

# **Margaret McHenry papers**

**Ms. Coll. 244**

**Finding aid prepared by Holly Mengel.**

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Last updated on August 05, 2019.

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

2019 August 5

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## Summary Information

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<b>Repository</b>	University of Pennsylvania: Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts
<b>Creator</b>	McHenry, Margaret
<b>Title</b>	Margaret McHenry papers
<b>Call number</b>	Ms. Coll. 244
<b>Date [inclusive]</b>	1930-1948
<b>Extent</b>	2 linear feet (6 boxes)
<b>Language</b>	English
<b>Abstract</b>	Margaret McHenry earned her doctorate in English from the University of Pennsylvania in 1931. Her dissertation was titled "The Ulster Theatre in Ireland." Following her graduation, she taught English at Roxborough High School in Philadelphia and continued to write. This collection contains writings by Margaret McHenry, including "The Ulster Theatre in Ireland;" poetry; a biography of S. Weir Mitchell; and "A Booklover's Britain," later "England in English." For the most part, each of her works is represented by a nearly finished copy; and in some cases, with drafts and notes.

**Cite as:**

Margaret McHenry papers, 1930-1948, Ms. Coll. 244, Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts, University of Pennsylvania

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## Biography/History

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Margaret McHenry earned her doctorate in English from the University of Pennsylvania in 1931. Her dissertation was titled "The Ulster Theatre in Ireland." Following her graduation, she taught English at Roxborough High School in Philadelphia and continued to write.

In 1939, she published *Belief and the Age of Science* (Philadelphia, Magee Press). She also wrote poems; "Thomas Eakins who painted" (privately printed for the author); "Dr. S. Weir Mitchell: the Physician Who Wrote;" and "England in English;" none of which appear to have been published.

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## Scope and Contents

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This collection contains writings by Margaret McHenry. The collection is arranged in four series: I. "The Ulster Theatre in Ireland;" II. Poetry; III. Biography of S. Weir Mitchell; and IV. "A Booklover's Britain," later "England in English." For the most part, each of her works is represented by a nearly finished copy; and in some cases, with drafts and notes.

The first series, "The Ulster Theatre in Ireland," is by far the most well represented in the collection. Written as her dissertation, McHenry's correspondence, research, and drafts are included. Researchers interested in the Ulster Theatre will find letters to and from individuals working at various theaters in Ireland who provided information on plays performed by the Ulster Players; galley proofs of the first three chapters; draft materials; notes from interviews; scripts of plays; and transcriptions of newspaper articles about the Ulster Theatre. In addition to providing a fair amount of information about the topic; this series also provides information on the way that McHenry researched and wrote.

The second series, Poetry, includes two volumes of poems written by McHenry. "Some Irish Capitals," completed in 1933, contains poems that are fairly religious in nature and appear to focus on divine inspiration and guidance for her writing. Each poem is illuminated with a colored capital letter and occasionally a few other decorations. "20 Poems," includes three thematic sets of poems, "Dance Fantasia," "Twelve Sonnets in Thanksgiving for a Return to the Wissahickon," and "Eastern View." Series III. Biography of S. Weir Mitchell includes a letter, notes, and typescript versions of the final product about a much-lauded Philadelphia physician, scientist, and novelist, considered by many to be the father of neurology.

The final series, Series IV. "A Booklover's Britain," later "England in English" includes three typescripts. Several are heavily corrected and annotated. The third version appears to be close to her final version and includes photographs.

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## Administrative Information

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

2019 August 5

Finding aid prepared by Holly Mengel.

### **Access Restrictions**

This collection is open for research use.

### **Use Restrictions**

Copyright restrictions may exist. For most library holdings, the Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania do not hold copyright. It is the responsibility of the requester to seek permission from the holder of the copyright to reproduce material from the Kislak Center for Special Collections, Rare Books and Manuscripts.

### **Source of Acquisition**

Gift of the estate of Margaret McHenry, 1950.

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## **Related Materials**

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### **Related Archival Materials note**

At the Historical Society of Pennsylvania: Margaret McHenry notebooks, 1929-1949, Collection 1633

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## **Controlled Access Headings**

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### **CORPORATE NAME(S)**

- Ulster Literary Theatre.

### **FORM/GENRE(S)**

- Correspondence
- Drawings (visual works)
- Galley proofs
- Plays (performed works)
- Poems
- Poetry
- Typescripts

**GEOGRAPHIC NAME(S)**

- England--Description and travel--19th century

**PERSONAL NAME(S)**

- Mitchell, S. Weir (Silas Weir), 1829-1914

**SUBJECT(S)**

- Theater
- Theater--Ireland

## Collection Inventory

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### SERIES I. "THE ULSTER THEATRE IN IRELAND," DISSERTATION.

	Box	Folder
Correspondence (letters from Annie Malloy of Abbey Theatre; the Cork Opera House Company, Ltd. (including two playbills); Dorothea Cray, Lynn Doyle, Gaiety Theatre in Dublin; Grand Opera House; Whitford Kane; W.W. Kelly; Charles E. Kerr; Rutherford Mayne; G.W. Morrow; the National Library of Ireland; the Opera House, Londonderry; the Playhouse, Liverpool; George Shiels; the Talbot Press; Norman F. Wells; and Cornelius Weygandt; and letters from Margaret McHenry to Miss MacNie and Cornelius Weygandt).	1	1-19
Galley proofs for chapters 1 to 3.	1	20-29
Abstract.	1	30
Draft materials (including illustrations, fragments, notes, and manuscripts and typed versions).	1	31-37
Source material: notes from interviews with Lynn Doyle, Richard Hayward, Bulmer Hobson, and Rutherford Manye.	1	38
Source material: notes from interviews with Harry Morrow and George Shiels.	1	39
Source material: script for The Dark Hour by Robert Christie (from Charles E. Kerr).	1	40
Source material: script for Huge Love, by Richard Hayward.	1	41

Source material: script for Brian of Banba, by Bulmer Hobson.	2	42
Source material: script for The Lone Man, by Charles E. Kerr.	2	43
Source material: script for The Quare House, by Charles K. Ayre.	2	44
Source material: script for The Mist on the Bog, by Gerald Macnamara.	2	45-46
Source material: script for No Surrender, by Gerald Macnamara (prologue and Act I).	2	47
Source material: script for Suzanne and the Sovereigns, by Gerald Macnamara and Lewis Purcell (Acts II-IV).	2	48-49
Source material: script for The Tumility Case, by William Paul.	2	50
Source material: newspaper transcriptions from Uladh, 1904-1905.	2	51
Source material: newspaper transcriptions from Richard Hayward's scrapbook, 1920-1929.	2	52
Source material: The Ulster Theater scrapbook (possibly Margaret McHenry's reproduction of the original), including articles and reviews from 1906-1922.	3	?
Source material: newspaper transcriptions from Sinn Fein from 1913 to 1914, 1930.	4	53
Source material: newspaper transcriptions about the Abbey Theatre and plays by George Shiels from 1923 to 1930.	4	54-55
Source material: newspaper transcriptions about the Abbey Theatre and plays by Rutherford Mayne from 1911 to 1930.	4	56
Source material: newspaper transcriptions about the Abbey Theatre and plays by Joseph Campbell from 1912.	4	



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**SERIES II. POETRY.**

	Box	Folder
"Some Irish Capitals," bound volume, with illuminated initials, 1933.	4	58
"20 Poems," bound volume, 1937.	4	59

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**SERIES III. BIOGRAPHY OF S. WEIR MITCHELL.**

	Box	Folder
Letter from William N. Bradley, containing story of the Mitchell fireplace, 1949 August 12.	4	60
Notebooks (largely containing notes rather than manuscript drafts).	4	61-66
"Dr. S. Weir Mitchell: the Physician Who Wrote," three typescript copies with handmade bindings, 1948 July.	5	67-69

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**SERIES IV. "A BOOKLOVER'S BRITAIN," LATER "ENGLAND IN ENGLISH".**

	Box	Folder
A Booklover's Britain, typescript in a handmade binding, 1940.	5	70
"A Booklover's Britain," typescript, heavily corrected and annotated, 1940.	6	71
"England in English," bound typescript copy, including photographs and corrections, 1940.	6	72