

WILLIAM MATHUSEN VERDERY COLLECTION
PP0129

Descriptive Summary

Creator Verdery, William Mathusen, 1825-1897

Title William Mathusen Verdery Collection

Accession Number PP0129

Physical Description Fourteen small, leather-bound journals. One box, .5 linear feet. Materials are in expected condition for age.

Inclusive Dates 1870-1896

Language Note English

Administrative Information

Repository

Mercer University Library
Archives and Digital Initiatives
1501 Mercer University Dr.
Macon, Georgia 31207
478-301-2968
archives@mercer.edu

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], William Mathusen Verdery Collection. Archives and Digital Initiatives, Mercer University Library, Macon, GA.

Acquisition

Gift of Mrs. John J. Clarke of Louisville, Georgia, made through Rev. J. T. McArthur in 1926.

Processing note

Inventory prepared by Kathryn Wright and Lydia Brown (2021).

Restrictions on access

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

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Collection Description

Biographical Note

William Mathusen Verdery was born at Belair, Georgia (ten miles west of Augusta), on July 27, 1825. His early childhood was spent in his grandfather's house, where an aunt taught him to read, instructed him in the Presbyterian catechism, and trained him to read the Scriptures. In 1837, he attended the Mercer Institute in Penfield, Georgia. In 1841, he was sent to school at Cave Spring, and while there was baptized at the Cave Spring Baptist Church. He returned home, joined the Abilene Church, and was ordained there in November 1848. In December 1847, Verdery married Cornelia F. Skinner of Richmond County, and the couple had eighteen children.

For the years 1849-1857, Verdery served churches in the Hephzibah Association. In 1857, he moved to Hancock County, Georgia, within the bounds of the Washington Association, and served churches there for thirteen years. Verdery returned to the Hephzibah Association in 1870 and served both as an evangelist and pastor. He was elected Clerk of the Association in 1876 and was re-elected every year for twenty years. Verdery died April 29, 1897.

Sources:

Patterson, J. H. (1897). "A Memorial." Hephzibah Baptist Association.

Kilpatrick, W. L. (1894). *The Hephzibah Baptist Association Centennial, 1794-1894*. Augusta, GA: Richards & Shaver, Printers.

Scope and Content Note

The Verdery collection consists of diaries of William Mathusen Verdery from 1870-1896. The brief entries discuss where he preached and the scripture references he used, individuals he baptized, church visitations and travels, social life, and weather, mostly while residing in Hancock County, Georgia.

Subjects

Diaries

Baptist Churches -- Georgia -- Clergy

Hancock County (Ga.)

Washington Baptist Association (Ga.)

Related Material

See also: Hephzibah Baptist Association and Washington Baptist Association materials. These diaries are also available on microfiche.

Container List

Item 1/1: Front cover cut, dates not visible (1870-1871)

- Item 1/2: Front cover, “74-75-76-77-” (1874-1878)
- Item 1/3: 1881 calendar inside front cover (1881-1882)
- Item 1/4: Front cover, “1884” (1883-1885)
- Item 1/5: Front cover, “1884-1889” (1884-1889)
- Item 1/6: Front cover, “1885” (1885-1887)
- Item 1/7: Front cover, “1887” (1887-1888)
- Item 1/8: Front cover, “1889” (1889-1890)
- Item 1/9: Front cover, “1890” (1890-1891)
- Item 1/10: Front cover, “1891” (1891)
- Item 1/11: Front cover, “1892” (1892-1893)
- Item 1/12: Front cover, “1893” (1893)
- Item 1/13: Front cover, “1894” (1894-1895)
- Item 1/14: Front cover, “1895” (1895-1896)