

Guide to the Lewis Davis Papers

Lewis Davis Papers

0.53 cubic feet

gcah.ms.642

The purpose of this finding aid is to help you understand the nature of this collection and to assist you in the retrieval of material from this collection. The following pages contain a brief biographical history of the person, or persons, who created or collected these papers; followed by a general description of the collection in the scope and content note. If more detailed information is warranted then series descriptions also appear. The container listing appears last and is the listing of material in each box, or container, of this collection. To request material you need to turn to the container listing section. It is essentially a listing of file folders, or artifact items, in the collection. Each folder, or item, has a call number associated with it. Each folder also lists the inclusive dates of the material in the folder. On the material request form list both the call number and the folder, or item, title. Use a different line for each folder, or item, requested. When your request sheet is complete, or full, bring it to the archivist and the material will be retrieved

Biographical Note

Lewis Davis (1814-1890) was considered the "Father of Higher Education" in the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. At eighteen, he came under the influence of Methodist itinerants, who encouraged him to enroll in the academy at New Castle, Virginia. For two years, Davis taught at a local school in western Virginia, where he joined the Church of the United Brethren in Christ. He was licensed to preach in 1838, and spent the next eight years as an itinerant in Scioto Conference, where he became a champion of higher education in the church. Davis became a presiding elder in 1845. In 1841 he married Rebecca Bartles.

Davis was the first financial agent for Otterbein University, the new institution projected by the Scioto Conference. In 1850, Davis became president of Otterbein, a position he held until 1871. He was elected bishop in 1853 and held that office until 1860. Davis left Otterbein in 1871 and became senior professor at Union Biblical Seminary (now United Theological Seminary) in Dayton, Ohio. He retired to emeritus status in 1886. His wife survived him by five years.

David Edwards (1816-1876) was a United Brethren bishop and editor. His family immigrated to Ohio when he was five. When he was eighteen, Edwards converted and became a member of the United Brethren Church.

In 1836, he was ordained in the Scioto Conference. In 1845, he was elected editor of the *Religious Telescope*. He held that position for four years and refused reelection in 1849. Instead, the General Conference elected him bishop, a position he held for six successive terms.

Edwards was instrumental in founding Otterbein University and in establishing the foreign mission work of the church.

Scope Note

The Lewis Davis Papers contain addresses, short writings, and a biographical manuscript on the life of David Edwards. The bulk of the collection is the manuscript on Edwards which can be found in draft and galley proof form. The addresses were given by Davis during his years of teaching and serving as college president. Some of the addresses are graduation speeches. None of the material in this collection contains dates.

Arrangement

Material has been arranged in the following manner.

SERIES: ADDRESSES.

SERIES: MANUSCRIPTS.

SERIES: WRITINGS.

Access Restrictions

There are no restrictions regarding this collection.

Preferred Citation

When citing material from this collection please use the following format: Direct reference to the item or its file folder, Lewis Davis Papers, United Methodist Church Archives - GCAH, Madison, New Jersey. Do not make use of the item's call number as that is not a stable descriptor.

Subject Terms

Subject Names - Personal

Edwards, David.

Subject Names - Corporate

Otterbein University

Union Biblical Seminary

Subject Topics

Biography

Education.

Genre

Manuscripts

Speeches.

Occupations

Bishop

Educator.

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Container List

Addresses

Call Number	Folder Title	Date(s)
1306-5-5:41	Address given at opening of Union Biblical Seminary	Undated
1306-5-5:42	Address to graduates of Otterbein University prior to building dedication	Undated
1306-5-5:43	Graduation addresses	Undated

Manuscripts

Call Number	Folder Title	Date(s)
1306-5-5:1	Draft #1, Chapter 1	Undated
1306-5-5:2	Draft #1, Chapter 2	Undated
1306-5-5:3	Draft #1, Chapter 3	Undated
1306-5-5:4	Draft #1, Chapter 4	Undated
1306-5-5:5	Draft #1, Chapter 5	Undated
1306-5-5:6	Draft #1, Chapter 6	Undated
1306-5-5:7	Draft #1, Chapter 7	Undated
1306-5-5:8	Draft #1, Chapter 8	Undated
1306-5-5:9	Draft #1, Chapter 9	Undated
1306-5-5:10	Draft #1, Chapter 10	Undated
1306-5-5:11	Draft #1, Chapter 11	Undated
1306-5-5:12	Draft #1, Chapter 12	Undated
1306-5-5:13	Draft #2, Chapter 1	Undated
1306-5-5:14	Draft #2, Chapter 2	Undated
1306-5-5:15	Draft #2, Chapter 3	Undated
1306-5-5:16	Draft #2, Chapter 4	Undated
1306-5-5:17	Draft #2, Chapter 5	Undated
1306-5-5:18	Draft #2, Chapter 6	Undated
1306-5-5:19	Draft #2, Chapter 7	Undated
1306-5-5:20	Draft #2, Chapter 8	Undated
1306-5-5:21	Draft #2, Chapter 9	Undated
1306-5-5:22	Draft #2, Chapter 10	Undated
1306-5-5:23	Draft #2, Chapter 11	Undated
1306-5-5:24	Other drafts of Chapters 1 and 2	Undated
1306-5-5:25	Galley proofs, Chapter 1	Undated
1306-5-5:26	Galley proofs, Chapter 2	Undated
1306-5-5:27	Galley proofs, Chapter 3	Undated
1306-5-5:28	Galley proofs, Chapter 4	Undated
1306-5-5:29	Galley proofs, Chapter 5	Undated
1306-5-5:30	Galley proofs, Chapter 6	Undated
1306-5-5:31	Galley proofs, Chapter 7	Undated
1306-5-5:32	Galley proofs, Chapter 8	Undated
1306-5-5:33	Galley proofs, Chapter 9	Undated
1306-5-5:34	Galley proofs, Chapter 10	Undated
1306-5-5:35	Freedom and Education	Undated
1306-5-5:36	Life Forces of God in Nature	Undated
1306-5-5:37	Theology	Undated
1306-5-5:38	Youth	Undated
1306-5-5:39	Untitled	Undated
1306-5-5:40	Untitled	Undated

Writings

Call Number	Folder Title	Date(s)
1306-5-5:44	Sacrament of the Lord's Supper	Undated
1306-5-5:45	History of Union Biblical Seminary	Undated

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Call Number	Folder Title	Date(s)
1306-5-5:46	Personal notations	Undated