

C Ficklin, Joseph (1833-1887), Papers, 1851-1908
100 .4 linear feet

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INTRODUCTION

Correspondence pertaining to mathematical science, publication of mathematical books, astronomy, and personal affairs. Also an algebra copybook.

DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by J.W. Connaway on 12 December 1945 (Accession No. 2818).

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Joseph Ficklin was born in Winchester, Clark County, Kentucky, on September 9, 1833. He received his early education in Salvisa, Kentucky. Until 18 years of age he worked on the farm and in his father's wagon shop, devoting all his leisure time to his education.

Ficklin moved with his father to Grundy County, Missouri, and went to New Madrid where he taught his first school. He later returned to Kentucky where he studied mathematics. Returning to Missouri he entered Masonic College, Lexington, until his funds were exhausted and he started teaching in the high school at Trenton.

In 1859, Professor Ficklin accepted the chair of Mathematics in Bloomington Female College, Illinois. In 1860, he took charge of the Public School at Linneus, Linn County, Missouri. He moved to Columbia in 1864 after accepting a position in the Christian Female College.

Ficklin was elected professor of Mathematics and Astronomy in the University of Missouri in 1865. In 1866, the university conferred upon him the honorary degree of Master of Arts, and in 1874, the University of Wisconsin conferred the degree of Doctor of Philosophy. His mathematical works were favorably received by mathematicians. His book, *The Complete Algebra*, was published in 1874 along with a book of algebraic problems with keys. Ficklin also assisted in the preparation of Fish's *The Complete Arithmetic*.

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