



Schirmer family journals and registers, 1806-1929

SCHS 1149.00

Microfilm 45/205-207

Containers 11/567-568

Creator: Schirmer family.

Description: 1 linear ft.

Biographical/historical note: **Prominent** Charleston, S.C. family of German descent. Jacob F. Schirmer owned a Charleston cooperage business and was president of the corporation of St. John's Lutheran Church from 1855 to 1869. He was active in the state Evangelical Lutheran Synod, often serving as a representative in the General Synods, and was treasurer of the German Friendly Society. For many years he kept a registry of marriages and deaths as well as personal journals which provide a remarkable record of daily life in Charleston. After his death in October 1880 his son Jacob S. Schirmer (1831-1890) continued keeping similar records until 1886.

Scope and content: Volumes chiefly consist of journals and vital registers. Included are death registers (1806-1880) kept by Edward G. Sass and others.

Five journals (or diaries, 1826-1880) of Jacob F. Schirmer contain personal entries as well as records of births, deaths, marriages, and events mainly in Charleston (S.C.) including fires, militia activities, elections, trials, property transactions, crimes, yellow fever outbreaks, shipwrecks, and affairs of the Lutheran church and other denominations. A register (1826-1866) contains alphabetically arranged entries about marriages, births, deaths, and daily events. The first journal (1826-1846) begins in October 1826 and includes daily entries on marriages, births, deaths, weather, and events. After 1830 the journals include more personal entries, remarking on church affairs, family matters, personal faith, politics, events of the Civil War, and postwar conditions in South Carolina. Another volume (1826-1929; ask for 45/206) contains alphabetically arranged marriage and death records (1826-1880); a section entitled "Our Domestic Trials with Freedmen and Others" (1865-1880) recounting Schirmer's interesting difficulties with black and white house servants; and genealogical information (with additions by other family members) on the Schirmer, Sass, and related families.

Journal (1880-1886) continued by Jacob S. Schirmer contains daily entries on marriages, deaths, and events. Two additional volumes (1881-1886) contain alphabetically arranged marriage and death registers.

Other items include an index (1826-1880) of women's names found in J.F. Schirmer's records; "A Record of Various Travels Made Since 1835" (1829-1878) about Jacob F. Schirmer's trips for social visits and church business (Lutheran synods); calendar of selected world events from ancient times to 1861; and clippings.

Note: Originals restricted due to condition; use microfilm.

Note: Extracts from journals published in the South Carolina Historical Magazine.

Note: Journals available in microfilm (45/205-207).

Preferred citation: Schirmer family. Schirmer family journals and registers, 1806-1929. (1149.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

Search terms:

Schirmer, Jacob Frederic, 1803-1880.

Schirmer, Jacob Sass, 1831-1890.

Sass family.

Sasser family.

Schirmer family.

Household employees -- South Carolina -- Charleston.

Freedmen -- South Carolina.

German American families -- South Carolina.

Lutherans -- South Carolina.

Reconstruction.

Women -- South Carolina.

Charleston (S.C.) -- Climate.

Charleston (S.C.) -- History.

Charleston (S.C.) -- Social conditions.

Charleston (S.C.) -- Social life and customs.

South Carolina -- History.

South Carolina -- Politics and government.

United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865.

Death records.

Journals (accounts)

Marriage records.

Registers of births, etc.

Container list:

11/567/1-2 Schirmer, Jacob F., 1803-1880

Index to diaries, 1827-1880. 1 ms. vol.

11/567/1 Schirmer, Jacob F., 1803-1880

World Events Index, 1400-1865. 1 ms. vol.

11/567/4 Schirmer, Jacob F., 1803-1880

Diary of travels, 1829-1878. 1 ms. vol.

Diary (1829-1878) of travels of Jacob F. Schirmer from Charleston to towns within South Carolina including Summerville, Rantowles, Orangeburg, Edgefield, Camden, and Columbia.

Also travels to George, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Florida, New York, Maryland, Ohio, North Carolina and to the United States Centennial Celebration in Philadelphia (1876).

11/568/3 Schirmer, Jacob F., 1803-1880

Marriage records, 1881-1886. 1 ms. vol.

11/568/4 Schirmer, Jacob F., 1803-1880

Death records, 1881-1886. 1 ms. vol.

11/568/5 Sass, Edward G., 1758-1849

Register of Deaths, 1806-1880. 1 ms. vol

Register of deaths in Charleston (1806-1880) by E.G. Sass from 1804-1849; by George W. Sass from (1849-1857); and by J.R. Schirmer from 1849-1880. This volume, also known as the Sass Coffin Plate Record, records coffins lettered by E.G. Sass and made by Jacob Sass. Copied from the original by Schirmer.

A note on resource assigned call number history:

The Schirmer Papers were renumbered many years ago, after they had been microfilmed and after portions were published in the *South Carolina Historical Magazine*, vol. 66. The following chart shows the relationship between the old and the new numbers:

34/51 = 11/567/01

34/52 = 11/567/02-3

34/53 = 11/567/04

34/54 = 11/567/05 (index of women's names, ca. 1826-1880)

34/55 = 11/567/06 (ca. 1826-1866)

34/56 = 11/567/07 (1826-1846)

34/57 = 11/567/08 (1847-1852)

34/58 = 11/567/09 (1853-1860)

34/59 = 11/567/10 (1861-1869)

34/60 = 11/568/01 (1870-1880)

34/61 = 11/568/01 (1881-1886)