

# A Guide to the Paul Hamilton Hayne Collection

Paul Hamilton Hayne Collection 1872-1875

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A Collection in the Clifton Waller Barrett Library of American Literature 6495-a

Special Collections Department, University of Virginia Library

1997

## History

**Processed by:** Special Collections Department Staff

**Date Completed:** 1997

**Encoded by:** Courtney Boissonnault

## Title Statement

A Guide to the Paul Hamilton Hayne Collection

**Subtitle:** Hayne, Paul Hamilton.

**Collection:** 6495-a

**Author:** Processed by Special Collections Dept. staff; machine-readable finding aid created by Courtney Boissonnault

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## Profile Description

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## Revision Description

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## Descriptive Summary

**Collection Number**

6495-a

**Language**

English

**Extent**

6 items

**Repository**

University of Virginia. Library. Special Collections Dept.

Alderman Library  
University of Virginia  
Charlottesville, Virginia 22903  
USA

## Administrative Information

**Access Restrictions**

Collection is open to research.

**Use Restrictions**

See the [University of Virginia Library's use policy](#).

**Acquisition Information**

Purchase 1963 Jan 17

**Funding Note**

Funded in part by a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities

**Preferred Citation**

Paul Hamilton Hayne Collection, Accession 6495-a, Special Collections Department, University of Virginia Library

## Item Listing

### Letters

**Paul Hamilton Hayne, Copse Hill, Georgia, to Edward Spencer**

**Unit Date** 1872 Feb 28

**Extent** AL,4 p.(incomplete)

**Scope and Content**

[Feels drawn to Spencer, who is a compatriot and literary brother of the South; says he has acquainted himself with Spencer's work through his essays and informal criticisms in literary magazines, particularly The Southern Magazine; says he was impressed by " Men Whose Hair Parts in the Middle"; remarks on [Elizabeth Barrett] Browning's poem " Aurora Leigh. "]

**Paul Hamilton Hayne, Augusta, Georgia, to Edward Spencer**

**Unit Date** 1872 Mar 20-21

**Extent**

ALS,  
16 p.

**Scope and Content**

[Says he found his recent letters thought-provoking and pithy; comments on violets and how flowers affected the temperaments of Oliver Wendell Holmes and John Keats; compliments him on his critical and intellectual abilities; discusses his life at Copse Hill; feels he has benefited greatly from his withdrawal from society; comments on his daily observation of nature; thanks Spencer for criticism of his work; considers Southern Magazine the only "trustworthy" critical magazine; feels The Atlantic and The New York Nation are imperfect; responds in detail to Spencer's evaluation of his poems, including " Daphnes: An Argative Story, " " Renewed, " " The Wife of Brittany, " " Krishna and his Three Handmaidens, " " Under the Pine (To the Memory of Henry Timrod), " and " The Dream of the South Winds, " " The Bonny Brown Hand, " and " Fire Picture"; discusses the creation of " The Wife of Brittany" which involved a modernization of Chaucer mixed with the influence of Dryden and Keats.]

## **Paul Hamilton Hayne, Augusta, Georgia, to Edward Spencer**

**Unit Date** 1872 Mar 20, 21

**Extent**

ALS,  
16 p.

### **Scope and Content**

[Says the violets he sent to Spencer have been a great success; talks about the strange spiritual delight he gets from this flower; remarks how different temperaments are affected by certain plants, Oliver Wendell Holmes by the box-tree, Keats by jissamine; quotes part of a Keats poem; Says he is happy to have found a friend to whom he can turn; says he is very alone; praises Spencer's work at length and in detail; responds to Spencer's critical evaluation, upon his request, of his poems; says The Southern Magazine is the only trustworthy one; thinks little of The Atlantic Monthly and The Nation; expresses gratitude to William Hand Browne for introducing him.]

## **Paul Hamilton Hayne, Augusta, Georgia, to Edward Spencer**

**Unit Date** 1872 Mar 30

**Extent**

ALS,  
6 p.

### **Scope and Content**

[Thanks him for criticism of his poems in Legends and Lyrics; finds the criticism stimulating; wishes him to become his "Father Confessor"; disagrees with editor from Atlantic Monthly in regard to the poem; feels some of his own poetry mirrors Dryden, Marlowe, Keats, and Morris; gives criticism of Spencer's "A Bow and an Arrow"; mentions William Hand Browne's urging him to take the initiative in a Southern Literary Guild which he gladly will, out of respect for Browne; discusses possibilities for the guild; hopes to bring out another book of poems.]

## **Paul Hamilton Hayne, Copse Hill, Georgia, to Edward Spencer**

**Unit Date** 1873 Feb 28

**Extent**

ALS,  
3 p.

### **Scope and Content**

[Says he is disappointed that Spencer did not reply to his letter; discusses the successful publication of The Poems of Henry Timrod and request for second edition; believes Timrod's "pathetic" fate and premature death touched the reading public.]

## **Paul Hamilton Hayne, Augusta, Georgia, to Edward Spencer**

**Unit Date** 1875 Apr 28

**Extent**

ALS,  
3 p.

### **Scope and Content**

[Says he is happy to do what he can for new book; mentions ironically that, although he is an extreme southerner, he has one literary friend in the South and three in New England; praises Sydney Lanier for his brilliance and literary gifts.]