SUMMARY INFORMATION

Title: William Walker, A.S.H. Manuscript: “Miss Elizabeth Adams’ Music Book”
Dates: ca. 1832-1833
Accession #: 1975-131
Creator: Walker, William, 1809-1875
Physical Description: 4 x 9 inches
Languages: Collection material in English.
Processing Information: Julia Cowart completed the finding aid in 2016.
Collection Summary: A manuscript collection of anthems, fuging tunes, and hymn tunes transcribed by William Walker ca. 1832-1833. Handwritten and bound in a homemade cloth cover.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition:
The William Walker tune book was purchased from Mr. J. Carl Bailey, Jr. in April 1976. The tune book belonged to Miss Elizabeth R. Adams and had been passed down through the family to Mr. Bailey's grandfather, Rev. J.D. Bailey.

Publication note: The manuscript is discussed in the November 1976 issue of Journal of the South Carolina Baptist Historical Society, which includes a thorough description. The manuscript is also discussed in an article by Milburn Price, then Furman Music Department Chairman, in The Hymn, April 1978.

Related Material:
- Baptist Biography File for William Walker
Biographical Sketch:

William Walker was an American Baptist song leader, shape note "singing master," and compiler of four shape note tune books, the most notable of which was *Southern Harmony*. After the publication of *Southern Harmony*, Walker added A.S.H. (Author of Southern Harmony) after his signature.

Walker was born in Union District, South Carolina, May 6, 1809, and grew up near Spartanburg. To distinguish him from other William Walkers in Spartanburg, South Carolina, he was nicknamed Singin' Billy. He worked as a singing school teacher and a normal school music teacher, in addition to owning a bookstore in Spartanburg. Walker and his family joined the newly-formed Spartanburg Baptist Church in 1839, and he served as a deacon, a frequent messenger to the association, and a leader of congregational singing.

Bailey died in Spartanburg on September 24, 1875 and is buried in Magnolia Cemetery, Spartanburg. Beginning in 1994, Wofford College has hosted an annual William Walker Memorial Singing event of shape note singing.

USING THE COLLECTION

Access Restrictions: Due to the fragility of the original, patron use is limited to microfilm of the original.

Preferred Citation: William Walker, A.S.H. Manuscript, Special Collections and Archives, Furman University, Greenville, S.C.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

A manuscript collection of anthems, fuging tunes, and hymn tunes transcribed by William Walker ca. 1832-1833. Handwritten and bound in a homemade cloth cover. Made up of three sections.

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Miss Elizabeth Adams Music Book 1832
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Miss Elizabeth R. Adams Music Book, June the 29th 1833
Tribulation

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