

# Guide to the Charles A. Merrill Papers 1856- 1896





## Charles A. Merrill Papers

1856- 1896

gcah.ms.2342

The purpose of this finding aid is to help you understand the nature of this collection and to assist you in the retrieval of material from this collection. The following pages contain a brief biographical history of the person, or persons, who created or collected these papers, followed by a general description of the collection in the scope and content note. If more detailed information is warranted then series descriptions also appear. The container listing appears last and is the listing of material in each box, or container, of this collection.

To request material you need to turn to the container listing section. It is essentially a listing of file folders, or artifact items, in the collection. Each folder, or item, has a call number associated with it. Each folder also lists the inclusive dates of the material in the folder. On the material request form list both the call number and the folder, or item, title. Use a different line for each folder, or item, requested. When your request sheet is complete, or full, bring it to the archivist and the material will be retrieved.

### Biographical Note

Charles A. Merrill (1826- 1896) was a Methodist Episcopal Church minister. He graduated from the Theological Institute in Concord, New Hampshire in 1855. Later that year he joined the Providence ( later New England Southern) Conference and served churches in Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Connecticut. In 1867 he was transferred to the New England Conference and pastored churches in Springfield ( 1867- 1868), Ipswich (1869-1870), Rockport (1871-1873), Woburn (1874- 1875), Holyoke (1876-1877), Easthampton (1878), Monson (1879-1881), Winchendon (1882-1884), Oakdale (1885), Tapleyville (1886- 1887), and Maynard (1888-1890). He resigned from active work in 1890 due to health reasons.

Merrill married twice. His first wife, Sarah A. Foster, died in 1852. They had one child, Charles F. In 1855 he married M. Sophia Truesdell. They had three children, Elmer T., Clifton S., and Effie A.

### Scope Note

This collection contains the papers of Charles A. Merrill. Included are five diaries dated 1856-1860. These contains short entries about daily life. There are also six pastor's record books dated 1861-1896. The years 1874- 1877 and 1881-1885 are missing. Scriptures used for sermons, financial notations, and membership information are listed in these books.

Additional information in this collection includes two letters. One is dated October 1895 and is from Henry C. Doughty, a nephew of Merrill's. The other letter is undated and impartial. There is a folder of biographical information on Merrill, mostly relating to his death. There are two church related items. One is a list of stewards in the Methodist Episcopal Church of Millville, Massachusetts. The other is a subscription list for the Rockport Church. Finally, a color map of Springfield, Massachusetts is included.

### Arrangement

Material has been arranged in the following manner. All materials have been arranged chronologically when possible. Undated materials are placed in the front of each folder.

### Restrictions on Use

Detailed use restrictions relating to our collections can be requested from the office of the archivist at the General Commission on Archives and History. Photocopying is handled by the staff and may be limited in certain instances. Before using any material for publication from this collection a formal request for permission to publish is expected and required.

## Preferred Citation

When citing material from this collection please use the following format: Direct reference to the item or its file folder, Charles A. Merrill Papers, United Methodist Church Archives - GCAH, Madison, New Jersey. Do not make use of the item's call number as that is not a stable descriptor.

## Subject Terms

### *Subject Geographic*

Massachusetts.

### *Genre*

Clippings  
Correspondence  
Diaries  
Journals  
Maps.

### *Occupations*

Minister.

## Container List

Call Number	Folder Title	Date(s)
1306-4-7:1	Diary, 1856	1856
1306-4-7:2	Diary, 1857	1857
1306-4-7:3	Diary, 1858	1858
1306-4-7:4	Diary, 1859	1859
1306-4-7:5	Diary, 1860	1860
1306-4-7:6	Pastor's Record Book, 1861-1864	1861-1864
1306-4-7:7	Pastor's Record Book, 1863-1869	1863-1869
1306-4-7:8	Pastor's Record Book, 1869-1873	1869-1873
1306-4-7:9	Pastor's Record Book, 1877-1880	1877-1880
1306-4-7:10	Pastor's Record Book, 1885-1889	1885-1889
1306-4-7:11	Pastor's Record Book, 1890-1896	1890-1896
1306-4-7:12	Correspondence, 1895	1895
1306-4-7:13	Biographical Information	1856-1896
1306-4-7:14	Church Lists	1856-1896
1306-4-7:15	Map of Springfield	1856-1896