



Lane's Prairie General Store Records (R0314)

Collection Number: R0314

Collection Title: Lane's Prairie General Store Records

Dates: 1860

Creator: King, Everett M.

Abstract: The Lane's Prairie General Store Records contain a photocopy of a daybook from an unidentified general store at Lane's Prairie in Maries County, Missouri, thought to have been operated by Francis M. Johnson. With the daybook is an undated letter by Maries County historian Everett M. King which contains speculation about the volume's provenance.

Collection Size: 0.05 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: Materials in this collection are in the public domain.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Lane's Prairie General Store Records* (R0314); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

Donor Information: The records were donated to the University of Missouri by the Old Jail Museum, Vienna Missouri on May 15, 1987 (Accession No. RA0377).

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the Lane's Prairie General Store Records can be found in the following collections:

Methodist Episcopal Church, South. Lane's Prairie Charge Records (R0432)

Processed by: Processed by John Bradbury, June 8, 1988. Revised by Donovan Mefford, June 4, 2021.

Historical Note:

Lane's Prairie is located in the northeastern corner of Maries County, about twelve miles east of Vienna. The area is named after Charles C. Lane, the first recorded settler of Maries County, who entered the large Paydown tract on the west side of the Gasconade River in 1826. Lane remained at that location only a short time before moving to the east side of the Gasconade at Lane's Ford. Family members Benjamin, Hiram, and Peter Lane also settled east of the river on the rolling prairie which came to bear the family name. By the date of Charles Lane's death in 1850, a small community existed at Lane's Prairie. A general store was probably already in operation at that date, and a post office was established in 1851. The latter remained in operation until 1914.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged in its original order.

Scope and Content Note:

The daybook from the general store at Lane's Prairie contains entries of daily transactions from January 3 through November 26, 1860. The volume is unindexed. Frequent customers were William Ammerman, William Davidson, Elias Gradolf, Benjamin, Hiram, and Peter Lane, John Moreland, John Nagle, Thomas Oliver, Frederick Overmayer, and William Wentzel.

There is nothing in the daybook which reveals the proprietor of the business, but each page bears the heading "Lane's Prairie." In an enclosure with the volume, Maries County historian Everett M. King expressed the belief that the store was operated in 1860 by Francis M. Johnson. King also referred to a claim made by Johnson against the United States for damages to the store during a skirmish near the store during the Civil War. King indicated that the claim, which apparently no longer exists, led him to believe that the contents of the store were the real objects of rebel forces in the skirmish. The fight is known locally as the Battle of Bloomington, after the post-war townsite platted on Lane's Prairie.

Container List:

Box 001 f. 1 Daybook, 1860

Index:

Index Term	Folder
Bloomington (Mo.)	1
General stores--Missouri--Maries County	1
Johnson, Francis M., 1833-1863	1
King, Everett M., 1876-1944	1
Lane's Prairie (Mo.)	1
Maries County (Mo.)	1
Maries County (Mo.)--History--Civil War, 1861-1865	1