

U DX379

**Letters from Revd Dr John Hymers
to Henry Marr**

1886 – 1887

Biographical Background:

There were Marrs living in Etton and Cherry Burton from at least the sixteenth century, with some of the family moving to Brandesburton in the early nineteenth century.

Frances Dunn (1836-1878) was living in Brandesburton when she married the Revd Henry Seed in November 1854. Revd Seed had been a curate under Dr John Hymers but had left to become a curate at Tring in 1853, possibly owing to Hymers' dislike of his relationship with Frances who was under age. Revd Seed died only three months after the marriage, probably of tuberculosis, in Bowling, Bradford aged only 33.

Frances Seed remarried in 1860 to Thomas Marr and together they had four daughters, including Gertrude who is mentioned in the letters, and three sons, including Henry (1863-1936) to whom the letters were sent. Frances Marr died in 1878 and Thomas died only two years later in 1880. Subsequently, Dr John Hymers took some interest in the family which was left scattered by the deaths of their parents. One of the Marrs' sons, James Brigham, was left money by Dr Hymers in his Will.

Custodial history:

Donated by Revd Peter Marr April 2014

Description:

This small collection contains six handwritten letters from Dr John Hymers to Henry Marr and generally relates to Hymers' concern for the well-being of Henry and his siblings, particularly Gertrude and James.

Extent: 6 items

Related material:

Papers relating to the will of Rev. John Hymers [U DDCV/214]
Hymers College, Hull, [C WH]

Access conditions:

Access will be granted to any accredited reader

Hull History Centre: Letters from Revd Dr John Hymers to Henry Marr

U DX379/1	Handwritten letters from Dr John Hymers to Henry Marr	7 Jul 1886 – 26 Mar 1887
	1) Concerning the giving of a gift of Midland Railway stock (worth £125) and the possibility of visiting. Dated 7 Jul 1886	
	2) Relating to the possibility of Gertrude leaving the orphanage and returning to her [mother] Mrs T. Marr; Dr Hymers is concerned that Mrs Marr is unable to properly care for Gertrude; concerns for Henry's welfare and that his present company is leading him astray. Dated 5 Aug 1886	
	3) An attempt to solve a disagreement between Henry and his brother James regarding Gertrude and whether she would be better placed back at the orphanage. Dated 10 Aug 1886	
	4) Shows concern for Henry and his actions; encouraging him that through good behaviour and not partaking in his fellow servants' 'excesses' he could rise to Head Butler; some passing comments about Gertrude and James. Dated 16 Aug 1886	
	5) Hymers professes his hopes that Henry will make Head Butler soon. Dated 28 Aug 1886	
	6) General news about the community in which Hymers is living; sends a copy of the 'Northern Farmer' (not included). Dated 26 Mar 1887	
	6 items	