



William H. Lynch Diaries (C1153)

Collection Number: C1153

Collection Title: William H. Lynch Diaries

Dates: 1864-1865

Creator: Lynch, William H., 1839-1924

Abstract: Diaries of William H. Lynch of Houston, Missouri, who served as commissary sergeant in the 32nd Regiment, Infantry, Missouri Volunteers, 3rd Brigade, 1st Division.

Collection Size: 0.02 cubic feet
(2 volumes)

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] *William H. Lynch Diaries* (C1153); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Columbia].

Donor Information: The diaries were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Florence Lynch on January 1, 1938.

Alternate Forms Available: The Civil War portion of the diaries (1864-July 1865) have been digitized and transcribed and are available online in the American Civil War in Missouri collection: <https://digital.shsmo.org/digital/search/searchterm/C1153/order/title/ad/asc>.

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the William H. Lynch Diaries can be found in the following collections:

[William Henry Lynch Papers, \(R0202\)](#)
[Salem Academy Booklet, \(R0500\)](#)

Processed by: Processed by the State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Columbia Staff, date unknown. Finding aid revised by Lauren Leeman on April 1, 2020.

Biographical Note:

William Henry Lynch was born in Houston, Texas County, Missouri in 1839. He was the son of David Lynch (1803-1865) and Pollie Ann Fourt (1813-1852), natives of Kentucky and early settlers in Texas County. William was sent to Boone County, Missouri, in 1856 for his education, first in the public schools, and then at Lathrop Academy. He returned home to teach school in Houston until the outbreak of the Civil War. He was appointed clerk of Texas County in 1862. He served until August 1862, when he enlisted in the 32nd Missouri Infantry. He was commissioned a field officer in 1863 and was appointed regimental quartermaster. He mustered out as a captain in 1865.

Lynch returned to Columbia following the war to complete his education at the University of Missouri. He graduated in 1868 to resume a teaching career in southern Missouri which spanned nearly sixty years. Lynch was a teacher and principal at the Steelville Academy, 1866-1872; a teacher at the St. James Academy, 1869; and principal of the Salem Academy, 1873-1884, the West Plains Academy, 1884-1887, and the Mountain Grove Academy, 1887-ca. 1894. He also taught in Ozark, Missouri, and was a field representative of the Southwest Missouri State Teachers' College from 1910 until his death in 1924.

In 1871 he married Mary Cook (1848-1898), and they had one daughter, Florence Lynch.

Arrangement:

The collection is arranged chronologically.

Scope and Content Note:

The first volume, from 1864, documents Lynch's Civil War experiences, including battles and the location of the unit. The second volume, 1865, continues to document the Civil War until the end of July. From July-December 1865, he records his experiences as a student at the University of Missouri.

Container List:

- v. 1 Civil War, 1864
- v. 2 Civil War and University of Missouri, 1865

Index:

Index Term	Medium
Civil War--Army of the Tennessee, 15th Corps	v. 1,2
Civil War--Diaries	v. 1,2
Civil War--Georgia, 1864	v. 1,2

Index Term	Medium
Civil War--Georgia, 1864-1865	v. 1,2
Civil War--Georgia, Savannah	v. 2
Civil War--Missouri	v. 1,2
Civil War--South Carolina, 1865	v. 2
Civil War--Tennessee	v. 1,2
Diaries	v. 1,2
Diaries--Civil War	v. 1,2
Lynch, William H.	v. 1
Missouri, Houston	v. 1
Missouri. Infantry, 32nd Regiment, Volunteers	v. 1