BRAWLEY, Benjamin

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Scope Note

The Benjamin Griffith Brawley Collection totals « linear foot, and is comprised primarily of materials concerning persons and subjects of interest to Benjamin Brawley. The subjects center around writers and include autographed writings, newsclippings, programs and notes. These subject files include, Paul L. Dunbar, Matilda Dunbar, Roland Hayes, James W. Johnson, John Merrick, and Newman I. White.

The collection contains no biographical or career information about Benjamin Brawley. However, there is a significant portion of the collection about Benjamin Brawley's father, Rev. Edward McKnight Brawley. Rev. Brawley, teacher, minister, and college president, is recognized for his efforts in organizing the Colored Baptist Churches and Sunday Schools in South Carolina. This series include a holograph biography of Rev. Brawley.

The collection does include some of Benjamin Brawley's correspondence from 1917-1936. The correspondents include such notables as Frances Grimke, Arthur Huff Fauset, Alain Locke, Newman I. White, and Rayford W. Logan. Also included in the collection are notes written by Brawley as well as some poetry.
Benjamin Griffith Brawley
1882, April 22 Born to Edward M. and Margaret Saphronia (Dickerson) Brawley, in Columbia, S.C.

1898-1901 Attended Atlanta Baptist College (Morehouse College), Atlanta, GA. Received a B.S. degree.

1901 Taught in Georgetown, Florida

1902 Served as Instructor of English, Morehouse College.

1906-1910 Served as Professor of English, Morehouse College.

1906 Received an A.B. degree, University of Chicago, IL.

1908 Received an A.M. degree, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA.

1910-1912 Served as Professor of English, Howard University.

1912 Served as Dean of Morehouse College. Married Hilda Damaris Prowd, of Kingston, Jamaica.

1920 Journeyed to Liberia to do a study of the republic.

1921, June 2 Ordained as a Baptist minister in Boston, MA.

1923-1931 Served as Professor of English at Shaw University, Raleigh, NC.

1931 Accepted a Professorship at Howard University.

1939 Feb. 1 Died in Washington, D.C.
Biographical Sketch

Edward McKnight Brawley
1851, Mar. 18       Born to James M. and Ann L. Brawley (both parents free) in Columbia, S.C.

1870              Entered Howard University, as the first theology student.

1871-1875         Attended Bucknell University, Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, (being the first black student) received a B.A. degree.

1871              Licensed to preach in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania,

1875              Ordained a Baptist minister. Commissioned by the American Baptist Publication Society to South Carolina as a missionary; organized the State Sunday School Convention.

1877              Married Mary Dorrick, of Lynchburg, VA. (died 1878)

1878              Received a M.A. degree, Bucknell University

1879              Married Margaret S. Dickerson, of Columbia, S.C.

1883              Elected President of Alabama Baptist Normal and Theological School (Selma University).

1885              Received an honorary Doctor of Divinity, State University of Louisville, Kentucky.

1887              Began publication of the Baptist Tribune, a weekly newspaper.

1890              Accepted the call to pastorate the First Baptist Church of Petersburg, Virginia the oldest colored Baptist Church in the U.S.

1891              Elected President of the National Baptist Convention

1923              Died in Raleigh, N.C.
### Series Description

**Series A**  
**Edward McKnight Brawley**  
Box 8-1  
Biographical material about Benjamin Brawley's father. Includes programs, and periodicals about Rev. Brawley's church in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania.

**Series B**  
**Correspondence**  
Box 8-1  
Correspondence of Benjamin G. Brawley spanning the period 1917-1936. Includes such notables as Francis J. Grimke, James Weldon Johnson, Alain Locke and Carter G. Woodson.

**Series C**  
**Notes By Benjamin G. Brawley**  
Box 8-1  
Typewritten and holograph notes on subjects of interest to Benjamin Brawley. Includes notes on English literature, Jessie Fauset, "Notable Negroes" and some poetry.

**Series D**  
**Subject Files**  
Box 8-1  
Primarily printed biographical materials about people of interest to Benjamin Brawley materials include, news articles, reprints, programs, and broadsides about such notables as Thomas Paine, C. V. Roman, Matilda Dunbar, and John Merrick.
## Container List

### Series A  Edward McKnight Brawley

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8-1</td>
<td>1  Biographical (holograph)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2  Newsclippings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3  Photo (fund raising brochure)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4  History of the First Baptist Church of Lewisburg, PA.</td>
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1844-1894

| 5  | The Sunday School Teacher April 1923  |
| 6  | Centennial Pithecological Magazine, Univ. of Lewisburg, April 1875  |

### Series B  Correspondence

| 7  | A - B  |
| 8  | C - I  |
| 9  | Couch, W. T. (Univ. of N.C. Press)  |
| 10 | Dodd, Frank C. (Dodd, Mead & Co.)  |
| 11 | Fauset, Arthur Huff  |
| 12 | Fisher; Miles Mark  |
| 13 | Greene, Lorenzo J.  |
| 14 | Grimke, Francis J.  |
| 15 | J - P  |
| 16 | Johnson, Charles S.  |
| 17 | Johnson, James Weldon  |
| 18 | Keck-Wiggins, Lida  |
| 19 | Locke, Alain  |
| 20 | Logan, Rayford W.  |
| 21 | Peck, Naomi Grant  |
| 22 | Q - Z  |
| 23 | White, Newman I.  |
| 24 | Woodson, Carter G.  |

### Series C  Notes By Benjamin G. Brawley

| 25  | Paul Laurence Dunbar  |
| 26  | English Literature  |
| 27  | Jessie Fauset  |
| 28  | Richard B. Harrison  |
| 29  | William A. Hunton  |
Container List

Series C  Notes By Benjamin G. Brawley continued
Box  Folder
8-1  

30  The Minister As A Professional Man
31  Negro Painters and Sculptors
32  The Seven Sleepers of Ephesus, and other poems
33  Thirty Notable Negroes
34  Notes

Series D  Subject Files
biographical information
35  Cotter, Joseph S., and Maria Cox - writings and

36  Dillard, James H. writings by Dillard
37  Dunbar, Matilda T. biographical sketches
38  Dunbar, Paul Laurence - newsclippings
39  Paul Laurence Dunbar, Jr. High School, Dayton, Ohio

Dedication
Program - 1933
40  Hayes, Roland, and Lawrence, M. W. - programs, article
41  Johnson, James Weldon - reviews of Johnson's writings
42  Merrick, John - biographical sketch
43  Murphy, Meta Hunt - poem (autographed)
44  Thomas Paine, the Great Liberator of Man
45  Roman, C. V. - writing by Roman (autographed)
46  Rose, James E. - program, report
47  White, Charles Fred - press notices
48  White, Newman I. - writings by White (autographed)
49  English Literature - newsclippings on various writers