

**The Burke Library Archives, Columbia University Libraries,
Union Theological Seminary, New York**

Missionary Research Library Archives: Section 10

Finding Aid for

Martha Letitia Edwards Papers, [1865-1926?]

Finding Aid prepared by: Brigette C. Kamsler, September 2011
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Summary Information

Creator: Martha Letitia Edwards, circa 1865 – 1926
Title: Martha Letitia Edwards Papers
Inclusive dates: 1700 - 1870
Abstract: Typescript compiled by Martha Letitia Edwards detailing material located in the Library of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin relating to the study of Indian Missions from 1700-1840. Denominations include Baptist; Catholic; Congregational; Friends; Methodist; Moravian; Presbyterian; Protestant Episcopal; and Interdenominational Societies including but not limited to the Algic Society and the Indian Mission Association.
Size: 1 box, 0.50 linear feet
Storage: Onsite storage
Repository: The Burke Library
Union Theological Seminary
3041 Broadway
New York, NY 10027
Email: burkearchives@library.columbia.edu

Administrative Information

- Provenance:** Originally part of the independent Missionary Research Library, these records were moved with the MRL to the Brown Memorial Tower of Union Theological Seminary in 1929. In 1976 the records were accessioned to the Burke Library archives with the closure of the MRL.
- Access:** Archival papers are available to registered readers for consultation by appointment only. Please contact archives staff by email to burkearchives@library.columbia.edu, or by postal mail to The Burke Library address on page 1, as far in advance as possible. Burke Library staff is available for inquiries or to request a consultation on archival or special collections research.
- Access Restrictions:** The collection is unrestricted to readers. Certain materials, however, are in a fragile condition, and this may necessitate restriction in handling and copying.
- Preferred Citation:** Item description, MRL 10: Martha Letitia Edwards Papers, box #, and folder #, The Burke Library at Union Theological Seminary, Columbia University in the City of New York.

Biography

Martha Letitia Edwards was a student at the University of Wisconsin, where in 1913 she submitted a thesis for the degree of Master of Arts. In 1916, Edwards submitted a thesis at the University of Wisconsin for a Doctor of Philosophy degree.

Edwards compiled this information to help students of American history locate material for the study of Indian missions. Due to sectarian bias and generalizations, accounts from a variety of denominations were used. Edwards believed it imperative that religious developments should be studied in connection with economic and political history.

Edwards kept three things in mind when compiling the research. The first was to collect material for the study of Indian missions which may shed light on the story of westward expansion. Secondly Edwards tried to arrange the material in the hopes of indicating the development of missionary organizations. Finally Edward attempted to show the connection between the religious organizations and the political authority.

Collection Scope and Content Note

This collection contains the 159 page loose typescript copy by Martha Letitia Edwards, created circa 1920. The denominations include Baptist; Catholic; Congregational; Friends; Methodist; Moravian; Presbyterian; Protestant Episcopal; and Interdenominational Societies including but not limited to the Algic Society and the Indian Mission Association.

The papers consist of the typescript copy in original page-numbered order.

Processing

Metal clips and staples were removed from materials and folded items were flattened. Materials were placed in new acid-free folders and boxes. Acidic items were separated from one another by interleaving with acid-free paper as needed.

Note – The collection is housed in the same box as MRL10: John Eliot.

Further Sources

The Wisconsin Historical Society Archives in Madison, Wisconsin holds further Edwards papers, including typewritten copies of her thesis and dissertation and seven card file boxes of notes and the following link is a description of the collection available: <http://arc.library.wisc.edu/cgi-bin/Pwebrecon.cgi?BBID=12137>. The University of Wisconsin-Madison holds Edwards' Ph.D. and M.A. theses.

Contents list

Series	Box	Folder	Contents
1	1	1	Table of Contents Bibliography
1	1	2	Religious Material – Printed Records and Reports of Religious Organizations
1	1	3	Religious Periodicals
1	1	4	Church and Mission Histories
1	1	5	Biographies, Memoirs and Correspondence
1	1	5	Encyclopedias
1	1	5	Political Material