

William Holman Hunt, 1827 – 1910

An Inventory of His Papers

In

The Library of The University of British Columbia

By

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INTRODUCTION

William Holman Hunt was born in London, April 2, 1827 and began working as an estate agent in 1843. He soon began studying in the National Gallery and the British Museum, entering the Academy Schools in 1844. There he met his lifelong friend John Everett Millais and exhibited his first painting, "Hark" (1864). The next year he submitted "Dr. Rochecliffe Performing Divine Service in the Cottage of Joceline Joliffe at Woodstock", a subject from Walter Scott, and later, Keats' "Eve of St. Agnes".

In August 1848, Hunt began working with Dante Gabriel Rossetti whose influence became evident when Hunt's next painting, "Rienzi" (1849), appeared with the initials P.R.B. after the surname. This signified Hunt's principle membership in the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood, a group whose precepts he was to remain faithful throughout his life. The Brotherhood's primary members Hunt, Rossetti and Millais used hard colours, brilliant lighting and meticulous attention to detail to establish a style that was to herald a new movement of painting in England.

Hunt traveled with Rossetti to Paris and Belgium and completed "Christians Escaping From the Druids" in 1850, but public hostility towards the Brotherhood caused the picture to be unappreciated. Although John Ruskin praised "Valentine Protecting Sylvia from Proteus" (1851), it was not until the showing of "The Light of the World" (1853) that Hunt won artistic fame. From 1854-55 Hunt visited Syria and Palestine, where he painted with symbolic religious imagery that was to dominate his remaining work. Among his important later paintings are:

"The Shadow of Death" (1870),
"The Triumph of the Innocents" (1884),
"May Morning on Magdalene Tower" (1889), and
"The Miracle of the Sacred Fire" (1898).

In 1905, Hunt published his controversial book Pre-Raphaelitism and the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood and was awarded Order of Merit. He died in London, September 7, 1910 and was buried at St. Paul's Cathedral.

The Holman Hunt Papers first appeared in Southeby's catalogue Deember 1970, items 910-11 (p. 188-9), and were purchased from Mrs. Burt in 1971. The letters here included from William Bell Scott were found in the Penkill Papers and those from Frederic George Stephens were extracted from the Angeli-Dennis Papers. Additional material pertaining to Hunt can be seen in the Angeli-Dennis papers and the Leathart papers. Since a number of the letters were undated, a list of the dated letters is included in the security copy of the file.

A microfiche copy of this collection is located as the first item in the box.

Appendix to Holman Hunt Papers

	Letters Incoming	Date	Pages	
1-1	Scott, William Bell	24 Dec [nd]	4	
		11 June 1866	4	
		22 June 1866	3	
		26 May 1870	4	
		28 [nd] 1871	4	
		5 March 1872	4	
		5 May 1878	2	
		31 Dec 1879	3	
		22 July 1880	4	
		19 Sept 1880	3	
		7 Feb 1881	2	
		26 July 1881	3	
		9 Feb 1883	2	
		10 Aug 1883	3	
		24 June 1886	4	
		19 Feb 1887	4	
		16 April 1887	3	
		14 May 1887	2	
		26 May 1887	2	
		21 June 1887	4	
		10 July 1887	1	
		6 July 1888	3	
		15 Aug 1888	2	
1-2	Stephens, Frederic George	[nd] Dec [nd]	1	
		[nd] [1850]	2	
		29 Nov 1850	4	
		[nd] [1850]	4	
		10 July 1852	4	
		[13 Aug 1853]	4	
		[1853]	4	
		[Winter 1855]	3	
		[1853]	3	
		22 July [1853]	6	
		[Dec. 1853]	3	
		Check to F.G.S. from W.H.H. for £30.00	23 Dec. 1853	1
			[11 March 1854]	4
			25 June 1854	4
			4 Aug 1854	4
			14 Nov 1855	4
			4 March 1855	4
	Tues night [1855]	4		
1-3	Stephens, Frederic George (cont'd)	9 Dec 1856	4	
		11 Dec 1856	3	

Thursday [1856]	4
19 Aug 1859	3
22 Nov. 1859	2
1 June 1859	4
12 Nov. 1860	9
5 Aug. 1860	4
13 Sept 1861	5
28 Oct. 1861	2
17 July 1862	2
4 Nov. 1862	2
24 Aug 1863	3
4 Jan. 1864	2
16 May 1864	3
19 May 1864	3
20 July 1864	2
26 July 1864	6
25 Oct. 1864	6
14 Dec. 1864	4
16 Dec. 1864	4
19 Dec. 1864	4
24 Dec. 1864	4
26 Dec. 1864	4
19 Feb. 1865	4
4 May 1865	4
4 May [1865]	2
27 June 1865	2
26 Aug. 1865	8
26 Sept. 1865	6
17 Oct. 1865	2
19 Oct. 1865	2
11 Nov. 1865	4
13 Feb. 1866	3
28 Feb. 1866	3
18 April 1866	4
17 May 1866	3
31 May 1866	4
27 Nov. 1866	4
27 Sept. [nd]	4
Friday night [nd]	2
[nd]	2
Wed. evening [nd]	2
Sunday night [nd]	2
[nd]	2
18 Oct. [nd]	2
6 Oct. 1867	2
5 Jan. 1868	2

14 Sept. 1868	2
30 Nov. 1868	2
1 Dec. 1868	2
18 Feb 1869	2
8 April 1869	2
31 July 1869	4
3 Oct. 1869	4
24 Nov. 1869	4
9 May 1870	4
29 May 1870	4
8 Sept. 1870	6
29 Dec. 1870	8
24 Feb. 1871	6
15 June 1871	4
31 July 1871	4
25 Oct. 1871	4
7 Dec 1871	4
24 Aug. 1873	2
8 Sept. 1873	4
16 Sept. 1873	4
30 Sept 1873	4
19 Nov. 1873	2
26 Nov. 1873	2
17 Oct. 1873	3
20 Oct. 1873	1
27 Dec. 1873	7
29 Dec. 1873	2
[Spring 1854]	3
10 Jan. 1874	2
9 Feb. 1874	2
23 Feb. 1874	2
29 Aug 1874	2
20 Aug 1875	4
19 Sept 1875	2
12 Nov 1875	2
5 Dec. 1875	2
20 Jan. 1876	4
29 June 1876	2
14 March 1876	2
14 March 1876	2
23 May 1876	2
4 April 1877	2
13 Sept 1878	2
1 June 1878	2
24 June 1878	2
10 Sept [nd]	1

F.G.S. expenses List

		11 Dec. 1878	3
		1 Jan. 1879	2
		19 Mar 1879	
		12 April 1879	
		2 May 1879	
1-5	Stephens, Frederic George	10 Aug. 1879	4
		20 Aug 1879	3
		26 Jan. 1880	4
		Tuesday night [nd]	1
		29 Jan. 1880	4
		3 Feb. 1880	3
		11 Feb. 1880	7
		16 Feb. 1880	3
		[nd] Feb. 1880	2
		2 Dec 1880	1
1-6	Stephens, F.G. – fragments	[nd]	11
1-7	Stephens, P. Clare (F.G.Stephen's son)		
	to "My dear Godfather"	1 Dec. 1875	4
	to "My dear Friends"	1 May 1876	2
	(Mr. and Mrs. Hunt)	3 Aug 1876	2
	19 May 1877	2	
	to Edith H. Hunt	1 July 1876	2
	II Subject files:		
	Information concerning the Break between		
	Hunt and Stephens		
1-8	note from W.M. Rossetti	1907	1
	Stephens' pamphlet criticism		
	Of Hunt's autobiography	1906	1
	Stephens' letter to <u>The Times</u> (shorter		
	Version of the pamphlet) and other loose		
	Clippings	1907	3
	Note by Edith H. Hunt about the		
	Incident	n.d.	1
	Draft of letter to <u>The Times</u>		
	Subgroup: Edith Holman Hunt		
	LETTERS: INCOMING		
1-9	Scott, William Bell	1881	1
		1883	1
		1887	3
1-10	Stephens, P. Clare	1876	1