



Inventory

Acc.10106

Literary MSS and Other Papers of A J Cronin

National Library of Scotland
Manuscripts Division
George IV Bridge
Edinburgh
EH1 1EW
Tel: 0131-466 2812
Fax: 0131-466 2811
E-mail: manuscripts@nls.uk

© National Library of Scotland

This collection of A J Cronin's writings principally comprises literary MSS for some of the novels. It does, however, also contain school exercise books, one dating from Cronin's days at Dumbarton Academy, the other possibly from the short time he spent at St Aloysius' College, Glasgow, and lecture notes from his time as a medical undergraduate at Glasgow University during the Great War. Other writings of a philosophical, autobiographical and miscellaneous nature also feature. The manuscripts are, for the most part, unidentified, and came to the Library in no particular order. Most of the exercise books in which Cronin wrote have now been identified, though a few miscellaneous/unidentified items remain. The collection has been arranged as follows:

1-9	LITERARY MSS (PUBLISHED)
10-12	LITERARY MSS (UNPUBLISHED)
13-15	UNPUBLISHED SHORT STORIES, MISCELLANEOUS NOTES AND SCHEMES FOR OTHER NOVELS
16-17	AUTOBIOGRAPHY AND OTHER BIOGRAPHICAL MATERIAL
18-19	OTHER WRITINGS, PARTICULARLY ON A PHILOSOPHICAL THEME
20-21	SCHOOL EXERCISE BOOKS
22-27	UNIVERSITY NOTES
28	MEDICAL WRITING
29-30	MISCELLANEOUS

Deposited 30 April 1990.

For other Cronin material in NLS see:

- Acc 8334: Notebook containing drafts of eleven "Dr Finlay" short stories, n.d.
- Acc 9873: Twenty-two notebooks containing the collected manuscript of The Keys of the Kingdom (1942), with cognate material.
- Acc 9923: Three notebooks containing manuscript draft of part of an unpublished novel, n.d.
- Acc 9961: Sixty-one letters of A J Cronin, mostly to Alfred McIntyre, Little Brown & Co, concerning his novels and their publications, 1937-47.

1. Hatter's Castle, published 1931.
(3 leather-bound volumes). WITHDRAWN FROM DEPOSIT.
2. The Green Years, published 1944.
(1 leather-bound volume).
3. The Spanish Gardener, published 1950.
(9 spiral-bound exercise books).
4. Beyond this Place, published 1953.
One of the MS volumes bears title The Living and the Dead.
(39 spiral-bound and paper-bound exercise books).
5. The Northern Light, published 1958.
(4 spiral-bound exercise books).
6. The Judas Tree, published 1961.
(10 spiral-bound and card-bound exercise books).
7. A Song of Sixpence, published 1975.
(8 card-bound exercise books).
8. The Minstrel Boy, published 1975.
Also published as Desmonde.
(7 spiral-bound and card-bound exercise books and a folder of loose MSS).
9. Gracie Lindsay, published 1978.
One of the MS volumes bears title Gracie Lennox
(11 paper-bound exercise books).
10. Unidentified and unpublished(?) Dr Findlay stories, n.d.
(2 spiral-bound exercise books).
11. Unpublished MS of Sisters, n.d.; a nursing/hospital saga.
(18 paper-bound exercise books).
12. Unidentified and unpublished MS, n.d.
The following characters feature in this story: Steve, The Professor, Lewis, Karl Elder, Herr Schwartz, Connie, Sylvia Unwin.
(10 paper-bound exercise books). WITHDRAWN FROM DEPOSIT.
13. Unpublished short story An Old Lady of Bayswater, n.d.
(1 paper-bound exercise book).

14. Unpublished short story The Other Half-Crown, n.d.
The other end of this volume contains another, un-named and unidentified, short story. (1 paper-bound exercise book). WITHDRAWN FROM DEPOSIT.
15. Miscellaneous notes and schemes for other unpublished novels (?), short stories and literary writings, n.d.
(18 spiral-bound, card-bound and paper-bound exercise books).
16. Unpublished part of Cronin's autobiography concerning the courtship, marriage and married life of his parents, his boyhood, university and Great War years, qualification as a doctor etc, n.d. This does not tally with Cronin's published autobiography Adventures in Two Worlds, published in 1952.
(7 spiral-bound exercise books). WITHDRAWN FROM DEPOSIT.
17. Unpublished part of Cronin's autobiography, n.d.
These MSS volumes, in Cronin's hand, are written in the third person.
(2 card-bound exercise books).
18. A discourse on the guilt of Pontius Pilate with a typescript copy of same, n.d.
With other miscellaneous notes on the theme of responsibility.
(1 spiral-bound exercise book).
19. A discourse Kick over the traces – while you can, n.d.
With further miscellaneous notes on the theme of responsibility.
(1 spiral-bound exercise book).
20. English essays written in a Dumbarton Academy exercise book, 13 September 1911 – 18 May 1912. This is the earliest example of Cronin's creative writing in NLS, composed while still at school. One particularly topical piece is entitled "The Loss of the Titanic", dated 10 May 1912, one month after the disaster.
(1 hard-bound exercise book).
21. English essays in a volume entitled "Archie J Cronin, Form VI", 23 September [1913] – 14 March [1914].
(1 card-bound exercise book).
22. "Practical Physics" notes, Glasgow University, 27 April – 15 June 1915.
(1 hard-bound Glasgow University student's notebook).
23. Surgery notes taken during the lectures of Professor Sir William MacEwen, Professor of Surgery, Glasgow University, 15 October 1917 – [early 1918].
(1 hard-bound notebook).

24. Materia Medica notes taken during the lectures of Professor Ralph Stockman, Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics, Glasgow University, 16 October 1917 – [early 1918].
(1 hard-bound notebook).
25. Zoology laboratory book, “Book 1”, n.d. [ca.1914-19].
(1 hard-bound Glasgow University student’s notebook).
26. Zoology laboratory book, “Book 2”, n.d. [ca.1914-19].
(1 hard-bound Glasgow University student’s notebook).
27. Botany laboratory book compiled from lectures given by Professor Frederick Bower, Professor of Botany, Glasgow University, n.d. [ca.1914-19].
(1 hard-bound Glasgow University student’s notebook).
28. Research notes for, and annotated typescript copy of, Cronin’s MD thesis “The History of Aneurysm” awarded by the University of Glasgow, 1925.
(1 file).
29. Two ink drawings entitled “Illustrations for ‘The Inkeeper’s Wife’”; one depicting the nativity scene, the other showing the journey of the Magi, n.d. [1963?].
(2 mounted sketches).
30. Notebook, n.d.
(1 notebook).