

## MS 24 Bullock Manuscripts

### About the collection:

Papers of the Irish writer, Shan Fadh Bullock (1865-1935). The collection consists of holograph and typescript manuscripts of both published and unpublished works by Bullock featuring examples of his poetry, fictional writing and dramatic works. The collection also includes items of personal interest to Bullock including a small selection of letters to his daughter Nora Elson (nee Bullock), family photographs, a collection of obituaries and a brief history of the Bullock family by John W. Beck. An undated letter from George Russell (AE) commenting on Bullock's 'Mors et Vita' is also to be found. Russell supplied the foreward to this anthology of poetry.

Shan F. Bullock manuscripts were donated to the Library of Queen's University, Belfast, by Mrs.Nora Elson in 1965.

The following is an inventory of the manuscripts in the Bullock Collection.



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## MS 24 Table of Contents

**Summary of letters, novels, plays, short stories, essays and miscellaneous items. Detailed descriptions follow beneath.**

The following table is a summary. The reference numbers are linked to detailed descriptions of each item.

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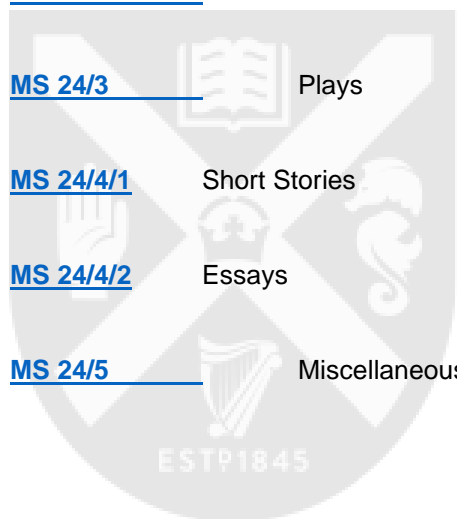
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MS 24/1      LETTERS

**MS 24/1/1**      25/05/1912      **Office of the Chief Inspector of Reformatory and Industrial Schools, Dublin Castle.**  
Letter to Nora, the author's daughter. Family matters and reference to Sir Horace Plunkett.

**MS 24/1/2**      02/07/1922      **Hotel Bellevue, Samaden. Letter to Nora**  
Family matters.

**MS 24/1/3**      c.1923      **84, Merrion Square, 1 Dublin. Tuesday**  
Letter from George Russell, ('A.E.')

**MS 24/1/4**      23/04/1925      **The Grosvenor Hotel, West Bournemouth**  
Letter to Sydney, author's son. Family matters.

MS 24/2      NOVELS

**MS 24/2/1**      n.d.      **Little Victorians**  
Longhand manuscript. Shan Bullock, Emo, York Road, Chea. 23 chapters. Unpublished.

**MS 24/2/2/1**      13/11/18 –  
16/01/20      **Sheila Passes**  
Longhand manuscript pp291. 21 Chapters.

**MS 24/2/2/2**      n.d.      **Sheila Passes**  
Typescript (with longhand pages inserted) pp. 282.  
Contains extensive marking and correction.

**MS 24/2/2/3**      n.d.      **Sheila Passes**  
Typescript pp.271.  
All 'Sheila Passes' manuscripts addressed 'Mr. Shan Bullock, Emo, York Rd, Cheam, Surrey. Unpublished.

**MS 24/2/3** n.d. **'His Reverence, A True Blue/The Papish Minister' (alternative titles)**  
Longhand manuscript plan of an episodic novel with alternative titles.  
Separate stories linked by the figure of a minister.

**MS 24/3** **PLAYS (UNPUBLISHED)**

**MS 24/3/1** n.d. **Country Wives: A Skit in One Act**  
(Based on an episode in *Irish Pastorals* entitled 'The Wee Tay Table'). Hannah Breen, a farmer's wife, tries to impress Mary Dolan, Ellen Hicks and Sarah Hogan by inviting them to afternoon tea in her parlour. The women laugh at her attempts to be genteel and she is eventually thwarted by her husband who blunders in and pulls out the table which has only three legs. The curtain falls on the sound of breaking crockery and laughter. Undated. Performed by the Dramatic Section of the Irish Literary Society at the Rehearsal Theatre, on the 20<sup>th</sup> December 1920. Two identical typewritten Mss.

**MS 24/3/2** n.d. **The Fatted Calf**  
(One act play, loosely based on a story in *Ring O'Rushes* entitled 'Shan's Diversion'). Mary Grimes, convinced that her husband, John, has been womanizing and not, as he claims, taking a three-day holiday in Belfast, takes her case to Thomas Coulson J.P. He ridicules her wish for a divorce but, undeterred, she marches John home for further punishment. Undated. No reference to any performance. Typewritten Ms.

**MS 24/3/3** n.d. **The Question: A Dialogue**  
(A one act play based on 'An Interlude' which was published in *The Outlook*). David Sherson arrives at the home of Thomas Coulson J.P. in to discuss the merits of two marriageable women. He likes Ann Myres best but the village harridan, Sarah Hicks, is richer. Thomas advises him to marry Anne but five minutes later David comes back, announcing that he will take Sarah after all. Undated. No reference to any performance. Typewritten Ms.

**MS 24/3/4** n.d. **Spring Weather: A Pastoral in One Act**  
(Based on the story 'The Turfcutters' in *Irish Pastorals*). The turf-cutters, taking a break from work, talk about marriage and Lizzie Dolan is offended by James Daly's jokes. Their high spirits turn to melancholy when Old Robin describes his

bereavement and how he misses his wife. The play ends with Lizzie helping Robin and triumphantly reminding James of his cynicism. Undated. This play seems to have changed its title. Since it is adapted from 'The Turfcutters' and since the Irish Literary Society performed a play named *The Turfcutters* at the same time as *Country Wives* it is likely that *Spring Weather* and *The Turfcutters* are the same play. Typewritten Ms.

MS 24/3/5 n.d.

### **The Stranger**

(A one act play using characters from *Hetty: The Story of an Ulster Family*). Set in an Ulster farmhouse kitchen, the play begins with Rhona Dell telling her mother, Charlotte, that she cannot marry Hugh Jarman since she promised her love to Phil Martin, a man she met in Dublin. The women are surprised by a visit from Phil Martin who, now married and working in Belfast, tried to impress Rhona's father, Mark and Hugh by boasting about his ambitions. When he leaves, Rhona confesses her foolishness and agrees to marry Hugh. Undated. Performed for the first time by the Irish Literary Society along with *Country Wives* and *The Turfcutters*. Handwritten in a small notebook.



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MS 24/4 SHORT STORIES AND ESSAYS

MS 24/4/1 SHORT STORIES

**MS 24/4/1/1** n.d. **The Eternal City** .  
Planned as part of a series to be called 'The Barney Papers', but the manuscripts contain no further reference to this title. Longhand Ms.

**MS 24/4/1/2** n.d. **The Herd**  
Undated but forms part of the collection of stories, *Irish Pastorals* published in 1901. Typewritten Ms.

**MS 24/4/1/3** n.d. **The Hole in the Shutter**  
Undated. Longhand Ms.

**MS 24/4/1/4** n.d. **A Hot Corner**  
Undated. Typewritten Ms.

**MS 24/4/1/5** n.d. **How Mickey the Wig Saw 'The Auld Boy'**  
Published in *Ring O'Rushes* as 'Th'Ould Boy' 1896. Undated. Longhand Ms.

**MS 24/4/1/6** n.d. **How She Let Him Have It**  
Undated. Longhand Ms.

**MS 24/4/1/7** n.d. **The Moral Twins**  
Undated. Longhand Ms.

**MS 24/4/1/8** n.d. **Mr Richard Cuddy's Love Quest**  
Undated. Longhand Ms.

**MS 24/4/1/9** n.d. **Paying the Piper**  
Undated. Longhand Ms.

**MS 24/4/1/10** n.d. **Robin Redbreast**  
Undated. Longhand Ms.

**MS 24/4/1/11** n.d. **The Sergeant and the Pig**

Undated. The character of Dan the car driver also features in *Master John*, where the story of the sergeant and the pig is referred to on page 87. Longhand Ms. Final page missing.

MS 24/4/1/12 n.d.

**The Sisters.**

Undated. Longhand Ms.

MS 24/4/1/13 n.d.

**Two Brothers. A True Sketch**

Undated. Story of the two poverty-stricken brothers seems to be loosely based on the description of Pete and Oiney Coyne provided in *By Thrasna River*. Longhand Ms.

MS 24/4/1/14 n.d.

**Where Ignorance is Bliss**

Undated. Longhand Ms.

MS 24/4/2

ESSAYS

MS 24/4/2/1 n.d.

**Almanacs**

Undated. Longhand Ms.

MS 24/4/2/2 n.d.

**Almost Persuaded – a chat about Home Rule**

Undated. Longhand Ms.

MS 24/4/2/3 n.d.

**Books – and books which have influenced me**

Undated. Longhand Ms.

MS 24/4/2/4 n.d.

**Book Titles**

Undated. Longhand Ms.

MS 24/4/2/5 n.d.

**The Building of my Yacht**

Undated. Longhand Ms.

MS 24/4/2/6 n.d.

**Curiosities of Hair Dressing**

Undated. Longhand Ms.

MS 24/4/2/7 n.d.

**Curious Names**

Undated. Longhand Ms.

<b>MS 24/4/2/8</b>	n.d.	<b>The Grudges [?] of Authors</b> Undated. Longhand Ms.
<b>MS 24/4/2/9</b>	n.d.	<b>Interesting Annotations</b> Undated. Longhand Ms.
<b>MS 24/4/2/10</b>	n.d.	<b>The Irish Parliament as it was – and could be again if</b> Undated. Longhand Ms.
<b>MS 24/4/2/11</b>	n.d.	<b>An Irish Watering Place</b> Undated. Longhand Ms.
<b>MS 24/4/2/12</b>	n.d.	<b>A Literary Experience</b> Undated. Longhand Ms.
<b>MS 24/4/2/13</b>	n.d.	<b>My First Wild Duck</b> Undated. Longhand Ms.
<b>MS 24/4/2/14</b>	n.d.	<b>The Personal Element in Criticism</b> Undated. Longhand Ms.
<b>MS 24/4/2/15</b>	n.d.	<b>The Popular Sentiment Towards Authors</b> Undated. Longhand Ms.
<b>MS 24/4/2/16</b>	n.d. 845	<b>The Prettiest Watering Place in Ireland: Bundoran</b> Undated. Longhand Ms.
<b>MS 24/4/2/17</b>	n.d.	<b>The Romance of Numbers</b> Undated. Longhand Ms.
<b>MS 24/4/2/18</b>	n.d.	<b>School Boys' Blunders</b> Undated. Longhand Ms.
<b>MS 24/4/2/19</b>	n.d.	<b>The Scotch Spurgeon</b> Undated. Longhand Ms.
<b>MS 24/4/2/20</b>	n.d.	<b>Stories of the Law</b> Undated. Longhand Ms.



- MS 24/4/2/21** n.d. **A Word on Slang**  
Undated. Longhand Ms.
- MS 24/4/2/22** n.d. **Untitled**  
Subject: 'How our forefathers ate'. Untitled. Undated. Longhand Ms.

**MS 24/5** MISCELLANEOUS

- MS 24/5/1** n.d. **A Brief Family History of the Bullocks of Bullicks of Northern Ireland**  
By John W Beck, A.M.I.E.E. Undated. Loosely bound, typewritten sheets.

- MS 24/5/2** n.d. **Ireland's Literary Renaissance**  
By Ernest Boyd. Handwritten extract. Concerning Shan F. Bullock. Undated. Not in Bullock's handwriting.

- MS 24/5/3** [1935] **Photograph Album**  
Photograph album belonging to Mrs N.M. Elson containing 52 obituaries written around the time of the author's death; a review of the *Outsiders* taken from the *Court Journal*, 26/09/1924; a cutting from the *Northern Whig*, 13/12/1924, entitled ' *An Ulster Novelist: The Work of Mr Shan Bullock*', unknown author.

- MS 24/5/4** ES n.d. 845 **Photographs**
- 1 Thomas Bullock. Author's father.
  - 2 Mary Bullock. Author's mother.
  - 3 Minnie. Author's sister, aged 17-18.
  - 4 Minnie Liddell (nee Bullock). Author's sister, aged 40.
  - 5 Elizabeth Bullock (later Wilson). Author's sister.
  - 6 Shan Bullock. Aged 25-27.
  - 7 c1889 Emma Mitchell. Author's wife at time of marriage.
  - 8 n.d. Emma Mitchell. Author's wife.
  - 9 Emma Mitchell. Author's wife. Aged c50.
  - 10 Young man. Signed. Probably the author.

- MS 24/5/5** n.d. **Poem**  
Untitled. Written roughly on loose paper.

- MS 24/5/6** 1923 **Shan F. Bullock, 1865-1935**

Portrait inscribed 'Shan F. Bullock, 1865-1935 (John William Bullock M.B.E). Artist Dermot O'Brien, 1923. Presented by Mrs N.M. Elson, daughter of Mr. Bullock, 1965. In a cutting from *The British Weekly* found among MS 24/5/3, an article entitled 'The Passing of Shan F. Bullock. A Friend's Tribute', the anonymous author, while talking about Bullock's work with Sir Horace Plunkett, states that the portrait was completed by Mr Dermot O'Brien, President of the Royal Hibernian Academy, and 'was an excellent likeness' however the 'portrait was destroyed during the later Irish Troubles'. It was not destroyed and eventually was presented to Queen's where it forms part of the art collection.



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