Katharine Richardson Wireman Archive

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the
Helen Farr Sloan Library & Archives, Delaware Art Museum

Acquisition Information
Gifts of Henrietta Wireman Shuttleworth, Sharon S. Galm, Susan S. Leggett, and James F. Remington, 2012; some material collected by the Library

Extent
8 linear feet

Processed
Rachael DiEleuterio, 2012

Contents
Advertisements, clippings, correspondence, illustrations, and tear sheets given by the family of Katharine Richardson Wireman, as well as items collected by the Library

Access Restrictions
Unrestricted

Contact Information
Helen Farr Sloan Library & Archives
Delaware Art Museum
2301 Kentmere Parkway
Wilmington, DE 19806
(302) 571-9590
hfslibrary@delart.org

Preferred Citation
Katharine Richardson Wireman Archive, Helen Farr Sloan Library & Archives, Delaware Art Museum
Biography of Katharine Richardson Wireman

Katharine Richardson was born in Philadelphia in 1878, the daughter of Dr. Elliott Richardson and Achsah Willis Nevins Richardson. The Richardsoms were Quaker descendants of three generations of Richardson silversmiths of Philadelphia. Orphaned in 1889, Katharine and her four siblings lived their remaining formative years in the country home of their father’s four devoted sisters.

From 1897 to 1900, Katharine Richardson studied with Howard Pyle at the Drexel Institute in Philadelphia. She later said his instruction was the greatest influence in her life. During her last year at Drexel, she sold a cover design to The Saturday Evening Post and, by the time it was published, she had a cover on The Ladies’ Home Journal. Some fellow art students at Drexel became Katharine’s lifelong friends, including Eugenie M. Wireman, Sarah S. Stilwell Weber, Anna Whelan Betts, Ethel Franklin Betts Bains, Ada Clendenin Williamson, and Wuanita Smith.

After completing her art study at Drexel, Katharine Richardson rented a studio with Eugenie Wireman and became a fashion illustrator for two Philadelphia newspapers. Soon Katharine was also working for the Curtis Publishing Company, illustrating for The Ladies’ Home Journal. In 1905 she married Eugenie’s brother Henry, becoming Katharine Richardson Wireman. Katharine and Henry then moved to Virginia, where she drew for various magazines, illustrated national advertising for the Procter & Gamble Company, and painted covers for several 1908 issues of Good Housekeeping. The first two of Katharine and Henry’s three daughters were born in Virginia.

In 1910 the young family moved to New York City, where Katharine continued to paint covers for national magazines and illustrate national advertising. She also worked on a popular book for children, illustrating The Birds’ Christmas Carol by Kate Douglas Wiggin. In 1913 the family returned to Philadelphia, where Katharine lived until her death in 1966. During her fifty-year career, Katharine Richardson Wireman created countless designs for many different publications, including more than 70 covers for national magazines and illustrations for more than a dozen books for children.

In 2012 the Delaware Art Museum presented an exhibition of Katharine Richardson Wireman’s work with an accompanying catalog. As of 2017, the Delaware Art Museum owned six of her oil paintings, three of her ink drawings, one watercolor, and a charcoal drawing.

By Sharon S. Galm
Organization of the Collection

Series I: Biographical and Personal
Series II: Illustration
  Subseries A: Advertisements and Corporate Materials
  Subseries B: Books
  Subseries C: Periodicals
  Subseries D: Oversize

Box List
Box 1
Series I: Biographical and Personal

Box 2
Series II: Illustration
  Subseries A: Advertisements and Corporate Materials
  Subseries B: Books
  Subseries C: Periodicals

Box 3
Series II: Illustration
  Subseries D: Oversize – *Child Life*

Box 4
Series II: Illustration
  Subseries D: Oversize – *The Country Gentleman*

Box 5
Series II: Illustration
  Subseries D: Oversize – *The Ladies’ Home Journal*

Box 6
Series II: Illustration
  Subseries D: Oversize – various

Box 7
Series II: Illustration
  Subseries D: Oversize – various (matted)
Description of the Collection

Series I: Biographical and Personal

Box 1

Folder

1 General biographical information

2 *Sunshine and Shadows: A Biography of Katharine Richardson Wireman* by Henrietta Wireman Shuttleworth (Riverton, NJ: Richardson Press, 2000)

   *Hark Back With Love* by Frances Richardson (Philadelphia: Dorrance & Company, 1970)

3 Correspondence

   Carl I. Henrikson to KRW, April 18, 1922

   Ada M. Shaw (The Farmer’s Wife) to KRW, July 23, 1924

   Ada M. Shaw (The Farmer’s Wife) to KRW, July 29, 1924

4 DVD and VHS of wedding reception of Mary M. Wireman and Harry Remington, June 1932

5 Exhibition-related materials for “So Beautifully Illustrated”: *Katharine Richardson Wireman and the Art of Illustration* (Delaware Art Museum, October 6, 2012 – January 6, 2013)

   Catalog

   Article: “Katharine Richardson Wireman & the Art of Illustration” by Henrietta Wireman Shuttleworth in *American Art Review* 24, no. 6 (December 2012)

   Label copy

6 Digital images on DVD and CD

   Selections from the Katharine Richardson Wireman Archives

   Wireman Art October 2011

   Art by Katharine Richardson Wireman

   JPGs and TIFFs of magazine illustrations and covers (photographed by Rich Echelmeyer, April 2012)

7 Miscellaneous – correspondence with Delaware Art Museum re. collection

8 Miscellaneous – print by Anna Whelan Betts
Series II: Illustration

Box 2

Subseries A: Advertisements and Corporate Materials

Folder
1  “Cradle Roll” birthday postcards from the Abingdon Press, 1929
   “Your Second Birthday” (boy)
   “Your Third Birthday” (boy)
   Photocopies of boy and girl versions of first, second, and third birthday postcards

2  Cover for “Tested Crisco Recipes” (Procter & Gamble, c. 1914)

3  Ivory Soap advertisements
   Mother holding infant over bed, 1906
   Children playing in grass, 1906
   Women walking in snow, 1907
   Girl washing hands at sink, 1908
   Mother brushing girl’s hair, 1908
   Woman stirring bowl in kitchen, 1908
   Woman in rose garden, 1909
   Women with baby at bath, 1913
   Five children in snow fight, 1913

4  Ivory Soap booklets
   “How to Bring Up a Baby: A Hand Book for Mothers” by Elizabeth Robinson Scovil
      (Procter & Gamble, 1906) (two copies)
      Contains six full-page illustrations and 18 smaller drawings
   “How to Bring Up a Baby: A Hand Book for Mothers” (cover title “The Baby Book”) by
      Elizabeth Robinson Scovil (Procter & Gamble, 1923)
      Updated edition with new cover and illustrations by KRW
   “Elizabeth Harding, Bride” (Procter & Gamble, c. 1910) (two copies)
      P&G’s handbook for new brides, containing eight full-page illustrations, 16 smaller
      drawings, and decorative borders

5  International Salt booklet
   “The Salties, or, Nat and Sal in International Land” by David B. Arndt (Scranton, PA:
      International Salt Company, nd)
6 Philadelphia Historical Pageant postcard

7 Providence Lithograph Company, Sunday school cards and leaflets  
   *We . . . are helpers.* Nursery class story card, “Bobby’s New Red Wagon,” Southern Baptist Convention Series
   
   *O give thanks unto the Lord.* Nursery class story card, “How Charles Helped,” Southern Baptist Convention Series
   
   *God . . . careth for you.* Beginner Bible story leaflet for April 13, 1952, Southern Baptist Convention Series
   
   
   *Be gentle unto all.* Beginner Bible story leaflet for April 19, 1953, Southern Baptist Convention Series
   
   *We . . . are helpers.* (Winter nature table). Beginner Bible story leaflet for October 11, 1953, Southern Baptist Convention Series
   
   *Friends play together happily.* Beginners Church School Leaflets, Vol. 23, No. 2 (January, February, March 1937), Board of Christian Education of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.
   
   *Happy times at church.* Beginners Church School Leaflets, Vol. 24, No. 1 (October, November, December 1937), Board of Christian Education of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.
   
   *With the family to church.* Beginners Church School Leaflets, Vol. 25, No. 1 (October, November, December 1938), Board of Christian Education of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.

Subseries B: Books

Folder 8 Book illustrations

*Winter Roses* by Agnes Vollmar (upper and lower covers, photocopies)

Note – the Library holds several books illustrated by KRW:  
*The Birds’ Christmas Carol* by Kate Douglas Wiggin (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1912 and 1916)  
GEN PZ7 .W63 Bi 1912 and SP. COLL. PZ7 .W63 Bi 1916

SP. COLL. PS595 .C45 1946

SP. COLL. PZ5 .B788 Ca 1935
The Children’s Story Garden (Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1920)
SP. COLL. PZ5 .B788 Ch 1920

The Friendly Story Caravan (Philadelphia: Lippincott, 1949)
SP. COLL. PZ5 .B788 Fr 1949

SP. COLL. PZ5 .B788 Fr 1949

Gay’s Year on Sunset Island (New York: Putnam’s, 1926)
SP. COLL. PS3501 .S65 G397 1926

Good Luck, Mary Ann! by Agnes Louise Dean (New York: Abingdon-Cokesbury, 1951)
SP. COLL. PZ7 .D34 Go 1951

Parmly Third Reader by Maude Parmley (New York: American Book Company, 1914)
SP. COLL. LB1571.5 .R4 P375 1914

SP. COLL. PZ7 .B8142 Wi 1948

The Wonderful Window by Carolyn Sherwin Bailey (Nashville: Cokesbury Press, 1926)
SP. COLL. PZ7 .B151 Won 1926

Subseries C: Periodicals (** denotes entire publication is present)

Folder

9 Everybody’s Magazine**
   July 1911, cover

10 The Farm Journal**
   April 1922, cover

11 The Farmer’s Wife
   March 1923, interior illustrations for “An Early Spring” by Elsie Singmaster (photocopy)
   March 1923, interior illustrations for “Letters to Pat” by M. Jessie Leitch (photocopy)
   April 1923, interior illustrations for “Letters to Pat” by M. Jessie Leitch (photocopy)
   September 1923, interior illustrations for “Your House” by Margaret B. Shipp (photocopy)
   December 1923, interior illustrations for “Peace Came to Her at Christmas” by Alta Booth Dunn (photocopy)
   February 1924, interior illustrations for “Bread for the World” by Helen Topping Miller (photocopy)
March 1924, interior illustrations for “Her Heavenly Foolishness” by Isabella Griffith Fleck (photocopy)

June 1924, interior illustrations for “A Block for Friendship” by Gertrude West (photocopy)

October 1924, interior illustrations for “Come On! Let’s Play in the Attic” by Alice Wilson (photocopy)

December 1924, interior illustrations for “Their Christmas Mother” by Charlotte Conkright Kinney (photocopy)

February 1925, interior illustrations for “Three Times Three are Nine” by Isabel Richmond Hidy (photocopy)

May 1925, interior illustrations for “The Spring Song” by Charlotte Conkright Kinney (photocopy)

June 1925, interior illustrations for “With All My Worldly Goods” by Valma Clark (photocopy)

July 1925, interior illustrations for “Operating on Tony” by Marguerite Murphy (photocopy)

12 Good Housekeeping
November 1906, interior illustrations for “Child Discipline” by Millicent Washburn Shinn (photocopy)

April 1908, cover (photocopy)

April 1908, interior illustrations for “The Perfect Comrade” (photocopy)

October 1908, cover**

June 1909, interior illustrations for “The Class Baby” by Margaret Beauchamp (photocopy)

March 1910, interior illustrations for “Little Boy All Alone” by Frances Margaret Fox (photocopy)

13 Holland’s
September 1930, cover (photocopy)

14 The Household
December 1920, cover (photocopy)

15 Scribner’s Magazine
September 1911, interior illustrations for “The Rubber Stamp” by Georgia Wood Pangborn (photocopy)
16  *Success*
   April 1926, cover (photocopy) (original painting owned by Museum: DAM 2017-59)

17  *Successful Farming***
   February 1930, cover

**Box 3**

**Subseries D: Oversize (*** denotes entire publication is present)**

*Child Life*
   September 1929 and January 1930, interior illustrations for “The Willow Whistle” by Cornelia Meigs (photocopies)
   December 1930, February 1931 and April 1931, interior illustrations for “Eric and Mary Anne” by Cornelia Meigs***
   March 1942, interior illustrations for “The Luck of Echo Valley” by Ruth Elizabeth Tanner***
   January, February, March and April 1945, interior illustrations for “The Mystery Man of Blackwell’s Cave” by Ruth Gipson Plowhead***
   April 1945, cover***
   March 1946, cover and interior illustrations for “The Ghosts Walk (Part II)” by Rutherford Montgomery***
   May 1946, cover and interior illustrations for “Christabel, the Kind Fairy (Part I)” by Eleanor Hammond***
   July 1946, interior illustrations for “Christabel, the Kind Fairy (Part III)” by Eleanor Hammond***
   September 1946, cover***

**Box 4**

**Subseries D: Oversize**

*The Country Gentleman*
   December 25, 1915, cover***
   September 23, 1916, interior illustrations for “Things That Help”
   September 30, 1916, interior illustrations for “Company Coming”
   December 16, 1916, cover (original painting owned by Museum: DAM 2011-17)
June 9, 1917, cover (2 copies)
June 30, 1917, cover (photocopy)
September 15, 1917, cover
November 2, 1918, cover (matted; in Box 7)
January 4, 1919, cover (photocopy)
March 15, 1919, cover
May 17, 1919, cover
July 12, 1919, cover
January 14, 1922, cover (photocopy)
September 9, 1922, cover (photocopy)
December 16, 1922, cover (photocopy)
February 24, 1923, cover (photocopy)
May 19, 1923, cover (photocopy)
July 21, 1923, interior illustration for “Getting the Water Out” (photocopy)
August 4, 1923, cover**
November 10, 1923, cover (photocopy) (original painting owned by Museum: DAM 2010-26)
January 5, 1924, cover**
March 1, 1924, cover (matted; in Box 7)
June 28, 1924, cover (photocopy)
August 9, 1924, cover (photocopy)
November 8, 1924, cover
January 17, 1925, interior illustrations for “The Country Gentlewoman, Midwinter Sewing”
March 1929, interior illustrations for “The Country Gentlewoman, Spring’s the Time for Smartness” and “Easy to Make”
April 1933, interior illustrations for “The Country Gentlewoman, Let’s Renovize Our Wardrobes”
May 1933, interior illustrations for “The Country Gentlewoman, A Day With the Stylists”
December 1933, interior illustrations for “The Country Gentlewoman, A Word to the Wise Gift Shopper”
December 1935, interior illustrations for “For Christmas I Want—“
June 1936, interior illustrations for “Paris Firsthand”
September 1936, interior illustrations for “We’ll Go Out in Wool”
January 1937, interior illustrations for “I Saw it at Cannes”
June 1937, interior illustrations for “You Can Take it with You”
July 1937, interior illustrations for “The Outdoor Season”
October 1937, interior illustrations for “Picture Yourself Like This”
November 1937, interior illustrations for “Wool Conscious”
March 1938, interior illustrations for “Palm Beach Interlude”

Box 5

Subseries D: Oversize

*The Ladies’ Home Journal* (** denotes entire publication is present)

March 1902, interior illustrations for “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat”
April 1902, interior illustrations for “Good Health for Girls” and “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat”**
July 1902, interior illustrations for “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat” (photocopy)
August 1902, interior illustrations for “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat”**
October 1902, interior illustrations for “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat” and “When We Are No Longer Young”**
December 1902, interior illustrations for “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat” and “The Grandmother at Christmas-Time”**
January 1903, interior illustrations for “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat”
March 1903, interior illustrations for “The Council Chamber,” “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat About Clothes,” and “Little Men and Little Women”**
April 1903, interior illustrations for “The Land of Joy” by Ralph Henry Barbour, “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat for Easter Brides,” and “Little Folks in Easter Clothes”**
May 1903, interior illustrations for “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat About Summer Clothes” and “The Baby, the Little Men and Little Women”**
June 1903, interior illustrations for “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat for Girls” and “Little Men and Women in Summertime”
July 1903, interior illustrations for “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat About Summer Clothes”**
August 1903, interior illustrations for “From the Kindness of Our Friends,” “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat on the Economical Care of Summer Clothes,” and “Little Men and Women in Their School Clothes”**

September 1903, interior illustrations for “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat on the Paris Fashions” and “Little Men and Women in Their Autumn Clothes”**

October 1903, interior illustrations for “What Women of Millions Do With Their Cast-Off Clothes,” “Pretty Girl Papers” and “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat”**

October 1904, interior illustrations for “The Elopement of Eva May” by Eleanor Hoyt, “Pretty Girl Papers,” “Dolly’s Economical Ways,” “The Economies of a Mother,” and “Helping Home Milliners”

November 1904, interior illustrations for “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat About the New Clothes”

December 1904, interior illustrations for “The Lady from Philadelphia,” “Chocolates and Christmas Secrets,” and “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat About Christmas Clothes”**

January 1905, cover and interior illustrations for “Mr. Brand: the Grocer,” “Pretty Girl Papers,” “Dolly’s Sewing Party,” and “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat”**

February 1905, interior illustrations for “The Dark Man in Her Life,” “Chocolates and Secrets,” “The Lady from Philadelphia,” “Pretty Girl Papers,” “In and After Business Hours,” and “Mrs. Ralston’s Ideas for Using Last Year’s Clothes” (photocopies)

March 1905, interior illustrations for “Dolly’s Economical Ideas for Brides,” “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat About an Economical Trousseau,” “Pretty Girl Papers for Brides,” and “The Lady from Philadelphia” (photocopies)

May 1905, interior illustrations for “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat About How to Make the Pennies Count” (photocopy)

June 1905, interior illustrations for “His Dutch-Treat Wife” by Juliet Wilbor Tompkins, “Pretty Girl Papers,” and “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat”

July 1905, interior illustrations for “Outdoor Larks and Picnics”

August 1905, interior illustrations for “Stories Told of Musical Folks,” “Dolly’s Economical Ideas for the Summer Girl,” and “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat About the Advance of Fall Fashions”

September 1905, interior illustrations for “The New Department, The Housewife and Her Helper” (photocopy), “Mrs. Sangster’s Heart to Heart Talks” (photocopy), “The Lady from Philadelphia” and “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat About the Latest Paris Fashions”

October 1905, interior illustrations for “Madcap Frolics of College Girls,” “The Housewife and Her Helper,” “Dolly’s Economical Ways,” “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat,” and “What the Little Ones Will Need”

November 1905, interior illustrations for “For the Babies” (photocopy), “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat,” and “Shirtwaists for Girls”

March 1906, interior illustrations for “Pretty Girl Papers”**

May 1906, interior illustrations for “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat on Ways and Means” and “For the Babies”

July 1906, interior illustrations for “Vacation Games for Children,” “Mrs. Ralston’s Chat About Children’s Clothes,” and Ivory Soap advertisement**

November 1906, interior illustrations for “For the Baby”

January 1907, interior illustrations for “Making the Baby’s Clothes”

April 1909, advertisement for “How to Bring Up a Baby” and interior illustrations for “The Young Mother’s Guide” and “How to Make an Old-Fashioned Garden”**

May 1912, interior illustrations for “The Spirit in the Old House” (photocopy)

June 1927, interior illustrations for “Gay Dollars in Summer Needs” (photocopy)

KRW’s scrapbook of *The Ladies’ Home Journal* illustrations (photocopy)

Box 6

Subseries D: Oversize – various

*The American Needlewoman**

  August 1925, cover

*The American Woman*

  January 1920, cover

  April 1922, cover**

*Collier’s Weekly*

  October 5, 1912, cover (original painting owned by Museum: DAM 2013-3)

  June 28, 1913, cover (photocopy)

Cream of Wheat advertisements

  “Bringing Home the Holly” (three versions: color frontispiece of *The Modern Priscilla*, December 1914; color frontispiece of *McCall’s Magazine*, December 1914; black and white advertisement on verso of contents page for *The Literary Digest*, December 26, 1914)

Crisco advertisement
   “Thousands of Domestic Science Students are being taught the advantage of Crisco” (*The Saturday Evening Post*, October 10, 1914, page 2)

*The Designer***
   January 1919, cover

*Farm and Home*
   April 1920, cover**

   *Farm and Home*
   July 1924, cover (photocopy)

*Hearth and Home***
   March 1925, cover

Ivory Soap advertisements
   Mother holding infant over bed, 1906 (three copies; one is matted and in Box 7)

   Children playing in grass, 1906

   Woman washing clothes in basin, 1907

   Women cleaning house, 1907

   Women walking in snow, 1907

   Mother brushing girl’s hair, 1908

   French women washing clothes in stream, 1909

   Woman in rose garden, 1909 (matted; in Box 7)

   Woman in kimono in bathroom, 1910

   Woman cleaning piano, 1912

   Woman and children with laundry, 1912

   “Some Personal Uses of Ivory Soap,” 1912

   Children in soapbox sled, 1912

   Mother and grandmother bathing baby, 1913

   Five children in snow fight, 1913 (matted; in Box 7)

   Mother and daughter making soap paste for cleaning, 1916

   Women sewing and admiring one woman’s hand, 1916

   Advertisement for the booklet “How to Bring Up a Baby”

*Leslie’s Illustrated Weekly Newspaper***
   December 2, 1915, cover

*The Modern Priscilla*
  - February 1916, cover
  - January 1920, cover
  - March 1922, cover** (two copies; one is matted and in Box 7)

*The People’s Home Journal*
  - October 1911, cover
  - December 1915, cover (photocopy)

*People’s Popular Monthly*
  - December 1919, cover (photocopy)
  - March 1920, cover (photocopy)
  - May 1920, cover (photocopy)
  - July 1920, cover**
  - September 1920, cover (photocopy)
  - May 1922, cover
  - July 1922, cover**

*Pictorial Review*
  - April 1922, interior illustrations for “Diets to Make You Feel Fit”
  - June 1922, interior illustrations for “A Penny Saved Is a Penny Earned”

Providence Lithograph Company, large prints for church school publications
  - Children giving gifts for church
  - Children riding red wagon
  - Boy picking apples
  - Girl and boy on picnic
  - Hebrew family looking at stars
  - Children playing hide-and-seek
  - Girl watching bees
  - Boy and girl putting away toys
The Saturday Evening Post**
  September 29, 1906, cover
  December 14, 1918, cover (photocopy)
  August 27, 1921, cover (photocopy)
  June 28, 1924, cover

Woman’s Home Companion
  June 1918, cover (matted; in Box 7)

The Youth’s Companion
  February 4, 1909, interior illustrations for “Children’s Page”
  May 6, 1909, interior illustrations for “Children’s Page”
  April 14, 1910, interior illustrations for “Children’s Page”

Unidentified – “A Windy Day,” copyright 1929 by KRW

Box 7

Subseries D: Oversize – various (matted)

The Country Gentleman
  November 2, 1918, cover

Ivory Soap advertisements
  Mother holding infant over bed, 1906
  Woman in rose garden, 1909
  Five children in snow fight, 1913

The Modern Priscilla
  March 1922, cover

Woman’s Home Companion
  June 1918, cover