WAGNER, ARTHUR DOUGLAS.
Arthur Douglas Wagner collection, 1889-1918

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Descriptive Summary

Title: Arthur Douglas Wagner collection, 1889-1918
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 292
Extent: 0.3 cubic ft. (1 box)

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access
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Citation
[after identification of item(s)], Arthur Douglas Wagner Collection, Archives and Manuscript Dept., Pitts Theology Library, Emory University.

Processing
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Collection Description

Biographical Note
Arthur Douglas Wagner was born on June 13, 1824. His father, Rev. Henry Michell Wagner was the vicar of Brighton for forty-six years, and Arthur was the only child of Henry’s first wife, Elizabeth Harriot Douglas.

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Arthur Douglas Wagner went to Trinity College, Cambridge, and earned a degree with honors in mathematics. He was ordained in the Anglican Church in 1849, and he was appointed to St. Paul's on West Street in 1850. Wagner served at St. Paul’s for 52 years, first as Perpetual Curate and then as Vicar. Wagner was involved in a controversy when he refused in court to share a woman’s confession of murder made to him at St. Paul’s. He was criticized, beaten, and condemned by much of the community. St. Paul’s stayed in the public eye for most of Wagner’s life.

In the course of his life, Wagner inherited two or three fortunes, which he spent building churches of a magnificent scale, as well as in innumerable works of charity. Arthur Douglas Wagner died on January 14, 1902.

Scope and Content Note
This collection consists of clippings, correspondence, a gazetteer and magazine articles concerning Arthur Douglas Wagner and St. Paul’s Church (Brighton, England). Most of the clippings are memoirs published upon his death in 1902, although some sermons and a little of the controversy concerning the privacy issues involved in confession are also included.
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