

**University of Oklahoma Libraries  
Western History Collections**

**Samuel W. Robertson Collection**

**Robertson, Samuel W. (b. 1860). Papers, 1876–1939. .33 foot.**

Teacher. Correspondence (1876–1931) between Robertson and his parents, mostly regarding family life and mission activities; and an autobiography of Samuel W. Robertson, with biographical information on Robertson's parents, William S. and Ann W. Robertson, who were Presbyterian missionaries to the Creek Indians.

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**Box R-40**

**Folder 1: Letters from Rev. and Mrs. W.S. Robertson to their son, Samuel W. Robertson, at St. Johnsbury Academy and Dartmouth College.**

- a) Letter. Rev. W.S. Robertson to Samuel W. Robertson, with note added by Ann Eliza Worcester Robertson (Nov. 9-10, 1876). re: opening of school (Tulahassee Mission); pecan and corn crop; fires, school exhibits at fair; improvements at mission; trip to Choska(?); visit to Laffarin(?) before death. Handwritten. 1 page, both sides.
- b) Letter. Rev. W.S. Robertson to S.W. Robertson with unsigned note added by Ann Eliza Worcester Robertson (Nov. 23, 1876) written in Okmulgee, with notes added after return to Tullahassee. re: trip to Okmulgee, refusal of Council to sell land to Seminoles; selection of eighteen young men to be sent to church schools in the States; establishment of Baptist School for fifty boys "out near Barnetts." Handwritten. 1 page, both sides.
- c) Two letters on one page.
  - 1) Ann Eliza Worcester Robertson to S.W. Robertson (Tulahassee, Dec. 25, 1876). re: wish for a happy Christmas; illness, perhaps fatal, of Barney; change in James Scott.
  - 2) William S. Robertson to S.W. Robertson (n.d.) re: wish for happy Christmas; weather observations; destinations of eighteen young men mentioned in letter of Nov. 23, 1876 (1-b above); Porter family gone to Washington; boys' hunting; packing and shipping pecans. (Pencil note added by S.W.R.: "These two letters show the contrast between Mother & Father." Handwritten, 1 page, both sides.)
- d) Letter. W.S. Robertson to "My dear Children" with note added by Grace L. Robertson to S.W. Robertson (Okmulgee, Oct. 18, 1877). re: licensing of Mr. Fife; trip to Okmulgee; council meeting concerning school matters; purchase of croquet sets for Tullahassee; acting as "Chaplain" in Senate Chamber; visit to Rev. Samuel Checotes (?); Sabbath School class; arrest of John Post Oak for killing man and wife; revision of Luke; Choctaws' impeachment of their Chief. Note added by Grace L. Robertson apologizes for negligence in forwarding letter. Handwritten. 1 page; both sides.

- e) Letter. William S. Robertson to S.W. Robertson (August 29, 1879). re: advice about friends and societies; benefits of oration and debate; avoidance of secret societies; family news. Handwritten. 1 partial page, both sides.
- f) Letter. W.S. Robertson to S.W. Robertson with added note by Ann E.W. Robertson (January 21-24, 1880). re: difficulty of letter writing; Mr. Cray's lack of helpfulness; hanging meat in smokehouse; farm chores; mules, scarcity of corn; advice about lessons, "that Cherokee", and not being led astray. Note from mother mentions Dr. Roberts and circular; revisions of Luke. Handwritten on Tullahassee Manual Labor School letterhead, 1 page 5" x 8", both sides.
- g) Letter. W.S. Robertson to S.W. Robertson (February 2, 1880). re: sickness to Alice; spring-like weather; new cutter; discharge of Robt. Casley, Supt. of the Col (?) high school; new R.R. route; visit from Aunt Mary and two boys; entrance of "that Cherokee" in coll.; advice about health, eyes, and studying. Added notes. re: sending of draft, stamping of check, and sending books from mission. Handwritten on Tullahassee Manual Labor School Letterhead. 1 page 5" x 8", both sides.
- h) Two letters on one sheet.
  - 1) W.S. Robertson to Rev. Thos. Perryman (February 22, 1880). re: good wishes; questions about travels; hopes for completing Luke; Chief Checote's (?) approval of Acts.
  - 2) W.S. Robertson to S.W. Robertson (n.d.) re: sending Creek letters to prevent S.W.R.'s forgetting Creek; Jay Gould and Congress, possible destruction of Creek Nation; news about farm and school; Augusta's child born. Handwritten on Tullahassee Manual Labor School letterhead. 1 page 5" x 8", both sides.
- i) Two letters on one sheet.
  - 1) W.S. Robertson to S.W. Robertson, dictated to A.E.W. Robertson (Tullahassee, May 19, 1880). re: money order; S.W.R.'s vacation; W.S.R.'s eye trouble; effect of drought; bad influences on Creek boys who are away; extremes in college baseball and boat-racing.
  - 2) Ann E.W.R. to Samuel W.R. (n.d.) re: Dartmouth's defeat of Brown in baseball; effect of baseball on scholarship; possible injury to hands; new inhalation treatment for Mr. Craig. Both letters handwritten. 1 page, both sides. Notation on first side: "Mother takes dictation from Father."
- j) Note. To Prof. Dale, unsigned (n.d.) re: possible usefulness of letters listed above. Note is attached to sheet of paper, which was folded around letters with heading "Letters of Rev. & Mrs. W.S. Robertson to their son, Samuel W. Robertson, in Academy & College."

**Folder 2: Three letters from Creek ministers to W.S. Robertson in Creek language** (1880). re: requests for favors. Accompanied by two written explanations by S.W. Robertson. Handwritten, 4 pages and 1 sheet 3" x 5", one side each.

**Folder 3: Proposed agreement between U.S. and Creek Nation.**

- a) "Agreement between the U.S. Commissioners to Negotiate with the Five Civilized Tribes, and the Commissioners on the Part of the Muskogee or Creek Nation" (n.d.) re: general allotment of land; special allotments to Mrs. A.E.W. Robertson, Mrs. H.F. Buckner, Harrell Institute, Henry Kendall College, Nazareth Institute, and Baptist University; reservations, titles, townsites, claims, jurisdiction of courts, enactments of National Council. Printed. 4 pages, both sides.
- b) Cover sheet for Agreement listed in 3a with handwritten note stating that agreement "was not accepted" [Samuel W. Robertson's handwriting?] (n.d.).
- c) Handwritten note signed by "S.W.R." re: effort to confer citizenship [in Creek Nation] on his father's family.

**Folder 4: Robertson Family Vital Statistics**

- a) "Vital Statistics of the Tullahassee Robertsons as Recorded in the Robertson Family Bible" with attestation by S.W. Robertson (February 3, 1938, Santa Barbara, California). re: birthdates and birthplaces, dates and places of death, and marriage information. Typed, 2 pages.
- b) List of burial places of William S., Ann E. W., John Williams, Ann Augusta, Mary Alice, and Grace Leeds Robertson (n.d.) Typed, 1 page.

**Folder 5: Information about Tullahassee Mission and list of publications.**

- a) Note concerning founding of Tullahassee Mission with statement by S.W. Robertson (February 3, 1938) that handwriting is that of Augusta Robertson Moore. re: location, building, opening of school. Handwritten on back of 3 ½" x 5" mailing envelope which has been glued to 8 ½" x 11" sheet.
- b) Cover Sheet for diagrams of Tullahassee Mission drawn by S.W. Robertson (February 5, 1938, Santa Barbara, Calif.). Gives dimensions of building. Diagrams are not included in collection.
- c) List headed by "Creek Books" of ten books followed by note signed by S.W.R. Four books are translations from the Bible, two are readers, two are song and hymn books, one concerns church doctrine, one is entitled *Come to Jesus*. All are translated or revised by W.S. or A.E.W. Robertson, some with the help of D. Winslett and John McKillop. Handwritten, 1 page.
- d) Carbon Copy of autobiographical sketch by S.W. Robertson entitled "Tullahassee No More" (n.d.) re: transfer of personal property of Tullahassee to school at Wealaka. Original copy of this sketch is included as p.50 (unnumbered) in "The Story of My Times" by S.W. Robertson. (See F13 of this collection). Typed, 1 page.

**Folder 6: Specimens of work from the Tullahassee Printing Office.**

- a) "Specimens of Work from the Tullahassee Printing Office" with cover sheet stating "Set by W.S. Robertson; Press Work by S.W. Robertson". Specimen has penciled note by S.W. Robertson: "Seems to me, father set the type for this."

There is also a penciled translation of the last two lines of specimen by "S.W.R. 61 yrs. after he left home." 5 ½" x 7" sheet, one side.

- b) "Catalogue of the Officers and Pupils of Tullahassee Manual Labor School, Creek Nation." Lists 80 pupils, 7 teachers, 4 mission children, 7 trustees, and roll of honor. Printed. 1 sheet 8 ½" x 11 ½", both sides.
- c) "Examination of Tullahassee Manual Labor School, Thursday, July 18, 1872; Order of Exercises." In pencil on the reverse side is what appears to be the order of exercises for another examination. Printed. 1 sheet 5 1/8" x 10 ½", one side.
- d) Photocopy of title page of *Erkenvketv*. (Original has been pulled and cataloged for the Phillips Collection.)

**Folder 7: William S. Robertson: biographical materials and sermon**

- a) "Reverend W.S. Robertson." "A Copy of the Biography of Rev. Wm. S. Robertson, Principal and Superintendence of Tullahassee Manual Labor School for the Muskogee Indians, written by Mrs. Ann Eliza Worcester Robertson, his wife." re: parents; education; employment; marriage; ordination; preparation of readers; printing and publication of "Our Monthly"; love of natural sciences; supervision of Indian exhibit at Centennial Exposition; obituary and tribute of Creeks. Title page and cover page are handwritten. Text of 7 pages is typed. Handwritten note at the end states: "A copy of the original now in possession of S.W. Robertson. Santa Barbara, California, January 26, 1938."
- b) "A Son's Tribute." Tribute to William S. Robertson by his son Samuel W. Robertson. 2 typed pages; handwritten notation at end of text: "From 'The Story of My Times.' S.W. Robertson (signature)."
- c) Sermon by W.S. Robertson. Isaiah 103:5 (May 1<sup>st</sup>, 1876). re: man's redemption by Christ's death. Handwritten in pencil. 23 pages 3 ½" x 6" bound together and enclosed in envelope. Penciled notations on envelope: "Sermon, Father, May 21, 1876. Please return for I an going to have it translated and printed for the Creeks as soon as I can afford it, I only lately found it. (signed) Alice M. R." "But she never did this. (signed) Augusta R. Moore." Separate penciled note by S.W. Robertson.

**Folder 8: Ann Eliza Worchester Robertson: letter to W.S. R. and biographical materials**

- a) Transcript of letter from A.E.W. Robertson to W.W. Robertson (Park Hill, April 8, 1850). re: Dwight visit; worry that her presence will disturb harmony of mission school; sending of crockery and seraphine; W.S.R's coming visit; several references to a letter from W.S.R. There is a note at bottom of second page signed S.W. Robertson. Typed 2 pages plus cover page with handwritten statement: "Last letter of Ann Eliza Worcester to William S. Robertson a week before their marriage."
- b) Autobiographical sketch of Ann Eliza Worcester Robertson (1893). re: ancestry; move to Capital of Cherokee Nation in Georgia; imprisonment of father; move to

Park Hill; mother's death; schooling in Vermont, love of languages; return to Park Hill; marriage to Wm. S. Robertson; learning Muskogee language; translation of hymns and songs; translation of Bible into Creek by W.S.R., A.E.W.R., and Rev. David Winslett, publication of "Our Monthly"; assistance to Dr. J. Hammond Trumbull, D. G. Brinton, M.D., Albert S. Gatschet, and J.C. Pilling in various Indian language projects; receipt of honorary Ph.D. from Wooster; burning of mission school, move to Okmulgee; fractured hip; accomplishments of her children, "mothering" of Miss Nancy Thompson; and employment as translator and missionary. Typed. 18 pages plus title page and handwritten cover page. Followed by page containing handwritten note by S.W. Robertson dated August 6, 1937, and one sheet of Congressional letterhead of Alfred W. Robertson, son of Samuel W. Robertson and Grace K. Robertson, containing note concerning typing of biography.

- c) Description entitled "My Mother..." signed by Samuel W. Robertson (Santa Barbara, California, December 18, 1937). re: character description of A.E.W.R. and son's feelings about her. (This description also appears as final pages of "The Story of My Times" by S.W. Robertson, See F13.)
- d) Obituary of Mrs. A. E. W. Robertson. Printed. 1 page 11 ¾" x 6 ¼", both sides. Cover sheet with notation [handwritten by S.W. Robertson?]: "Obituary of Mrs. A. E. W. Robertson from the *Muskogee Phoenix*."

**Folder 9: Ann Eliza Worcester Robertson's Bible Translations.**

- a) Two pages of the translation of Acts 20 into the Creek Language. Handwritten in ink with corrections in pencil. 2 pages 12 ½" x 7 ½", both sides. Appended handwritten note by S.W. Robertson: "Sample of Mothers Bible translation copy."
- b) Photocopy of title page of "The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Galatians translated from the Original Greek into the Muskogee Language" (handwritten notation: by Mrs. A. E. W. Robertson and her co-workers"). New York: American Bible Society, 1885. (Original has been pulled and cataloged for the Phillips Collection.)

**Folder 10: Poetry written by Grace L. Robertson.**

- a) Title page. Two Poems, "Tallahassee Ruins," "A Tribute to her father: by Grace L. Robertson. Handwritten. 1 page.
- b) Poem. "Tallahassee Ruins." re; memories of childhood at Tallahassee Mission brought back by reading letter "Dated Tallahassee Ruins." Handwritten. 1 page, both sides.
- c) Poem. "Tribute." re: mission ruins; father's waiting in heaven to greet his family. Signed by G. L. Robertson. Handwritten notation at bottom of page gives dates of burning of mission, death of father, writing of poem, and publication of poem. Parts of notation are missing. Handwritten. 1 page.

- d) Typescript of poem, "A Tribute." 1 page. (See also poem, "Leaving Home" by Grace L. R. in "The Story of My Times" by S.W. R., back of p. 34, F13.)

**Folder 11: Correspondence between Alice M. Robertson and C. C. Rister; pamphlet on Alice M. Robertson.**

- a) Letter. A. M. Robertson to Prof. C. C. Rister (Claremore, Oklahoma, January 17, 1931). re: circular sent to "Miss Alice Robertson" by C. C. Rister; identification of herself as granddaughter of Samuel Austen Worcester and owner of original manuscripts; convalescence; naming of Robertson Hall at the University of Oklahoma for her mother; meeting at Historical Society. Typed 1 page.
- b) Carbon Copy of letter. C. C. Rister to "Miss Alice M. Robertson" (February 16, 1931). re: apology for sending questionnaire; desire to talk with her; attempt to build research library; request for contribution of materials. Handwritten. 1 page.
- c) Pamphlet entitled "Alice Mary Robertson of Oklahoma." re: childhood incidents; lack of schooling; various posts held; ownership of Sawokla cafeteria; election to Congress; and honors received. Pamphlet also contains "Lords Prayer in Creek"; "Muskogee or Creek Alphabet"; "The Last Christmas at Tullahassee by Alice M. Robertson" (*Muskogee Phoenix*, 1910); story of Thanksgiving in 1867 (*Muskogee Phoenix*, Nov. 27, 1912). Handwritten note on title page: "Prof. E. E. Dale from Augusta R. Moore, sister of [Alice Mary Robertson]. Printed. 16 pages 3 7/8" x 8 5/8", both sides.

**Folder 12: Correspondence about Alice M. Robertson from Augusta Robertson Moore to Prof. E. E. Dale.**

- a) Letter. Augusta Robertson Moore to Prof. E. E. Dale (Haskell, Okla., Oct. 24, 1931). re: obtaining data in regard to Alice M. Robertson. Handwritten. 1 page.
- b) Postcard. A. R. M. to Prof. E.E. D. (Haskell, Okla., Oct. 27, 1931). re: correction of error: Sister Alice afraid of snakes and mad dogs, not snakes and wolves. Handwritten.
- c) Letter. A. R. M. to Prof. E. E. D. (Haskell, Okla., Nov. 7, 1931). re: receipt of manuscripts; two incidents explaining sister Alice's fear of snakes and mad dogs; sister Grace's fear of wolves; mother's study of astronomy and botany; father's near-sightedness and collection of plants and insects. Postscript re: Robert Dunlap and his father; additional copies of leaflet. Handwritten. 2 pages 5" x 8", both sides.
- d) Letter. A. R. M. to Dr. Dale (Haskell, Okla., Nov. 10, 1931). re: memorial fund for sister; sister's disapproval of having bronze bust made of her; Alice Robertson scholarship at Bacone College; approval of Bacone College. Handwritten. Note card 6" x 4 1/2", both sides.

**Folder 13:**

"The Story of My Times" by S. W. Robertson. re: childhood reminiscences; comments by sister Augusta; pencil sketches of layout of Tullahassee mission; descriptions of his parents; descriptions of prairie life and culture; information about his mother's father;

typesetting and publication of "Our Monthly", poem, "Leaving Home" by Grace L. R.; trip by train and boat to Vermont to attend St. John's Academy; life at a Vermont parsonage; school experiences at St. John's Academy and at Dartmouth College; Indian Government; character sketch of his mother. Typewritten with corrections in pencil. 57 pages in binder.

**Folder 14: Materials for possible inclusion in "Story of My Times" and pages which were to be discarded after revision.**

- a) "A Remarkable Story." re: move of Osages from Kansas to Indian Territory. Handwritten 1 page.
- b) "Milk Elopers." An account of elopement of a teacher at Tullahassee Mission. Handwritten. 2 pages. Crossed out notation on back of second page.
- c) Pages from "Story of My Times" by S. W. Robertson which were rewritten and were to have been discarded. One page contains comments by Augusta R. Moore which were incorporated in "Story of My Times". 4 typed pages, 1 handwritten page, both sides. Handwritten note appended, signed "S.W.R."

**Folder 15: Correspondence from Samuel W. Robertson to E. E. Dale.**

- a) Letter. S.W. R. to Mr. Dale (Santa Barbara, Calif., June 30, 1937). re: pictures of Tullahassee mission; comments on his father; sketches of his father and sister Alice; autobiography of his mother; printing of "Our Monthly"; collection given to Tulsa Univ. by Sister Alice; enclosure of two editorials by his father. Postscript mentions sending copy of magazine contained in F 16.
- b) List of Personnel of *Our Monthly*, 1873-1875.
- c) Explanation of the Accompanying Editorials. Signed by S. W. R. re: contents of Vol. II, No. 1 of *Our Monthly*; *Indian Journal*; payment by Creek Council for S.W.R.'s services. Typewritten. 1 page.
- d) Typescript of first editorial by Rev. Wm. S. Robertson from *Our Monthly*, Vol. II, No. 2, February, 1873. re: object of paper; gift of press from the Nation; request for articles in Creek or English. Typewritten with handwritten notation of source at bottom of page. 1 page.
- e) Typescript of last editorial published in *Our Monthly*, Vol. IV, No. 10, October 1875, by Wm. S. Robertson. re: cessation of publication; accomplishments of paper; remarks concerning coming weekly. Typewritten. 1 page.
- f) Letter. S.W. Robertson to Prof. Dale (Santa Barbara, Calif., Nov. 26, 1937). re: naming of Hester-Robertson Halls for Jane Hester and Ann Worcester Robertson. Appended note. re: New Testament [translation into Creek] in one volume. Handwritten. 1 ¼ pages.
- g) Letter. S.W. R. to Mr. Dale, May 9, 1939. re: enclosure of two stories; lack of more Tullahassee material; list of materials sent; piece of Creek pottery; joy in

son's work as Congressman [State Rep.-California]. Handwritten. 1 page 5" x 8", both sides.

**Folder 16: Pamphlet written by S. W. Robertson and short biography of S. W. Robertson.**

- a) *Sierra Educational News*, April, 1931. Printed periodical contains short biography of S. W. Robertson on page 35.
- b) Letter. Grant Foreman to E. E. Dale (Muskogee, Okla., Sept. 30, 1931). re: two sketches found in Alice Robertson's papers; assistance with Dale's bibliography; papers of Alice Robertson at Tulsa University; enclosed memoranda (see 17-c). Postscript concerns his helping W. J. Ghent with sketches of western men from the Biography. Typewritten with one addition in pen and two additions in pencil. 1 page.
- c) Memoranda enclosed in letter listed above. re: references for description of Tullahassee mission and materials on Robertson family. Typewritten. 1 page.
- d) Letter. Grant Foreman to Dr. Dale (n.d.). re: reference to further information about Mr. Robertson; return of enclosed sketches. Typewritten. 1 page.
- e) Letter. Dumas Malone to Prof. E.E. Dale (Washington, DC, October 22, 1931). re: thanks for article on W. S. Robertson and anticipation of two other articles. Typewritten. 1 page 8 ½" x 5 ½".

**Folder 18:**

Photocopies of title pages and first pages of *The Creek Treaty. Passed by Congress, February 1901. And Supplemental Creek Agreement Ratified July 26, 1902. Officially Proclaimed, August 8, 1902.* (Original has been pulled and cataloged for the Phillips Collection.)

**Folder 19:**

"A Sermon, On Speculative Free-Masonry, Preached in the First Presbyterian Church in Dryden" by Rev. Samuel Robertson. September 5, 1829.

Broadside--"Mattoon Classical Institute, The Nucleus of a First Class Male College, The Services of Prof. W. S. Robertson, A. M. Mattoon Female Seminary, D. F. McFarland, Principal." *Mattoon*, October 25, 1862.