



BHC-MSS 0036

## Guide to the Papers of Edward W. Marsh

By Meg Rinn

### **Descriptive Summary**

**Creator:** Edward W. Marsh

**Title:** Papers of Edward W. Marsh

**Dates:** 1862-1901 [bulk 1862-1865]

**Quantity:** 1 manuscript box

**Abstract:** Serving in the Civil War from 1863-1865, the documents and forms of Edward W. Marsh chart the career of Captain Edward W. Marsh and his time as quartermaster sergeant through captain with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment of Connecticut's heavy artillery unit. Most material is in the form of official forms and reports.

**Language:** English

**Repository:** Bridgeport History Center

### **Biographical History**

Edward W. Marsh was born in New Milford, January 1836 to Daniel and Charlotte Bliss. His father was a merchant and a banker, and an early director of the Housatonic Railroad. This particular fact helped his son Edward to begin working in the offices of the railroad company at the age of 16, and in 1854 Edward clerked at the company's general freight office in Bridgeport.

Marsh chose to enlist as a part of the Union Army in 1863, and he began as an officer in the 19<sup>th</sup> regiment of Connecticut Volunteers, moving into the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment with heavy artillery. Ranking in as a quartermaster Sargent, he left with the rank of captain. While serving, he was a part of the battles of Opequan, Fisher's Hill, and Cedar Creek.

Following the war, Marsh served as the treasurer of People's Savings Bank, vice president and director of the First National Bank of Bridgeport, and was active in local Republican party. He also served as a member of State House of Representatives from 1895-1896. Socially he was also active, serving as president of the Bridgeport Hospital and as vice president of the local YMCA among many other organizations.

Marsh married twice: first to Amanda Blanden in 1858 and then to Fannie Forrester in 1888. It is unclear why the first marriage ended, but the couple reportedly lost a son at age 4. Likewise, the records are unclear as to Marsh's year of death, as there are two Edward W. Marshes record. One died in 1913, the other in 1920. Neither record specify if one Edward Marsh was a captain.

### **Scope and Content note:**

Focusing mostly on the time spent with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, the material provides a month-by-month breakdown of the unit from 1863 until the end of the war.

### **Arrangement note:**

Arranged chronologically

**Administrative information:**

**Provenance:** Unknown

**Preferred Citation:**

Papers of Edward W. Marsh (BHC-MSS 0036), Bridgeport History Center.

**Names and Subject Tracings***Subject Tracings*

American Civil War, letters and diaries

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Manuscripts.

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Regimental histories--Connecticut.

**Detailed box and folder listing**

1. Army officer pocket companion and manual for staff officers, 1862
2. Regulations for the recruiting service, 1862
3. The Handbook of Artillery, 5<sup>th</sup> edition, 1863
4. Documents and forms, 1862-1863
5. Documents and forms, July 1863
6. Documents and forms, August 1863
7. Documents and forms, September 1863
8. Documents and forms, October 1863
9. Documents and forms, November 1863
10. Documents and forms, December 1863
11. Documents and forms, January 1864
12. Documents and forms, February 1864
13. Documents and forms, March 1864
14. Documents and forms, April 1864
15. Documents and forms, May 1864
16. Documents and forms, June 1864
17. Documents and forms, July 1864
18. Documents and forms, August 1864
19. Documents and forms, September-October 1864
20. Documents and forms, November 1864
21. Documents and forms, December 1864
22. Documents and forms, January-March 1865
23. Documents and forms, April 1865
24. Documents and forms, May 1865
25. Documents and forms, June 1865
26. Documents and forms, July 1865
27. Documents and forms, undated
28. Copied in register letters, 1901