Elias V. Wilson Papers  
(C4502)

Collection Number: C4502

Collection Title: Elias V. Wilson Papers

Dates: 1858-1868, 1962

Creator: Wilson, Elias Vickers, 1824-1885

Abstract: Papers of Judge Elias Vickers Wilson of Edina, Knox County, Missouri. Primarily relates to Wilson's Civil War service as an officer of North East Missouri Home Guards, including correspondence, muster rolls, commission papers and provision reports. Includes few earlier and later documents.

Collection Size: 0.1 cubic feet  
(1 folder and 4 oversize items)

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] Elias V. Wilson Papers (C4502); 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 the estate of Mary Jane Wilson on July 20, 1994 (Accession No. CA5452).

Processed by: Processed by Heather Richmond on August 23, 2022.

Historical Note:

Elias Vickers Wilson was born in Butler County, Ohio, on February 17, 1824, to John Kelly Wilson and Mary Jane James Wilson. In 1843, he graduated from Miami University, and he was admitted to the Ohio State Bar in 1846. He worked as a lawyer for his entire life. Wilson served
briefly in the Mexican War, and he married Jane Delaplane in 1847 in Butler County, Ohio. They had 10 children together. In 1849, Wilson and his family moved to Lewis County, Missouri. In the early 1850s, they moved to Edina, Knox County, Missouri, where he lived for the remainder of his life.

In 1861, Wilson was commissioned and served as a Major in the Missouri 2nd Northeast Home Guard Infantry Regiment in Edina and Canton, Missouri. His brother, William, also served in the war and died in June 1862. In 1864, Wilson served as representative in the Missouri legislature, and from 1865-1875, he served as Circuit Judge of Missouri’s 4th Judicial District. He died on November 25, 1885, in Edina.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged chronologically into one series:

Papers

Scope and Content Note:

Papers

The collection primarily includes family and military correspondence from Wilson’s Civil War service dated 1861-1862. Two letters from 1861 are from Elias’ father John, discussing the Civil War and home life in Butler County, Ohio. One undated letter is from Elias’ wife Jane. Otherwise, most of the correspondence documents military life in Northeastern Missouri in the early part of the Civil War, including troubles with bushwhackers. Most of the correspondence is incoming, though one 1862 letter is outgoing. Also included is a muster roll for the Knox County Home Guard, two newspaper clippings, Wilson’s commission certificate for the Home Guards, his commission certificates as a judge, and a list of provisions distributed to families of the Knox County Home Guard.

Container List:

f. 1 Papers, 1858-1868, 1962

Oversize materials

Item #1 Elias Wilson Home Guards commission, 1861
Item #2 List of provisions, circa 1861
Item #3 Elias Wilson commission as Judge, 1865
Item #4 Elias Wilson commission as Judge, 1868

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