

# **JAMES CHAPMAN COLLECTION**

**AR. 639**



Southern Baptist Historical Library & Archives

Updated November, 2011

# James Chapman Collection

## AR. 639

### Summary

Main Entry: James Chapman Collection

Date Span: 1935 – 1949

Abstract: James Chapman was an educational and denominational leader from Alabama, instrumental in organizing the Alabama Baptist Historical Society and the Southern Baptist Historical Society. Chapman was a religion professor at Samford University. The Collection consists primarily of biographical data on prominent Alabama Baptists and includes correspondence related to gathering material and soliciting writers of the biographies.

Size: .75 linear ft.

Collection #: AR 639

### Historical Sketch

James Horton Chapman was born in 1881 in Grove Hill, Alabama. He graduated from the University of Alabama in 1905 and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in 1908. After several years of service as pastor and with the Alabama State Board of Missions, he joined the faculty of Howard College (now Samford University) and established the Department of Religious Education in 1918. Chapman retired in 1958.

In 1933, Chapman was chairman of the committee that led in the establishment of the Alabama Baptist Historical Society and served as their curator from 1936 – 1938. He also served in 1936 on the committee that eventually led to the establishment of the Historical Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention.

### Scope and Content Note

The James Chapman collection consists primarily of biographical material gathered for the possible publication of a biography on Alabama Baptists. The collection includes correspondence seeking information on Baptists and individuals to write the biographies.

Most of the collection includes notes, information and manuscripts relating to prominent Alabama Baptists. A manuscript of the first chapter is included in the material. The volume was never completed or published.

The other portion of the collection is related to the work of the church historian. Those files include writings, clippings, and articles on the function and responsibility of the church historian and the importance of church records.

The material in the collection covers the years 1935 to 1949 and contains 1 linear ft.

### **Arrangement**

Arranged alphabetically by folder title.

### **Preferred Citation**

James Chapman Collection, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, Nashville, Tennessee

### **Access Restrictions**

None

### **Subject Terms**

Chapman, James Horton, 1881 – 1969  
Bomar, Paul William  
Crumpton, Washington Bryan, 1842 – 1926  
Davidson, Augustus Cleveland  
Dawson, Lemuel Orah, 1865 – 1938  
Dickinson, Alfred James, 1864 – 1923  
Dowell, Spright, 1878 – 1963  
Gwaltney, Leslie Lee, 1876 – 1955  
Hobbs, James Randolph, 1874 – 1942  
Montague, Andrew Philip  
Phillips, John Walter, 1855 – 1938  
Stakley, Charles Averett, 1859 – 1937  
Stewart, John William, 1854 – 1928  
Wood, Morgan Marion, 1853 – 1939

### **Container List**

#### **Box 1 General File**

- 1.1 Alabama Baptists Biographies – Chapter One (manuscript)
- 1.2 Alabama Baptist Biographies – Chapter One material
- 1.3 Alabama Baptist Biography – Miscellaneous material
- 1.4 Biographies
- 1.5 Correspondence – Alabama Baptist History, 1935 – 1937
- 1.6 Correspondence – General, 1935, 1949
- 1.7 Correspondence – Publication of Biography
- 1.8 Guidebook for church records / church historian
- 1.9 Guidebook for church records / church historian
- 1.10 History writing (church)
- 1.11 Pelham Heights Encampment (Preachers School)

- 1.12 Prospective students (Howard College), 1916 – 1920
- 1.13 “Records and the writing of history”
- 1.14 Training Union, 1943 – 1946

**Box 2 Biographical Data**

- 2.1 Bomar, Paul Vernon
- 2.2 Crumpton, Washington Bryan
- 2.3 Davidson, Augustus Cleveland
- 2.4 Dawson, Lemuel Orah
- 2.5 Dickinson, Alfred J.
- 2.6 Dowell, Spright
- 2.7 Gwaltney, Leslie Lee
- 2.8 Gwaltney, Leslie Lee
- 2.9 Hobbs, James Randolph
- 2.10 Montague, Andrew Philip
- 2.11 Phillips, John Walker
- 2.12 Stakley, Charles Averett
- 2.13 Stewart, John W.
- 2.14 Wood, Morgan Marion