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| <b>Title:</b>               | Dwight Whitney Marsh family papers, 1835-1889, n.d.  |                             |        |
| <b>Creator:</b>             | Marsh Family   |                             |        |
| <b>Dates of Material:</b>   | 1835-1889, n.d.  | <b>Record Group Number:</b> | RG 854 |
| <b>Summary of Contents:</b> | <p>Contains 25 letters and other papers pertaining to Dwight Whitney Marsh and his family. The letters are written by Henry Marsh (Dwight's father), Dwight Whitney Marsh, and Clara (Marsh) Eager (Dwight's sister) and are addressed to their parents, spouses, and siblings. The letters are dated 1835 to 1866. Most of the letters concern family, travel and business matters. Rev. Dwight Whitney Marsh worked as a missionary in Turkey and later at a Young Ladies' Female Seminary in Rochester. His letters were all written while he was in the United States, mostly during the American Civil War.</p> <p>A letter written by Clara (Marsh) Eager from Fort Erie, Oct. 30, 1854, describes her trip to Niagara Falls, Chippawa, and Buffalo. Some of the other papers in the collection contain no date or are dated 1888-1889.</p> <p>Some of the letters written by Dwight Marsh provide insight into his travels and activities. In a letter to his mother dated August 8, 1861 at Hinsdale, Mass., he writes that <i>"it will be two years since Julia [his wife] died...I called while in Racine upon Mrs. Tuckerman whose Cary had gone to the war. She had been to the camp...and was glad to have him go...she made many kind inquiries about the family...The time seems short that I can linger in this country..."</i></p> <p>Another letter dated December 4, 1862 to his sister Clara describes some of his work, noting that <i>"I yesterday gave a lecture with philosophical experiments to the school &amp; they were interested. I do not preach regularly, but about half the time. I am to speak on Missions at the first Ch. next Sabbath evening &amp; also a fortnight after that. I was very glad to get the paper describing the presentation of a sword to Capt. Eager..."</i></p> <p>A letter by Clara [Eager] to her mother Sarah Marsh, dated at Fort Erie, Canada West, October 30, 1854, describes a trip to Niagara Falls. Clara writes that <i>"Wednesday we had a glorious trip down to Niagara Falls, going in cars, crossing (on foot) the suspension bridge, and walking up to Clifton House where we had a splendid view. Then cars to Chippawa 2 miles &amp; boat from there home. We all enjoyed it grandly..."</i> She also mentions some time spent in Buffalo, writing that <i>"Last Saturday afternoon I went alone to Buffalo on the cars, did some shopping, called on Mrs. Van Nostrand, Mrs. Warren...&amp; to see Mrs. Gage [?] &amp; friend Mr. C at home too &amp; they urged me to spend the Sabbath. I could not get an omnibus &amp; so walked the whole way to the Ferry, full two long miles in less than half an hour &amp; was in time to cross in the last boat..."</i></p> |                             |        |

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|  | <p>She continues that “<i>Yesterday we all went over to church...and then rode to Forest Lawn Cemetery (3 miles), a beautiful spot, &amp; then got home to dine at half past two. In the eve Jimmie [?] ...&amp; I went to the Canadian Church &amp; you may be sure the spruce pines made me think of my childhood....The pulpit was nearly up to the wall, &amp; the singing, dear me, but I helped read the prayer for the Queen Victoria and all the Royal Family...</i>”</p> <p>A letter by Henry Marsh to his wife, dated at Buffalo, August 24, 1842, recounts an earlier trip to that area. Marsh writes that “<i>I have been in constant motion until 5 this morning, when I found myself at the American—next door to <u>our</u> old Eagle in Buffalo. It is now past 8 &amp; two hours sleep and a good breakfast, with a quick walk to distribute letters &amp; the glimpse of <u>Erie</u> have given such an electricity to my spirits that I feel quite young again, and the time of our journey here returns in all its friendship, sweetness &amp; beauty. I find you in all my thoughts...I confess I am happy tho I should be more so could you be with me</i>”.</p> <p>Also included are three manuscript essays. They are titled “<i>Silent Power</i>” (n.d.); “<i>Song</i>” (n.d.); and “<i>The Beauty of Holiness</i>” (1848), as well as 4 printed items related to the Women’s Board of Missions of the Interior, 1888-1889.</p> |
| <p><b>Physical Description / Condition:</b></p>    | <p>2 cm of textual records</p>   |
| <p><b>Administrative/ Biographical Sketch:</b></p> | <p>Dwight Whitney Marsh (1823-1896) was born in Dalton, Berkshire County, Massachusetts. After graduating from Williams College in 1842 he studied theology at Andover Theological Seminary and Union Theological Seminary. After being ordained in 1849 he left America for missionary work in Mosul, Turkey. He returned to the United States in 1852 and married Julia White Peck. They returned to Mosul, where Julia died in 1859. The following year Marsh returned to the United States and lectured about missionary work and his experience in Turkey, and preached in Hinsdale, Mass. and Godfrey, Ill. In 1862 he married Elizabeth Barron and began working at the Rochester Young Ladies’ Female Seminary. He remained at the Seminary for five years and continued to preach in various Midwest churches.</p> <p>In 1869 Marsh wrote a book titled <i>The Tennessean in Persia and Koordistan. Being scenes and incidents in the life of Samuel Audley Rhea</i>. This book was a biography of Marsh’s friend who worked as a missionary in Persia while Marsh was in Turkey. He also wrote about the genealogies of the Hitchcock and Marsh families.</p>  |

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| <b>Location:</b>           | Brock University Archives  |              |                |
| <b>Source Information:</b> | Acquired from Michael Brown Rare Books, Philadelphia, PA, in 2023. |              |                |
| <b>Described by:</b>       | Chantal Cameron  | <b>Date:</b> | September 2023 |