



Guide to the Eugene Marshall Papers, 1839-1962

This collection guide was produced in **1997**.

This PDF version was created on **April 3, 2026**.

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

411 Chapel Drive

Duke University

Durham 27708

askRL@duke.edu

URL: <http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

Table of Contents

Summary	3
Background	4
Administrative Information	5
Names and Subjects	5
Collection Inventory	6
Correspondence and other documents	6
Diaries	7
Writings	9
Genealogy	10
Volumes and Scrapbooks	10
Photographs	10

Summary

Collection Title:

Eugene Marshall papers, 1839-1962

Creator:

Marshall, Eugene, 1832-1919

Abstract:

Farmer, banker, and Union Cavalry officer of Caledonia, Minnesota. Collection includes correspondence, diaries, writings, legal documents, printed material, record books, scrapbooks, and photographs, chiefly relating to Marshall's military service with Brackett's Battalion, Minnesota Cavalry, in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Alabama (1862-1864) and on the Northwest Indian expedition (1864-1865). Diaries include comments on his immigration from Brockton, MA to Minnesota in 1853, and on secessionist spirit in Texas, 1859-1860. Letters from his sister reflect impact of immigrants on Brockton, 1890-1910. Includes material documenting aspects of the Dakota Territory in the 1860s; Plains Indians; Red River carts; the impact of the Civil War on southern unionists, middle Tennessee, and African Americans; religion; education; the status of women; towns in southeastern New England, upper Middle West, Tennessee, and Mississippi River Valley; and Ignatius Donnelly, Horace Mann, and William T. Sherman.

Extent:

5 Linear Feet

Language:

English

Language:

English.

Collection ID:

RL.00850

Permalink:

<http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/findingaids/marshall/>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], The Eugene Marshall Papers, David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library, Duke University.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Background

Scope and Content

The papers of Eugene Marshall (1832-1919) span 1847-1962 and consist primarily of diaries kept by Marshall during his military service in the Civil and Sioux Wars and correspondence exchanged with his sister, Olive (Mrs. Frederick Trow). The collection is divided into the following series: the Diaries (1851-1895); Correspondence and other documents (1847-1918; 1958-1962); Writings, both printed and manuscript, including poetry, speeches, newspaper articles, and letters to the editor (1863-1918 and undated); Genealogy of Marshall and related families; Volumes and Scrapbooks (1858-1908); Photographs (1858-1913 and undated); and a small folder of miscellaneous material. There is also an oversize folder in the collection, which contains a certificate attesting to Marshall's membership in the Minnesota chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. The collection also includes one of the Indian arrows that wounded Marshall during the campaign of 1864.

Biographical/Historical

Eugene Marshall (1832-1919), born in North Bridgewater, Massachusetts, was a surveyor, farmer, and banker who served as a volunteer in the Union Army during the Civil War and Sioux Wars (1862-1865) while with units known successively as Curtis' Horse, the 5th Iowa Cavalry, and Brackett's Battalion. He married Elizabeth "Lizzie" Williams (1843-1895) in 1866 following his medical discharge from the Army. They had four children together: Ella Fannie (1868-1888), Hayward (1870-1923), Anna Olive (1876-1967), and Ethel Eugenia (1880-1958). Marshall left his family home early and spent most of his adult civilian life in Minnesota and Iowa, and his retirement years in Manchester, Tennessee. While on his travels in and out of uniform, he recorded a wealth of observations concerning the events, people, and environments in each area. Marshall supplemented his observations with accounts of his own participation in politics and economic endeavors, as well as commentary on national figures and events. His experiences in the Midwest and the South are complemented by letters from his sister who had remained in North Bridgewater.

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Administrative Information

Publication Statement

David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library

411 Chapel Drive

Duke University

Durham 27708

askRL@duke.edu

URL: <http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/>

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in the Eugene Marshall Papers have not been transferred to Duke University. For more information consult the section on copyright in the Regulations and Procedures of the David M. Rubenstein Rare Book & Manuscript Library.

Acquisition Information

The Papers of Eugene Marshall were acquired by Duke University in 1960-1962.

Processing Information

Processed by David A. Keough

Completed 1997

Encoded by Stephen Douglas Miller

Reprocessed by Katrina Martin, February 2015

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Names and Subjects

- Voyages and travels

- Alabama -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
- Texas -- Politics and government 1846-1865
- Southern States -- Social conditions
- Indians of North America -- Great Plains
- Emigration and immigration -- United States
- Kentucky -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
- West (U.S.) -- Description and travel
- Indians of North America -- Wars 1862-1865
- Migration, Internal -- United States
- Tennessee -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
- Southern States -- Politics and government -- 1865-1950
- United States. Army. Cavalry -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
- United States -- Description and travel
- Sherman, William T. (William Tecumseh), 1820-1891
- Donnelly, Ignatius, 1831-1901
- Mann, Horace, 1796-1859

Collection Inventory

Information Folder	Box 1
--------------------	-------

Correspondence and other documents, 1847-1962 and undated

Scope and Contents

This series contains correspondence, largely exchanged with his sister, Olive (Mrs. Frederick Trow); legal and business documents; printed materials (mostly related to veterans' reunions); and newspaper clippings (1858-1915). There is a small folder of miscellaneous material and an oversize certificate attesting to Marshall's membership in the Minnesota chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Correspondence, 1847-1869	Box 1
Correspondence, 1870-1911	Box 2
Correspondence, 1912-1962 and undated	Box 3
Legal and business documents, 1855-1935	Box 5
Printed materials and ephemera, 1864-1915	Box 5
Clippings: 1815-1914, undated	Box 5

Miscellaneous items

Box 6
Oversize-folder 1

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Diaries

Scope and Contents

The diaries, 35 small volumes and related materials, contain information on Marshall's activities in the years 1851-1861, but are primarily devoted to his military service in the Civil and Sioux Wars (1861-1866). A typescript of a portion (1861, Nov. 20-1864, Mar. 14) of the war diary prepared by Marshall's daughter, Ethel, also forms part of the collection.

Diaries have been individually labeled in chronological order. A guide correlating volume numbers to dates has been filed with them. In some instances, wear on the pencil entries has rendered some pages nearly illegible. Some effort has been made to provide reconstruction of the entries. Diary entries after 1866 are few and scattered - clustered around and primarily concerned with the illnesses and deaths of Marshall's wife and eldest daughter.

Guide to the Diaries	Box 3
#1 1851	Box 7
#2 1852	Box 7
#3 1853	Box 3
#4 1859-1860	Box 3
#5 1857-1861	Box 7
#6 1859-1860	Box 3
#7 1861	Box 3
#8 1861	Box 7
#9 1862	Box 3
#10 1862	Box 3
#11 1862	Box 3

Guide to the Eugene Marshall Papers, 1839-1962

#12 1862	Box 3
#13 1862	Box 3
#14 1862	Box 3
#15 1862-1863	Box 4
#16 1852	Box 7
#17 1863	Box 4
#18 1863	Box 4
#19 1863	Box 4
#20 1863	Box 4
#21 1863-1864	Box 4
#21A 1863	Box 4
#22 1864	Box 4
#23 1864	Box 4
#24 1864	Box 4
#25 1864	Box 4
#25A 1864	Box 4
#26 1864	Box 4
#27 1864	Box 4
#28 1864	Box 4
#29 1864	Box 4
#30 1865	Box 7
#31 1865	Box 7
#32 1863-1865	Box 7
#33 1865-1866	Box 4

#34 1890	Box 7
#35 1895	Box 5
Typescript: 1862 Mar. 1 - Jun. 30	Box 5
Typescript: 1862: Mar. 1 - Oct. 10	Box 5
Bound transcript of diaries	Box 9

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Writings

Scope and Contents

Writings, both printed and manuscript, include poetry, speeches, newspaper articles, and letters to the editor (1863-1918 and undated).

Assorted published material, 1864-1897 and undated	Box 5
Article on Civil War Experiences, Dec. 1861-Feb. 1862, in Manchester Times, July 1918	Box 5
Article on 1864 Expedition in St. Paul Press, Jan. 25, 1897	Box 5
Poetry, 1863-1914	Box 5
Typescripts: Poems: 1855, 1863, 1880s, and undated	Box 5
Drafts: letters and and articles for St. Paul Press, 1864-1865	Box 5
Commentary on Reconstruction and the causes of the Civil War, 1865-1876	Box 5
Notes for Report on National Resources and Topography of Dakota Territory, ca. 1865	Box 5
Account of "The Great North Westerns Indian Expedition of 1864"	Box 5
Reminiscences of George W. Northrup and related materials, 1898	Box 5

Commentary on Indian Policy	Box 5
Autobiographical sketch	Box 5
Typescripts: Sketch of History of Brackett's Battalion, Address to a Grand Army of the Republic Gathering	Box 5

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Genealogy

Ancestry of Eugene Marshall	Box 5
Ancestry of Olive Hayward	Box 5
Ancestry of Francis Cooke	Box 5
Genealogy of the Wild Family, 1897	Box 5
Miscellaneous	Box 6

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Volumes and Scrapbooks

Record of business and agricultural activity, 1858-1860, 1867	Box 8
Scrapbook and ledger, 1857-1861, 1866-1867	Box 8
Ledger, 1906-1908	Box 8
Record book 1858-1860, 1867-1883	Box 8

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Photographs

Eugene Marshall 1913 (2 copies)	Box 6 > Folder 1
Eugene Marshall 1913	Box 6 > Folder 1
Mrs. Eugene (Elizabeth "Lizzie" Williams) Marshall ca. 1868-1880	Box 6 > Folder 2

Eugene Marshall 1865	Box 6 > Folder 2
Eugene Marshall and E.D. Peebles 1865	Box 6 > Folder 2
Eugene Marshall and daughter Ethel	Box 6 > Folder 2
Eugene Marshall's birthplace and boyhood home at Marshall's Corners, North Bridgewater Mass.	Box 6 > Folder 3
Haywood Marshall, Eugene Marshall's father	Box 6 > Folder 3
Photograph of arrow taken from Eugene Marshall's side after a fight with the Sioux Indians	Box 6 > Folder 4
Eugene Marshall, cased tintype ca. 1865-1866	Box 6 > Folder 5
Eugene Marshall, cased Daguerreotype ca. 1865-1866	Box 6 > Folder 5
Elizabeth Marshall, cased ambrotype	Box 6 > Folder 6
1 empty case	Box 6 > Folder 6
Eugene Marshall, tintype (undated)	Box 6
Eugene Marshall, tintype (undated)	Box 6
W.W. Williams, tintype, ca. 1858	Box 6
Copies of photographs	Box 6

[Return to Table of Contents](#)

Arrow, 1864	Box 10
-------------	--------

Scope and Contents

One of the Indian arrows that wounded Marshall during the campaign of 1864.