

**Archives and Special Collections  
Shadek-Fackenthal Library  
Franklin and Marshall College**

**Theodore Appel Family Papers  
MS 4**

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**Contact information:**

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**Summary Information**

Creators

Appel Family  
Appel, Theodore, 1823-1907

Title

Theodore Appel Family Papers

Dates

1836-1933, 1840-1933 (bulk)

Extent

1.5 LF (4 ms. boxes)

Arrangement

Collection organized into folders corresponding to family member, type of material and chronological date.

Language of Materials

All materials in English.

Abstract

In addition to Theodore Appel's correspondence and other materials, the collection includes diaries, notebooks, and daybooks of Charlotte Wolff Appel (1855 Feb 21 - 1940 Sep 29), his daughter, as well as a bound volume of transcripts, typed extracts from various notebooks owned by Theodore Appel, covering the years 1839 to 1903. The transcripts were done in 1939 under the supervision of Hugh Nevin, grandson of Theodore. A table of contents to the transcripts follows the inventory listing. There are additional photographs and publications of Theodore Appel available in the College Archives collection.

Subjects

Appel family--Pennsylvania

Appel, Theodore, 1823-1907--Correspondence.  
Appel, Charlotte Wolff, 1855-1940--Correspondence.  
Marshall College (Mercersburg, Pa.)--Alumni and alumnae--Correspondence.  
Franklin and Marshall College--Faculty--Correspondence.  
Franklin and Marshall College--History.  
Marshall College (Mercersburg, Pa.)--History.

Additional subjects of note:

Franklin and Marshall College -- financial status, 1870's; Marshall College -- student life; seminary education; ministerial duties, 1840's to 50's; genealogy of Appel and Wolff Families; home remedies; Diagnothian Literary Society (Marshall College); astronomy; mathematics; Reformed Church -- Home Missions; domestic life, 1864-1833; china painting; Baltimore, Maryland -- 3rd German Reformed Church; European travel; college agent.

## **Administrative Information**

### Acquisition Information

Ellen Ellery Appel, Gift, 1985.

### Custodial History (Provenance)

Most of the collection was acquired in March and May of 1985 from Ellen (Nellie) Ellery Appel (b. 1903), a granddaughter of Theodore Appel, and combined with Theodore Appel papers already housed in the Archives and Special Collections Dept. Note that as some Appel family members have changed the spelling of their surname from an "el" ending to an "le" ending. This inventory attempts to reflect the correct spellings as used by each family member.

### Access Restrictions

Access unrestricted.

### Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Photocopying and publication may be restricted by copyright. Permission to publish must be secured from the repository and copyright holder.

### Preferred Citation

Theodore Appel Family Papers (MS 4), Archives and Special Collections, Franklin and Marshall College.

### Processing Information

Processed by Charlotte B. Brown, July 1985. Revised by: Charlotte Brown, June 1986; Michael Lear, October 2002. Description based on DACS.

### Accruals

No further accruals are expected.

## **Additional Information**

### Bibliographical Note

For additional biographical information on Theodore Appel,  
see: "Franklin and Marshall College. Obituary Record." v.2, pp. 219-222.

### Alternate Form of Materials (Location of Copies)

Typescript transcriptions of selected notes extracted from personal notebooks of Theodore Appel available in the collection.

### Related Materials

Additional Appel/Apple family material available in: Records of Franklin and Marshall College (RG 1- RG 15), Archives and Special Collections, Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, PA.

## **Historical/Biographical Information**

Theodore Appel (1823-1907) was a member of the first faculty of Franklin and Marshall College. He served as Professor of Mathematics and Mechanical Philosophy from 1853-66 and Professor of Physics and Astronomy, 1866-77. Appel also served as the librarian of the college from 1853 to 1874. In 1886 he wrote "Recollections of College Life at Marshall College..." and in 1889 produced the "Life of John Williamson Nevin..."

Theodore Appel was born in Easton, Pennsylvania and graduated from Marshall College in 1842. Thomas Gilmore Apple (1850) and Joseph Henry Apple (1852) were brothers. Theodore attended the German Reformed Church seminary in Mercersburg, Pa. and served congregations in Maryland and Pennsylvania. He also served as Tutor, 1843-45, at Marshall College and later returned in 1850 to become Professor of Mathematics and Mechanical Philosophy until Marshall College's merger with Franklin College in 1853. Theodore Appel married Susan Burton Wolff, daughter of Bernard C. Wolff, and they had three children: Charlotte Wolff Appel, Mary Elizabeth Appel, Bernard Wolff Appel, and Theodore Burton Appel. In 1877 he was appointed General Superintendent of the Home Missions of the Reformed Church, subsequently becoming the editor of the "Reformed Missionary Herald" and then the "Reformed Church Messenger." He died in Lancaster, Pa. in 1907.

## **Scope and Content Note**

In addition to Appel's correspondence and other materials, the collection includes diaries, notebooks, and daybooks of Charlotte Wolff Appel (1855 Feb 21 - 1940 Sep 29), daughter of Theodore Appel. Also included, is a bound volume of notes extracted and transcribed from various notebooks owned by Theodore Appel, covering the years 1839 to 1903. The transcripts were done in 1939 under the supervision of Hugh Nevin, grandson of Theodore Appel. There are additional photographs and publications of Theodore Appel available in the College Archives collection.

### Correspondents of Note:

|                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Nevin, Theodore W. | Schaff, Philip       |
| Oliver, John H.    | Wolff, Bernard C.    |
| Sartain, John      | Wolff, George Dering |

## Inventory/Contents

Box 1 Appel, Bessie. autograph book. 1873. (1 f).(contains F & M student signatures.)

Appel, Charlotte W. (1855-1940).

Appel, Charlotte W. composition notebook. ca.1886. (1 f).

\_\_\_\_\_. correspondence, miscellaneous items. ca. 1925-29. (1 f).

\_\_\_\_\_. daybook. 1886-1912. (1 f).(contains information on china painting.)

\_\_\_\_\_. daybook. (ca. 1925 ?). (1 f).

\_\_\_\_\_. daybook. n.d. (1 f). (notes on bridge plays, recipes, etc.; this notebook was formerly owned by Bernard C. Wolff and contains his notes on the financial accounts, ca. 1844-1851, of the 3rd German Reformed Church/ Baltimore, Maryland.)

\_\_\_\_\_. diaries. 1864-1910. (7 f).

Box 2 Appel, Charlotte W. (cont.)

Appel, Charlotte W. diaries. 1915-1933. (3 f).

\_\_\_\_\_. quotation book and inserts. ca. 1915-1930. (1 f).

Appel, Theodore. (1823-1907).

Appel, Theodore. correspondence. 1840-1900. (2 f).

\_\_\_\_\_. miscellaneous correspondence. 1860; 1871; n.d. (1 f).

\_\_\_\_\_. expense book. 1868-1871. (1 f).

\_\_\_\_\_. letters, drafts. 1842-1845. (1f).

Box 3 Appel, Theodore. (cont.)

Appel, Theodore. notebook v.1. 1839-45; n.d. (2 f).

\_\_\_\_\_. notebook v.2. 1840-94; n.d. (2 f).

\_\_\_\_\_. notes on proverbs, sayings, etc. n.d. (1 f).

\_\_\_\_\_. transcription, bound. "Extracts from notebooks..." [selections from 1839 -1903]

\_\_\_\_\_. sermons, speeches. 1842; n.d. (1 f).

Box 4 Appel, Theodore. (cont.)

Appel, Theodore. Genealogy

\_\_\_\_\_. "Ancestors/a sketch of life from 1823-1893; Diary from Sept 1895 to Jan 1896." (1 f).

\_\_\_\_\_. childhood and pastoral recollections. ca. 1900. (1 f).

\_\_\_\_\_. family genealogy. v.1. 1900. (1 f).

\_\_\_\_\_. personal notes, mathematical calculations , genealogical information. n.d. (1 f).

Appel, Theodore (cont.). published writings.

\_\_\_\_\_. "The Beginnings of the Theological Seminary." 1886. (1 f).

\_\_\_\_\_. "Creation and Cosmogony." 1877. (1 f).

\_\_\_\_\_. "First Principles, or the Philosophy of Things." 1884. (1 f).

\_\_\_\_\_. "John Williamson Nevin." 1891. (1 f).

\_\_\_\_\_. "Star of the East." 1878. (1 f).

Wolff, Bernard C. (1794-1870).

Wolff, Bernard C. (see listing Appel, Charlotte W. daybook. n.d.)

[Wolff, Bernard C. ?] diary. 1868. (1f).

\_\_\_\_\_. "Memoirs of his life." n.d. (1 f).

\_\_\_\_\_. "Memorandum of accounts with [ministry ?] of the family."  
1864 Aug. (1 f).

Wolff, Susan.

Wolff, Susan. notebook of medicinal cures and remedies. [1836 ?]. (1 f).

*rev 07/30/2009 mrl*