

Augusta County Historical Society
Acc #174
Charter of the Staunton Female Seminary
1887

Size: 1 folder

Scope & Content

This file consists of the original manuscript dated September 1887 which was presented to Judge William McLaughlin in the Circuit Court for Augusta County, Virginia. The eight signers had formed a corporation to purchase land and construct buildings for the purpose of instructing girls and young ladies. The school would be named Staunton Female Seminary. The charter was granted on the condition that the company pay all taxes and levies.

Historical/Biographical Note

The Staunton Female Seminary was in existence before the charter was granted in 1878. Rev. Joseph Irenaeus Miller, a Lutheran minister, founded it in 1870. In 1871 the catalogue listed 12 teachers and 43 students. Enrollment peaked at 83 in 1877. Mrs. Flora Cooke Stuart, widow of confederate General J.E.B. Stuart, came to Staunton Female Seminary in 1877 to teach English literature, instrumental music, and drawing. The school was in turmoil over the years due to personal disputes. Financial problems and an unsuccessful effort to get the Synod to take responsibility for the school led to another reorganization in 1886. Through the efforts of several Augusta County Lutherans, the school was kept in operation until 1896.

Organization/Arrangement

One item

Miscellaneous