**Rockford Female Seminary**

*Last updated October 11, 2007*

**Folder: Rockford Female Seminary**

Memorials: Anna P. Will (first principal, 1849-1889); a volume of essays and remembrances published upon her death, including an essay by Jane Addams

Catalogue of the Officers and Pupils of Rockford Female Seminary for the Adademical (sic) year 1853-54

Catalogue of the Officers and Pupils of Rockford Female Seminary (sic) for the Academical (sic) Year 1856-57

Catalogue Rockford Seminary 1879-80

December 19, 1967 – Letter to Mrs. Robert K. Richardson from Richard Hartung concerning a transcription of a letter from H. Lyman and a letter from A. L. Chapin, as well as a land conveyance (includes the transcriptions)

October 15 (no year, but prior to the Seminary’s founding) letter from A. Kent to Rev. Dexter Clary regarding the founding of the Seminary

October 20, 1845 letter from R. N. Wright to W. Talcott regarding the organizing of the Seminary’s first board of trustees

Pledge from Wait Talcott, J. B. Peterson, Sylvester Talcott, and L. M. Merrill of $1000 for the establishment of a female seminary (then proposed for Rockton, IL)

Undated, handwritten draft (with editorial changes) “Charter for Ladies Seminary”

1850 – Report of the Committee “on locating the Female Seminary”

Rockton Proposal for funding of the Female Seminary

July 24, 1849 (date uncertain) Resolution concerning the failure of the citizens of Rockford to fulfill their proposition of August, 1845 concerning the Seminary

Nov. 15, 1845 letter to Rev. Stephen Peet from Rev. F. Bascom concerning the site for the Seminary. He raises the possibility of its being located in Elgin IL.

Resolution of the committee of the convention (probably of the Congregational and/or Presbyterian churches) concerning the establishment of the Seminary. This committee and the committee on the College (Beloit) recommend that the two institutions be under one board of trustees, and the committee nominates the same people to the Seminary board as are serving on the Beloit College board.
Feb 7, 1850 – letter from A. Kent, W. Talcott, R. M. Pearson, and Joseph Emerson (a committee of the Board of Trustees of Beloit College) inviting proposals “for the location of a Female Seminary in Northern Illinois according to the original understanding upon which the College was founded.” (original and a photocopy)

Feb 25, 1847 – typed transcript of the charter of Rockford Female Seminary, as approved by the Senate and House of the State of Illinois, and amendments to the charter through 1916.

Rockford College Alumni magazine, Spring 1962 – contains an article by Helen Drew Richardson on “The Beginnings of Rockford Female Seminary”

**Folder: Rockford Seminary & College to 1869**

See Persons – A. L. Chapin file
See Joseph Emerson to his mother – Nov. 22 1849

June 5, 1899 – letter from Joseph Emerson to Miss Stuleff on the joint origins of Rockford Seminary and Beloit College (transcript)

January 8, 1847 – excerpt of letter from Stephen Peet to A. L. Chapin concerning the whereabouts of the draft of the charter for the Seminary (transcript)

Nov 1853 – excerpt from Beloit College Monthly on Rockford Female Seminary’s close relationship with Beloit College

February 1854 – A Valentine poem to the Rockford Female Seminary published in the Beloit College Monthly (transcript)

August 1854 – from the Beloit College Monthly, reporting on its first commencement (transcript)

May 1857 – contribution to Beloit College Monthly from Rockford Female Seminary (transcript)

July 16, 1858 – “Commencements at Beloit and Rockford, 1858” from “Editorial Correspondence” of *The Congregational Herald*, July 22 (?), 1858 (transcript)

April 1859 – transcript from Beloit College Monthly of an article “Social Amenities at Rockford Female Seminary

January 9, 1861 – transcript from Beloit College faculty records concerning the suspension of members of the sophomore class for traveling to Rockford after having been told by Pres. Chapin that they were not to go. On February 6 those suspended were reinstated after submitting letters to the faculty. (3 pages of material)

March 1861 – transcript from Beloit College Monthly of a letter from a student at Rockford Seminary concerning the sophomores who were suspended

January 24, 1861 – transcript of a letter from President Chapin to Prof. Emerson concerning the sophomore’s misbehavior

October 1862 – transcript from Beloit College Monthly of an article about the first Beloit College commencement held in the First Congregational Church, Beloit College

March 4, 1861 – transcript of a letter from President Chapin to Prof. Emerson concerning the re-instatement of Kent (the last sophomore to be readmitted)

February 1863 – transcript from Beloit College Monthly of a report that the sophomore class visited the Seminary during the last vacation.

March 1863 – transcript from Beloit College Monthly about total lack of snow during the winter, preventing the Beloit men from going to Rockford by sleigh (they went by cart instead)

June 1863 – transcript of article from Beloit College Monthly concerning the tradition of the sophomore and senior classes visiting Rockford Seminary

June 1863 - transcript of article from Beloit College Monthly concerning the senior class trip to Rockford Seminary

December 1863 – transcript of faculty minutes regarding a petition from the sophomore class requesting permission to visit Rockford Seminary

April 1864 - transcript of poem from Beloit College Monthly delivered at the Archaean Union, March 9, 1864

November 1864 - transcript of article from Beloit College Monthly about an “election” held at Rockford Seminary in favor of Lincoln and the Union

October 1865 - transcript of article from Beloit College Monthly about 1865 commencement at Beloit College and Rockford Seminary

November 1865 - transcript of article from Beloit College Monthly about faculty decision to prohibit class visits between the College and the Seminary
January 1866 - transcript of diary of James K. Kilbourn, '68 about his sophomore trip to Rockford

July 1867 – transcript of article from Beloit College Annual about the “Anniversary” at Rockford Seminary (their Commencement)

June 1868 – transcript of a letter from Mrs. Ralph Emerson to her son Prof. Joseph Emerson concerning the Senior Class’s visit to Rockford Seminary

July 1869 and July 1870 - reports of the commencements at Rockford Seminary in both years.

Folder: Rockford Seminary and College 1870-1889

June 1870 – transcript for Beloit College Monthly of articles concerning a visit to Beloit College by Seminary seniors that did not take place, and of picnics held during June at Beloit.

July 1871 – reference to the Beloit College Monthly concerning the Rockford Seminary commencement

March 1872 – excerpt from the Beloit College Monthly concerning a visit to Forest Hills Seminary

May 1872 – excerpt from the Beloit College Monthly about an April Fools joke played on the women at the Seminary

January & May 1873 – references to articles in the Beloit College Monthly concerning invitations to Rockford Seminary

January 1875 – excerpt from Beloit College Monthly concerning changes in social rules governing Beloit men visiting Rockford Seminary

date uncertain – transcript of a pencil draft of a note sent to Dr. Maurer by RE. E. H. Clark, ex-1877, expressing the thanks of the sophomore class to Dr. & Mrs. Lucius Clark for a party given at their residence.

February 1876 – excerpt from March 1, 1876 Round Table concerning a visit to Rockford Seminary

October 1878 & January 1879 – excerpts from the Round Table and the Monthly concerning visits to Rockford Seminary and a letter from the Seminary women to the Beloit College men

July 3, 1879 – transcript of a letter from Miss Sill to Professor Emerson concerning the College – Seminary connections and co-education.
January 1880 – transcript of a letter to the pastors and churches of the Wisconsin Convention that includes joint statistics for Beloit and Rockford

April & May 1880 – references to Round Table and Monthly articles about activities at Rockford Seminary

1880-1881 – transcript of article from The Round Table announcing the first issue of the Rockford Mag.; transcript of the introduction to a letter from Rockford Seminary women to the Round Table

June 4, 1881 – transcript of a letter to the Beloit class of 1884 from the Rockford class of 1884, regretfully declining an invitation to a picnic because the Rockford president forbade the trip

1881-83 – transcripts from the Round Table concerning Rockford-Beloit relations and the possibility of the two schools joining

December 8, 1882 – transcript of a letter from Pres. Anna P. Sill to Prof. Emerson concerning an invitation to the Rockford junior class by the Beloit junior class, and whether the invitation was approved by Pres. Chapin and Prof. Emerson.

March 20, 1883 – transcript of Miss Mary Ives response to a toast at a dinner after the Rockford College Junior Exhibition.

July 4, 1883 – letter and transcript of same from W. A. Talcott to Frank Wormwood (?) concerning securing a possible donation by Mrs. Stone to Rockford Seminary

July 4, 1884 – transcript from the Round Table about the close ties between the classes of 1884

October 9, 1885 – transcript from the Round Table concerning the Senior Class trip to Rockford

October 15, 1886 – transcript from the Round Table concerning the cooling off of relations between Beloit College and Rockford Seminary

October 29, 1886 - transcript from the Round Table concerning a visit by the class of 1888 to Rockford Seminary on November 5

1886-87 – references to visits of Beloit men to Rockford Seminary in December and January

December 10, 1886 – transcript from the Faculty Minutes regarding changes in the date of the 1887 Commencement to accommodate Rockford Seminary and the Beloit High School
January 21, 1887 – transcript for the Round Table concerning the dedication of a gymnasium at Rockford Seminary (Sill Hall) and the lack of same at Beloit College

March 16, 1888 – transcript from the Round Table concerning a visit to Rockford Seminary by members of the Junior class; March 30 – report of the trip; May 11 – sophomores go to Rockford today

September 20 1889 – transcript from the Faculty Minutes regarding the creation of a committee to raise $10,000 for Rockford Seminary

September 19, 1890 – from the Faculty Minutes, a request to consider changing the date of commencement to avoid conflict with commencement at Rockford Seminary

**Folder: Rockford Seminary and College 1890 –**

1890-91 – excerpts from Round Table articles concerning Rockford Seminary

May 15, 1891 – excerpt from the Round Table about the last Seminary reception of the year.
December 4, 1891 – reference to an account of student visit to Rockford Seminary reception

1893 – references to Round Table articles about trips to Rockford Seminary

1892 – reference in The Codex to a picture “The Compliments of the Class to ‘Our Cousins’ at the Sem."

November 1, 1893 – excerpts from the Round Table concerning Rockford Seminary affairs

May 13, 1896 – excerpts from the Round Table concerning the Rockford social connection

October 24, 1902 – excerpt from the Round Table concerning a visit by the Senior class men & women of Beloit College to Rockford College

May 11, 1906 – transcript from Beloit College Board of Trustee’s minutes concerning hiring joint instructors for Beloit College and Rockford College

April 30, 1909 – transcript from the Round Table mentioning attendance of Beloit students at the Rockford “prom”

June 16, 1913 – transcript from Beloit College Board of Trustee’s minutes conveying their congratulations to Rockford College on securing their new endowment
October 27, 1916 – transcript from Beloit College faculty minutes of an invitation to a social evening at Rockford College

November 8, 1916 – transcript from Beloit Daily News announcing the reception for the Beloit College faculty at Rockford College

November 27, 1920 – transcript from Beloit College faculty minutes approving a two hour course in abnormal psychology at Rockford College for Beloit College students; the class could not be scheduled.

February 11, 1922 – transcript from the Round Table announcing women’s intercollegiate debate with Rockford College

October 24, 1933 – transcript of faculty minutes including acknowledgments of flowers and a letter sent to the faculty of Rockford College on the death of Pres. Maddox and Professor Willgeroth during the summer

September 23, 1937 – excerpts from faculty minutes concerning Beloit – Rockford faculty picnics

November 26, 1940 – excerpt from faculty minutes expressing thanks from Rockford College for the gift of books at the dedication of the Sherratt Library

July 11, 1946 – letter from Roger Leavitt to Prof. Richardson; a recollection of Beloit and Rockford in the 1880’s

November 1946 – copy of the Joint Anniversary service program for Beloit and Rockford Colleges’ 100th anniversary

July – August 1949 – correspondence between James A. Blaisdell and Pres. Cheek (of Rockford College) and between Prof. Richardson and Blaisdell concerning Beloit and Rockford

**Folder: Rockford College Sesquicentennial**

Sesquicentennial pins (2)

Rockford College Campus Map

Invitation to Rockford College Sesquicentennial Charter Day Convocation – February 21, 1997 (2)

Sesquicentennial Faculty Speakers Program – February 21, 1997

Sesquicentennial Charter Day Convocation Program
Rockford College Sesquicentennial Calendar (2)

February 24, 1997 – letter from David J. Mason, Assistant to the President, Beloit College, expressing his pleasure and honor at representing Beloit College at Rockford College’s Sesquicentennial Convocation

**Folder: Rockford Seminary: Programs/Announcements**

May 23, 1882 - Oratorical Association Contest Program

February 17, 1888 – Invitation to the Washington Reception

January 23, 1894 – Invitation to a Friday Evening party

**Folder: Rockford College: Charter Day Convocation February 21, 2001**

Text of President John Burris’s speech

Program from 2001 Charter Day Convocation