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Charlotte R. Brown Collection, c. 1844-1848 (MSS-047)

*Finding Aid Compiled by
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Charlotte R. Brown Collection Biographical Sketch

Charlotte R. Brown was born to Daniel E. Brown and Chloe Pratt Brown around 1826. According to census data, she was born in Plainfield, Massachusetts, but lived her adult life in North Bridgewater (modern day Brockton), Massachusetts.

On May 22, 1849, Charlotte Brown married Dennis (Dana) Snow in Mansfield, Massachusetts. Dennis Snow, born between 1817-1820, was a shoe-cutter from North Bridgewater, MA. Together they bore one son, Dana Snow, born 1850, who died within the year. Over one decade later, Charlotte and Dennis had two daughters, Minnetta E. Snow, born ~1861, and Alice L. Snow, born ~1866.

According to the *Bridgewater State Normal School History and Alumni Record* from 1876, Charlotte Brown was enrolled as a student for Term 14 (term ending July 3, 1844) and Term 21 (term ending December 2, 1846). During these years, tuition was free to all Massachusetts residents who promised to teach for a minimum of five years in an in-state public school system; Brown taught for 12 years. The content and grade level are unknown. According to page 11 of the Report of the Superintending School Committee of Easton, MA, 1847-48 (box 1, folder 6) "Miss Charlotte R. Brown...is a teacher of more than ordinary abilities and attainments, and she has considerable experience in teaching. The moral influence which a teacher of high moral and intellectual attainments can exert over the minds of children, was strongly exhibited in this school. The same teacher taught a private school at the close of the summer term."

Charlotte Snow Brown died of a stroke March 22, 1900, in Brockton, aged 74.

Charlotte R. Brown Collection Scope and Content Note

This collection contains materials on the Bridgewater State Normal School alumni Charlotte R. Brown. The strength of the collection is its novelty given the lack of available information on Charlotte R. Brown online. Moreover, the age of the materials of this collection, dating in the mid-nineteenth-century, make it a valuable collection for research regarding the rise of Normal School education in New England.

The contents of the collection are a mix of primary paper materials and copies of related materials from other collections located in the university archives. The primary materials are predominantly correspondence from other students who attended the Bridgewater State Normal School in the 1840s. The box also contains one folder of general information relating to the Bridgewater State Normal School Class of 1844.

Charlotte R. Brown Collection Box and Folder List

Box 1 Folder

1. Letter about graduating class of 1844, from student John Goodwin to fellow students, sent to Charlotte Brown, c. 1844.
2. Letter written by Susan G. Noyes (Class 19), April 30, 1844.
3. Letter/poem from fellow Bridgewater Normal School student Mary Nourse, sent to Charlotte Brown, c. 1844.
4. Letter/poem from W. Delaney to Charlotte Brown, c. 1845.
5. Approval given to Charlotte Brown from Easton School Committee, November 23, 1846.
6. Report of the Superintending School Committee of Easton, MA. for the school year, 1847-48. Brown mentioned on page 11.
7. Copy of *carte-de-visite* of Charlotte Brown and student information on card, undated. Original photograph located in the University Archives photograph collection.