

W.E. Darwell Fonds

Dates of Creation: 1836-1908

Physical Extent: 12.5cm of textual records; 4 photographs (1 framed)

Biographical History:

William Everleigh Darwell was born in England in 1843. When he was 13 years old, he entered into the Royal Navy. His maritime career spanned thirty-seven years from 1856 to 1893, during which time he rose from midshipman to captain. He served on a number of vessels including the *H.M.S. Esquimalt*; the *Landrail*; the *Excellent*; the *Racer*; the *H.M.S. Lynx* on an expedition up the Niger River in 1869; the *Duke of Wellington*; the *H.M.S. Coquette* on the Gold Coast during the Ashantee War of 1873-1874 (he was awarded the Ashanti medal for his action); the *H.M.S. Ranger*; and the *H.M.S. Tyne* during naval and military operations in the eastern Sudan where he was awarded the Egyptian medal and Khedive's Bronze Star. In 1890 he was appointed to the Kingston division of the HM Coastguard where he served until his retirement on April 13, 1893. William E. Darwell passed away in 1919.

Scope and Content:

The fonds consists of records related to William E. Darwell's maritime career with the Royal Navy until his retirement and includes maritime service records; his hand-written logbook while serving on the *H.M.S. Ganges* in Esquimalt (1859-1861); and newspaper clippings and records related to the collision of the *H.M.S. Tyne* while under Darwell's command. Also included is correspondence with family and friends; naval crests from various ship stationary; memorial dinner menus and postcards; and photographs (1 framed) of Darwell.

Notes:

Source of Title: Title based on the name of the records creator.

Immediate source of acquisition: Records were donated to the Vancouver Maritime Museum by Miss Evelyn Wood, granddaughter of W.E. Darwell. The records were given to Leonard McCann by Miss Wood in the late 1970s with the wish that Mr. McCann deposit the records at an appropriate institution. Mr. McCann later deposited them at the Vancouver Maritime Museum on her behalf in 1998.

Arrangement: Arrangement based on subject of records.

Language: English

Restrictions on access: Some records in this fonds are very sensitive to handling. Please consult with Archivist before reviewing materials.

Finding aids: A box/file list has been created for these records.

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Accruals: No future accruals are expected.

Conservation: The logbook for the *H.M.S. Ganges* has been professionally treated and conserved by Jean Topham of Victoria, BC. Researchers should use the “research use copy” of the logbook.

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Box / File List

PartOf W.E. Darwell Fonds	Location: Box 1
File No: 1	Date: 1836-1891
Title: Maritime service records	
PartOf W.E. Darwell Fonds	Location: Box 1
File No: 2	Date: no date
Title: Photographs	
PartOf W.E. Darwell Fonds	Location: Box 1
File No: 3	Date: 1858-1871
Title: Correspondence with family and friends	
PartOf W.E. Darwell Fonds	Location: Box 1
File No: 4	Date: 1859-1861
Title: "HMS Ganges" logbook, Esquimalt Harbour, Vancouver Island (original)	
PartOf W.E. Darwell Fonds	Location: Box 1
File No: 5	Date: 1859-1861
Title: "HMS Ganges" logbook, Esquimalt Harbour, Vancouver Island (research use copy)	
PartOf W.E. Darwell Fonds	Location: Box 1
File No: 6	Date: 1887-1908
Title: Maritime memorabilia	
PartOf W.E. Darwell Fonds	Location: Box 1
File No: 7	Date: 1886-1897
Title: "HMS Tyne" hurricane and collision	