

Edwin Markham Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the
Library of Congress

Prepared by Karen Linn Femia



Manuscript Division, Library of
Congress

Washington, D.C.

2009

Contact information: <http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/mss/address.html>

Finding aid encoded by Library of
Congress Manuscript Division, 2009

Finding aid URL: <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc/mss/eadmss.ms009215>

Collection Summary

Title: Edwin Markham Papers

Span Dates: 1893-1937

ID No.: MSS76081

Creator: Markham, Edwin, 1852-1940

Extent: 43 items; 1 container plus 1 oversize; 1.4 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Repository: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Abstract: Poet and educator. Correspondence, notes, drafts and published versions of poems, and printed matter concerning Markham's writing and poetry.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People

Burr, Amelia Josephine, b. 1878--Correspondence.

Colver, Frederic Lathrop, b. 1863--Correspondence.

Griffith, William, 1876-1936--Correspondence.

Johnson, Robert Underwood, 1853-1937--Correspondence.

Markham, Anna Catherine, 1859-1938--Correspondence.

Markham, Edwin, 1852-1940.

Mencken, H. L. (Henry Louis), 1880-1956.

Viereck, George Sylvester, 1884-1962--Correspondence.

Subjects

American poetry.

Religion.

Titles

American mercury (New York, N.Y. : 1924)

Occupations

Educators.

Poets.

Administrative Information

Provenance:

The papers of Edwin Markham, poet and educator, were given to the Library of Congress by various individuals and organizations from 1927 to 1956. Several items were transferred to the Manuscript Division from the Rare Books Room between 1929 and 1945. Additional materials were purchased from 1944 to 1987.

Related Material:

Related collections in the Manuscript Division include the [Florence Hamilton Collection Relating to Edward Markham](#).

Copyright Status:

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Edwin Markham is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions:

The papers of Edwin Markham are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation:

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Edwin Markham Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Edwin Markham was born April 23, 1852 in Oregon City, Oregon. He grew up in central California, the son of pioneer parents. He became a school teacher and administrator but gained fame in 1899 with the publication of his most famous poem, "The Man with the Hoe." After the success of this poem, he spent his career as a writer and lecturer. He died March 7, 1940, in New York City.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Edwin Markham (1852-1940) span the years circa 1893-1937. Included are correspondence, autobiographical notes, drafts and published versions of poems, an annotated typescript with a cover note by H. L. Mencken and page proofs from the *American Mercury* of "The Ballad of the Gallows-bird," printed matter, and notebooks containing handwritten notes on poems and religion. Notable correspondents include Amelia Josephine Burr, Frederic Lathrop Colver, William Griffith, Robert Underwood Johnson, Anna Catherine Markham, and George Sylvester Viereck.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	Correspondence, 1904-1930, undated
BOX 1	Notebooks
BOX 1	Notes on poems, circa 1899-circa 1917
BOX 1	Notes on religion, circa 1893
BOX 1	Poems
BOX 1	"The Ballad of the Gallows-bird," circa 1926
BOX 1	Miscellaneous, 1907, 1930, undated
BOX OV 1	Oversize
BOX OV 1	Scrapbook, 1894-1903, 1932-1937, undated