

## Information Sheet

**R**      **Brinkerhoff, William E.**  
**19**            **Papers, 1903-1912.**  
                  **One folder, 17 items.**

This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri](http://The State Historical Society of Missouri). If you would like more information, please contact us at [shsresearch@umsystem.edu](mailto:shsresearch@umsystem.edu).

This collection consists of family correspondence of a banker in Carthage, Missouri. The letters contain descriptions of Carthage and Jasper County, and observations on financial trends and the business panic of 1907.

The following biographical information has been condensed from volume one of the *Encyclopedia of the History of Missouri* (New York: Southern History Co., 1901).

William E. Brinkerhoff was born in 1832 at Jamaica, Long Island, New York. He was educated in a private military school and entered the furniture trade upon completion of his schooling. He served in New York regiments with the Army of the Potomac in the Civil War and was mustered out as a first lieutenant.

After the war, Brinkerhoff moved to Clinton, Missouri. He served as deputy county clerk and recorder of Henry County from 1865 to 1867, and was the county surveyor from 1868 to 1872. He was appointed a United States Commissioner by President Grant in 1872 and in the same year began a ten-year term as public school director in Clinton. During his residence at Clinton, Brinkerhoff engaged in the real estate and loan business.

In 1882, Brinkerhoff moved to Carthage, Missouri, where he bought the Traders Bank of Carthage. This bank was reorganized in 1883 as the First National Bank and Brinkerhoff was named president. He remained in this position until his death in 1912.

The Brinkerhoff correspondence has been in the hands of the family and was donated to the Western Historical Manuscript Collection-Rolla by George S. Beimdiek of Carthage. The letters by Brinkerhoff are addressed to his daughter, son-in-law, and the father of his son-in-law. The letters are largely concerned with family news, but also include comments on Carthage, local business, and the First National Bank. The shelf list for the collection contains a subject index to the letters.

r020            30 June 1980            George S. Beimdiek            Gift

## Shelf List

This collection consists of family correspondence of a banker in Carthage, Missouri. The letters contain descriptions of Carthage and Jasper County, and observations of financial trends and the business panic of 1907.

1903, August 24      Letter to Miss Edith Brinkerhoff, Greenfield, Mo. Largely concerned with family matters.

1904, July 31        Letter to Mrs. Edith Bishop, Los Angeles, Cal. Family news, and a brief mention of the St. Louis World Exposition, 1904.

1904, Dec. 17        Letter to Mrs. Edith Bishop, Hollywood, Cal. Contains a very negative report on Sulphur Springs, Arkansas, resort area.

1905, August 30      Letter to Mrs. Edith Bishop. Family news.

- 1905, Dec. 21 Letter to Mrs. Edith Bishop. Family news.
- 1906, March 13 Letter to Edith Bishop. Contains observations on the first Presbyterian Church in Carthage.
- 1906, October 13 Letter to Edith Bishop. Brief mention of the business and financial progress of Carthage.
- 1906, Nov. 25 Letter to Edith Bishop. Family news.
- 1907, April 21 Letter to Edith Bishop. Financial and political observations, including the Panic of 1893 and Missouri politics.
- 1909, January 25 Letter to Carter R. Bishop, Hollywood, Cal. Contains family news, and notes on Carthage. Also a negative report on "Christianity in Carthage."
- 1909, February 7 Letter to Carter R. Bishop, Hollywood, Cal. Observations on banking and business in Carthage.
- 1909, March 4 Letter to Edith Bishop. Brinkerhoff comments on the Panic of 1907 and the "Robber Tariff."
- 1909, Nov. 27 Letter to Carter Bishop. Family matters.
- 1910, July 4 Letter to Edith Bishop. Concerning the death of Mrs. Brinkerhoff.
- 1910, Dec. 28 Letter to Rev. William Frost Bishop, Lexington, Kentucky. Contains banking news from Carthage, and a description of preparations made for the opening of a new lead mine.
- 1912, March 19 Letter to Rev. William Frost Bishop. This introspective letter contains Brinkerhoff's personal business philosophy.
- 1910, June 18 Western Union Telegram to Mrs. Carter R. Bishop from Ida Brinkerhoff announcing the death of Mrs. Brinkerhoff in Carthage.

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30 June 1980

George S. Beimdiek

Gift

**Index Cards**

Arkansas, Sulphur Springs. SEE Sulphur Springs (Ark.)  
 Bank directors  
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 Depressions—1907—United States  
 First National Bank (Carthage, Mo.)  
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 Saint Louis World's Fair (1904). SEE Louisiana Purchase Exposition (1904 : Saint Louis, Mo.)  
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 Tariff