

JACOB TOL MILLER COLLECTION
BAPT MSS #2
FINDING AID

INTRODUCTION: The journal was given in memory of George Lawrence Ridenour by his daughter Miss Crea Ridenour.

PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION: 1 BOX (.2 cubic feet)

HISTORICAL / BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH: Jacob Tol Miller was born January 22, 1827 in Kentucky. He became a Christian at age ten and in the spring of 1838 joined Rollingfork United Baptist Church of Christ in Nelson County, KY and was baptized by his father that July. He was elected clerk of that church in 1846 and appointed deacon in 1852 and served there until 1856 when he was licensed to preach. He then traveled around the areas with various pastors, preaching in the following churches: Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Taylor County; Good Hope Baptist Church, Taylor County; Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, Taylor County; Mt. Tabor Baptist Church, LaRue County; South Fork Baptist Church, Nolin County; Pleasant Grove Baptist Church, Nolin County; Stewarts Creek, Marion County; and Cedar Creek, Nelson County among others.

In August of 1856 he was ordained by Union Band Church, organized by a group that had left the Rollingfork Church. He continued to travel around preaching and was instrumental in organizing the Lynn Association made up of 12 churches and 1037 members. He served as its first clerk. It is at this point that the journal begins on November 21, 1856.

On May 15, 1858 Miller accepted the pastorate of Severns Valley Church, Elizabethtown(?). He later went to Texas with his first pastorate being at the Bonham Church from October 1, 1882 until October 1, 1883.

INCLUSIVE DATES: 1827-1883, u.d.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTES: The journal begins with a brief autobiographical sketch covering his birth through age 30. It then begins November 21, 1856 and runs until June 27, 1861. There is an entry for December 3, 1863 and then picks up at February 10, 1864. After only a few entries for that year there is a note that says: "For Several years my health has been bad. I have preached but little-kept no journal since the year 1864." There are only a few entries for 1871-1877 and then a series of newspaper clippings are pasted over journal entries. Brief entries then cover the period 1858-1883. The journal ends with three recipes. See bound copy for extensive footnotes and index compiled by Sue Lynn McGuire.

SERIES DESCRIPTION:

Baptist Church History
Clippings
Journal
Kentucky
Texas

CONTAINER LISTS:

BOX 1

FOLDER 1 Journal: (1 item) January 22, 1827-October 1, 1883

FOLDER 2 Journal: (1 item) Photocopy

FOLDER 3 Journal: (2 items) Typescript & Disc with typescript, footnotes, and index

FOLDER 4 Journal: (1 item) Bound typescript with footnotes, and index