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## REFERENCE

Humanities

*The following review will appear in the August 2009 issue of CHOICE. The review is for your internal use only until our publication date of 01 August 2009*

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[Internet Resource]

**Literary Manuscripts (Berg).** Adam Matthew Digital. ISBN Contact publisher for pricing (based on Carnegie Classification and JISC); includes nominal hosting fee, payable every 5 years.

URL: <http://www.amdigital.co.uk/>

[Visited May'09] This database features the original manuscripts of 15 Victorian authors--Matthew Arnold, Emily Bronte (along with material on the other Brontes), Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Robert Browning, Wilkie Collins, Joseph Conrad, Charles Dickens, George Eliot, George Gissing, Thomas Hardy, Henry James, Dante Gabriel Rossetti, John Ruskin, Alfred Tennyson, and William Makepeace Thackeray--digitized from the 19th-century holdings of the Henry W. and Albert A. Berg Collection of the New York Public Library. Most of these manuscripts are unavailable in any medium elsewhere. Designed to promote greater use of primary material, this database includes introductory information about the establishment of the Berg collection in 1940 and its expansion over the years to become a major manuscript repository of English and American literature. By examining this resource, researchers can study the evolution of texts over time and Victorian publishing practices, and thus achieve a much clearer picture of Victorian literature than was previously available. The heart of the resource is the Documents collection. Arranged by author, the works are subdivided into material types that may include Manuscripts, Related Manuscripts, Correspondence, Financial Documents, Legal Documents, Diaries and Journals, and Pictorial Works. Advanced Search lets users locate material according to type, and by searching the document description and brief notes, among other options. Included in this resource are a brief biography and notable works of each of the 15 authors, and a chronology that allows users to select either single or multiple authors and combine them with subject categories (Historical Events, Cultural Events, and Literature) to create customized time lines. The database permits users to download items or documents for printing as PDF files, and to export citations to EndNote (CH, Feb'08, 45-2929) or RefWorks. Downloading was not available during the free trial. For those who can afford it, this is a very valuable resource for those doing serious research on Victorian authors and their era. **Summing Up:** Highly recommended. Upper-level undergraduates and above. -- *R. B. Meeker, Chicago State University*