



William A. Ruyle Papers (R0033)

Collection Number: R0033

Collection Title: William A. Ruyle Papers

Dates: circa 1864

Creator: Ruyle, William A., 1839-1907

Abstract: The William A. Ruyle Papers contain a transcript of a letter written by William A. Ruyle to his father, describing his wartime experiences with the 5th Regiment, Missouri Infantry. It includes accounts of the Battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, and events prior to the surrender of Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Collection Size: 0.01 cubic foot
(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-Rolla](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at rolla@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given and assigned to the University all rights of copyright, which the Donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor's works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *William A. Ruyle Papers* (R0033); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by John W. McReynolds on September 10, 1980 (Accession No. RA0038).

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the William A. Ruyle Papers can be found in the following collections:

United Confederate Veterans, Campbell Camp No. 488 Records (R0060)
James S. Rogers Papers (R0249)

Robert Washington Fyan Papers (R0567)

Processed by: Processed by John F. Bradbury, September 15, 1980. Revised by Kathleen Seale, March 24, 2020.

Biographical Note:

William A. Ruyle was born February 21, 1839, to Gideon A. and Mary (Looney) Ruyle in Polk County, Missouri. He enlisted in the Confederate Army on January 11, 1862, at Pleasant Prairie Chapel in Polk County, Missouri. He was elected sergeant of the group, which initially organized as a cavalry company. They were later transferred to the 5th Missouri Infantry. Under generals Sterling Price and Earl Van Dorn, the 5th Missouri participated in the battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas (known as Elkhorn Tavern by the Confederacy). After this Confederate defeat, the 5th Missouri was transferred to Corinth, Mississippi, and took part in the battles of Corinth, Iuka, and Bakers Creek, Mississippi. Ruyle was captured along with his regiment at Vicksburg.

Ruyle was parole at Vicksburg and was sent to a parole camp at Demopolis, Alabama. He remained at Demopolis only four days before leaving the camp and crossing the Mississippi River into Arkansas. He located the Confederate company organized from exchanged prisoners from Vicksburg. This company performed scouting duties along the Mississippi and Arkansas Rivers. Ruyle returned to Missouri after the war where he died in 1907.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged in its original order in one folder.

Scope and Content Note:

The collection contains a transcript of a letter written by William A. Ruyle to his father, describing his wartime experiences with the 5th Regiment, Missouri Infantry. It includes accounts of the Battle of Elkhorn Tavern (also known as Pea Ridge), Arkansas, and events prior to the surrender of Vicksburg, Mississippi.

Container List:

Box 001 f. 1 Letter, circa 1864

Index:

Index Term	Folder
Arkansas--History--Civil War, 1861-1865	1
Confederate States of America. Army. Missouri Infantry Regiment, 5 th	1
Corinth (Miss.), Battle of, 1862	1
Elkhorn Tavern (Ark.)	1
Friends of the South	1
Holly Springs (Miss.)	1
Pea Ridge, Battle of, 1862	1
Polk County (Mo.)	1

Index Term	Folder
Price, Sterling, 1809-1867	1
Ruyle, William A., 1839-1907	1
Vicksburg (Miss.)	1
Wilson's Creek, Battle of, 1861	1