SUMMARY INFORMATION

Title: William G. Whilden Collection
Dates: 1876, 1880, 1893 and undated
Accession #: 1959-007
Creator: Whilden, William G., 1828-1896
Physical Description: .42 linear feet (1 box)
Languages: Collection material in English.
Summary: Correspondence and research fragments from an amateur historian regarding a planned history of S.C. Baptists.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Acquisition:
William G. Whilden was the source of the S.C. Baptist biographical and historical sketches [Acc. 1959-015], but it is unknown when they were donated. Loulie Latimer Owens gave the Whilden correspondence in 1959, and may have been the one to combine the material.

Related Material
- S.C. Baptist Biography file – William G. Whilden
- William G. Whilden Research Ledgers, Acc. 0000-048
- Belton O. Mauldin Family Correspondence

Biographical Sketch:
Born on August 6, 1828, to Joseph and Elizabeth Whilden, William Whilden was raised the youngest of seven children in Charleston. By the 1860s, Whilden was a merchant, a partner in a firm, Hayden & Whilden military outfitters, which imported British jewelry and silverware in Charleston 1855-1863. In 1863, Whilden became a lieutenant in the elite Confederate Washington Artillery stationed in Charleston.
After the war, Whilden remained in Charleston as a merchant, Wm. G. Whilden & Co. c. 1865-1871. He went bankrupt in 1873, and then moved to Anderson, SC. When he came to Greenville in 1880, he was a Special Agent for several southern states for the Continental Fire Insurance Company.

Whilden married first, Ellen Amelia Taylor (1831 - 1884), and second, Emma Julia Smith Mauldin (1841 - 1930), the widow of Belton Oscar Mauldin, daughter of Thomas P. Smith of Charleston.

Whilden died in Greenville on June 8, 1896.

**USING THE COLLECTION**

**Access Restrictions:** None.

**Preferred Citation:** [Identification of item], William G. Whilden Collection Acc. 1959-007, Special Collections and Archives, Furman University, Greenville, S.C.

**ARRANGEMENT**

This collection is arranged chronologically.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT**

The collection consists of correspondence, a booklet and some holograph fragments by Whilden.

Whilden apparently planned to write a history of S.C. Baptists with a biographical compilation of pastors. Documentation indicates that files containing these sketches were found in the collection in 1959 and apparently were incorporated into the S.C. Baptist Biographies collection at a later point. The booklet and holograph fragments contain names of preachers that Whilden was seeking additional information.

There are two letters from Whilden to Basil Manly, Jr., one written from Charleston, the other from Williamston, with Whilden commenting on Baptist resources used in his research; and a letter to Whilden from Richard H. Griffith, principal at Cooper-Limestone Institute, commenting on Whilden’s work on a history of S.C. Baptists.

**COLLECTION INVENTORY**

Folder 1
- Letter, to Basil Manly, Jr., 1 August 1876 [transcription included]
- Letter, to Basil Manly, Jr., 19 August 1880 [transcription included]
- Letter, from Richard H. Griffith, 14 January 1893

Folder 2 - Booklet and holograph fragments, undated