HOUGHTON, RICHARD MONCKTON
MILNES, BARON, 1809-1885.
Richard Monckton Milnes Letters to William Thomson, 18-

Emory University
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Houghton, Richard Monckton Milnes, Baron, 1809-1885.
Title: Richard Monckton Milnes Letters to William Thomson, 18-
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 272
Extent: 0.01 cubic ft. (1 folder)
Abstract: Consists of six letters written by Lord Houghton to William Thomson, the
Archbishop of York.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
Unrestricted access.

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Citation
[after identification of item(s)], Richard Monckton Milnes Letters to William Thomson,
Archives and Manuscript Dept., Pitts Theology Library, Emory University.

Processing
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Collection Description

Biographical Note
Richard Monckton Milnes was born on June 19, 1809 on his family’s country estate. His
father, Robert Pemberton Milnes, was a member of the House of Commons. Richard Monkton
Milnes entered Trinity College at Cambridge in 1828. While at Trinity, Milnes began lifelong

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friendships with Tennyson and Thackeray. Milnes followed in his father’s footsteps by being active in the House of Commons. He was known for advocating government endowment of the Catholic Church in Ireland. In 1863, Milnes was raised to the peerage, assuming the title Lord Houghton. He died in 1885.

Milnes was active literarily as well as politically. He wrote songs and poetry in addition to writings of a political and more critical nature. Milnes published Palm Leaves, a book of songs and poetry, in 1844. Of a more political nature, Milnes also published a collection of documents pertaining to divorce law and the rights of married women. Milnes also wrote the Life and Letters of John Keats, published in 1867.

William Thomson was the Archbishop of York from 1864 until his death in 1890.

Scope and Content Note
This collection consists of six letters written by Lord Houghton to William Thomson, the Archbishop of York. One of the letters is private in nature as it relates to a game given to Houghton’s children by the Archbishop. Another letter discusses possible publications.