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Descriptive Summary

Identifier     ICU.SPCL.MS633
Title          Letters to Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett-Browning
Date           circa 1844-1875
Size           0.25 linear feet (1 box)
Repository     Special Collections Research Center
                University of Chicago Library
                1100 East 57th Street
                Chicago, Illinois 60637 U.S.A.

Abstract       Letters from poet Bryan Waller Procter and his wife Anne Benson Procter, to
                Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett Browning.

Information on Use

Access
The collection is open for research.

Citation
When quoting material from this collection, the preferred citation is: Letters to Robert Browning
and Elizabeth Barrett-Browning (Ms 633), [Box #, Folder #], Hanna Holborn Gray Special
Collections Research Center, University of Chicago Library

Historical Note
Bryan Waller Procter (1787-1874) was an English poet who published under the pseudonym
Barry Cornwall. In addition to his writing, Procter practiced law and served on the Lunacy
Commission, which oversaw asylums in England and Wales. Anne Benson Skepper (1799-1888)
made Bryan Waller Procter in 1823. The Procter’s daughter, Adelaide Anne Procter
(1825-1864) was a poet, feminist, and philanthropist, noted as the favorite poet of Queen
Victoria.

The Procters were active in English literary life and, in addition to the Brownings, included
Charles Dickens, essayist Charles Lamb, poet Leigh Hunt, William Makepeace Thackeray,
Wilkie Collins, and many others among their circle.

Scope Note
The collection includes twenty-three letters from Bryan Waller Procter and Anne Benson Procter to Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett Browning. The letters largely concern social events and personal matters. Also included is the envelope from a letter from Adelaide Anne Procter to Robert Browning.

**Subject Headings**

- Browning, Elizabeth Barrett, 1806-1861
- Browning, Robert, 1812-1889
- Cornwall, Barry, 1787-1874
- Proctor, Bryan Waller, 1787-1874
- Proctor, Anne B.
- Manuscripts, English

**INVENTORY**

- **Box 1**
  - **Folder 1**
    - Adelaide Anne Procter to Robert Browning, envelope only, November 23, 1843
  - **Folder 2**
    - Bryan Waller Procter to Robert Browning, February 15, 1844
  - **Folder 3**
    - Bryan Waller Procter to Robert Browning, May 16 or 17, 1844
  - **Folder 4**
    - Bryan Waller Procter to Robert Browning, January 22, 1845
  - **Folder 5**
    - Bryan Waller Procter to Robert Browning, June 9, 1845
  - **Folder 6**
    - Bryan Waller Procter to Robert Browning, March 11, 1846
  - **Folder 7**
    - Bryan Waller Procter to Robert Browning, circa August 1851
  - **Folder 8**
    - Anne Benson Procter to Elizabeth Barrett Browning, April 15, 1854
  - **Folder 9**
    - Bryan Waller Procter to Robert Browning, September 1, 1855
  - **Folder 10**
    - Bryan Waller Procter to Robert Browning, October 2, 1855
Box 1
Folder 11
   Bryan Waller Procter to Robert Browning, July 29, 1856
Box 1
Folder 12
   Bryan Waller Procter to Robert Browning, February 11, 1864
Box 1
Folder 13
   Bryan Waller Procter to Robert Browning, December 24, 1864?
Box 1
Folder 14
   Bryan Waller Procter to Robert Browning, November 14, 1867
Box 1
Folder 15
   Bryan Waller Procter to Robert Browning, July 27, 1868
Box 1
Folder 16
   Bryan Waller Procter to Robert Browning, November 6, 1868
Box 1
Folder 17
   Bryan Waller Procter to Robert Browning, November 3, 1869
Box 1
Folder 18
   Bryan Waller Procter to Robert Browning, late July, 1873
Box 1
Folder 19
   Anne Benson Procter to Robert Browning, September 28, 1874
Box 1
Folder 20
   Anne Benson Procter to Robert Browning, April 19, 1875
Box 1
Folder 21
   Anne Benson Procter to Robert Browning, June 17, 1883
Box 1
Folder 22
   Anne Benson Procter to Robert Browning, October 23, 1884
Box 1
Folder 23
   Anne Benson Procter to Robert Browning, December 26, 1884
Box 1
Folder 24
   Anne Benson Procter to Robert Browning, January 16, 1885