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UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA

SIMONDS, JOHN W.

PAPERS, 1883-1885
(bulk dates, 1884-1885)
Quantity .5 linear ft.

ACCESS: This collection is open for research without restrictions.

PRINTED MATERIALS: Printed materials are found in Box 1

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PROCESSED BY: Gayla Koerting, February 2004

History

John Wesley Simonds, a New Hampshire native born in Franklin on May 9, 1829, and a graduate of Bowdoin College in Maine, succeeded Ephraim Epstein in the fall of 1883. Simonds had been the state superintendent of public instruction in New Hampshire from 1871-1876, and he taught in many New England schools before journeying west to Centerville, Iowa, where he was superintendent of schools. Simonds served as the principal of the academy of the University of Dakota from 1883-84 and was appointed as its president in 1884. An able teacher, Simonds helped enrollment grow to 96 students. A re-organization in the structure of the Board of Regents, increasing factionalism, and a controversy over Simonds's salary took a personal toll. Simonds began to suffer from ill health while in office and died on June 3, 1885.

Scope and Content Note

The John Simonds Collection is composed of two series: **Correspondence and Printed Materials**. Unfortunately, the records for the Simonds administration, particularly for correspondence, are extremely limited in scope due to the 1893 fire of University Hall (Old Main) which destroyed many of the records.

The **Correspondence** series contains letters written by individuals requesting a catalog of courses or seeking admission into the university. General correspondence is contained in one folder entitled, "A-Z." Incoming and outgoing correspondence for a person or organization with more than 2 letters are contained in one folder; these are listed directly after "General" files.

The **Printed Materials** series includes a photocopy of an article written about Simonds and his term as president.

Additional Resources:

Cummins, Cedric. *The University of South Dakota, 1862-1966*. Vermillion: University of South Dakota Press, 1975.

Subjects: University of South Dakota. President—Archives

Simonds, John W., 1883-1885—Archives.

University of South Dakota – History—19th century—Sources

College presidents—South Dakota—Vermillion--Archives

CORRESPONDENCE (16 folders)

Box 1

General "A-Z" (1 folder)

Emerson, Albert

n.d.

Simonds, John W. (Pres.)

n.d.

A. H. Andrews & Co.

1883, Dec. 11

Champion Quarries

1885, May 29

Daily Journal
1886, June 24
Elfes, Eugene
1885, June 16
Fanning, N. D. (Member of Board of Regents)
1884, Oct. 14
Green, John A.
1885, May 22
Hoppin, H. P.
1885, April 13
Ife, Walter
1885, April 16
James W. Queen & Co.
188?, April 7
Johnson, E. C.
1885, April 20
McClenon, R. B.
1885, April 8
McCullough, John B.
1884, Oct. 13
Martin & Anderson
1884, Jan. 27
Morrison, J. W. C.
1885, March
Peterson, E. F.
1884, April 28
Peterson, Ella
1884, May 1
Potter, William P.
1884, Aug. 22
Rowley, J.
1884, May 14
Salmer, G. T.
1883, May 1
Sam'l I. Pope & Co.
1885, July 22
St. Paul Foundry Co.
1884, July 1
Territory of Dakota, Dept. of
Immigration and Statistics
1885, Aug. 8
Territory of Dakota, Executive Office
1885, April 30
Territory of Dakota, Secretary's Office
1885, June 9
Thorton, John
1885, June 5
Union Line
1884, April 4
Vicken, Thomas (?)
1885, May 8

Bacon, James M. (2 items)
1884, Nov. 17
1884, Nov. 25

Beadle, W. H. H. (7 items) (Member of Board of Regents)
1883, Dec. 27
1884, Jan. 9
1884, Jan. 24
1884, May 6
1884, Sept. 17
1884, Dec. 26

Burdick, F. N. (2 items) (Member of Board of Regents)
1884, Aug. 24
1884, Nov. 21

Dakota Penitentiary (3 items)
1884, Aug. 2
1884, Aug. 15
1884, Nov. 29

Dow, W. A. (2 items)
1883, Sept. 22
1885, June 25

Elwell, D. (2 items) (Member of Board of Regents)
1883, Dec. 26
1884, March 19

Ericson, E. C. (8 items) (Member of Board of Regents)
1883, Aug. 28
1883, Sept. 24
1883, Nov. 17
1883, Dec. 6
1883, Dec. 21
1884, Jan. 21
1884, March 24
1884, Oct. 10

Farley & Loetscher Mfg. Co. (2 items)
1883, Dec. 12
1885, May 23

Lilley, Geroge (2 items)
1883, Oct. 13
1883, Oct. 23

Parker, George W. (6 items)
1884, June 18
1884, July 25
1884, Oct. 30
1884, Nov. 26
1885, April 21
1885, May 16

Seney, A. C. (2 items)
1885, June 5
1885, June 15

Territory of Dakota, Auditor's Office (2 items)
1884, April 30
1884, Aug. 19

Tobin, William (2 items)
1884, Oct. 12
1884, Nov. 3
Vanderbrule, M. L. (2 items)
1885, March 14
1885, April 14
Willoughby, Rilla (2 items)
1885, March 18
1885, March 18

PRINTED MATERIALS (1 folder)
"President John Wesley Simonds," *South Dakota
Alumni Quarterly* (July 1918)