

Charles Harris Papers

MS – 194

Wright State University
Department of Special Collections and Archives

Introduction

The Charles Harris Papers were accessioned into the Wright State University Department of Archives and Special Collections in September 1989. They were donated by Charles Harris' son, Dale Harris. The collection consists of eleven letters and postcards and transcripts of the letters and postcards. The span dates for the collection are 1901 to 1916.

Linear feet of space occupied: .25

Number of Hollinger boxes: 1

There are no restrictions placed upon this collection.

Biographic Sketch

Charles Harris was born in 1852 and was the son of Sarah Wright Harris and Charles Harris. His mother was the sister of Milton Wright and after her death Milton watched after her children from afar. Charles Harris lived in Lincoln Kansas where he married May Waite in 1881 and opened a hardware store. He later moved to Iowa where served as a post master. He remarried Lillian Angus and together they had four children: Mabel, Max, Charles Bryan, and Dale. The date of his death is unknown at this time.

Scope and Content

The Charles Harris Papers consist of ten letters and postcards written by Bishop Milton Wright, the father of Orville and Wilbur Wright, to his nephew Charles Harris who lived in Iowa. An additional letter is addressed to Harris' daughter, Mabel Harris, and is also from Bishop Wright.

The eleven letters date from December 28, 1901 through June 10, 1916, and cover a variety of subjects including description of Wilbur and Orville's flying experiments and travels to Europe, discussion of family matters and the personalities of the Wright children and grandchildren, and a description of Wilbur's death and funeral in 1912. The letters are candid and open, giving interesting insights into Bishop Wright's feelings about his children. The letters have been encapsulated for their preservation as well as photocopied.

Container Listing

<u>Box</u>	<u>File</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	Correspondence December 28, 1901 January 1, 1902 December 8, 1902 December 16, 1902 March 3, 1909 May 26, 1909 July 20, 1912 January 29, 1913 January 8, 1915 December 13, 1915 June 10, 1916
1	2	Transcripts