years of 1833 to 1834, and there is significant material for reconstructing the detail of a bourgeois domestic scene, including descriptions of family visits to relations, the comings-and-goings of servants, jam making, shopping, and playing with siblings. A good number of the later pieces are moral tales bearing titles such as *Luxe et Misere*, *Las bas blue*, *Le sort d’une robe*, *La reine detronnee*, *La vieille fille*, and *Les trois mariages*.

Throughout these writings, there is an overriding concern for morality, good conduct, and a sweet nature. The writings clearly reflect the tutor’s goals for the education of young Claire Sallard, and although these items are frequently autobiographical, they were never private. Those written by Claire Sallard were at least read, and often commented on, by a tutor, and many were dictated to her, probably by her tutor. Scholars interested in gender studies and the education of women in France during the 19th century will find this collection to be very valuable.

Administrative Information

University of Pennsylvania, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts

2014 April 23

Finding aid prepared by Aleth Tisseau des Escotais.

Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research use.

Use Restrictions

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Source of Acquisition

Purchase from Justin Croft Antiquarian Books (cat.8, no.29), 2014

Controlled Access Headings

FORM/GENRE(S)

- Diaries
- Notebooks
- Speeches

SUBJECT(S)

- Women--Education--France--19th century

Collection Inventory

	Box	Folder
Short stories, <i>Laure</i> and <i>La Toilette de bal</i> [The ball outfit] and notebook with <i>la suite de La Toilette de bal</i> [the sequel of The ball outfit], 1824.	1	1
<i>La Reine détrônée</i> [The dethroned queen], 1825.	1	1
<i>Les deux voisines</i> [The two neighbors], dictated short story, 1825.	1	1
<i>La petite ferme</i> [The little farm], four notebooks, 1825.	1	2
<i>Le Projet de fête</i> [The planned party], 1826.	1	3
<i>La petite Parisienne</i> [The young Parisian], 1828.	1	3

Les Souvenirs [Memories], 1828.

1

3

9e année de Claire, cahier de bonne conduite [Ninth year of Claire, good conduct notebook], 2 sheets, 1829-1830.

1

4

Vanité et modestie [Vanity and modesty], 1831.

1

5

15, 18 et 21 ans. Trois tableaux [15, 18, and 21 years. Three scenes], 1832.

1

5

L'Evêque et le curé [The bishop and the priest], 1832.

1

5

La Fille du portier [The doorman's daughter], 1832.

1

6

Le Songe de la mère [The mother's dream], 1832.

1

6

Les trois songes [The three dreams], 1832.

1

6

La Jalouse [The jealous girl], 1833.

1

7

Le Sort d'une robe [The fate of a dress], 1833.

1

7

Les trois mariages [The three weddings], 1833.

1

7

Victor le fricassier [Victor the generous], 1833 March 22.

1

10

Claire Sallard's diary, parts 1-5, four notebooks and 8 loose pages, 1833
September-1834 June 8.

2

8

La Vieille fille, suite aux Souvenirs [The old maid, sequel of Memories],
1834.

1

3

<i>Tableaux de la vie d'une femme ou Les fleurs se fanent [Scenes of a woman's life or Flowers wither], 1834.</i>	1	10
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<i>De l'éducation sous le rapport de la vie sociale et de la vie privée, discours de Mme Coindon [On education from the angle of social life and private life, speech of Mrs. Coindon], 8 pages, 1835 August 30.</i>	1	9
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<i>Devoirs copiés pour maman par sa fille [Assignments copied for mum by her daughter], including <i>L'Aumône [The charity]</i> and <i>Que celui qui est sans péché lui jette la première pierre [Let he who is without sin cast the first stone]</i>, 1835.</i>	1	10
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<i>L'Amitié [Friendship], given to Charlotte by Claire, assignment done in Le Mans, 1835.</i>	1	11
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<i>L'Artiste, le chien Ripeau et la gracieuse Lovy. Conte moral [The Artist, the dog Ripeau, and the graceful Lovy. Moral tale], 1835.</i>	1	11
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<i>La Pension, la tresse blonde, le grand inconvénient [The board school, the blond braid, the big disadvantage], 1836.</i>	1	12
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Le Bas bleu [The blue stocking], 1836.

1

12

Luxe et misère [Luxury and poverty], 1836.

1

12

Drafts of letters and short stories, undated.

1

13

Julien Collé Cadet, undated.

2

1

Les trois amies [The three friends], undated.

2

1

La Flatterie [Flattery], two notebooks, undated.

2

2

Les Filles distinguées et les filles communes [The distinguished girls and the ordinary girls], undated.

2

2

Moral speech given to young girls, 11 pages, undated.

2

3

Réponse de la jeune fille sans education, enrichie depuis un an, adressée à la jeune fille éduquée et enrichie comme elle, sujet calqué sur celui de Claire [Response of the uneducated young girl, enriched from one year, addressed to the educated young girl, enriched like her, subject based on Claire herself], 9 pages, undated.

2

3

Les deux visites [The two visits], 4 pages, undated.

2

4

Short story about a poor Breton family, undated.

2

4