



Jesse N. Self Papers (R0304)

Collection Number: R0304

Collection Title: Jesse N. Self Papers

Dates: 1860-1863

Creator: Self, Jesse N., 1838-1863

Abstract: The Jesse N. Self Papers contain photocopies of letters to his family by Jesse N. Self, a schoolteacher at Irondale, Missouri, and captain of Company F, 32nd Missouri Infantry. The collection includes letters from Irondale, 1860, and from camps in Rolla and Benton Barracks in St. Louis, 1861-1862. Capt. Self died of erysipelas at Memphis, Tennessee, on February 25, 1863.

Collection Size: 0.02 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.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Jesse N. Self Papers* (R0304); 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 Kenneth Vincent Self on October 16, 1987 (Accession No. RA0391).

Processed by: Processed by John Bradbury, March 17, 1988. Revised by Donovan Mefford, June 2, 2021.

Biographical Note:

Jesse N. Self was born on December 1, 1838 in Washington County, Missouri. He was the grandson of Fountain and Sarah *Williams* Self, both of whom were residents of New Madrid in 1812. Jesse's father, Lemuel Self, was born in New Madrid and lived there until 1828, when he located in Washington County. He married Sarah Eaton in 1836. He relocated again in 1840, moving his family to Cherry Valley, now known as Cherryville, southeast of Steelville.

Jesse N. Self grew up in Crawford County, but by 1860 he was a schoolteacher in Irondale in Washington County. He enlisted in the Union army during the Civil War. He served initially with Phelps's Regiment Missouri Infantry, a six-month unit, and then enlisted in Co. F, 32nd Missouri Infantry. Company F was one of four companies in the 32nd which were raised in Crawford County in the fall of 1862. The men elected Self as captain. The 32nd completed its organization at Benton Barracks in St. Louis before being assigned to Union forces operating against Vicksburg. Capt. Self fell sick soon after leaving Missouri and was never again well. He died on February 25, 1863 of erysipelas, a streptococcal disease, at the officer's hospital in Memphis, Tennessee.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged in its original order.

Scope and Content Note:

The collection includes two ante-bellum letters written from Irondale, Missouri, and twelve written during Civil War service. The last letter, by Assistant Surgeon William Grinstead, announces Self's death in Memphis. The letters include comments on crops and local events at Irondale, camp life at Rolla during the winter of 1861-1862, and the organization of the 32nd Missouri at Benton Barracks and its voyage down river toward Vicksburg aboard the steamer Sucker State in late 1862 and early 1863.

Container List:

Box 001 f. 1 Letters, 1860-1863

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