



Guide to MS-231:

Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg Keller, Class of 1838

Gettysburg College, Musselman Library  
Special Collections and College Archives

Karen Dupell Drickamer

## MS-231: Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg Keller, Class of 1838

Processed by Karen Dupell Drickamer

### Size

1 box, 0.25 cubic feet

### Location

Special Collections

### Dates

Inclusive: 1838

### Biographical Note

Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg Keller was born April 28, 1819 at Carlisle, Pa., entered the Preparatory Department at Gettysburg in 1833, graduated from the college in 1838, attended the Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, and was licensed as a Lutheran minister in 1840. Keller founded St. James Lutheran Church in Reading, Pa. in 1850 and served there until his death on March 18, 1864.

### Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of four notebooks penned in Keller's hand. Two of the notebooks contain notes taken by Keller while a student at the Seminary, 1838-1840, for courses taught by Samuel. S. Schmucker, founder and sole instructor at the Seminary (original).

The notes in MS #1 begin with a lecture on Chronology, (the application of periods of time to history) and moves through lessons on "Biblical History" as presented in the Hebrew Scripture from creation in Genesis to the kingships of David and Solomon in I & II Samuel. The notes in MS #2 cover two subjects, "Church Government & Discipline", the definition of what is meant by "church" and ends with a discussion of ordination and the role of the clergy; and "Hermeneutics or Interpretation", the importance of language and the application of literal or figurative meanings to words in the study of scripture.

These notes reflect Dr. Schmucker's question and answer teaching style. He would first deliver a lecture covering some portion of the subject and at its close dictate questions covering the material presented in the lecture. Students were required to answer the questions in writing. The students read their answers during the next recitation period which were then discussed further by the professor before the next lecture was delivered.

MS #3 and #4 contain histories of Swedish Lutherans as well as various notes on Church history. The writings are not in order, nor are they dated. They appear to start from both ends of the books.

Formerly VFM-82 and VFM-486.

## Subjects

Keller, Frederick Augustus Muhlenberg, 1819-1864

Schmucker, S. S. (Samuel Simon), 1799-1873

Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Pa

Gettysburg College – History

Universities and Colleges -- Pennsylvania -- Gettysburg -- History

Lutheran Church – Education – Pennsylvania

Lutheran Church – Sources

## Contact Information

Special Collections and College Archives

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