

SMITH, GEORGE GILMAN, 1836-1913.

George Gilman Smith papers, 1835-1956

Emory University
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Smith, George Gilman, 1836-1913.
Title: George Gilman Smith papers, 1835-1956
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 228
Extent: 4.75 linear feet (10 boxes), 1 oversized papers folder (OP), and 1 microfilm reel (MF)
Abstract: Papers of Methodist minister, writer, and historian George Gilman Smith, Jr., including include correspondence, writings, diaries, notebooks, scrapbooks, and miscellaneous materials.
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

[George Gilman Smith books](#), Southern Historical Collection, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Source

Gift, 1955 with subsequent additions.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], George Gilman Smith papers, Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Processing

Processed by KNS, 1974.

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Collection Description

Biographical Note

George Gilman Smith, Jr. (1836-1913) was a Methodist minister, writer, and historian. He was born December 24, 1836 at Sheffield, Newton County, Georgia, the son of Dr. George Gilman Smith and Susan Howard Smith. His youth was spent in the Georgia towns of Oxford, Atlanta, and Sandersville. In 1855, Smith attended Emory College for eight months. In 1867, the College awarded him a D.D. degree.

Dr. Smith began his career as a Methodist minister in 1857, when he was assigned to the Waynesboro Circuit, which included most of Burke County, Georgia. He was next assigned to Macon, Georgia, and from there went to the Forsyth (Georgia) Circuit.

Dr. Smith held a pastorate in Cedartown, Georgia, when the Civil War broke out. Smith joined Phillips' Legion as chaplain, and remained at this post until he was severely wounded at Sharp's Mountain during the Antietam Campaign of September, 1862. That year he left the army an invalid, and returned to Georgia.

Smith resumed his career in the ministry upon regaining his health after the war. His first pastorates were located in Baltimore, Maryland and Lewisburg, West Virginia. From 1871-1881, Smith held a series of appointments in the Georgia, North Georgia, and South Georgia Conferences, serving in Dalton, Marietta, Barnesville, LaGrange, Milledgeville, Gainesville, and Madison. From 1882 to 1888, Smith toured the state as a Sunday School agent. In 1888, he retired from the active ministry. In his retirement, Smith made his home in Macon, Georgia, and devoted much time to writing. He died on May 7, 1913, in Macon.

Dr. Smith's first wife was Sarah Joanna Ousley Smith (1840-1869). The couple had five children. In 1870, Smith married Nannie Lynn Lipps.

George Gilman Smith's published works include: *History of Methodism in Georgia and Florida from 1785 to 1865* (1877), *Life and Letters of James Osgood Andrew* (1888), *Life and Times of George Foster Pierce* (1888), *Childhood and Conversion* (1891), *Boy in Gray* (1894) *Life and Labors of Francis Asbury* (1896), *Story of Georgia and the Georgia People* (1900), *History of Georgia Methodism* (1911) and many religious tracts and articles.

Scope and Content Note

This collection consists of the papers of George Gilman Smith from 1835-1956. The papers include correspondence, writings, diaries, notebooks, scrapbooks of George Gilman Smith, Jr., and miscellaneous materials.

The correspondence consists of 259 letters, the majority of which are written to George G. Smith. There is only one Smith autograph letter, a fragment dated 189? and addressed to an unknown party. Correspondents include: Samuel Barnard Adams, Young John Allen, Augustus Octavius Bacon, W. Stannard Baker, Jesse Boring, James Monroe Buckley, John Caldwell Calhoun, Allen Daniel Candler, Warren Akin Candler, John Griffin Carlisle, Abel McKee Chreitzberg, Merritt Jones Coffey, John Sanford Cohen, Alfred Holt Colquitt, William George Epler Cunningham, Charles Deering, William Deering, James Armstrong Duncan, William Wallace Duncan, Oscar Penn Fitzgerald, Wilbur Fisk Glenn, John Brown Gordon, Henri Woodfin Grady, John Cowper Granbery, William Torrey Harris, Young L. G. Harris, William

Pope Harrison, Atticus Greene Haygood, Eugene Russell Hendrix, Walter Barnard Hill, Elijah Embree Hoss, John Howard, R. H. Howren, Albert Sanford Hunt, Richard Irby, John Christian Keener, Joseph Staunton Key, John James Lafferty, Joseph Rucker Lamar, Andrew Adgate Lipscomb, Charles Joseph Little, Joseph P. Logan, Dickerson McDaniel, Holland Nimmons McTyeire, Henry Clay Morrison, John C. Calhoun Newton, Leuro David Palmer, Lavender R. Matthew Simpson, Alexander Coke Smith, Charles Henry "Bill Arp"), Daniel Steele, Milton Spenser Terry, John James Tigert, Gabriel Toombs, Jeff Truly, Grace Graham Wilson Vanderbilt (Mrs. Cornelius), Howard Van Epps, Thomas Edward Watson, William May Wightman Alpheus Waters Wilson, and Adam Wyrick.

The collection also includes: 29 diaries of Dr. Smith, with entries between July 25, 1853 and November 21, 1910; the manuscript of Smith's unpublished autobiography and a typescript of the same, which is bound with typescripts of the first two of Smith's diaries ("Volume 1," 1853-1869, and "Volume 2," 1859); manuscript materials of Smith's biography of Bishop James O. Andrew including testimonials and information supplied by other persons as well as "unpublished chapters;" a collection of pamphlets and tracts written by Dr. Smith and clippings of Smith's articles in various Methodist Christian Advocates; scrapbooks containing such clippings and miscellaneous items; and 17 notebooks of Dr. Smith.

Miscellaneous materials in the collection include: reviews of Dr. Smith's books; certificates, awards, and photographs; genealogical materials concerning the Smith and related families; and folders on Dr. Young John Allen, Dr. Smith's nephew Rembert Gilman Smith (a Methodist minister and Emory College alumnus (A.B., 1897) and faculty member, 1903-1914), and Mary Bond Smith.

Also filed with miscellaneous materials is a microfilm of typed copies of the following items: one bound volume containing manuscripts and letters by the Reverend George G. Smith, Jr. and others, plus notes concerning the genealogy of the Howard family; and six letters written by various members of the Howard family, including the Reverend John Howard, grandfather of George G. Smith, Jr. Also included on the film is a penciled copy of the inscriptions on the monument of John Howard at Rose Hill Cemetery, Macon, Georgia. (For a more detailed description of the contents of this film, see Collection File.)

Arrangement Note

Arranged by type of record.

Container List

Correspondence

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	1835 October 22 - November 13, 1879
1	2	1880 February 12 - December 6, 1889
1	3	1891 March 14 - December 21, 1899
1	4	1900 February 17 - May 8, 1913
1	5	Undated and fragments

Diaries

2	1	1853 - 1869
2	2	1859
2	3	1868
2	4	1869
2	5	1871
2	6	1872 - 1874
2	7	1878 - 1882
2	8	1883
2	9	1885
2	10	1886
2	11	1889
3	1	1890
3	2	1891
3	3	1892
3	4	1893
3	5	1894
3	6	1895
3	7	1896
4	1	1897, 1898
4	2	1899
4	3	1900
4	4	1901
4	5	1902, 1903
4	6	1904, 1905
4	7	1907, 1910

Other papers

5	1	Autobiography, My Life Story, Volume I: To My Entry into University
5	2	Autobiography, My Life Story, Volume II: To Dalton

- 5 3 Autobiography, My Life Story, Volume II: To Marietta
- 5 4 Autobiography, My Life Story, Miscellaneous materials and notes by Mary Bond Smith
- 5 5 Autobiography and Diary of George Gilman Smith of Georgia, typescript volume
- 5 6 Notes for A History of Methodism in Georgia and Florida
- 5 7 Notes for A History of Methodism in Georgia and Florida
- 6 1 Clippings by George G. Smith, Christian Advocate
- 6 2 Loose clippings
- 6 3 Pamphlets by George G. Smith
- 6 4 Unpublished chapters of Life of Bishop Andrews
- 6 5 Unpublished chapters of Life of Bishop Andrews
- 7 1 Scrapbooks [2]
- 7 2 Sermon books [5]
- 8 1 Notebook, 1855
- 8 2 Notebook, 1860
- 8 3 Notebook, 1869 – 1870
- 8 4 Notebook, 1869
- 8 5 Notebook, 1875
- 8 6 Notebook, 1886
- 9 1 Notebooks, miscellaneous, undated
- OP1 - Portraits: George Gilman Smith, Sr., Susan Howard Smith
- 10 1 Speeches: "Sketch of Young J. Allen, D.D.;" "Dr. Young J. Allen's Address on China;" "The Old South - Slavery as it was"
- 10 2 Genealogical material of Smith and related families
- 10 3 Genealogical material of Smith and related families
- 10 4 Genealogical material of Smith and related families
- 10 5 Reviews of books by George G. Smith
- 10 6 Harry Thornton: The Story of a Georgia Boy by George Gilman Smith
- 10 7 Certificates; Awards of George G. Smith; Photographs
- 10 8 Material re Rembert Gilman Smith (A.B., Emory College, 1897):
Correspondence
- 10 9 Material re Rembert Gilman Smith: Smith pamphlets; Manuscripts; Reviews
- 10 10 Material re Rembert Gilman Smith: Clippings; Photographs
- MF1 Bound volume containing manuscripts and letters by the Reverend George G. Smith, Jr. and others, plus notes concerning the genealogy of the Howard family; six letters written by various members of the Howard family, including the Reverend John Howard, grandfather of George G. Smith, Jr. Also included on the film is a penciled copy of the inscriptions on the monument of John Howard at Rose Hill Cemetery, Macon, Georgia.