

A Theological Common-place Book, 1857-1909.

Emory University
Pitts Theology Library
1531 Dickey Drive, Suite 560
Atlanta, GA 30322
404-727-4166

Descriptive Summary

Title: A Theological Common-place Book, 1857-1909.
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 359
Extent: .2 cubic feet (1 volume)
Abstract: Consists of one printed commonplace book with handwritten notes and other printed materials compiled by its owner.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Custodial History

From the collection of the Christoph Keller, Jr. Library, General Theological seminary.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], A Theological Common-place Book, MSS 359, Archives and Manuscript Dept., Pitts Theology Library, Emory University.

Processing

Processed by Brandon Wason, January 2016.

Collection Description

Biographical Note

Thomas Winthrop Coit (1803-1885) was the author of the printed book, A theological Common-place Book, which contains a pre-printed index of theological terms. The actual content of the commonplace book includes notes, clippings, and pamphlets that were produced after the book was purchased. The creator of this content is unknown by name, yet the contents point to an

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educated clergy member of the Protestant Episcopal Church in the United States of America who flourished in the latter half of the nineteenth century and the first decade of the twentieth century.

Scope and Content Note

This collection contains one printed book with copious handwritten notes, clippings, and publications inserted throughout. The volume is published as follows: Thomas W. Coit, *A Theological Common-place Book: With a Copious Index* (3rd edition; New York: Daniel Dana, 1857). The commonplace book contains 320 printed page numbers with the first 52 pages containing the prefaces and index compiled by Thomas W. Coit. The owner of the book provided additional handwritten entries in the index and contributed the actual content of the book. The subject matter of the book is primarily biblical, theological, and ecclesiastical topics. Many of the topics deal with ecclesiastical matters pertaining specifically to the Episcopal or Anglican Church. Numerous newspapers articles are tipped in and there is one Order of Service from the controversial consecration of Reginald Heber Weller as bishop coadjutor of Fond Du Lac, which is sometimes referred to as the "Fond du Lac Circus." Most of the contributions are in English, although there are occasional references written in Greek and Latin. Since the book was printed in 1857, the content cannot be older than that. The majority of the references and included materials range from the 1860s to the 1890s. The last known reference is to 1909.

