

MEANS, ALEXANDER, 1801-1883.
Alexander Means papers, 1824-1963 [bulk 1824-1885]

Emory University
Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library
Atlanta, GA 30322
404-727-6887
rose.library@emory.edu

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Means, Alexander, 1801-1883.
Title: Alexander Means papers, 1824-1963 [bulk 1824-1885]
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 151
Extent: 1.25 linear feet (3 boxes), 1 oversized papers box (OP), 1 bound volume (BV), and 1 microfilm reel (MF)
Abstract: Papers of Alexander Means, Methodist clergyman, inventor, and poet, including correspondence, poems, reviews, diaries, biographies, clippings, and other memorabilia relating to Means' life and career.
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.

Related Materials in Other Repositories

The original journal of Minnie Eloise Capers, ca. 1877-1885, in the Winthrop College Archives, Rock Hill, South Carolina.

Related Materials in This Repository

Records and other items related to Alexander Means's service as president of Emory College are located in the Emory Archives.

Source

Gift, 1964, with subsequent additions.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Alexander Means papers, Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Collection Description**Biographical Note**

Alexander Means, clergyman, inventor, and poet was born in Statesville, North Carolina, on February 6, 1801, and died in Oxford, Georgia, on June 5, 1883. On December 25, 1827, Means married S.A.E. Winston. Licensed to preach in the Methodist Church in 1828, Means was also the first superintendent of the Manual Labor School (1834-1838), professor of natural science (1838-1846), and president of Emory College (1854-1855); president of Masonic Female College in Covington, Georgia (1853); lecturer in chemistry at Augusta Medical College (1840-1860) and Atlanta Medical College, (1855-1868), where he demonstrated incandescent electrical lighting equipment in 1857. He was the Confederacy's official inspector of munitions during the Civil War and examining chemist for the State of Georgia (1868-1877), as well as a member of various scientific organizations. Means was the author of sermons, addresses, and verse.

Publication Note

The diary of Alexander Means for 1861 was edited by Ross H. McLean and published in Emory University Sources and Reprints, Series 6, Number 1, 1949.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of the papers of Alexander Means from 1824-1963. The papers include correspondence, poems, reviews, diaries, biographies, clippings, a photograph, a family Bible, and a portrait, relating to the life and career of Alexander Means or to his family. Means' diary dating from January 1875 to January 1876, is available on microfilm only. The journal of Minnie Eloise Capers, circa 1877-1885, is available in photocopy only. Correspondence includes originals and typed copies; a journal of Minnie E. Capers, Means' granddaughter. The letters of Frances Means are photocopied; the poems and diaries for 1861, 1873, 1874, and 1879 are by Alexander Means; clippings and biographies relate to him; reviews are of Ross McLean's book publication of Means's 1861 diary; the photograph is of electric lighting equipment used by Means; and the portrait of Means is by Lewis Gregg. A Means family recipe book and family Bible complete the collection.

Arrangement Note

Unprocessed collection.

Container List

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Clippings and biographical information
1	2	Family tree and genealogical information, no date
OP1	1	Photograph of Means family on the steps of Orna Villa, Oxford, Georgia, no date
1	3	Photographs of Alexander Means and wife S.A.E. Winston, March 1870, and photograph of Sue Means Johnson, Lucie Means Campbell, and Helen Means Evans, no date
1	4	Letters and Documents, October 12, 1824December 24, 1880, June 30, 1963, and not dated
1	5	Photographs of electrical lighting equipment invented by Dr. Means and clippings
1	6	Poem "The Flood" by Alexander Means, donated by Edgar H. Johnson
1	7	Poem by Dr. Means, donated by Mrs. William M. Amos
1	8	Poem by Dr. Means and read to Phi Delta Theta fraternity at Emory College, (1874), donated by L.C. Smith
1	9	Book review of <i>Diary for 1861 by Alexander Means</i> , edited by Ross H. McLean
1	10	Introduction to <i>Diary for 1861</i> by Ross H. McLean (typescript and notes)
1	11	<i>Diary of Alexander Means for 1861</i> by Ross H. McLean (typescript)
1	12	Photocopies of Means typescripts-correspondence with Oreon Mann Smith; Family information concerning owner of typescripts; correspondence and notes re Means papers at State Archives (some of the typescripts letters have notes attached)
1	13	Journal of Minnie Eloise Capers, ca. 1877-1885. The book was presented to her by her grandfather Alexander Means, May 1, 1877 in Oxford, Georgia.
1	14	Letters and typed copies donated by Miss Hallie Smith, 1853-1875; and correspondence re Means letters
1	15	Diary of Alexander Means, 1861
1	16	<i>Diary for 1861 by Alexander Means</i> . Edited by Ross H. McLean. Atlanta, Georgia, Emory University, 1949 (2 copies)
1	17	Diary of Alexander Means, 1873
2	1	Diary of Alexander Means, 1874
MF1	-	Diary, January 1875-January 1876
2	2	Diary, January 1875-January 1876
2	3	Diary, January 1875-January 1876 (photocopy)
2	4	Diary of Alexander Means, 1879
2	5	Means family recipe book
2	6	Letterbook: Frances M. Means to Sarah Branham Griffin, September 23-December 31, 1872
2	7	Orna Villa and Historic Oxford materials,1931-1934 and no date

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| 2 | 8 | Instrument for drawing parallel lines, no date |
| 2 | 9 | "History of Emory College," by A. Means, manuscript, 191? [originally with family bible] |
| 2 | 10 | "Portrait of Dr. Alexander Means" folder of information about Dr. Means, his home Orna Villa at Oxford, and the copied portrait of him by Lewis Gregg. This portrait hung in Special Collections, August 1979. |
| 3 | 1 | <i>The Holy Bible</i> . London, England: G. E. Eyre and W. Spottiswoode, 1867 (Means family Bible) |
| BV1 | - | Means family <i>Bible</i> |
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