



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

**A Finding Aid to the
Bernhard Felsenthal Papers**

Manuscript Collection No. 153



Collection Summary

Title	Bernhard Felsenthal Papers
Dates	1847-1964
Collection Number	MS-153
Repository	The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives
Creator	Felsenthal, Bernhard, 1822-1908
Extent	1.2 linear feet (3 Hollinger boxes)
Language of the Material	English and German

Administrative Information

Biographical Sketch Rabbi and author, Bernhard Felsenthal was born in Muenchweiler, near Kaiserslautern, Germany on January 2, 1822. He was educated in Kaiserslautern and Munich, then taught for a decade in a small Jewish congregational school. In 1854 he emigrated to the United States. He was rabbi and teacher in Madison, Indiana for three years. In 1858 he moved to Chicago, Illinois and was employed by a bank. He participated in the founding and early development of Chicago's Sinai Congregation and became its first rabbi in 1861. In 1864 Felsenthal declined reelection and became rabbi of newly founded Zion Congregation in West Chicago, where he remained for 23 years. In 1887 he was elected rabbi emeritus and retired to the life of a scholar. Felsenthal was an early champion of reform Judaism and also an early advocate of Zionism. He advocated the foundation of the American Jewish Historical Society; and as a corresponding member of the Chicago Historical Society he read a paper concerning the Israelites of Chicago in 1863. Felsenthal died in Chicago on January 12, 1908.

Scope and Content Collection containing correspondence, writings, sermons, lectures, family history, memorials, and travel notes.

Terms of Access The collection is open for use; no restrictions apply.

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Preferred Citation Footnotes and bibliographic references should refer to the Bernhard Felsenthal Papers and the American Jewish Archives. A suggestion for at least the first citation is as follows:

[Description], [Date], Box #, Folder #. MS-153. Bernhard Felsenthal Papers. American Jewish Archives, Cincinnati, Ohio.

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Index Terms

Subjects	Jews -- Illinois -- Chicago / Rabbis / Reform Judaism
Personal Names	Einhorn, David, 1809-1879 / Felsenthal, Bernhard, 1822-1908
Corporate Names	Zion Congregation (Chicago, Ill.)
Media	Sermons

Series A. General, 1847-1964

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1. Folder 1. General correspondence, A-B.

Box 1. Folder 2. Adler, Cyrus, 1887-1920

Box 1. Folder 3. Adler, Felix, 1874-1902

Box 1. Folder 4. Bien, Julius, 1872-1906

Box 1. Folder 5. Bush, Isidor, 1884-1897

Box 1. Folder 6. General correspondence, C-E.

Box 1. Folder 7. Zion Congregation (Chicago, Ill.), 1864-1874

Box 1. Folder 8. Collections for the Jews of Palestine, 1847-1878

Box 1. Folder 9. Deutsch, Gotthard, 1894-1907, 1920-1921

Box 1. Folder 10. Ehrlich, Arnold B., 1898-1899

Box 1. Folder 11. Einhorn, David, 1849-1860

Box 1. Folder 12. Einhorn, David, 1861-1865

Box 1. Folder 13. Einhorn, David, 1866-1879, undated

Box 1. Folder 14. Ensel, Gustavus S., 1879-1882

Box 2. Folder 1. General correspondence, F-G.

Box 2. Folder 2. Eelsenthal, Henrietta B., recollections, 1901

Box 2. Folder 3. Geiger, Ludwig, 1862-1874

Box 2. Folder 4. Gersoni, Henry, 1878-1885, 1892-1896

Box 2. Folder 5. Gottheil, Gustav, 1878-1897

Box 2. Folder 6. Gottheil, Richard J.H., 1888-1903

Box 2. Folder 7. General correspondence, H-K.

Box 2. Folder 8. Jastrow, Morris, 1890-1902, undated

Box 2. Folder 9. Kohler, Kaufman, 1869-1910

Box 2. Folder 10. Kohler, Max J., 1893-1909

Box 2. Folder 11. Kohut, Alexander, 1891-1897

Box 2. Folder 12. Kohut, George Alexander, 1893-1905

Box 2. Folder 13. General correspondence, L-M.

Box 2. Folder 14. Landsberg, Max, 1882-1892, 1905

Box 2. Folder 15. Libowitz, Nehemiah Samuel, 1896-1898

Box 2. Folder 16. Mayer, Maurice, 1856-1867

Box 2. Folder 17. Mielziner, M., 1868-1896

Box 2. Folder 18. General correspondence, N-R.

Box 2. Folder 19. North American Relief Society for Indigent Jews in Jerusalem, Palestine, 1852-1886

Box 2. Folder 20. Philipson, David, 1896-1904

Box 2. Folder 21. Rosenthal, Julius, 1872-1900

Box 3. Folder 1. General correspondence, S.

Box 3. Folder 2. Schorr, Osias H., 1875-1890

Box 3. Folder 3. Sonneschein, Solomon H., 1880-1904

- Box 3. Folder 4. Stern, David, 1882-1885
- Box 3. Folder 5. Sulzberger, Mayer, 1893-1901
- Box 3. Folder 6. Szold, Benjamin, 1878-1902
- Box 3. Folder 7. Szold, Henrietta, 1896-1907, undated
- Box 3. Folder 8. General correspondence, T-Z.
- Box 3. Folder 9. Wise, Isaac M., 1879,1881,1885
- Box 3. Folder 10. Wise, Stephen S., 1898, 1900
- Box 3. Folder 11. Wolf, Simon, 1868-1906
- Box 3. Folder 12. Unidentified correspondence, 1869-1902, undated
- Box 3. Folder 13. Family history compiled by Alex J. Goldman, 1964
- Box 3. Folder 14. Memorials, 1902, 1922
- Box 3. Folder 15. Travel notes, 1854-1857
- Box 3. Folder 16. Writings, C-W and untitled.