Ashley Lea Letters  
(C0354)

Collection Number: C0354

Collection Title: Ashley Lea Letters

Dates: 1839-1884

Creator: Lea, Ashley, 1810-1890

Abstract: Letters of a pioneer Missouri family discussing conditions on the journey to the California gold fields, family news, and crop conditions in Mississippi in 1857.

Collection Size: 0.02 cubic feet  
(1 folder)

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. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: Materials in this collection are in the public domain.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] Ashley Lea Letters (C0354); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

Donor Information: The letters were deposited with the University of Missouri by Mrs. G.C. Million on January 27, 1943 (Accession No. CA0008).

Notes: One letter in this collection regarding the California Gold Rush is missing and considered to be a part of the Lawrence Lingle theft during the 1960s.

Processed by: Processed by a State Historical Society of Missouri staff member, date unknown. Finding aid updated by Laura Jolley on July 14, 2022.

Biographical Note:
Ashley G. Lea was born in North Carolina on February 3, 1810. He married Mary Matlock in 1832 and the couple moved just west of Huntsville, Missouri, in Randolph County, where they became farmers. In 1849 he went to California to engage in mining and the grocery trade for two years. After his return he was justice of the peace and a road and bridge commissioner. He died in Randolph County on September 5, 1890.

**Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged into the following series:

Letters

**Scope and Content Note:**

Letters

Letters of a pioneer Missouri family discussing conditions on the journey to the California gold fields, family news, and crop conditions in Mississippi in 1857.

**Container List:**

f. 1  Letters

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