

## Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol Collection

- Repository:** Marietta College Library, Slack Research Collections  
Phone: 740-376-4545  
<http://library.marietta.edu/spc/index.html>
- Creator:** Devol, Ann Tabitha (Marshall); Chamberlain, Helen (Devol); Dyar, Mabelle (Devol)
- Title:** Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol Collection
- Dates:** 1868 – 1896
- Bulk Dates:** 1868 – 1896
- Quantity:** 4 mss boxes
- Abstract:** Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol (1838-1896) and her husband, William Dudley Devol (1834-1906), raised their family at “Walnut Hill Farm” in Muskingum Township, Washington County, Ohio. The collection is comprised primarily of journals kept by “Bitha,” in which she recorded family concerns, neighborhood social life, local news, weather, and the daily routine of nineteenth-century farm life.
- Identification:**
- Language:** English

### Biography

Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol was born in Marietta, Ohio, May 4, 1838. Her parents, John and Nancy (Sharp) Marshall, operated a dry goods store on Ohio Street between Second and Third streets. On November 11, 1857, Tabitha married William Dudley Devol (1834-1906), son of William and Helen (Putnam) Devol, and a descendant of General Israel Putnam of Revolutionary War fame.

“Bitha” and “Dudley,” as they were familiarly known, had three daughters: Mabelle, or “May,” (1859-1935) who married Charles Pollard Dyar; Helen Anne (1864-1958), who married Harry Grow Chamberlain; and Tabitha Marshall, or “Marsha,” (1871-1873). The family’s home, Walnut Hill Farm, contained over 300 acres of land and was located in the lower section of present-day Devola, on the west side of Route 60 in Muskingum Township, Washington County, Ohio. Dudley Devol often made trips down the Ohio and Mississippi rivers on flatboats loaded with farm produce, leaving Bitha in charge of farm and family. On September 19, 1896, Bitha Devol died at Walnut Hill Farm, just a few days following her last journal entry. She was buried in the Putnam Cemetery.

Additional biographical information and photographs will be found in *Devol: Early Settlers in Rhode Island (1639) and in Ohio (1788)*, researched and compiled by Jerry Barker Devol, published by Herbert Gordon Devol, 1999, pp. 245-246 and 387-388.

### Scope and Content

The collection contains the journals kept by Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol from 1856 until her death in 1896 (1857-67 and 1878-79 were missing when the collection was acquired). The entries include observations about her family, neighborhood, social life, local news and weather, and the daily routine of nineteenth-century farm life. Also available are a small notebook entitled “Butter & Eggs & Household Expenses,” as well as a copy of a photograph of Bitha and one of her daughter Helen. Diaries of Bitha’s daughters, Helen and Mabelle, are also part of this collection.

## **Statement of Arrangement**

The journals of Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol are arranged in chronological order, followed by the journals of her daughters, Helen and Mabelle, and then by photographs and notes.

## **Restrictions**

There are no restrictions on accessing material in this collection. Copyright restrictions may apply to materials. Permission to publish materials must be obtained from the repository and from the copyright holder.

## **Indexing Terms**

Agriculture – Ohio  
Chamberlain, Helen Devol (1864-1958)  
Devol, Ann Tabitha Marshall (1838-1896)  
Dyar, Mabelle Devol (1859-1935)  
Marietta (Ohio)  
Muskingum Township, Washington County (Ohio)

## **Preferred Citation**

Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol Collection, Marietta College Library

## **Acquisition Information**

Purchased from the Estate of Jerry Barker Devol in 1997

## **Detailed Description of the Collection**

### Box 1/Folder 1

Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol, Journal No. 4, July 31, 1868 – July 15, 1869

### Box 1/Folder 2

Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol, Journal No. 5, July 16, 1869 – September 15, 1870

### Box 1/Folder 3

Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol, Journal No. 6, September 15, 1870 – October 7, 1871

### Box 1/Folder 4

Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol, Journal No. 7, October 8, 1871 – July 9, 1872

### Box 1/Folder 5

Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol, Journal No. 8, July 11, 1872 – May 5, 1874

### Box 2/Folder 1

Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol, Journal No. 9, May 6, 1874 – November 14, 1877

Box 2/Folder 2

Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol, Journal No. 11, August 7, 1880 – January 21, 1883

Box 2/Folder 3

Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol, Journal No. 12, January 22, 1883 – May 17, 1885

Box 3/Folder 1

Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol, Journal No. 13, May 12, 1885 – September 10, 1887

Box 3/Folder 2

Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol, Journal No. 14, September 11, 1887 – July 4, 1890

Box 3/Folder 3

Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol, Journal No. 15, July 5, 1890 – January 31, 1893

Box 4/Folder 1

Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol, Journal No. 16, February 1, 1893 – August 4, 1895

Box 4/Folder 2

Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol, Journal No. 17, August 13, 1895 – September 16, 1896

Box 4/Folder 3

Helen Devol, Journal, March 15, 1880 – February 6, 1884

Box 4/Envelope 1

Mabelle (“May”) Devol, Journal, January 1, 1873 – August 15, 1873

Box 4/Envelope 2

1. Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol – Copy of photograph taken ca. 1890 by H. W. Craig, Marietta, Ohio
2. Helen Ann (Devol) Chamberlain – Copy of photograph taken ca. 1890s

Box 4/Envelope 3

Ann Tabitha (Marshall) Devol – Notebook, “Mrs. B. M. DeVol, Marietta O, Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> 1876, Grange Encampment, Butter & Eggs, and Household Expenses” [1878-1880]