This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shresearch@umsystem.edu.

These are business papers, correspondence, and printed material of Carleton College (1854-1916) and its alumni association, and newspaper clippings pertaining to the history of the school, located in Farmington, St. Francois County, Missouri. A postcard of the science hall at Carleton College, donated after the bulk of the collection was microfilmed, has been placed in the Information Folder.

Carleton College was chartered by the State of Missouri in 1859 as Carleton Institute. The founder was Eliza A. Carleton, a native of Virginia who came to Missouri with her family in 1843. She taught at Hickory Cabin School in Perry County, Missouri, and then attended Arcadia College, from which she received a degree. A staunch Methodist, Carleton had intended to go to China as a missionary with her intended husband, but upon his death she decided to remain in St. Francois County with her family and establish a college. She began to accept students in 1854 to her school on Big River eight miles from Farmington.

The Carleton Institute remained on Big River until 1878, when it was moved to larger quarters in Farmington. Some time after the move the school became known as Carleton College. The institution was co-educational, and it accepted both day and boarding students. The curriculum included high school and college courses, and featured classes in natural science, philosophy, the classics, music, and elocution. The instruction, although avowedly Christian, was traditionally non-sectarian, even after the school was deeded to the St. Louis Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church in 1885. The church operated the school until declining enrollment forced its closure, evidently due to competition from publicly funded schools and colleges. The last class from Carleton graduated in June 1916.

The Carleton College collection contains a variety of business papers, printed material, and house publications representing the Institute and College, and newspaper clippings containing historical information about the school and its students. There is also one folder of material from the Carleton College Alumni and Former Student Association, which held the last of its reunions in Farmington in 1976. An alumnus, Charles A. Smith of Northville, Michigan, who, along with Mary S. Cookson of St. Louis, assembled most of the material in this collection, organized the reunion.

Folders 1-4: Carleton College, Carleton Institute, and alumni association papers and
Folder 1: Carleton Institute, 1859-1877.
Act of Incorporation of Carleton Institute, 1859; last will and testament of Eliza Carleton, 1866; correspondence; miscellaneous items.

Folder 2: Programs, 1877-1915.
Printed programs and announcements for recitals, exhibitions, and commencement exercises at Carleton Institute and Carleton College.

Folder 3: Printed material, 1875-1913.
House publications, including the first issue of *The Exponent* (February 1875), published by Carleton Institute, and seven issues of *The Carletonian* (1909-1913), published by Carleton College.

Folder 4: Carleton College Alumni and Former Student Association, 1931-1976.
Correspondence, membership information, and printed material.

Folders 5-6: Newspaper clippings.


Folder 6: Newspaper clippings, n.d.

*Index Cards*

Carleton, Eliza A., 1826-1915.
Carleton College (Farmington, Mo.).
Carleton Institute (Farmington, Mo.) **SEE** Carleton College (Farmington, Mo.).
Farmington (Mo.).
Independent Order of Odd Fellows
Saint Francois County (Mo.)—Genealogy.
Schools—Missouri—Saint Francois County.
Schools—Records—correspondence.