



Grand Army of the Republic, Farmington, Missouri Records (R0131)

Collection Number: R0131

Collection Title: Grand Army of the Republic, Farmington, Missouri Records

Dates: 1884-1902

Creator: Grand Army of the Republic, Picket Post No. 215 (Farmington, Mo.)

Abstract: The Grand Army of the Republic, Farmington, Missouri Records contains a microfilm copy of minute books and a membership book of the Grand Army of the Republic's post in Saint Francois County, Missouri. The Picket Post No. 215 chapter was organized in 1884, as the Bonne Terre Post. It was moved to Farmington, Missouri in 1887, and renamed Picket Post No. 215.

Collection Size: (1 roll of microfilm)

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.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Grand Army of the Republic, Farmington, Missouri Records* (R0131); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

Donor Information: The records were loaned for microfilming to the University of Missouri by Nellie C. Best on October 27, 1982 (Accession No. RA0147).

Processed by: Processed by John F. Bradbury, November 19, 1982. Revised by Kathleen Seale, April 30, 2020.

Historical Note:

The Grand Army of the Republic was a national society of veterans of Federal service during the Civil War. It was primarily a fraternal organization, dedicated to the principals of fraternity, charity, and loyalty. The first local chapter in Saint Francois County, Missouri was the Bonne Terre Post. Organized in 1884, the post was started by a group of veterans that included two officers of the St. Joseph Lead Company. Regular monthly meetings were held in Bonne Terre until May 1887, when the post was moved to Farmington to take advantage of a larger potential membership. The name was changed to Picket Post at that time, but the post number 215 remained as designated by the headquarters of the Department of Missouri.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following two series:

Post Records
Membership Records

Scope and Content Note:**Post Records**

This series contains the minutes of meetings, beginning with the organizational session in October 1884 and continuing through 1902. Generally, the meeting minutes concern routine business matters such as the recruitment and muster of new members, the election of representatives to state and national meetings, and plans for ceremonial Memorial Day observances and funerals of deceased members. Occasionally the post authorized relief payments to needy veterans, and sometimes it paid burial expenses for indigent comrades. Only once do the minutes indicate that the post violated a national resolution to remain politically non-partisan, when it adopted a resolution in February 1892, that protested the passage of the Free Coinage Silver Bill. However, the resolution was challenged and withdrawn at the next meeting. The last meeting recorded in this collection took place on June 14, 1902. Communications from state and local headquarters have been filed following volume two. They include lists of post in Missouri whose charters had been suspended or revoked. This series is arranged chronologically.

Membership Records

This series consists of a roster of members from 1884 to 1894. The series is arranged in chronological order.

Container List:

v. 1-2		Post Records
Roll 1	v. 1	Minute book, 1884-1891
	v. 2	Minute book, 1891-1902
	v. 3	Official communications, no date
v. 4		Membership Records
	v. 4	Roll of members, 1884-1894

Index:

Index Term	Medium
Bonne Terre (Mo.)	v. 1-4
Farmington (Mo.)	v. 1-4
Grand Army of the Republic	v. 1-4
Missouri--History--Civil War, 1861-1865	v. 1-4
Veterans--United States--Societies, etc.	v. 1-4