RUTH SEELY BERRY MC DONALD.
PAPERS, 1850- [1936-1959].
GUIDE
These papers of Mrs. McDonald and her family include seventy-three letters from her father, Romeyn Berry ('04), concerning his writing for the Ithaca Journal, the Cornell Alumni News, and other publications, the maintenance of "Stoneposts," his farm at Jacksonville, Tompkins County, events at Cornell University and in the Ithaca area, Ruth's positions in New York City, mainly with the publishing firm, Walter J. Black, Inc., his daughter Hilda's service with the Women's Army Corps during World War II, Ruth's marriage to William Naylor McDonald, 3d, the family history she wrote [see 1958-1962 Report], his views on literature and journalism, art criticism, religion, and current events, and other personal and professional matters; twenty-four letters (1942-1945) from Hilda mainly to her sister and father, those written from France and England referring in part to the wartime situation in those countries, scattered correspondence of other relatives, and letters of condolence (1957) received on the death of Romeyn Berry; twenty-three letters (1941-1944) from Hendrik Willem van Loon to Ruth concerning his writing and illustrating, one letter from van Loon to Walter J. Black offering to illustrate a book "just for the fun of it," a Christmas note (1942) from Elmer Davis to van Loon, one photograph of van Loon, and two drawings by him; two letters (1959) to Ruth from Katharine ("Kip") Fuertes and a draft of Miss Fuertes' reminiscences, all of which concern her brother Louis Agassiz Fuertes, and two of his water color sketches of birds, one presented to "Polly" (Olive Nutting Berry) on her birthday (February 1923) and the other an undated Christmas greeting from Mr. and Mrs. Fuertes; and correspondence (1850-1941) of the McDonald family of Nashville, Tennessee, and Jacksonville, Florida, and the related Hicks family, also of Tennessee, including a letter (Sacramento, August 24, 1850; typescript carbon copy, whereabouts of original unknown) from Edward D. Hicks to Dr. Alexander C. Robertson of Nashville, describing the terrain, animal life, and Indian tribes observed on his journey overland from St. Joseph, Missouri, and remarking on the hardships of the thousands of emigrants then en route to California, which was so "...literally overrun" that he would have advised every man with a good business to stay home; and a letter (Cologne, 1910) from an American tourist reporting on her travels. Also, scrapbooks, photographs, obituary notices, and other clippings of both the Berries and the McDonalds. Unpublished guide available. (2016)
Summary: Papers of Ruth McDonald and her family include letters from her father, Romeyn Berry, concerning his writings for the ITHACA JOURNAL, the CORNEL DAILY NEWS, and other publications; the maintenance of 'Stoneposts,' his farm; Tompkins County, events at Cornell University and in the Ithaca area; Ruth's positions in New York City, mainly with the publishing firm, Walter J. Black, Inc., his daughter Hilda's service with the Women's Army Corps during World War II, Ruth's marriage to William Naylor McDonald, 3rd; the family history she wrote, his views on literature and Journalism, art criticism, religion, and current events, and other personal and professional matters; letters from Hilda, 1942-1945, mainly to her sister and father; those written from France and England referring in part to the wartime situation in those countries; scattered correspondence of other relatives, and letters of condolence on the death of Romeyn Berry; letters from Hendrik Willem van Loon; Ruth concerning his writing and illustrating and other materials relating to van Loon; letters to Ruth from Katharine ("Kip") Fuertes and a draft of Miss Fuertes' reminiscences, all of which concern her brother Louis Assissi Fuertes, and two of his watercolor sketches of birds; and correspondence, 1850-1941, of the McDonald family of Nashville, Tennessee, and Jacksonville, Florida, and their related Hicks family, including a letter from Edward D. Hicks about his Journey overland from St. Joseph, Mo. to California.

Also, scrapbooks, photographs, obituary notices, and other clippings of both the Berrys and the McDonalms, as well as a family history with historical, biographical, and genealogical information on the Berry family, compiled by Ruth McDonald.


Cite as: Ruth Seely Berry McDonald, Papers, #2016, Department of Manuscripts and University Archives, Cornell University Libraries.


RGPN: 2016
ID: NYCVB7-A249
CC: 9554
DCF: a
PROC: p
McDonald, Ruth Seely Berry, 1913-, Compiler. Family History, c. 1959.

Prepared by a daughter of Romeyn Berry (Cornell, '04), this study gives considerable historical, biographical, and genealogical information on the Berry Family, following its descent from immigrant Captain John Berry (b. c. 1620) and emphasizing William Bogardus Berry, his wife, Elizabeth Wright Gould, and their children, Romeyn and Harriet (later Mrs. James Wood Tyson); it also devotes attention to Elizabeth's father, John Stanton Gould, whose ancestry is traced from Jeremiah (b. c. 1600) and Priscilla Grover Gould; included are extracts from family diaries and letters, facsimiles of the Berry coat-of-arms, newspaper clippings, and photographs. The families resided variously at Canaan, Hudson, and Ithaca, New York; Montclair, New Jersey; and Newport, Rhode Island. Mention is also made of the following related families: Ashby, Atterbury, Bakewell, Bancroft, Bogardus, Bougaret, Carpenter, Clarke, Coggeshall, East, Esselstyn, Frelinghuysen, Humphrey, Janse, Lawton, Mott, Nutting, Romeyn, Rodman, Slocum, Stanton, Terhune, Van Campen, Van Vranken, Wiltse, Winne (Winne), and Wright. 108 pcs. (in 2" box)

Card entry:

McDonald, Ruth Seely Berry, 1913-, Compiler. Family History, c. 1959.

Cross references to main entry:

Berry, Elizabeth Wright Gould, 1851-1920
Berry, Harriet Esselstyn, 1883-
Berry, Romeyn, 1881-1957
Berry, William Bogardus, 1852-1896
Gould, John Stanton, 1812-1874
Grover, Priscilla
Ashby Family (genealogy)
Atterbury Family (genealogy), etc. for every surname listed above at end of description
Canaan (Columbia County)
Hudson (Columbia County)
Ithaca (Tompkins County)
New Jersey (Montclair)
Rhode Island (Newport)

Cross references to added entries:

Gould, Elizabeth Wright, 1851-1920
Tyson, Harriet Berry (Mrs. James Wood Tyson), 1883-

In 2" box.
Ruth Seely Berry McDonald, Compiler. Additional Material.

**Acc. Date**
May 24, 1983
(Donated April 26, 1983).

**Quantity**
1 item.

**Description**

Loc: Added to Box 1-3.
Temp.cat.cd: McDonald, Ruth.
LUTHER, LESLIE L., Collector and Compiler. Moravia Area Items, 1882-1960; 4 in., 3 reels microfilm, Alphabetized tombstone inscriptions (146 pp. typescript carbons, 1751-1955) for the Towns of Locke, Moravia, Niles, Sempronius, Summer Hill, and Venice; clipping scrapbooks (1921-1958), sketches, and notes concerning people, events, and churches and other institutions in central New York (1794+). Also, genealogies of the Alley (Allee), Luther, Spafford, Sparks, and Youngs Families. Cayuga County. (1934)

LYCEUM THEATRE. Papers, c. 1893-1924; 15 items. These additional items [see 1945-1948 Reports] include specifications (7 items, typescript) for labor, materials, curtains, stage scenery, electric wiring, and other construction requirements, prepared by the architects, Leon H. Lempert & Sons of Rochester; seven photographs of the theatre interior, its orchestra, employees, and other subjects; one price notice. Ithaca, Tompkins County. (2084, 2197)

MALONEY, WILLIAM, Collector. Herring-Curtiss Company Papers, 1891-[1909-1931]; 2 ft. Include transcripts of Herring-Curtiss Company vs. Glenn Curtiss et al., briefs, exhibits, correspondence, and other papers pertaining to this lawsuit, in which William Maloney was one of the principal trial lawyers, and to related litigation; incorporation papers, minutes, resolutions, stock certificates, legal documents, correspondence, and other items (1901-1931) relating to the business affairs of the company; Augustus Herring's scrapbook (1896-1909) and notebook (c. 1903; c. 1910) dealing with his role in airplane and glider development and his correspondence with the U.S. Patent Office (1909-1911); blueprints, photographs, pamphlets, and clippings relating to the more general aspects of aviation development. (1990)

MC CRAY. ELIZABETH, Collector. Papers, [1810-1877]-1944; 4 in. Correspondence, deeds and other legal documents, accounts, and miscellaneous papers of the Chatfield, Foster, and McCray families; mainly concerned with the sale of land and lumber. Broome, Delaware, Otsego, Steuben Counties, New York; Luzerne County, Pennsylvania. (1935)

MC DONALD, RUTH SEELY BERRY, 1913- , Compiler. Family History, c. 1959; 2 in. Prepared by a daughter of Romeyn Berry (Cornell '04), this study gives considerable historical, biographical, and genealogical information on William Bogardus Berry, his wife, Elizabeth Wright Gould, their children, Romeyn and Harriet (later Mrs. James Wood Tyson), and other members of the Berry family, as well as on the family of Elizabeth's father, John Stanton Gould. Included are extracts from family diaries and letters, clippings, and photographs. Mention is also made of the following related families: Ashby, Atterbury, Bakewell, Bancroft, Bogardus, Bougait, Carpenter, Clarke, Coggeshall, East, Esselstyn, Frelighusen, Grover, Humphrey, Janse, Lawton, Mott, Nutting, Romeyn, Rodman, Sclocum, Stanton, Terhune, Van Campen, Van Winkle, Wanton, Wiltse, Wime (Winne), Wright, Cummans and Hudson, Columbia County; Ithaca, Tompkins County; Montclair, New Jersey; Newport, Rhode Island. (2027)
McDonald, Ruth Seely Berry, 1913-1936-1956. Papers, #2016

Include seventy-one letters from her father, Meyn Berry ("04), concerning his writing for the Ithaca Journal, the Cornell Alumni News, and other publications; the maintenance of "Stoneposts," his farm at Jacksonville; events at Cornell University and in the Ithaca area; Ruth's positions in New York City, mainly with the publishing firm, Walter J. Black, Inc.; his daughter Hilda's service with the Women's Army Corps during World War II; Ruth's marriage to William Naylor McDonald, 3d; the family history she wrote; his views on literature and journalism, art criticism, religion, and current events; and other personal and professional matters. Also, ten letters from Hilda to her sister and to her father, those written from England and France referring to the wartime situation in those countries; occasional correspondence of other family members; and photographs and clippings. Also, twenty-three letters (1941-1944) from Hendrik Willem van Loon to Ruth concerning his writing and illustrating, one letter from van Loon to Walter J. Black offering to illustrate a book, a Christmas note (1942) from Elmer Davis to van Loon, one photograph of van Loon, and two drawings by him. 132 items.

Berry, Romeyn, 1881-1957

See McDonald, Ruth Seely Berry, 1913-1936-1956.

Chronological information, gleaned mainly from letters themselves by KJ:

Ruth was graduated from Wells College in 1935 and worked for publishing firms in New York, 1936+.

Her father, Romeyn Berry, and step-mother, Hester Bancroft Berry, bought "Stoneposts," farm at Jacksonville on June 1, 1936.

Family moved in in September 1936.

Romeyn resigned post as Graduate Manager of Athletics in 1936.

Hilda, Ruth's sister, was graduated from Barnard College in 1938.

"Butch" (Warner Bott Berry), son of Romeyn and Hester, was born in the spring of 1940.

Hilda joined the Women's Army Corps in 1942.

Ruth was married to William Naylor McDonald III in November 1942.

Hilda was sent to England and then to Paris in September 1944.
Ruth Seely Berry McDonald. Papers, [1936-1956]; 4 boxes.

Folders I-V. Letters to Ruth from Her Father, Romeyn Berry; 1936-1956; 73 items.

See general description of accession for statement of contents; several other letters of interest are noted below:

1936: c. September 1, 26; December 1
1937: January 15 (refers to article or interview Ruth has done on chimes and chimes ringing, perhaps for publication in the *Cornell Daily Sun*)
       January 22
       April 13
       April 19 (Romeyn's remarks on literary criticism)
1939: April 19 (Romeyn's views on religion)
       September 6, October 10
1941: January 2, March 14, November 21
1942: April 20, May 10, July 30, August 24, October 16, 29, November 1, 20, December 11, and December n.d.
1943: January 28, February 3
       February 13 (Ruth's gift of an annotated copy of *The Warfare of Science and Theology*)
       February 27 (the introduction Ruth wrote to an edition of Ibsen's plays and Rym on Ibsen)
       March 21, 30; April 3, 8, 19, 20
       May 12, 20, 23, 26
       June 8, 19, 22, 26
       July 29 (Sherman Peer's mystery novel)
       October 6, November 27
1944: September 20
1945: February 8, 20, March 25, 27, April 5
       April 14 (death of Franklin D. Roosevelt)
       May 9, 19, 27, June 29, July 9
       August 8, 22, October 22
       November 3, 18, 23; December 13
1947: June 28
1953: June 22
1955: October 23
1956: November 19
No year: February 14, March 2, August 17
Undated: Saturday, 44 pp., first and last pages appear to be missing. Concerns were paid for domestic service in Jacksonville.

Folder VI. See page 2.

Folder VI. Other Letters to Ruth, 1943-1944; 12 items.

From her husband, William Naylor McDonald,

1943: March 1, from Puerto Rico

From her sister, Hilda Truslow Berry, Women's Army Corps,

From Des Moines

From England

1943: November 9, December 28
1944: January 2, March 17, May 8, 16

From France:

1944: November 27, Sunday n.d.
1945: January 21, August , (These two to family in general).


1944: May 15

Folder VII. Letters from Romeyn to other family members, 1942-1955; 7 items.

To son-in-law, William Naylor McDonald.

1942: December 24
1945: December 1
1947: June 29

To William McDonald, Sr.

1942: December 7

To Hilda.

1951: March 30-31
1955: April 23, July 19

Folder VIII. Letters to Ruth from Hendrik Willem van Loon, 1941-1944; 23 items.

See attached calendar for complete list of dates and note of contents.

van Loon Miscellanea; 6 items.

See calendar.

Folder IX. Typed and MSS. drafts of Ruth's sketch concerning Romeyn and sister Harriet's early life; 2 items. (See Acc. #2027 for final version.)

Folder XII. Miscellanea; 11 items.

- Photographs by Fenner Studio, Ithaca, c. 1942; 2 items.
  - Romeyn Berry with son Warner
  - Hester Bancroft Berry with Warner

- Snapshots, n.d. 14 exposures on 4 strips.

- Pamphlets on Quakerism, 1951; 2 items.

- Article, "The Effect of War on Football," by Romeyn Berry, n.d. Clipped from an unidentified Ithaca or Cornell publication.

- Typed copy of William Bright's "Holy Communion Hymn."

- Photocopy of Berry's "Up Our Road" column from The Trumansburg Leader, April 14, 1939.

Box 2 XII. etc. McDonald (incl. Hicks) letters, clippings, photos, scrapbook

Box 3 Hymn's scrapbooks (3 vols.) + sheet music (3 items)