

**Congregational Library & Archives**  
**Ohio Central Christian Conference ledger, 1829-1896.**  
**RG5068**

## Summary

**Creator:** Ohio Central Christian Conference  
Walter, Isaac N., 1805-1856

**Title:** Ohio Central Christian Conference ledger, 1829-1896.

**Dates:** 1829-1896

**Extent:** 1 oversize flat box (0.6 cubic feet)

**Collection ID Number:** RG5068

**Language:** English

**Abstract:** The Ohio Central Christian Conference formed in 1829. Its first president was Jacob Rabb and first secretary Isaac N. Walter. The collection is one ledger book and runs consistently from 1829 through 1896. The book includes an introduction, list of ministers and events, officers, and conference session minutes.

## Collection History and Status

**Acquisition Information:** Gift donated September 2013.

**Repository:**

Congregational Library & Archives

14 Beacon Street

Boston, MA 02108

617-523-0470

<http://www.congregationallibrary.org>

**Processing Information:** Processed by Jessica Steytler, September 2013, using DACS Second Edition.

## Accessing and Using the Collection

**Conditions Governing Access:** Access to this collection is unrestricted and open to the public.

**Physical Access:** Ledger book is oversized, very heavy, and has a detached front board. Researchers must use CLA's custom book cradle. CLA Staff must place ledger on and off the cradle.

**Copyright:** Items in this collection are subject to U.S. Copyright Law. It is the responsibility of the researcher to determine the copyright status of collection items and to secure any permissions necessary for their reproduction and publication. Requests for permission to publish material must be discussed with the archivist or librarian.

**Preferred Citation:**

[Identification of item], in the Ohio Central Christian Conference ledger, 1829-1896 RG5068.  
The Congregational Library & Archives, Boston, MA.

## Description

**Historical Note:** “The Christians came into existence as a separate and distinct organization with the avowed purpose of seeking to unite all the true followers of the Lord Jesus Christ, of every persuasion, by breaking down party spirit and sectarian feeling, and in fusing into the hearts and minds of all lovers of the common Saviour, a more liberal spirit, and inducing them to pursue a more liberal practice.” *Annual of the Christian Church for 1872* vol. II edited by Rev. W. B. Wellons 1873 p.3

The Christian denomination began in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century. *The Herald of Gospel Liberty* newspaper helped the disparate sections of the denomination together. In 1931, the Christians and Congregationalists merged to form one denomination, which is now half of the current United Church of Christ.

The Ohio Central Christian Conference formed in 1829. Its first president was Jacob Rabb and first secretary Isaac N. Walter. At that time, they called themselves the Sunbury Christian Conference, owing to the first meeting's proximity to the town of that name. The following year, they changed the name to Ohio Central. The Conference continued on, past when this ledger ended in 1896; the Congregational Library & Archives has copies of annual meeting proceedings through the mid-1920s.

**Scope of Collection:** The collection is one ledger book and runs consistently from 1829 through 1896. The book includes an introduction, list of ministers and events, officers, and conference session minutes. Within the sessions are minutes of the meetings and events; lists of churches ministers, and delegates; and after 1889, statistical information for churches and Sunday schools; and ministers reports. The Articles of Incorporation are transcribed in 1893. A few loose certificates of good standing from 1847 and a letter from 1894 are sandwiched in the 1896 pages. A separate list of ministers is included on page 11. Isaac Walter uses the last page of the ledger to observe on the state of the Conference and his concerns about its well-being. He had that page sealed with a cautionary note that it should not be opened during his lifetime. It is unclear when the page was revealed. There is still evidence of sealing wax on the confessional page.

### **Further Searches**

#### **Subject Headings:**

Christian Church (Denomination).  
Ohio Central Christian Conference.  
Church records and registers - Ohio.  
Walter, Isaac Newton, 1805-1856.  
Rabb, Jacob.

#### **Related Materials held at the Congregational Library & Archives:**

Proceedings of the Ohio Central Conference, 1900-1926, gaps (16.7.5 1003)  
Christian Church biographical and historical pamphlets (16.7.5. 74)  
McKinney, A.L. *Memoir of Eld. Isaac N. Walter* (W17.35M)

**Arrangement:** One ledger book, introduction and lists followed by recordings of sessions. Note: There are several blank pages, but the final page of the ledger has a note written by Isaac Walter