C McKown, John D., Papers, 1851-1897

2335 11 folders

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INTRODUCTION

The papers of John D. McKown contain personal correspondence, business papers, Civil War military papers, and documents concerning construction of Saline County, MO, courthouse.

DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Stouffer on 14 March 1964.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

John D. McKown, a carpenter and machinist in Saline County, Missouri, served with the Missouri State troops (Confederate) in the early days of the Civil War. He served in the Enrolled Missouri Militia July 1862-Anril 1863 and was commissioned Captain of McKown's Company (F), Second Battalion, Seventy-first Regiment, January 17, 1863.

During the war McKown was recruitment officer for Odon Guitar's Ninth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia, enrolling officer and deputy Provost Marshall for Saline County, Thirty-first-Thirty-fourth. Subdistricts, Sixth District of Missouri.

After the war McKown was construction superintendent and commissioner of the Saline County courthouse.

FOLDER LIST

 f. 1 Includes three envelopes addressed to John D. McKown, recipe for herb liqueur, military order to John D. McKown from Lieutenant James R. Fulkerson, one blank certificate of exemption from Civil War service on account of unsuitableness of age, constitution and by-laws of the U.S. Grant League Council No. 278, Saline County, Missouri, and a sketch of the Saline County, Missouri Courthouse floorplan. f. 2 item 1 item 1 item 2 item 2 Includes three envelopes addressed to John D. McKown, recipe for herb liqueur, military order to John D. McKown, form Lieutenant James R. Fulkerson, one blank certificate of exemption from Civil War service on account of unsuitableness of age, constitution and by-laws of the U.S. Grant League Council No. 278, Saline County, Missouri, and a sketch of the Saline County, Missouri Courthouse floorplan. 1851-1860 1851 April 8. Finly, Asa and Sarah Ann. Saline County, Missouri. To John D. McKown, Saline County, Missouri. Deed to land in Saline County. 1855 April 29 [McKown, James Brison and Bethiah P[yatt], 	f. 1-11	Correspondence and business papers
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Missouri. To John D. McKown, Saline County, Missouri. Deed to land in Saline County.item 21855 April 29 [McKown, James Brison and Bethiah P[yatt],	f. 2	1851-1860
Deed to land in Saline County.item 21855 April 29 [McKown, James Brison and Bethiah P[yatt],		item 1 1851 April 8. Finly, Asa and Sarah Ann. Saline County,
item 2 1855 April 29 [McKown, James Brison and Bethiah P[yatt],		Missouri. To John D. McKown, Saline County, Missouri.
		Deed to land in Saline County.
		item 2 1855 April 29 [McKown, James Brison and Bethiah P[yatt],
St. Louis, Missouri. To [the John D. McKown Family].		St. Louis, Missouri. To [the John D. McKown Family].

		McKown's parents wrote of family news, health, son-in- law's bar and grocery business aboard the Steamer Belfast, Captain Taylor, Eddy and Jamison's Wholesale House in Saint Louis, government positions, salaries, Washington, D. C.
î a	item 3	1860 Dec 9. McKown, James B[rison] and Bethiah P[yatt], Saint Louis. To [the John D. McKown Family]. News of family and friends, health, weather, business and economic conditions in Saint Louis, unemployment, scarcity of money, "Hard Times."
f. 3		1861-1862 [DIGITIZED]
	item 1	 1861 May 29. McKown, J[ames] B[rison] and B[ethiahl P[yatt], Saint Louis. To [John D. McKown]. Family news, health, war conditions in New York, Sparta, Illinois, and Saint Louis. Unemployment, depressed value and scarcity of money. Intense disapproval of a son-in-law's Republican politics and Union loyalty. Mrs. McKown called him a "Black Republican" and a "Rank Abolitionist." Saint Louis "encompassed with armed Goths and Vandals." House and carriage searches for arms and ammunition.
	item 2	 1861 July 14. McK[own], J[ames] B[rison] and B[ethiah] P[yatt]. Saint Louis. To [the John D. McKown Family]. Questions about the Battle of Boonville, Confederate troop movements, Generals McCullough, Parsons, and Lyon. Suppression of civil liberties in St. Louis; freedom of the press completely destroyed. War conditions in Saint Louis. Mrs. McKown called Union soldiers "Dutch bayonets", "Hessians", "Vandal Lincoln hoards." Business prostrate, Union troops moving to State interior, probably Jefferson City, aid the Pacific Railroad. Expressed confidence in Missourians (Confederates).
	item 4	 1861 Aug 18. McKown, J[ames] B[rison] and B[ethiah] P[yatt], St. Louis. To [the John D. McKown Family]. Battles, troop maneuvers, secrecy of Union military operations. Suppression of freedom of the Press and martial law in St. Louis; probability that battle for Missouri will be fought in St. Louis. Canvas of Union and Confederate sympathizers in St. Louis. News of family and friends, health. Distress because loyalty of family divided.
	item 5	 1862 July 1. McKown, James B[rison] and Bethiah P[yatt], St. Louis. To [John D. McKown]. Alarmed because letters not reaching son in Marshall. Fear mail being stolen. Family news. Surprised and distressed by evidence of John D. McKown 's first Union sympathies. Family loyalties tragically divided. Negroes coming to St. Louis by the hundreds. Anticipated much immigration because of Irish

f.

	itom (famine. Publication by John Bayly signed Ichabod.
	item 6	1862 May 1. McKown, J [ames] B[rison] and B[ethiah] P[ya tt], Saint Louis. To [John D. McKown]. Family news,
		health, wages, unemployment, scarcity of jobs, men joining
		army not "from patriotism but for their bread and butter."
		Sick and wounded soldiers flooding St. Louis from
		engagement in Mississippi - Death rate of wounded soldiers
	item 7	1862 July 13. McKown, Jrames] B[rison] and B[ethiah]
		P[yatt], St. Louis. To [the John D. McKown Family].
		Deeply troubled at McKown's Union sympathies. Southern
		viewpoint of war, horror of war. Opinion of immigrants
		fighting for the Union. The oppressed South. Stonewall
		Jackson, Jeb Stuart, George Washington. Federal disregard
		of the Constitution and civil liberties. Civil War caused by
		the Abolitionists. Family news, weather. Mrs. Partington.
	item 8	1862 July 27. McKown, James B[rison] and B[ethiah]
		P[yatt], St. Louis. To [John D. McKown]. Southern view of
		war, dissolution of the Union, secession. Family problems
		caused by a fratricidal war. Draft for State Militia in St.
4		Louis. Weather, health, family news.
4	itam 1	February-April 1863 [DIGITIZED]
	item 1	1863 Feb 8. Gamble, Hamilton R[owan], St. Louis. To John
		D. McKown, Saline County, [Missouri]. McKown commissioned Captain of McKown's Company (F),
		Seventy-first Regiment, Enrolled Missouri Militia.
	item 2	1863 Feb 9. Wood, Wi[llia]m D., St. Louis, Missouri. To
	Item 2	J[ohn] D. McKown, Marshall, Missouri. Special Orders
		No. 16 from the acting Adjutant General. Organization of
		Companies A, B, C, D, E, F, Seventy-first Regiment,
		Enrolled Missouri Militia. Orders to report for duty.
		Companies commanded by Captains Irwin Waley, R. G.
		Wood, Robert T. Jones, John W. Levey, C. J. Miller, and
		John D. McKown.
	item 3	1863 Feb 19. Wilson, W. A. Marshall, Missouri. J[ohn] D.
		McKown relieved of special duty as drill master, Second
		Battalion, Seventy-first Regiment, Enrolled Missouri
		Militia by commander of the Saline County E. M. M.
	item 4	1863 Feb 22. Fulkerson, J[ames] R., Marshall, Missouri. To
		John D. McKown. Receipt for a contraband horse.
	item 5	1863 Mar 16. Wilson, W. A., Marshall, Missouri. Ordered
		Capt. John McKown to command Company G, during
		Lieutenant [James R.] Fulkerson's absence.
	item 6	1863 Apr 5. Fulkerson, James R. To the Enrolled Missouri
		Militia. John D. McKown's certificate of discharge from
		active service in Captain W. L. Corums Company G,

		Seventy-first Regiment, E. M. M.
	item 7	1863 Apr 6. Fulkerson, Jarmels R. To John for Aug B. Seigs
		saddle horse. Sullivan, Amos H. Miami, Missouri. To
		J[ohn] D. McKown. Young men reluctant to volunteer
		unless draft enforced. Possibility of organizing a company.
	item 8	1863 Apr 21. McKown, John D. Marshall, Missouri. To
		Colonel Henry Neill, Seventy-first Regiment, E. M. M.
		organization of Union troops in Saline County, Missouri,
		instruction of officers and troops.
	item 9	1863 Apr 24. Guitar, O[don]. Columbia, Missouri. To John
		D. McKown. Instructions about recruitment for Colonel
		Guitar's Ninth Cavalry, Missouri State Militia.
	item 10	1863 Apr 24. Guitar, O[don]. Columbia, Missouri. To John
	nem 10	D. McKown. Authorization of McKown to recruit, provide
		subsistence and transportation for Guitar's Ninth Cavalry,
		Missouri State Militia.
	item 11	1863 Apr 27. McKown, B[ethiah] P[yatt]. St. Louis. To
		[John D. McKown]. Troubled because her letters to son
		were "intercepted." Family news, death of her husband
		James Brison McKown. Meagerness of personal
		belongings. War news. St. Louis volunteers guarding the
		city. Union and Confederate military activities in Southern
		Missouri. Generals Samuel Ryan, Curtis and Sterling Price,
		John Sappington Marmaduke. Iron Mountain. Restrictions
		on Mississippi steamboating. Horrified that son, John D. McKown joining Odon Guitar's "Bloody Ninth."
		Fratricidal war, federal outrages, invasions of civil rights.
f. 5		May-October 1963 [DIGITIZED]
1. 5	item 1	1863 May 6. Gray, John B. St. Louis. To John D. McKown.
	item i	Special Orders No. 62 from the Adjutant General
		disbanded Saline County Company, Seventy-first
		Regiment, Enrolled Missouri Militia and vacated officer
		commissions of Captain McKown, Lieutenants John A.
		Fulkerson and Isaac N. Elsea. Colonel Henry Neill ordered
		to reassigned company members.
	item 2	1863 June 4. McKown, Bethiah P[yatt]. St. Louis. To [John
		D. KcKown]. Letters to son still "intercepted," plans to
		insure safe arrival of letters. Family news. Felt men with no
		families should fight. Political actions of Radicals and pro-
		slavery men. Feared a confrontation in Jefferson City, the
		Germans, Governor Gamble. Troops from Southwest
		moving to Vicksburg. Feared invasion of St. Louis. Horror
		of war.
	item 3	1863 July 30. Comingo, A[bram], Finley, R. W., and F.
	10111 5	Cooley, Lexington, Missouri. To John D. McKown.
		Instructions to Enrolling officers from the Missouri Sixth
		Instruction to officers from the fillsbourt bixth

		District Board of Enrollment.
	item 4	1863 Aug 20. Bingham, George. To W. L. Corum. Involce of
		ordnance stores turned over to Corum by Bingham. Receipt
		for stores October 20, 1861.
	item 5	1863 Oct 31. McKown, B[ethiah] P[yatt]. St. Louis. To [John
		D. McKown]. Family news, James Brison McKown, Jr.
		very ill. Troop movements, family financial difficulties.
		"Hard Times" and horror of war.
f. 6		January-March 1864 [DIGITIZED]
	item 1	1864 Jan 14. Comingo, A[bram]. Lexington, Missouri. To
		John D. McKown. Enrolling orders for Saline County,
		Missouri from the Provost Marshall, Sixth District,
		Missouri.
	item 2	1864 Jan 23. Enrollment list for Missouri, Sixth District,
		Thirty-third Sub-district, Salt Pond and Grand Pass
		Townships.
	item 3	1864 Jan 28. McKown, John D. Marshall, [Missouri]. To
		Capt[ai]n [Abram] Comingo. Enrollment list for Missouri,
		Sixth District, Thirty-first Sub-district, Marshall and Arrow
		Rock Townships.
	item 4	1864 Feb 1. Satirical newspaper article about the military
		quota and the draft in M1ssour1. Backside: advertisement
		and announcement of the Mississippi Valley Sanitary Fair,
		a benefit for sick, wounded soldiers, St. Louis, May 17,
		1864. Enrollment list for Missouri, Sixth District, Thirty-
		fourth Sub-district, Blackwater Township. Benefit officers,
		honorary members, standing committees of ladies and
		gentelmen.
	item 5	1864 Feb 4. Enrollment list for Missouri, Sixth District,
		Thirty-second Sub-district, Miami and Jefferson
		Townships.
	item 6	1864 Feb 19. Comingo, A[bram], Lexington, Missouri. To
		John D. McKown. Orders about pay vouchers for enrolling
		officers.
	item 7	1864 Feb 29. McKown, Bethiah P[yatt]. St. Louis. To [John
		D. McKown]. Guerrilla warfare in Saline County,
		Missouri. Encouraged son to write General William S.
		Rosecrans about guerillas and offer to aid the military and
		guerilla activities. Health, financial state, family news.
		Wartorn family.
	item 8	1864 Mar 7. Comingo, A[bram]. Lexington, Missouri. To
		John D. McKown. Instructions about the enrollment of
o –		slaves.
f. 7		April-December 1864 [DIGITIZED]
	item 1	1864 Apr 1. Bradley, J[oshua T.]. St. Louis. To John [D.
		McKown]. Views on war, guerillas, military propriety.

		Building plans, preparations for Mississippi Valley Sanitary Fair, a benefit for sick and wounded soldiers in St. Louis. Effects of the war on St. Louis. Care and charity for veterans, food, housing, music, entertainment. Lack of funds for Enrolled Missouri Militia. Warrants, war finances and appropriations in Missouri and in the federal government. National politics. Bradley believed the Democrats would support John C. Fremont against President Abraham Lincoln. Prices, provisions, rent, family news.
	item 2	1864 Apr 23. M[cKown], B[ethiah] P[yatt]. St. Louis. To [John D. McKown]. Health, family news, plans for a reunion of Mrs. McKown's family at brother James Pyatt's in Dayton, Ohio.
	item 3	1864 Apr 28. Fulkerson, J[ames] R. Saline County, Missouri. To James McKown. Exemption for 1864 militia service as a clerk in the Saline County Circuit Court Clerk's officer, from the Saline County Commissary of Exemptions.
	item 4	1864 May 3. Elsea, Isaac N. To the Governor of Missouri, [Willard Preble Hall]. Elsea's Resignation as 1st Lieutenant in Company F, Saline Battalion, Seventy-first Regiment, Enrolled Missouri Militia.
	item 5	1864 May 19. Comingo, A[bram]. Lexington, Missouri. To John D. McKown. Enrolling instructions. Enrollment to be completed at earliest date.
	item 6	1864 May 20. Comingo, A[bram]. George Miller. Lexington, Missouri. To John D. McKown. Enrollment instructions.
	item 7	1864 July 30. Comingo, A[bram]. Lexington, Missouri. To John D. McKown, Marshall, Missouri. Comingo regretted McKown's exemption application could not be considered without McKown appearing before the Board, but if McKown drafted he could obtain a discharge. Comingo expressed hone that draft would be unnecessary in Missouri.
	item 8	1864 Dec 10. McKown, B[ethiah] P[yatt]. St. Louis. To [John D. McKown]. War, Guerrilla activities in Saline County. Family news, progress of John D. McKown's children in school. Generals Dodge and William S. Rosecrans.
	item 9	 1864 December 26. McKown, B[ethiah] P[yatt]. St. Louis. To [JohnD. McKown]. Family news, health, Christmas. Instructions to son about report to General Dodge on guerrillas and bushwhackers in Saline County, Missouri. Questions son about rumors he deserted the rebel army.
f. 8	•. A	January-March 1865 [DIGITIZED]
	item 1	1865. Farm oath or Affadavit of Alienage for draft

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		exemption and envelope addressed to John D. McKown.
		McKown, J[ohn] D. Marshall, Saline County, Missouri.
		To the United States. Account for stationary and writing
		supplies January 1-31, 1865. \$1.90 due McKown.
	item 2	1865 Jan 16. McKown, B[ethia] P[yatt]. St. Louis. To [John
		D. McKown]. Loyalty of son, family news. General Dodge
		and Saline County. Financial difficulties; request from son.
	item 3	1865 Mar 2. J[ohn] D. Marshall. [Missouri]. To A[bram]
		Comingo, Lexington, Missouri. Report on expenditures for
		stamps and stationary for the Saline County Deputy Provost
		Marshall's office.
	item 4	1865 Mar 4. Comingo, A[bram]. Lexington, Missouri. To
		John D. McKown, Marshall, Missouri. Definition of
		official residence for enrolling purposes, provisions to
		prevent draft dodging.
	item 5	1865 Mar 20. Comingo, A[bram]. To John D. McKown,
	item 5	Marshall, Missouri. Instructions about filling out voucher
		claims for stationery and stamps.
f. 9		April-December 1865 [DIGITIZED]
1.)	item 1	1865 Apr 8. Comingo, A[bram]. per Goodbrake. Lexington,
		Missouri. To John D. McKown, Marshall, Missouri. Also
		envelope. Enclosed check for McKown's services as
		Deputy Provost Marshall, January and February, 1865.
	item 2	1865 Apr 11. Bingham, George. Marshall, Saline County,
		Missouri. Certification that John D. McKown enrolled in
		the Saline County Missouri Militia. April 11, 1865.
	item 3	1865 Apr 14. Comingo, A[bram]. Lexington, Missouri. To
		John D. McKown, Marshal[1], Missouri. also envelope.
		Orders to stop draft and recruitment in Sixth District of
		Missouri, to complete and correct enrolling immediately.
	item 4	1865 Apr 20. Comingo A[bram]. Lexington, Missouri. To
		John D. McKown. Mckown relieved of duty because the
		service of a Deputy Provost Marshall no longer needed.
	item 5	1865 Jun 2. Finley, R. W. Lexington, Missouri. To John D.
		McKown, Marshall, Missouri. Transmittal of McKown's
		March salary as Saline County Deputy Provost Marshall.
	item 6	1865 Jun 12. McKown, B[ethiah] P[yatt]. Dayton, Ohio. To
		[John D. McKown]. Mrs McKown visiting brother James
		in Dayton. "The city of Roses." Lovely city and flowers.
		Family news, finances, disfranchisement of son William
		McKown because he was a traveling clerk in the South for
		a St. Louts mercantile house. Hoped the war was really
		over. Vote on the new constitution in St. Louis, views in
		Marshall, Missouri.
	item 7	1865 Jul 6. Finley, R. W. Lexington, Missouri. To John D.
		McKown, Marshall, Missouri. also envelope. Instructions
		McKown, Marshall, Missouri. also envelope. Instructions

	about submitting vouchers.
item 8	1865 Sep 16. Johnson, of Allen P. Richardson & Co. St. Louis, Missouri. To John D. McKown, Marshall, Missouri. Company (immigrant aid, real estate, and collecting
	agency) agreed to open a branch office in Saline County,
	Missouri.
item 9	1865 Nov 11. Saline County Circuit Court Order. Decree
	relieved John D. McKown of taking Test Oath and
f. 10	permitted no disqualifications. 1866
item 1	1866 Jan 24. Fletcher, Tho[mas] C[lement]. Governor of
	Missouri. To John D. McKown. McKown appointed and
	commissioned a Notary Public for Saline County, Missouri.
	Certification that commission deposited and recorded by B. H. Wilson, Saline County Recorder and Leon Wilson,
	Deputy Recorder, January 27, 1866. McKown's oath of
	office, January 27, 1866.
item 2	1866 Feb 9. Saline County, Missouri Court order. Designated
	\$30,000 to build a new courthouse and appointed John D. McKown Superintendent and Commissioner to obtain
	plans, probable costs, and to let contracts for the building.
	McKown's oath of office February 10, 1866.
item 3	1866 Mar 8. Brown, W. St. Louis. To John D. McKown,
	Marshall, Missouri. Receipt for \$150 for architects plans and specifications for the Saline County, Missouri
	courthouse.
item 4	1866 Mar 8. Brown, W. St. Louis. To [John D.] McKown.
	Assures McKown he retained a copy of the Saline County,
	Missouri courthouse specifications and can answer all questions. Acknowledged receipt of check.
item 5	1866 Mar 26. Campbell of McKee, Fishback & Co. St.
	Louis. To John D. McKown, Marshall, Missouri.
	Acknowledged receipt of McKown's check for advertising
	the Saline County, Missouri courthouse proposals in the Missouri Democrat.
item 6	1866 Jul 23. Moss, Charles E., Jr. St. Louis Daily Press
	Association, St. Louis, Missouri. To J[ohn] D. McKown.
	Letter enclosed account and receipt for advertising for
	construction proposals in the St. Louis Daily and Weekly
	Press, of the Saline County Missouri courthouse. Clipping of advertisement attached.
item 7	1866 Aug 7. Uty & Buckner. Marshall, [Missouri]. To John
	D. McKown. Receipt for \$5,000, fee for excavating
	foundation and laying stonework on the Saline County,
item 8	Missouri courthouse. 1866 Dec 19. McKown, John D. Marshall, [Missouri]. To
nem o	1000 Dec 17. Mercown, John D. Marshan, [Missoull]. 10

	Messrs. Buckner and Uty. Notification that the Saline
	County, Missouri courthouse cellar and foundation walls
	were damaged by exposure because the contractors
	neglected to secure them in a proper manner.
f. 11	1868-1897
item 1	1868 Apr 7. Membry, William, Buckner, B.F., and Walker,
	J.C. Contract for painting and varnishing the Saline
	County, Missouri courthouse for \$220 accordingn to J[ohn]
	D. McKown's specifications. William Membry to do the
	work. B.F. Buckner and J.C. Walker to furnish the
	materials.
	1869 May 24. Naughton, P. St. Louis, Missouri. To J[ohn] D.
	McKown, Marshall, Missouri. Estimated costs of slate
	flaging for Saline County, Missouri courthouse.
item 2	1877 Dec 20. Kimbatt, H. H. To John D. McKown.
	Appointment as a member of the United States Secret
	Service Company.
item 3	1897 Oct 14. [McKown, Eu[gene [D.] Telluride, Colorado.
	To Mother. Birthday greetings and clipping about the
	transportation of tramway cable in Telluride.

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