



## Daniel Read Papers (C0153)

**Collection Number:** C0153

**Collection Title:** Daniel Read Papers

**Dates:** 1866-1876

**Creator:** Read, Daniel, 1805-1878

**Abstract:** Drafts of reports to the board of curators and the general assembly, prepared by president of the University of Missouri. Also speeches and some letters.

**Collection Size:** 0.2 cubic feet  
(14 folders)

**Language:** Collection materials are in English.

**Repository:** The State Historical Society of Missouri

**Restrictions on Access:** Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at [columbia@shsmo.org](mailto:columbia@shsmo.org). Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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**Preferred Citation:** [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Daniel Read Papers* (C0153); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

**Donor Information:** The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by D. L. Dannan on May 26, 1953 (Accession No. 3167).

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**Historical Note:**

Daniel Read was born in Ohio and received his education at the University of Ohio. After graduation he became a member of the faculty there, rising to the posts of Professor of Classics and vice-president of the institution. In addition, he studied law and was admitted to the bar and authorized to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court. After an altercation with the legislature, he and William McGuffey, the president, resigned. He later worked on the faculties of Indiana State University and the University of Wisconsin.

Read became president of the University of Missouri in 1867. His efforts to gain recognition for the university from the General Assembly, his fight to establish a normal school, an agricultural and mechanics school, and his work in getting women admitted made his tenure one of advancement and controversy. The Board of Curators rehired him in 1874, but opposition limited the contract to a single year. No suitable replacement could be found during the year, so Read received another year's contract. Read insisted that a replacement be found and resigned effective July 1876. He died near Keokuk, Iowa, in August 1878.

**Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged into the following series:

Reports and speeches

**Scope and Content Note:**

The materials in this collection are primarily undated fragments of reports and speeches. The printed reports provide insight into university problems and achievements during the 1870s—including the admission of women and the establishment of an agricultural school

**Container List:**

- f. 1 *Report of the Committee on the Organization and Enlargement of the University of the State of Missouri, 1870. (1871)*
- f. 2 *Report of the Board of Curators of the University of Missouri to the 25<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, Jan., 1869; Report of President Daniel Read to the Board of Curators of the University of Missouri, December, 1875. (3 copies)*
- f. 3 Draft concerning establishment of a school of mining. Notes on land bounties and the Asian problem. Notes on staffing a university, tenure, promotions, and personal and social contacts between faculty and students. Speech on decline of institutions of higher learning due to scarcity of funds. Commencement speech. Notes on the shortage of qualified professors. Note on increase in size, number, and population of states and nation. Committee report supporting a university college for women. Notes for a speech about the value of teaching as a career.

- f. 4 Article supporting university education for women. Draft of a message to the Board of Curators after legislation created a school of agriculture and mechanics, and a school of mines. Draft reporting on the facilities for quartering and feeding students in both university housing and private dwellings. Address to the Curators at Jefferson City. Curators' report on the need for funds due to neglect during the war. Notes on problems of administering a diverse number of colleges: setting up courses and preventing interdepartmental friction. Fragment of a speech defending the university after a charge that a university is for the wealthy and will promote anti-democratic feelings.
- f. 5 Pertaining to the progress and status of the new Agricultural School. List of salaries for the administration and faculties at Princeton, Ohio Wesleyan, Iowa U., and various other schools. Remarks on: report of Dr. Barnard of Columbia on the decline of higher education in the U.S.; relative gain of colleges on the elective system signifying to Read, that people want education adapted to individual needs and abilities. Essay on the Constitutions' requirements for senators and members of the House. Notes about setting up study hours and office hours on a university-wide basis, the need for improved instruction rooms, letter of the constitutional requirement for a university, notice that the English and French were studying the U.S. normal school system.
- f. 6 Draft of a report to Gov. Woodson, 1873, from the Curators, describing the rebuilding of the University after the Civil War. Report to the Board of Curators after setting up an agricultural and industrial college. Report to the Board on a proposed bill for the support of a national school of science—to augment the Morrill Act of 1862. Resume of the Board's action in the establishment of fees, tuition, etc. Summary of the provisions of the bill to allow the University to sell bonds. Paper entitled "General Plan of the University," sketching the development of the University and especially the elective system. Notes on income, tuition, and fees at the University with a comparison of income and enrollment to other Midwestern colleges and Harvard.
- f. 7-9 A report by Read to the Board of Curators. Much of the material in folders 3-6 appears to be assembled here. In turn, much of the material herein can be found in folder 1. The report is not complete, scattered pages are missing.
- f. 10 Address, "Fellow Citizens," discussing Classical vs. technical education plus a budget of University expenditures. Draft of a "certificate of proficiency"; a list of German and Swiss university cities. Outline of a report, program, or speech concerning the year's activities. Fragment of an address to the citizens of Columbia about the value of the University to the town. Speech about changing disciplinary systems in universities from fear of punishment to the creation of a moral atmosphere. Argument against passing a bill before the General Assembly to establish a separate college of agriculture and mechanics. Speech or report discussing growth of the University and integration of women into academic life. Questions on the English Constitution, possibly an examination.

- f. 11           Speech promising faithful service to the state. Speech defending the principle of University education. Fragment concerning the six prizes offered to students—one, the James L. Stephens Prize, consisted of \$500 for use in buying books to award the best orator. Fragment of Read’s career at the University. Fragment about the need for making the normal school a systematic school with a regular course of study. Report advocating the establishment of the agriculture and mechanics school by using the opportunity offered by the federal government and placing this school under the auspices of the University at Columbia.
- f. 12           Speech before a convention of teachers in St. Louis dealing with the rise of education as a profession. Opening lines of a report to the Board, 1872, with notes about status and salary of faculty. Report on University Law College; press-release report on the forthcoming European tour of Read’s daughter Mary. Speech about the rise of pedagogy in the U.S. The recommendation of the unification of any agriculture and mechanics college with the existing facilities in an exposition concerning land grant funds and the lack of motion on the part of the General Assembly.
- f. 13           Fragment of an article using examples of donors who endowed established institutions. Opinion expressed that a separate agriculture and mechanics college would be a mistake. Fragment concerning population expectations for 1900. Fragment of a speech calling for faithful adherence to the constitutional provision for an educational system. Draft of opening paragraphs of Read’s inaugural address. Incomplete inaugural address.
- f. 14           Eulogy to the American flag. Speech dealing with the necessity of education as the causative factor of civilized life. Letter from Wesley Leaves asking about information concerning a “scientific education.” Note decrying lecture tactics of sensationalism, paradoxes, and tricks. Essay on the beauties of Madison, Wis. Letter from Henry De Villiers of Nevada City, Mo., 1871, requesting information on sending his boy to school to become a teacher. Statement by Read on his reasons for taking the job and his intentions to stay. Report defending state supported schools. Statement about the structure and operation of a university. Report concerning graduate students in various divisions. Reasons for the establishment of a Law School at the University. Report on problems of building a University: the aims, attempts to avoid partisan or sectional control, admission of women, making the education offered a practical and intellectual one. Report dealing with a quotation of Ezra Cornell. Print of an engraving entitled “Hudson Mansion.”

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University of Missouri, College of Engineering	1	
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