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Edward Franklin Williams papers, 1859-1918. MS4981

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English

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Congregational Library & Archives

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Summary Information

Repository:	Congregational Library & Archives
Creator:	Williams, Edward F. (Edward Franklin), 1832-1919
Title:	Edward Franklin Williams papers, 1859-1918.
ID:	MS4981
Date [inclusive]:	1859-1918
Physical Description:	1.88 Cubic Feet (3 boxes)
Language of the Material:	English
Language of the Material:	The entire collection is written in English except for a single pamphlet written in Hebrew.
Abstract:	<p>Edward Franklin Williams was born in Uxbridge, Massachusetts on July 22, 1832. He graduated from Yale in 1856 after which he spent three years teaching in Connecticut and Massachusetts. He then went to the Princeton Theological Seminary where he graduated in 1861. He was licensed by the Presbytery of New Brunswick in 1861. When the Civil War broke out, Williams joined the Christian Commission where he distributed religious literature, medical aid, and various supplies to Union troops. The Congregational ministry at Whitinsville, Massachusetts ordained Williams on October 17, 1866. After 1891, Williams was a delegate to the International Congregational Council in London, England. He spent several years abroad and studied at the University of Berlin after which he published "Christian Life in Germany" in 1896. From 1901-1911, Williams was the pastor of the First Congregational Church of Evanston in Evanston, Illinois where he died on May 26, 1919. This collection consists of the personal papers of Edward Franklin Williams that were presumably collected by Williams himself. The collection includes sermons, notes, writings, and lectures given at various institutions. Of particular note are his sermons, which are labeled with the various dates, and locations he gave them as well as marked with edits and changes he made to them over the years. His writings include notes and research on a variety of topics ranging from the early years of American history to the study of electricity. Also included are the lectures he gave at the Chicago Theological Seminary and Beloit College on systemic theology and the history of philosophy.</p>

Preferred Citation

[Identification of item], in the Edward Franklin Williams papers, 1859-1918, MS4981. The Congregational Library & Archives, Boston, MA.

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Biographical Information

Edward Franklin Williams was born in Uxbridge, Massachusetts on July 22, 1832. He graduated from Yale in 1856 after which he spent three years teaching in Connecticut and Massachusetts. He then went to the Princeton Theological Seminary where he graduated in 1861. He was licensed by the Presbytery of New Brunswick in 1861. When the Civil War broke out, Williams joined the Christian Commission where he distributed religious literature, medical aid, and various supplies to Union troops. The Congregational ministry at Whitinsville, Massachusetts ordained Williams on October 17, 1866. He took charge of the Lookout Mountain Institute in Chattanooga, Tennessee in 1866 where he educated young missionaries. After a brief time as a teacher in the Normal Department of Howard University in Washington, D.C., he moved west and began preaching in St. Charles, Illinois in 1869. From 1869-1873, Williams was the pastor of Tabernacle Congregational Church in Chicago Illinois. He then moved on to a pastorate at the South Congregational Church in Chicago, Illinois from 1873-1891. After 1891, Williams was a delegate to the International Congregational Council in London, England. He spent several years abroad and studied at the University of Berlin after which he published "Christian Life in Germany" in 1896. Williams served as the Editor of the Congregationalist, Director of the Chicago Missionary Society, and president of the Chicago Tract Society which published and distributed Christian literature. Additionally, Williams lectured at the Chicago Theological Seminary in 1894 and Beloit College in 1903. From 1901-1911, Williams was the pastor of the First Congregational Church of Evanston in Evanston, Illinois where he died on May 26, 1919.

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Scope and Contents

This collection consists of the personal papers of Edward Franklin Williams that were presumably collected by Williams himself. The collection includes sermons, notes, writings, and lectures given at various institutions. Of particular note are his sermons, which are labeled with the various dates, and locations he gave them as well as marked with edits and changes he made to them over the years. His writings include notes and research on a variety of topics ranging from the early years of American

history to the study of electricity. Also included are the lectures he gave at the Chicago Theological Seminary and Beloit College on systemic theology and the history of philosophy.

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Arrangement

This collection is arranged into the three series listed below. Materials each series is arranged chronologically.

Series 1: Writings and Notes, 1859-1915.

Series 2: Sermons, 1862-1918.

Series 3: Lectures, 1870-1918.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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Revision Description

Zachary Bodnar: Significant revisions to collection description, agents, and subject headings. 2020-04-02

Restrictions on Access

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

Restrictions on 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

Collection arrived at the CLA as part of a large deposit of materials from the Chicago Theological Seminary in January 2011; Acc# 2011-19. An additional accrual arrived in 2015.

Processing Information

The collection was first processed by Mary Guinan in 2013. The collection was reprocessed by William McCarthy in August 2018 using DACS Second Edition.

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Related Materials

Related Materials

Additional records related to the works of Edward Franklin Williams can be found in the Chicago, Ill. Tabernacle Congregational Church records, 1865-1906, 1911, RG5216.

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Controlled Access Headings

- Clergy -- United States.
- Diaries.
- Lectures and lecturing.
- Religion and science.
- Sermons, American.
- Beloit College -- Lectures and lecturing.
- Princeton Theological Seminary.
- South Congregational Church (Chicago, Ill.)
- Tabernacle Congregational Church (Chicago, Ill.)
- United States Christian Commission. Army Committee

Collection Inventory

Writings and notes, 1859-1915

Physical Description: 24 Folders

Scope and Contents

This series contains a variety of writings by Edward Franklin Williams and a few others. The materials are arranged chronologically. Also included is an extensive set of notes on a range of topics from the history of Holland to science.

Title/Description	Instances	
Diary, 1859-1860	box 1	folder 124
<h4>Scope and Contents</h4> <p>This series contains diary materials written by Edward Franklin Williams. The majority of the diary seems to have been written while Williams was attending Princeton Theological Seminary and living in the area. The materials are arranged according to original order as a number of the loose pages are undated.</p>		
Diary, 1860-1865	box 1	folder 125
Yale and James T. Graves, 1864-1866	box 3	folder 7
<h4>Scope and Contents</h4> <p>This file contains a scrapbook of Yale memorabilia. Though Williams attended Yale, the dates of the materials are ten years after Williams graduated. There are also a number of materials addressed to James T. Graves, who was also a minister in the Chicago area. This collection kept this file because it most likely was held on to by Williams on purpose.</p>		
Congregational House, 1870	box 1	folder 126
Notes, 1901	box 1	folder 127
Notes on Herbert Spencer, April 1903	box 1	folder 128
Protestant Weekly Letter by Professor Doctor Adolf Deissmann, August 21, 1915	box 3	folder 8
Notes on Religion and Science, undated	box 1	folder 129
Jesuits and Settlements in America, undated	box 1	folder 130
Peace of Utrecht notes, undated	box 1	folder 131
La Salle notes, undated	box 1	folder 132

Notes on Atheism, undated	box 1	folder 133
Supplementary Notes from Palfrey and Bancroft Society, undated	box 1	folder 134
Notes on Judgement, undated	box 1	folder 135
New Platonism, undated	box 1	folder 136
Writings, undated	box 1	folder 137
Notes on Holland, undated	box 1	folder 138
Notes on George Eliot, undated	box 1	folder 139
Hebrew Syntax notebook, undated	box 1	folder 140
Untitled notes, undated	box 1	folder 141
Notes on the Social Question or Society, undated	box 1	folder 142
Notes on Rationale of Philosophical Thought, undated	box 1	folder 143
Set of Religious Questions, undated	box 3	folder 9
Notes on Poetry, Philosophy and Ethics, undated	box 3	folder 10

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Sermons, 1862-1918

Physical Description: 128 Folders

Scope and Contents

This series contains sermons written and used by Edward Franklin Williams across his career. Most sermons indicate all the places and dates they were preached. The series is arranged chronologically.

Title/Description	Instances	
Sermons first Preached at Rockdale Congregational Church, 1862	box 1	folder 1
In the Vineyard, July 23, 1865	box 1	folder 2
Sermons first Preached at St. Charles Church, 1868	box 1	folder 3
Sermons first Preached at Tabernacle Congregational Church, 1869	box 3	folder 1
Untitled sermon, February 14, 1869	box 1	folder 4
Untitled sermon, March 28, 1869	box 1	folder 5
Untitled sermon, April 11, 1869	box 1	folder 6
Untitled sermon, June 6, 1869	box 1	folder 7
The Mustard Seed, May 22, 1870	box 1	folder 8
Sermons first Preached at Tabernacle Congregational Church, 1870	box 3	folder 2

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Sermons first Preached at Tabernacle Congregational Church, 1870-1871	box 3	folder 3
Common place book, 1871	box 1	folder 9
Untitled sermons, 1871	box 1	folder 10
Joseph, on a Life of Trust, April 16, 1871	box 1	folder 11
Untitled sermons, April 23, 1871	box 1	folder 12
The Insanity of Sin, May 7, 1871	box 1	folder 13
The Pharisee and the Publican, July 16, 1871	box 1	folder 14
Untitled sermons, August 23, 1871	box 1	folder 15
Sermons first Preached at Tabernacle Congregational Church, 1871-1873	box 1	folder 16
Kingdom of God: Permanent and Universal, March 17, 1872	box 1	folder 17
Spirits, June 9, 1872	box 1	folder 18
Significant of the Resurrection of Jesus, June 9, 1872	box 1	folder 19
Untitled sermon, March 23, 1873	box 1	folder 20
Sermons first Preached at Tabernacle Congregational Church, 1873	box 1	folder 21
Sermons delivered at Oakland Congregational Church, October 1875	box 1	folder 22
Untitled sermon, December 5, 1875	box 1	folder 23
Thankfulness, an Element in the Christian Life, November 10, 1878	box 1	folder 24
Greed, February 9, 1879	box 1	folder 25
The Church Warfare, February 16, 1879	box 1	folder 26
Untitled sermons, 1879-1883	box 3	folder 4
Thanksgiving, November 25, 1880	box 1	folder 27
Manifestation of God, April 6, 1881	box 1	folder 28
A New Outlook, January 6, 1889	box 1	folder 29
The Atonement as Set Forth in the Gospels, March 10, 1889	box 1	folder 30
Thinking, June 19, 1889	box 1	folder 31
Power of Example, August 21, 1889	box 1	folder 32
Perfection in Manhood, August 25, 1889	box 1	folder 33
Mormonism, November 21, 1889	box 1	folder 34
Debt the West Owes the East, November 24, 1889	box 1	folder 35

House of the Lord, March 15, 1891	box 1	folder 36
Heroism: The Christian Ministry, April 19, 1891	box 1	folder 37
God's Wishes for Man or the Proposals of the Gospel, September 18, 1892	box 1	folder 38
Faith Triumphant Over Failure, October 23, 1892	box 1	folder 39
Retrospection, 1894	box 1	folder 40
Christian Patriotism, 1894	box 1	folder 41
Gospel of the Kingdom, February 7, 1894	box 1	folder 42
Gospel of Jesus Christ, June 24, 1894	box 1	folder 43
The Opportunity of Youth, July 22, 1894	box 1	folder 44
The Serenity of Faith, July 29, 1894	box 1	folder 45
Master and Disciple, August 5, 1894	box 1	folder 46
Christmas 1894, October 23, 1894	box 1	folder 47
The Kingdom of Christ, January 6, 1895	box 1	folder 48
Motives to a Christian Life, January 15, 1895	box 1	folder 49
Realities, March 10, 1895	box 1	folder 50
Our Patriotic Dead, May 30, 1895	box 1	folder 51
Our Future, July 28, 1895	box 1	folder 52
Moments of Power in Human Lives, July 28, 1895	box 1	folder 53
Persistency, August 4, 1895	box 1	folder 54
The Purpose of the Gospel to Make Men and Women, August 18, 1895	box 1	folder 55
The Unchangeable Christ, August 30, 1895	box 1	folder 56
The Doctrine or Training of the Apostles, June 7, 1896	box 1	folder 57
Theories of Life, August 16, 1896	box 1	folder 58
A Great Duty, August 23, 1896	box 1	folder 59
Characteristics of Christian Life, November 8, 1896	box 1	folder 60
What the Church of Today Stands for, April 11, 1897	box 1	folder 61
Studies for the Bancroft, April 27, 1897	box 1	folder 62
Obedience is Better than Sacrifice, May 9, 1897	box 1	folder 63
Analysis for Persistency, June 3, 1897	box 1	folder 64
Teachings of Jesus Concerning Man and His Salvation; Origin of the Belief in the Incarnation, 1898, 1907	box 1	folder 65

The Thirty Years' War, February 15, 1898	box 1	folder 66
A Vision of God the Interpretation of Life, July 3, 1898	box 1	folder 67
The Gospel Proposals, September 24, 1898	box 1	folder 68
Working Together with God, October 1, 1899	box 1	folder 69
Christianity and the Intellectual Life, March 4, 1900	box 1	folder 70
For the Bancroft, June 19, 1900	box 1	folder 71
Guilt and Danger of Moral Indifference , August 8, 1900	box 1	folder 72
Untitled sermon, April 1901	box 1	folder 73
The Law of Self-Sacrifice, October 12, 1902	box 1	folder 74
Waiting for the Moving of the Water, November 30, 1902	box 1	folder 75
Christ as the Pledge of Immortality, December 7, 1902	box 1	folder 76
Untitled sermon, January 1903	box 1	folder 77
Untitled sermon, January 25, 1903	box 1	folder 78
Witnesses for Christ, February 1, 1903	box 1	folder 79
What is it to be a Christian?, March 22, 1903	box 1	folder 80
This Onething I Do, March 29, 1903	box 1	folder 81
Prayer Meeting on Hebrews, April 22, 1903	box 1	folder 82
Attraction to Christian Religion for Young Men, July 18, 1903	box 1	folder 83
Our Idea of a Priest, October 6, 1903	box 1	folder 84
Palm Sunday Entrance into Jerusalem, April 8, 1904	box 1	folder 85
The Rich Young Ruler, November 6, 1904	box 1	folder 86
Majesty of Law and Blessedness of Obedience, 1907	box 1	folder 87
A Lost Bible, March 10, 1907	box 1	folder 88
Does God Care?, August 11, 1907	box 1	folder 89
Vision through Christ, December 15, 1907	box 1	folder 90
What Christ proposes to do for Men?, March 3, 1909	box 1	folder 91
The Ideal Man Sermon, July 31, 1910	box 1	folder 92
The Appeal of the Xtn Religion to the Present Generation, September 17, 1912	box 3	folder 93
Untitled sermon, 1915	box 1	folder 94
The Significance of a Human Life, August 11, 1918	box 1	folder 95
Alone in the World, August 18, 1918	box 1	folder 96
The Future Life, August 25, 1918		

	box 1	folder 97
Living in God, September 1, 1918	box 1	folder 98
The Christian Life, September 8, 1918	box 1	folder 99
The Stones, February 17	box 1	folder 100
Sermons Preached at 47th Street Church, undated	box 1	folder 101
Studies on the Prophet, undated	box 1	folder 102
Theories of Evolution and Our Idea of God, undated	box 1	folder 103
Foundations of Every Acceptable Religious Service, undated	box 1	folder 104
The New Birth, undated	box 1	folder 105
Evangelistic Services, undated	box 1	folder 106
Incomplete sermon on Europe and Asia, undated	box 1	folder 107
The Problem of Suffering, undated	box 1	folder 108
Summary of the Synoptics, undated	box 1	folder 109
What Men Want, undated	box 1	folder 110
A Women's Evangelical, undated	box 1	folder 111
Sermon packets, undated	box 1	folder 112
Why should I be a Christian?, undated	box 1	folder 113
Ordination sermon, undated	box 1	folder 114
The Salt of the World, undated	box 1	folder 115
The Christian Religion: An Appeal for its Acceptance, undated	box 1	folder 116
Growth of the Christian Disciple, undated	box 1	folder 117
Untitled sermon, undated	box 1	folder 118
Worth of the Bible, undated	box 1	folder 119
A Nation's Duty to Itself: A Patriotic Sermon, undated	box 1	folder 120
Church of the Living God , undated	box 1	folder 121
Loose pages from unknown sermons, undated	box 1	folder 122
Sermons first preached at Tabernacle Congregational Church, undated	box 1	folder 123
Sermons preached at South Church, undated	box 3	folder 5

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Lectures, 1870-1918

Physical Description: 21 Folders

Scope and Contents

This series contains lectures that were given by Williams to Rochford Female Seminary and Beloit College.

Title/Description	Instances	
Lectures at Rochford Female Seminary, 1870-1873	box 2	folder 1
Lectures at Rochford Female Seminary, 1873, undated	box 2	folder 2
Lectures on Systematic Theology, 1894	box 3	folder 6
Beloit College lectures on Christian and Modern Ethics, May 1903	box 2	folder 3
Beloit College lectures on Greek Morality and Ethics, 1903	box 2	folder 4
Beloit College lectures on Socrates, Aristotle and Plato, 1903	box 2	folder 5
Beloit College lectures on Four Socratic Schools and Stoicism, 1903	box 2	folder 6
Beloit College lectures on Butler, Hume and Adam Smith, undated	box 2	folder 7
Beloit College lectures on the Intuitionists, undated	box 2	folder 8
Beloit College lectures on Utilitarianism, undated	box 2	folder 9
Beloit College lectures General Summary, undated	box 2	folder 10
Beloit College lectures on Christian and Medieval Ethics, undated	box 2	folder 11
Beloit College lectures on Christian Ethics, undated	box 2	folder 12
Beloit College lectures on Modern Ethics, undated	box 2	folder 13
Beloit College lectures on Greek Philosophy, undated	box 2	folder 14
Beloit College lectures on Weber's History of Philosophy, undated	box 2	folder 15
Beloit College lectures on Philosophy, undated	box 2	folder 16
Beloit College lectures on Christianity and Philosophy of the Middle Age, undated	box 2	folder 17
Beloit College lectures on Philosophy and History, undated	box 2	folder 18
Beloit College lectures, undated	box 2	folder 19
Second lecture on Hebrews, undated	box 2	folder 20

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