Summary

Creator: Yancey, William Alexander

Title: William Alexander Yancey papers

Date: [1899?] - 1955

Size: .2 linear feet

Abstract: Born a slave, William Alexander Yancey was a teacher and a Presbyterian minister and missionary. After the Civil War, he moved to Virginia and subsequently purchased some land there. In 1872 he converted to the Presbyterian faith. A year later, Yancey graduated from Hampton Normal School in Virginia. He taught school from 1873 to 1890, and was also a school principal. Yancey later became a Sabbath school missionary through the Presbyterian Church and was ordained a minister. The William Alexander Yancey Papers consist of his essays, sermons, correspondence, a program and certificate concerning Yancey's career as a teacher, Presbyterian missionary and minister. Many essays are autobiographical and include discussions of his years as a slave and his education. Other topics are religious or relate to such topics as "The School System of West Virginia", "The Old South and the Negro," and "The New South and the Negro." There is also one 1955 letter between two of his children.

Access: Some collections held by the Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture are held off-site and must be requested in advance. Please check the collection records in the NYPL's online catalog for detailed location information. To request access to materials in the Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, please visit: http://archives.nypl.org/scm/request_access

Preferred citation: [Item], William Alexander Yancey papers, Sc MG 194, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, Manuscripts, Archives and Rare Books Division, The New York Public Library

Creator History

Born a slave, William Alexander Yancey was a teacher and a Presbyterian minister and missionary. After the Civil War, he moved to Virginia and subsequently purchased some land there. In 1872 he converted to the Presbyterian faith. A year later, Yancey graduated from Hampton Normal School in Virginia. He taught school from 1873 to 1890, and was also a school principal. Yancey later became a
Sabbath school missionary through the Presbyterian Church and was ordained a minister.

**Scope and Content Note**

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**Key Terms**

**Subjects**
- African American clergy
- African American missionaries
- African American preaching
- African American Presbyterians -- Virginia
- African American teachers
- African Americans -- Education
- African Americans -- Religion
- Schools -- West Virginia
- Sermons, American -- African American authors
- Slaves -- United States -- Social conditions

**Titles**
- Schomburg NEH Automated Access to Special Collections Project

**Genre/Physical Characteristic**
- Sermons

**Geographic Names**
- Southern States -- Social conditions -- 1865-1945

**Names**
- Yancey, William Alexander