

Kenrick Cash Book 1848-1858
FNCL/2110

Archbishop Peter Richard Kenrick and/or Father Ambrose Heim maintained this cash book from November 1, 1848 to December 31, 1858. The first 50 pages or so contains the cash book from 1848-1858. The page numbering ends at 16. Towards the end of the book, there is a 7-page section containing dates, names, and columns called "compt." "secn. lot," and "price." This is likely related to sections and lots in Calvary Cemetery. The entries are dated September 25, 1854 to August 9, 1855.

Father Ambrose Heim was from Lorraine, France and spoke German as well. He recognized the need of German immigrants to safely borrow and store money, as the economic situation made banks untrustworthy. The financial panic of 1837 resulted in a long-lasting depression and high interest rates through the 1840s. When Archbishop Kenrick learned of the makeshift bank, he adopted the idea for the "Bishop's Bank" to provide low-interest loans, mostly to immigrants who often struggled financially. He appointed Fr. Heim as his secretary in 1847.