

**Collection Name:**

Friedrich August Schmidt papers, 1848-1926

Collection Number:

P0588

Extent:

1.2 cubic feet (3 archives boxes)

History/Biography:

Reverend Fredrich August Schmidt was born on January 3, 1837 in Thüringen, Germany. He graduated in 1853 from Concordia college. Four years later he finished seminary work at Concordia and became minister to a German congregation in Eden, NJ. In 1861, Schmidt became associated with the Norwegian church when he started teaching at Halfway Creek, near La Crosse. The next year, the school renamed itself Luther College and moved to Decorah, Iowa. Schmidt was an instructor at Luther College until 1872. After his stint at Luther College, he took a professorship in Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, which was then supported by the Norwegian synod. Rev. Schmidt headed the faction that left the synod in 1886 and organized "The anti-Missourian Brotherhood." In that year he also became theological instructor at St. Olaf's college, Northfield, Minnesota, for this faction.

Abstract:

Correspondence, clippings, and articles, written in English, German, Latin, and Norwegian. Among the subjects discussed are doctrines concerning absolution, assurance, conversion, and election; position and participation of the laity in doctrinal disputes and clerical leadership in such controversies; Augsburg College and St. Olaf College; and the union movement that led to the 1917 merger. There are only two letters by Schmidt. Among the correspondents are M. O. Bøckman, C. L. Clausen (February 2, 1863), N. J. Ellestad, O. J. Hatlestad, P. P. Iverslie (December 27, 1883), Kristofer Janson (March 31, 1891), J. N. Kildahl, U. V. Koren, Laur. Larsen, A. Mikkelsen, Th. N. Mohn, B. J. Muus, J. A. Ottesen, H. A. Preus, P. A. Rasmussen, Halvard Roalquam, and H. A. Stub.

Box	Folder	Description
1	1	Miscellaneous, 1880-1998 Includes other collection source material: Luther Seminary, St. Paul, MN; Concordia Historical Institute, St. Louis, MO; correspondence from Døschén. Correspondence
1	2	1848-1880
1	3	1880-1882
1	4	1883-1886
1	5	1887-1912



1	6	1914-1914
		Clippings
2	1	Personal, 1873-1899
2	2	1872-1885
		Includes envelope of Rev. J.A. Thorsen clippings.
2	3	1890-1899
2	4	1900-1902
		Includes several clippings on G. Hoyme's death, 1902.
2	5	1903-1911
2	6	1912-1926
2	7	About F. Schmidt, 1908-1928
3	1	Pamphlets, 1859-1920
3	2	Articles, lectures, reports, 1874-1889
		Includes: "Reform" (Northfield, 1886); "Absolution" (1874?).
3	3	Articles, lectures, reports, 1890-1908
3	4	"Om Laereformer i almindelighed," undated
3	5	Pictures, 1880-1922
3	6	Postcards, 1901
		Greetings from F.A. Schmidt family. Includes English/French learning cards; miniature children's books; Christmas postcards and greeting cards.