

A Guide to the Brown Family Papers, 1872-1919 SC 0072

Brown Family papers
1872-1919



Title Statement

A Guide to the Brown Family Papers, 1872-1919 SC 0072

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library-special@jmu.edu
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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

SC 0072

Unit ID

/repositories/4/resources/204

Unit Date

1872-1919

Language

English

Abstract

The Brown Family Papers, 1872-1919, consist of correspondence and other materials pertaining to the Brown Family of the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia. Also included are photographs, printing blocks, and a typescript copy of Johannes Braun's 1818 "Treatise on slavery and serfdom." Johannes Braun or John Brown, born 1771 in Germany and later settling in the Shenandoah Valley, became the leading minister of the German Reformed Church in Virginia.

Creator

Brown family

source

Smith, Lolita Griffith Cox, 1904-1998

Extent

0.18 cubic feet 3 folders

Repository

James Madison University Libraries Special Collections

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

Collection is open for research. Researchers must register and agree to copyright and privacy laws before using this collection. Please contact Research Services staff before visiting the James Madison University Special Collections Library to use this collection.

Use Restrictions

The copyright interests in this collection have been transferred to the James Madison University Special Collection Library. For more information, contact the Special Collections Library Reference Desk (library-special@jmu.edu).

Acquisition Information

The collection was donated in 1966 by Mrs. Leigh E. Smith of Milmount, Cumberland, Virginia.

Processing Information

The collection was originally processed in September 1983 and updated in September 2008. In order to streamline the process of applying collection numbers, Special Collections staff completed a large-scale renumbering campaign in the spring of 2017. **This collection was previously cataloged as SC 1751.**

Preferred Citation

[Identification of Item], [folder #], Brown Family Papers, 1872-1919, SC 0072, Special Collections, Carrier Library, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, VA.

Biographical / Historical

Johannes Braun (or John Brown) was a highly educated and dedicated clergymen in western Virginia. Born in 1771 near Bremen, Germany, he came to the United States in 1797, and became the leading minister of the German Reformed Church in Virginia. In addition to his *A Treatise concerning Slavery and Property in Human Being* published in 1818 by Laurenz Bartman, in Rockingham County, Virginia, he also translated excerpts from Thomas Jefferson on slavery, and was influential in the Rockingham County pauper school system, the forerunner of today's public school system in that county.

Braun was married to Elizabeth Falls, and the couple raised eight children, three sons and five daughters, in the small parsonage near Bridgewater, Virginia. Braun passed away on January 26, 1850 and he was buried in the yard of Friedens Church.

Scope and Contents

The Brown Family Papers, 1872-1919, consist of three folders containing 32 items, pertaining to the Brown Family of the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia.

Names figuring prominently in the correspondence and receipts are, Mrs. E.A. Jordon, Mr. Keller, Jacob H. Wysient, Annie Sites (Mrs. William H.), Dr. C.A. Brown, and William R. Brown. Also contained in this series are receipts of purchases printed on letterheads from various Staunton, Va. businesses; notification of dues; an Elementary Professional certificate for Mary A. Brown; photocopies of obituaries for William Rice Brown, Mrs. Mattie Jordon Calhoun, and F.G. Keller; and postcards, one of which is a photograph of the storefront of J.W. Jacobs, est. 1850.

A typed translated copy of Johannes Braun's *A Treatise Concerning Slavery and Property in Human Beings* was translated from the original German by Harriet Augusta Braun. Ms. Braun's original translation is included here as well as a photocopy.

The photographs are portraits of Brown family members: Rev. John Braun, William R. Brown, Rosalie Sprinkle, and two portraits of women whose names could not be identified. The printing blocks are images of three plows, likely used for letterheads.

Keywords

Clergy -- Virginia
Clergy -- Virginia -- Rockingham County
Slavery
Education -- Virginia -- Rockingham County
Letters (correspondence)
Photographs
Receipts (financial records)
Printing blocks (printing surfaces)
Family papers
Brown, John, 1771-1859
Reformed Church in the United States -- Clergy
Brown family
Smith, Lolita Griffith Cox, 1904-1998

Bibliography

Braun, Rev. Johannes. *Shenandoah Valley Family Data 1799-1813*, (translation and introduction by Klaus Wust) Edinburg, Virginia: Shenandoah Historical Publishers, 1978.

Description of Subordinate Components

Correspondence and Receipts

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/1

Mixed Materials [1000886513] 1 (box)

Container 1 (folder)

"A Treatise Concerning Slavery and Property in Human Beings"

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/2

Unit Date 1818

Mixed Materials [1000886513] 1 (box)

Container 2 (folder)

Non-Print Materials

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/3

Photographs

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/4

Mixed Materials [1000886513] 1 (box)

Container 3 (folder)

Printing Blocks

Unit ID /repositories/4/archival_objects/5

Mixed Materials [1000886513] 1 (box)

Container 3a (folder)