

A Guide to the James Whitcomb Riley Collection

James Whitcomb Riley Collection 1867-1940

1867-1940



A Collection in the Clifton Waller Barrett Library of American Literature 7133-q

Special Collections Department, University of Virginia Library

1997

History

Processed by: Special Collections Department Staff

Date Completed: 1997

Encoded by: Elizabeth Slomba

Title Statement

A Guide to the James Whitcomb Riley Collection

Subtitle: Riley, James Whitcomb.

Collection: 7133-q

Author: Processed by Special Collections Dept. staff; machine-readable finding aid created by Elizabeth Slomba

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Profile Description

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Language Usage: Description is in English.

Revision Description

Feb 17, 2004 PUBLIC "-//University of Virginia::Library::Special Collections Dept.//TEXT (US::ViU::00940::James Whitcomb Riley Collection)//EN" "VIU00940.sgm" converted from EAD 1.0 to 2002 by v1to02.xml (sy2003-10-15).

Feb 27, 2004 converted to conform to eadVIVA.dtd by vivastrict.xml

Descriptive Summary

Collection Number

7133-q

Language

English

Extent

ca. 700 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

Deposit 1972 September 8

Funding Note

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

Preferred Citation

James Whitcomb Riley Collection, Accession 7133-q, Special Collections Department, University of Virginia Library

Item Listing

Manuscripts

Poem, "At Laker-Bee"

Unit Date n.d.

Extent AMsS, 2 p.

Poem, "The Curse of the Wandering Foot"

Unit Date n.d.

Extent AMsS, 2 p.

Poem, "An Empty Glove"

Unit Date n.d.

Extent AMsS, 1 p.

Poem, "John Brown"

Unit Date n.d.

Extent AMsS, 1 p.

Poem, "An Order for a Song"

Unit Date n.d.

Extent AMsS, 2 p.

Poem, "Song"

Unit Date n.d.

Extent AMss, 1 p.

List of poems on back of envelope

Unit Date [ca. 1891 Feb]

Extent AMs

Poems and drawings written and drawn by James Whitcomb Riley as a child

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Photostats, 17 items

Poem, "The Bear Story"

Unit Date n.d.

Extent

2 photostats of AMs (incom.), 2 p.
each

Poem, "The Raggedy Man Observing"

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Typed trans., 1 p.

Poem, "Bud Writes Some Rhymes"

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Typed trans., 1 p.

Poem, "A Letter To a Child's Mother"

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Typed trans., 1 p.

Poem, "A Sonnet"

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Typed trans., 1 p.

Letters

Viola Allento James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1916 Jan 31

Extent ALS, 4 p. w/env

Frances Hodgson Burnett to James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1915 Nov 26

Extent ALS, 4 p.

R. L. Dawson to James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1890 Nov 11

Extent ALS, 1 p.

Margaret Deland to James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1916 Mar 27

Extent TLS, 1 p.

Julian Riley Dillaby to James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1897 Apr 30

Extent ALS, 3 p. w/env

Mary Doddsto James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1896 Nov 9

Extent ALS, 6 p. w/env

Ed[mund Eitel]to James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1915 Mar 1

Extent TLS, 2 p. w/env

Carl Fisherto Guards of Indianapolis Speedway, re: James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1916 May 24

Extent TLS, 1 p.

Libbie Fisherto James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1892 Jun 2

Extent ALS, 2 p. w/env

Hotel Halcyonto James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1915

Extent 4 bills

K. O. Hertto A. J. Walkerre: James Whitcomb Riley's talk

Unit Date 1888 Jul 4

Extent ALS, 2 p. w/env

O[liver] W[endell] Holmesto [James Whitcomb Riley?]

Unit Date 1867 Dec 28

Extent ALS, 4 p.

W[illiam] D[ean] Howellsto James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1916 Feb 22

Extent ALS, 2 p.

[Silas] Weir Mitchellto James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1903 May 15

Extent LS, 2 p. w/env

[Silas] Weir Mitchellto James Whitcomb Riley, encl. 2 1. AMs poem by Mitchell

Unit Date [1903 Aug 18]

Extent ALS, 2 p. w/env

[Silas] Weir Mitchellto James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1904 Dec 12

Extent TLS, 3 p. w/env

[Silas] Weir Mitchellto James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date [1906 Jan 10]

Extent ALS, 2 p. w/env

Letters, [Silas] Weir Mitchellto James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1903-1913

Extent TMs (trans.), 3 p.

[Silas] Weir Mitchell to James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1906 May 27

Extent ALS, 2 p. w/env

Frank Moore to James Whitcomb Riley, encl. 19 1. AMs essay, "An American Poet" by Mira Southworth

Unit Date 1901 Jul 17

Extent ALS, 2 p. w/env

Munford to James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1899 Mar 11

Extent ALS, 3 p.

F[rank] Payne to James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date n.d.

Extent ALS, 3 p.

George Payne to James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1884 Jun 21

Extent ALS, 2 p. w/env

Lesley Payne to James Whitcomb Riley, encl. clippings

Unit Date 1907 Jul 17

Extent ALS, 10 p. w/env

Lesley Payne to James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1907 Aug 20

Extent ALS, 1 p. w/env

Lesley Payne to James Whitcomb Riley, encl. clipping

Unit Date 1907 Aug 21

Extent ALS, 8 p. w/env

Lesley Payne to James Whitcomb Riley, encl. clippings and 2 photos

Unit Date 1908 Feb 13

Extent ALS, 12 p.

Mary Riley Payne to James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1889 Aug 27

Extent ALS, 3 p.

Mary Riley Payne to James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date [1889] Sep 7

Extent ALS, 4 p. w/env

Mary Riley Payne to James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date n.d.

Extent ALS, 4 p.

Gene Stratton Porter to James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date [1910 Jan 5]

Extent ALS, 3 p. w/env

Julia Rileyto [James Whitcomb Riley]

Unit Date n.d.

Extent ALS (incom.), 4 p.

Inscribed to James Whitcomb Rileyby Molly Elliott Seawell

Unit Date [1915 Dec 23]

Extent Inscribed calling card w/env

John Philip Sousato James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1915 Dec 15

Extent ALS, 1 p. w/env

Ella [Wheeler Wilcox]to James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1876 Nov 7

Extent ALS, 14 p.

William Winterto James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1915 Oct 23

Extent ALS, 1 p.

Unknown to James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date n.d.

Extent AN in form of poem, 1 p.

James Whitcomb Rileyto Unknown

Unit Date 1877 Jan 11

Extent

ALS (trans.) in form of poem, 5 p.

Letters from James Whitcomb Rileyto Henderson and others

Unit Date 1877

Extent TMs (trans.), 3 p.

Miscellaneous

Agreement between James Whitcomb Rileyand Minneapolis Institute of Arts and Letters, re: James Whitcomb Riley's speeches

Unit Date 1899 Aug 31

Extent Legal document

Page proofs for several poems by James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date n.d.

Extent

Page proofs, w/AMs corr., 8 items

Re: James Whitcomb Riley's works, Riley Hospital, Riley Memorial, etc.

Unit Date ca. 1905-ca. 1935

Extent Clippings, ca. 300 items

Poems of James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Clippings, 17 items

Papers of Mary and Lesley Payne

Business Papers

Scope and Content

Note: As much as possible, the list follows Lesley Payne's filing order and folder headings.

From Library of Congress Copyright Office for James Whitcomb Riley works, w/envelope

Unit Date 1901-1931

Extent 17 cards and letters, w/env

Duplicates of papers submitted to James Noelre: motion picture rights, Bobbs-Merrill subscription edition

Unit Date 1912-1922

Extent Correspondence and memoranda

Between Lesley Payne and book companies, re: proposal to publish James Whitcomb Riley letters

Unit Date 1912-1923

Extent Correspondence and agreements

Corr. between Riley heirs; history of James Whitcomb Riley estate; list of James Whitcomb Riley property in hands of Edmund Eitel

Unit Date 1913-1919

Extent Correspondence and memoranda

Re: James Whitcomb Riley estate; copyrights, etc.

Unit Date 1914-1923

Extent

Correspondence, agreements,
memoranda

Re: Scribner's Homestead Edition and relinquishment to Bobbs-Merrill Co.

Unit Date 1915-1917

Extent Correspondence and agreements

Bobbs-Merrill Co. to Marcus Dickey, re: proposed book on James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date 1915 Mar 16

Extent Trans. of TLS

Will for Mary Riley Payne

Unit Date 1917 Oct 11

Extent Will

Includes statements of George Ray and Mary Judah

Unit Date 1917

Extent Notes and statements

Re: James Whitcomb Riley Memorial; distribution of shares in estate

Unit Date 1917-1919

Extent Agreements

Re: Bottsford letters, Riley baby pictures

Unit Date 1917-1919

Extent Correspondence

Frederic Burlingameto Lesley Payne, re: literary and movie rights

Unit Date 1917-1921

Extent 3 TLS

Re: James Whitcomb Rileyestate and movie rights

Unit Date 1917-1923

Extent

Correspondence, affidavits,
memoranda

Re: subscription edition, serial articles, royalties

Unit Date 1917-1923

Extent Correspondence and contracts

Between James Whitcomb Rileyheirs and Bobbs-Merrill Co.

Unit Date 1918-1919

Extent Drafts of contracts

Re: settlement of James Whitcomb Rileyestate

Unit Date 1918-1927

Extent Correspondence and agreements

Agreement between Mary Riley Payneand J. M. Judah

Unit Date 1919 Nov 3

Extent Deposit agreement

Charles Millerto Lesley Payne, re: taxes, James Whitcomb Riley memorial

Unit Date 1920

Extent 19 TLS

Charles Millerto Lesley Payne, re: royalties, taxes

Unit Date 1921

Extent 20 TLS

Chiefly from Ernest Bradfordand William Osborne, re: James Whitcomb Rileycopyrights

Unit Date 1922-1927

Extent

Copies of correspondence and
memoranda

Re: settlement of James Whitcomb Rileyestate

Unit Date 1922-1928

Extent

Correspondence, memoranda,
contracts

Re: James Whitcomb Riley copyrights

Unit Date 1925-1927

Extent Correspondence

Re: rights of "Little Orphant Annie"

Unit Date 1926

Extent Correspondence

Representative of Mary Riley Payneto Albert Beveridge, re: edition of James Whitcomb Riley letters

Unit Date 1926

Extent 2 TL

Correspondence between James Whitcomb Riley heirs; contracts with Bobbs-Merrill Co., re: rights to Ripley material

Unit Date 1926-1929

Extent Correspondence and contracts

Mary Stubbsto Lesley Payne, re: income

Unit Date 1927 Dec 19

Extent TLS

Re: permissions to use James Whitcomb Riley poems

Unit Date 1928

Extent Correspondence

Re: James Whitcomb Riley copyrights

Unit Date 1928-1929

Extent Correspondence

From Victor Talking Machine Co.

Unit Date 1928-1930

Extent

Correspondence and royalty
statements

Browne and Phelpssto Bobbs-Merrill Co., re: copyrights for James Whitcomb Riley heirs

Unit Date 1934-1936

Extent 2 TL

Re: Mary Riley Payne's estate

Unit Date 1938 Jan 25

Extent Correspondence and inventory

To Riley heirs for The Bachelor Bard

Unit Date 1938 Sep 23

Extent Assignment of copyright

Elizabethand Harry Miesseto Lesley Payne, re: finances

Unit Date 1939-1943

Extent 10 ALS/TLS

Between James Whitcomb Rileyand Bobbs-Merrill

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Memorandum of contract

Re: rights to James Whitcomb Rileyletters

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Memorandum

Inventories of James Whitcomb Rileyletters, manuscripts, and records

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Typed inventories

Personal Papers

Diary of Lesley Payne

Unit Date 1906

Extent AMsS, ca. 40 p.

Lesley Payne's list of James Whitcomb Rileyletters, in notebook

Unit Date n.d.

Extent AMs, ca. 75 p.

"James Whitcomb Riley" by Lesley Payne

Unit Date n.d.

Extent TMs (carbon, incom.), 60 p.

Lesley Payne's notes for biography of James Whitcomb Riley

Unit Date n.d.

Extent AMs, ca. 35 p.

Genealogical notes re: Riley family

Unit Date n.d.

Extent TMs, 2 p.

Speech, "Memories of Riley" by William Hough

Unit Date n.d.

Extent TMs, 11 p.

Poem beginning, "Down the lane he comes..." by unknown

Unit Date n.d.

Extent AMs, 2 p.

Metaphysical notes by [Mary Riley Payne]

Unit Date n.d.

Extent AMs and TMs, ca. 50 p.

Letters

J. H. Armingtonto Lesley Payne

Unit Date 1939 Mar 31

Extent TLS, 1 p.

Jessie [Barroquillo]to Lesley Payne

Unit Date 1940 Mar 28

Extent ALS, 2 p.

Clara [Bottsford]to Mary Riley Payne

Unit Date 1887 Sep 7

Extent ALS, 3 p. w/env

Guido Della Bonato Lesley Payne

Unit Date 1911 Oct 9

Extent ALS, 3 p.

Guido Della Bonato Lesley Payne

Unit Date [1912] Feb 26

Extent ALS, 8 p. w/env

Guido Della Bonato Lesley Payne

Unit Date 1912 Mar 26

Extent ALS, 8 p. w/env

Guido Della Bonato Lesley Payne

Unit Date [1912] May 6

Extent ALS, 4 p. w/env

Guido Della Bonato Lesley Payne

Unit Date 1912 Sep 5

Extent ALS, 4 p.

Guido Della Bonato [Lesley Payne]

Unit Date 1912 Sep 21

Extent ALS, 4 p. w/env

Guido Della Bonato Lesley Payne

Unit Date 1912 Nov 2

Extent ALS, 4 p.

Guido Della Bonato Lesley Payne

Unit Date 1913 [Aug 22]

Extent ALS, 2 p.

Guido Della Bonato Lesley Payne, encl. photo

Unit Date 1914 May 21

Extent ALS, 4 p.

Guido Della Bonato Lesley Payne

Unit Date 1914 Jan 8

Extent ALS, 4 p. w/env

Guido Della Bonato Lesley Payne

Unit Date Sep 4

Extent ALS, 4 p.

Marcus Dickeyto Lesley Payne

Unit Date 1935 May 1

Extent TLS, 1 p. w/env

Arthur Downingto Lesley Payne

Unit Date 1939 Apr 25

Extent TLS, 3 p.

David Francisto Henry Eitel

Unit Date 1916 Aug 31

Extent TLS, 1 p. w/env

Citizens of Greenfield to Mary Riley Payne, bound

Unit Date [1916]

Extent TLS, 8 p.

George Hittto Arthur Swann

Unit Date 1935 Mar 16

Extent TLS (carbon), 2 p. w/env

George Hittto Lesley Payne

Unit Date 1936 Aug 3

Extent ALS, 2 p. w/env

H. K. Landisto Lesley Payne

Unit Date 1939 Mar 22

Extent ALS, 1 p.

M. McKenzie to Mary Riley Payne

Unit Date 1892 Jul 26

Extent ALS, 2 p.

Albert Macyto Lesley Payne, encl. photo of Macy

Unit Date 1938 Jan 17

Extent TLS, 2 p. w/env

[Silas] Weir Mitchellto Edmund Eitel

Unit Date 1913 Feb 3

Extent TLS, 1 p.

Lesley Payneto unknown

Unit Date n.d.

Extent AL (draft), 1 p.

Mary Riley Payneto Dr. Murphy

Unit Date n.d.

Extent ALS, 4 p.

Julia Rileyto Mary Riley Payne

Unit Date 1927 Oct 24

Extent ALS, 2 p. w/env

Richard Rileyto Mary Riley Payne

Unit Date 1929 Mar 8

Extent TLS, 1 p.

Mary Roberts Rinehartto [Edmund] Eitel

Unit Date 1917 Feb 22

Extent TLS, 1 p.

John Townsend Trowbridgeto [Edmund] Eitel

Unit Date 1915 Jun 29

Extent ALS, 4 p.

Clara Wambachto Mary Riley Payne

Unit Date 1903 Sep 23

Extent ALS, 11 p. w/env

Photographs

James Whitcomb Riley, head and shoulders

Unit Date 1892 Oct

Extent 6 copies of photo

James Whitcomb Riley, standing

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Photo

James Whitcomb Riley, seated, w/unidentified man standing beside him

Unit Date n.d.

Extent 2 copies of photo

James Whitcomb Riley, seated

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Photo

James Whitcomb Riley, profile

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Photo

James Whitcomb Riley, head and shoulders

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Photo

James Whitcomb Riley, standing

Unit Date n.d.

Extent 2 copies of photo

James Whitcomb Riley, head and shoulders

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Photo from book

James Whitcomb Riley, half-seated on chair

Unit Date n.d.

Extent 3 photos on posters

James Whitcomb Riley, w/members of the Payne family

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Photo

Riley monument in Indianapolis

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Photo on card

Riley hospital in Indianapolis

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Photo on card

"The Old Swimming Hole" in Greenfield, Indiana

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Photo on card

Old Seminary Homestead in Greenfield, Indiana

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Photo on card

Lesley Payneas a child

Unit Date n.d.

Extent 3 photos

Lesley Payne, older, standing

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Photo

Lesley Payne, profile

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Photo

Lesley Payne, seated

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Photo

Four unidentified men

Unit Date n.d.

Extent 2 tintypes

Unidentified man, head and shoulders

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Photo

Unidentified man with beard, seated

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Photo

[For photos of Mary Riley Payne and Lesley Payne]

Unit Date n.d.

Extent 4 negatives

Hall Caine, seated

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Photo

Clara Laughlin, profile

Unit Date n.d.

Extent Photo, signed

Miscellaneous

Notes, envelopes, cards, etc.

Unit Date 1886-1930, n.d.

Extent Miscellaneous items