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Samuel Billings Capen collection of writings, 1882-1913. MS0835

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Congregational Library & Archives

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Summary Information

Repository:	Congregational Library & Archives
Creator:	Capen, Samuel B. (Samuel Billings), 1842-1914
Creator:	Kehew, Mary Morton, 1859-1918
Title:	Samuel Billings Capen collection of writings, 1882-1913.
ID:	MS0835
Date [inclusive]:	1882-1913
Physical Description:	.35 Cubic Feet (1 case)
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	Samuel Billings Capen was born on December 12, 1842 in Boston. Samuel would become heavily involved in a number of different organizations starting in 1882 when he became the president of the Congregational Sunday School and Publishing Society. The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions would also benefit from Capen's services when he became president in 1899. He was a part of the Haystack Prayer Meeting in 1906 and would eventually travel to Asia as the head of the ABCFM and as a member of the World peace Foundation. He died of pneumonia in Shanghai, China on January 29, 1914. This collection contains various speeches and writings by and about Samuel Billings Capen.

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], in the Samuel Billings Capen collection of writings, 1882-1913, MS0835. The Congregational Library & Archives, Boston, MA.

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Biographical Information

Samuel Billings Capen was born on December 12, 1842 in Boston. Capen would graduate from Boston English High School in 1858 and would eventually become a carpet dealer under the

name Torrey, Bright & Capen. Capen would also double as an active member of church and civic affairs which eventually led him to Sunday School work at the Central Congregational Church in Jamaica Plain. Samuel married his wife Helen in 1869. Capen would eventually receive his honorary A.M. degree from Dartmouth College and an L.L.D. from Oberlin College and Middlebury College.

Samuel would become heavily involved in a number of different organizations starting in 1882 when he became the president of the Congregational Sunday School and Publishing Society. He was able to reorganize the group's finances and set them up for future success. He also served on the Boston School Committee from 1888 to 1893 and was the chairman in 1893. Other organizations he was a part of include the Boston City Missionary Society, United Society of Christian Endeavor, Boston Chamber of Commerce, North American Civic League for Immigrants, Watch and Ward Society, Massachusetts Bible Society, Mayflower Society, Boston Municipal League and more.

The American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions would also benefit from Capen's services when he became president in 1899. He was a part of the Haystack Prayer Meeting in 1906 and would eventually travel to Asia as the head of the ABCFM and as a member of the World Peace Foundation. He died of pneumonia in Shanghai, China on January 29, 1914.

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Scope and Contents

This collection contains various speeches and writings by and about Samuel Billings Capen.

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Arrangement

This collection has been arranged chronologically.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Restrictions on Access

Access to this collection is unrestricted and open to the public.

Conditions Governing Use

Items in this collection are subject to U.S. Copyright Law. It is the responsibility of the researcher to determine the copyright status of collection items and to secure any permissions necessary for their reproduction and publication. Requests for permission to publish material must be discussed with the archivist or librarian.

Acquisition Information

No acquisition information is available for this collection.

Processing Information

Processed by William McCarthy, December 2021, using DACS second edition.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Christian education of children.
- Christianity and politics.
- Speeches, addresses, etc., American.
- Correspondence.
- Capen, Samuel B. (Samuel Billings), 1842-1914

- Ginn, Edwin, 1838-1914

Bibliography

1. "Samuel B. Capen." *The Missionary Herald* 110, no 3 (1914): 112-114. Accessed December 1, 2021. <https://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=mdp.39015010806365&view=1up&seq=137&q1=capen>.
2. Steece, Arvel M. "Markers Along the Congregational Way." NFPA. National Association of Congregational Christian Churches: September 10, 2006. http://blog.nfpa.com/CMSUploads/24_MARKERSAlongTheWay.pdf

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Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances	
Congregational Club festival notes, May 31, 1882	box 1	folder 1
Planning, 1888	box 1	folder 2
The Teaching of Morals in the Public Schools, April 1888	box 1	folder 3
Committee on manual training schools reports, 1891	box 1	folder 4
Parental school report, 1891	box 1	folder 5
Articles on and By Samuel Billings Capen, 1891-1899	box 1	folder 6
School accommodations report, January 1892	box 1	folder 7
Municipal League invitation, November 2, 1893	box 1	folder 8
The International Evangel, June 24, 1896	box 1	folder 9
The Patriotic Aspects of the Work of the American Missionary Association, October 21, 1896	box 1	folder 10
Report of the Congregational Club in regard to the International Council, October 23, 1899	box 1	folder 11
86th Annual Report of the Boston Children's Friend Society, 1901	box 1	folder 12
Letter to Samuel Billings Capen, October 20, 1903	box 1	folder 13
184th report of the Massachusetts Bible Society, 1913	box 1	folder 14
Correspondence between Mary Kehew and Samuel Billings Capen, 1913	box 1	folder 15

Letter to Samuel Billings Capen and Edwin Ginn, August 15, 1913	box 1	folder 16
Someone is shriveling, undated	box 1	folder 17
Duties of American Citizenship, undated	box 1	folder 18
Christian Endeavor Civic Clubs, undated	box 1	folder 19
Someone is shirking, undated	box 1	folder 20
The Sunday School Offering, undated	box 1	folder 21
Notable Public School Service, undated	box 1	folder 22
Memorial Address, undated	box 1	folder 23
Writings related to Samuel Billings Capen, undated	box 1	folder 24

Scope and Contents

This folder contains items which discuss or mention Samuel Billings Capen, but it cannot be determined if any were by Capen himself.