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### 0665: Ellen Dorcas Harn Papers, 1871-1977

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**Ellen Dorcas Harn Papers, 1871-1872**

ACC 1997/11.0665



Special Collections Department  
James E. Morrow Library  
Marshall University  
Huntington, West Virginia  
2019

## Ellen Dorcas Harn Papers, 1871-1872

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### Summary:

Title: Ellen Dorcas Harn Papers

Span Dates: 1871-1872

Creator: Various

Repository: Marshall University Special Collections, Morrow Library (Huntington, WV)

Processed by: Elizabeth James, 2019

Accession Number: 1997/11.0665

Date Completed: November, 2019

Access to Collection: Open

Extent: 0.25 feet

Donor: Evan K. Evans

### Search Terms:

Marshall College

Marshall State Normal School

Women educators

Teaching

### Biographical Notes:

Ellen Dorcas Harn (January 18, 1829-April 30, 1930) was a Marshall College faculty member circa 1870-1871.

Additional information about Ellen Dorcas Harn can be found through her personal autobiography she contributed to a Harn Family autobiography:

[https://steveredman.com/ellenharnmanuscript2.htm#\\_Toc124670933](https://steveredman.com/ellenharnmanuscript2.htm#_Toc124670933)

Information extracted from that autobiography and relevant to her time in West Virginia, and thus these letters, is included below:

“Mr. Williams having taken charge of West Virginia College in the fall of 1869 I entered that school as its preceptress and; also taught the district school in a room of the college. In August 1870, I received the appointment of second assistant by the Board of Regents in the State Normal School at Fairmont, W. Va. I as transfered to that institution, much to my own gratification. Owing to a change of the political status of West Virginia in the fall of 1870 my teaching head with the rest of the teac[her]s, received decapitation. The winter of 1871 I taught a winter school near Flemington, W. Va., and at its close entered the State Normal School at Oswego, N.Y. in order to acquaint myself with the methods of teaching in that institution. Returned to Flemington, W.Va. in February 1873, and taught the following summer and winter the village school of Flemington. In September of 1873 entered the Protestant Methodist Academy at Prunty town W. Va. as second assistant and teacher of the public school, held in the same building. The denominational school not proving a success, I took charge of the public school of that town as its principal, with two assistants, during the year of 1874-5.”

**Scope and Content:**

This collection is composed of letters from friends and contemporaries of Ellen Dorcas Harn during her time in teaching in West Virginia and New York in 1871 and 1872. These primarily consist of letters from former students and friends at Marshall keeping her apprised of personal and school activities. Writers include Clayton Barton and Lucy Thompson.

**Processing Notes:**

This collection was already processed at the time the finding aid was created. No changes to folder titles, order, or content were made.

**Preferred Citation:**

Ellen Dorcas Harn Papers, Accession No. 1997/11.0665, Special Collections Department, Marshall University, Huntington, WV.

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**Container****Contents**

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**Box 1**

Folder

Dorcas Harn Letters, 1871-1872