

A1824

Ruth Eliot Johnson Collection, 1848-1960

6 folders

Processed by Dennis Northcott, June 2010

REPOSITORY

Missouri History Museum Archives

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DONOR INFORMATION

Collection was donated by Ruth Eliot Johnson in 1982.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Ruth Eliot Johnson was the granddaughter of Thomas Lamb Eliot (1841-1936), a Unitarian minister in Portland, Oregon. She was the great-granddaughter of William Greenleaf Eliot, one of the founders of Washington University in St. Louis.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection includes several letters written by William Greenleaf Eliot; papers relating to Washington University; papers relating to the Church of the Messiah; and papers of the Eliot family. The papers are arranged in the following series: William Greenleaf Eliot Letters; Washington University; Eliot Family; Publications; and Miscellaneous.

William Greenleaf Eliot Letters Series

Folder 1

- 1848 Jan Letter signed W.G.E. [William Greenleaf Eliot] to James.
- 1864 Dec 27 Letter signed W.G. Eliot [William Greenleaf Eliot] to Sarah [Sarah Smith].
- 1865 Aug 11 Letter signed W.G. Eliot [William Greenleaf Eliot] to Sarah [Sarah Smith].
- 1876 Apr 6 Letter signed W.G. Eliot [William Greenleaf Eliot] to Sarah [Sarah Smith].
- 1886 June 1 Postcard signed W.G.E. [William Greenleaf Eliot] to Rev. T.L. Eliot, Portland, Oregon. Postcard is postmarked "St. Louis."
- [no year] June 19 Letter signed W.G. Eliot [William Greenleaf Eliot] to Sarah [Sarah Smith].
- No date Letter signed W.G. Eliot [William Greenleaf Eliot] to Sarah [Sarah Smith].

Washington University Series

Folder 2

- 1887-1890 Washington University scholarship reports of Minna Charlotte Sessinghaus. (4 items)
- 1888 List of students of the class of 1888 showing their scholarship averages.
- 1890 June 12 Washington University commencement program. (two copies)
- [no year] May 13 Program titled "Washing University, Underground Apartment. "Steenth Annular Combat in Rat or [Hic] and O *Rat* Ion. For Chanticleers' Prize Package."
- 1907 June 20 Program for the exercises at the 46th annual commencement and the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the inauguration of Washington University. (23 pages)
- 1928 June 5 "Adventures in Idealism": Typescript address delivered at the commencement exercises of Washington University, June 5, 1928, by the Reverend Christopher Rhodes Eliot, LL.D. (18 pages)

- 1953 May 24 Photocopy of *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* newspaper clipping titled “‘A Thumbnail History’ of Washington U. by Dean A.S. Langsdorf.”
- 1953 June 9 Washington University centennial award certificate awarded to Reverend William Greenleaf Eliot, College of Liberal Arts, class of 1888.
- 1953 Oct 11 Photocopy of *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* newspaper article titled “Washington U. Presented Plaque in Honor of Dr. Eliot.”

Eliot Family Series

Folder 3

- 1887 Mar 13 Pamphlet titled “In Memoriam. Rev. Wm. G. Eliot, D.D., and Rev. Henry Ward Beecher. A Sermon Preached Before the First Congregational Church in Lexington, Mass., Sunday Morning, March 13, 1887.”
- 1888 June 1 Handwritten thesis for graduation from Washington University by W.G. Eliot, Jr., titled “The Psychic Basis of Superstition.” (14 pages)
- 1897 Mar 30 Typescript copy of will of Abby A. Eliot of St. Louis, Mo.
- 1901 July 1 Typescript letter of S. Waterhouse, St. Louis, Mo., to “dear friend Eliot.”
- 1908 Nov 25 Typescript inventory of household items. (2 pages)
- 1934 Printed address by George Reeves Throop, chancellor of Washington University, titled “William Greenleaf Eliot,” delivered on November 25, 1934, at the Church of the Messiah, St. Louis. (12 pages)
- 1948 Sept 14 Invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Bailey Young to the marriage of their daughter Mary Deane Young to John Southern Vickroy at the Webster Groves Presbyterian Church in Webster Groves, Mo.
- [no year] Dec 5 Invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Sears P. Doolittle to the marriage of their daughter Margaret Ann Doolittle to William Rees Vickroy at the Washington, D.C.
- No date Typescript memorandum signed “E.C.E.” regarding the claim against the John Cavender estate arising out of the bond made for John S. Cavender as executor.

No date Photocopy of newspaper clipping titled "Tribute to Mrs. Eliot" regarding Mrs. William G. Eliot.

Folder 4

no date Handwritten essay of M.C. Sessinghaus titled "A Short History of German Literature." (96 pages)

Publications Series

Folder 5

1916 Mar 29 Printed address titled "A Short History of the Church of the Messiah," delivered before the Men's Club of the church by Henry Ware Eliot, Jr.

1925 Booklet titled "Lincoln in Springfield: A Guide to the Places in Springfield Which Were Associated with the Life of Abraham Lincoln." (30 pages)

1926 Sept Issue of the *Missouri Botanical Garden Bulletin*, Volume XIV, Number 7.

1947 Booklet titled "St. Louis and the Union Electric Company" by J.W. McAfee. (34 pages)

1950 Oct 29 Issue of "The St. Louis Unitarian," Volume V, Number 8. Published by the First Unitarian Church, 5015 Waterman Blvd., St. Louis, Mo.

1960 Pamphlet titled "125 Years of Unitarianism in Saint Louis, 1835-1960." (12 pages)

Miscellaneous Series

Folder 6

1871 Newspaper clipping titled "Thirty-Six Years in St. Louis" regarding the 36th anniversary of the Church of the Messiah.

1886 July Printed assistants' examinations on the subjects of algebra, geography, history and constitution, arithmetic, natural science, and grammar.

1887-1889 Handwritten address by E.H. Wuerpel titled "Tio Huerto." (19 pages)

Circa 1893 Printed "Plan of Reorganization of the St. Louis Society of Pedagogy." (8 pages)

1893 Dec 31

Program for the service in memory of Rev. John C. Learned,
Church of the Unity.

No date

Handwritten address titled "Memory" (7 pages).