

MS-194 Charles Harris Papers

Collection Number: MS-194

Title: Charles Harris Papers

Dates: 1901-1916

Creator: Harris, Charles

Summary/Abstract: Consists of 11 letters and postcards written by Bishop Milton Wright, father of the Wright Brothers, to his nephew Charles Harris who lived in Iowa. Letters date from 1901 thru 1916 and cover a variety of subjects including Orville and Wilbur's flying experiments, travels to Europe, family matters, and a description of Wilbur's death and funeral in 1912.

Quantity/Physical Description: .25 linear feet

Language(s): English

Repository:

Special Collections and Archives, Paul Laurence Dunbar Library, Wright State University, Dayton, OH 45435-0001, (937) 775-2092.

Restrictions on Access: There are no restrictions on accessing material in this collection.

Restrictions on Use:

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Preferred Citation:

MS-194, Charles Harris Papers, Special Collections and Archives, University Libraries, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio.

Acquisition: 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.

Related Material: MS-1 Wright Brothers Collection

Processed by: Archives staff

Arrangement: Arranged chronologically.

Biographical Note:

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 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.

Subject Terms:

Persons/Families

Harris, Charles

Harris, Mabel

Wright, Milton, 1828-1917

Wright, Wilbur, 1867-1912

Wright, Orville, 1871-1948

Material Types

Letters (correspondence)

Postcards

Transcripts

Collection Inventory

<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