The Winthrop Training School for Teachers at Columbia, South Carolina was formally established by the South Carolina General Assembly on December 24, 1887. The Act that established Winthrop Normal and Industrial College (later Winthrop College), an institution for the practical training and higher education of white girls was formally approved on December 23, 1891 by the South Carolina General Assembly. For a copy of these acts, see the college by-laws (W401: series 2) for 1902.