

C McMurry, William Fletcher (1864-1934), Papers, 1885-1934
3487 3 linear feet, 6 volumes

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INTRODUCTION

Correspondence, sermon notes, sermons, pastor's books, daybooks and scrapbooks of a minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, bishop, and president of Central College, Fayette, Missouri. Part of his personal library is in the State Historical Society of Missouri reference collection.

DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Mrs. W.A. Bloom on 1 March 1968 (Accession No. 518). An addition was made on 16 October 1974 by Mrs. W.A. Bloom (Accession No. 1099).

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

William Fletcher McMurry was born on a farm in Shelby County, Missouri, on June 29, 1864, a son of W.W. McMurry, a Methodist minister and farmer. He attended St. Charles College in St. Charles, Missouri, and Central College in Fayette. Licensed to preach in the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, in 1884, he subsequently held pastorates in St. Joseph, Macon, Richmond, and St. Louis, Missouri. He directed church extension work for twelve years from the headquarters in Louisville, Kentucky, and was elected bishop in 1918. He became president of Central College in Fayette in 1924, a position he held until 1930. He died in St. Louis on 17 January 1934.

FOLDER LIST

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| f. 1-11 | Small calendar, pastor, expense books kept during 1885-1934 when Bishop McMurry was minister of Methodist churches in Fayette, Richmond, Macon, St. Joseph, St. Louis, Missouri. Other small, memorandum-type books. |
| f. 12-15 | Papers and notebooks kept while Secretary of the Board of Church Extension, M.E. Church, South at Louisville, Kentucky, 1906-1918. |
| f. 16-19 | Personal and professional correspondence while touring the Orient on church business, 1918-1919. |
| f. 20 | Copies of official documents and correspondence pertaining to the Constitution and Doctrine of the M.E. Church, South, 1922-1925. |
| f. 21-27 | Miscellaneous items, including newspaper clippings about attempts to unify northern and southern Methodist churches, 1922-1925. |
| f. 28-40 | Sermon notes with Bible texts for each. |
| f. 41-44 | Complete sermons preached at special occasions. |
| f. 45-47 | Addresses on a variety of general topics. |
| f. 48-56 | Personal and professional correspondence with other Methodist bishops. |

- f. 48-49 Collins Denny
- f. 50 E.R. Hendrix
- f. 51-52 U.V.W. Darlington
- f. 55 S.R. Hay
- f. 56 W.H. Ainsworth
- f. 57 General correspondence
- f. 58-61 Newspaper clippings
 - f. 58 Shelby County, Missouri, Methodism.
 - f. 59 General Conference, M.E. Church, South, Birmingham, Alabama, 1906.
 - f. 60 Centenary Methodist Church, St. Louis, Missouri, 1906.
 - f. 61 Lawsuit called "Civil War Claim." M.E. Church, South vs. U.S. Government.
- f. 62 Issues of the *St. Louis Christian Advocate*, December 12, 1861; May 16, 1906; June 13, 1906.
- f. 63 Lawsuit, St. James Academy vs. Ministerial Alliance, Macon, Missouri, 1891-1893.
- f. 64 Booklet of reports and clippings on the General Conference on Missions, 1918.
- f. 65 Pamphlet on Old Shawnee Mission by Edith Connelley Ross.
- f. 66 Correspondence, description, and photographs on McMurry College, Abilene, Texas.
- f. 67-76 Papers concerning the disciplining of three Methodist ministers by the church.
- v. 1-10 Scrapbooks
 - v. 1 Autobiographical sketch by W.W. McMurry, father of William Fletcher McMurry, who was a Methodist minister in Shelby County, Missouri.
 - v. 2 Scrapbook of events in career of her husband. Compiled by Frances Byrd Davis McMurry.
 - v. 3 Newspaper clippings concerning William Fletcher McMurry.
 - v. 4 Newspaper clippings and articles on church extension work, 1906-1918.
 - v. 5 Letters concerning election of McMurry to episcopacy and his trip to the Orient.
 - v. 6 News clippings and photographs about Bishop McMurry's election to bishopric, 1918; more clippings and notes about trip to Orient, 1919.
 - v. 7 Personal family mementoes.
 - v. 8 Tributes, memorials, newspaper accounts after death of Bishop McMurry.
 - v. 9 Telegrams of sympathy and tribute.
 - v. 10 Miscellaneous items, mostly about Bishop McMurry.
- v. 11 *The Methodist Record*, Organ of the M.E. Church, South, November 1, 1890-August 28, 1891.
- v. 12 *The Daily Christian Advocate*, Quadrennial Session, Hot Springs,

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