

Information Sheet

R Mitchell, Allen.
583 Account book, 1859-1889 (bulk 1859-1861).
One volume.

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This is an account book kept by Allen Mitchell, a contractor and builder at Springfield in Greene County, Missouri. The entries record expenses and the time worked by stonemasons and laborers on construction projects including the third Greene County Courthouse, the college, and a Methodist church.

Most of the entries in the account book concern the construction of the third Greene County Courthouse. A partner of J. Leedy in the firm styled Mitchell & Leedy, Mitchell seems to have been the contractor who laid out the foundation and supplied the foundation stones. The earliest entry in the volume is for 3 March 1859, when Mitchell began quarrying rock for the Greene County Courthouse. Excavation for foundation began on 3 June 1859 and Mitchell began laying out the foundation on 7 June. For the courthouse job, Mitchell employed stonecutters at a quarry as well as laborers on the building site. In 1859, Mitchell also worked on the foundation of the "college," and his account book notes transactions with Robert P. Faulkner in connection with that project. In 1860-1861, Mitchell was engaged in the well-drilling business. His entries record jobs for Joseph Moss, Richard S. Gott, and John Young, and also drilling a well at the "new foundry."

Many of the entries in the account book concern timekeeping for Mitchell's employees. Mitchell kept track of time worked as well as time lost by his workmen, and in some cases Mitchell paid the room and board of his employees. At one time or another, Mitchell employed F. M. Adams, Hiram Blankenship, Alexander Braden, Jesse Brown, Edward Coffee, William Cudmore, John Dade, James Davis, William Doran, Thomas Dobbs, Alexander Ennis, Henry Entrzeroth, John Ford, Stephen Ford, D. L. Fulbright, B. B. Harvard, James Howell, Landsdell Hubbs, Augustus Jager, Thomas Johnson, Robert G. Lazenby, Thomas McMahan, Benedict Mattingly, J. P. Oaks, Daniel Riley, Marion Ross, Mark Sanders, William Scoggins, John Smith, Nelson Swairengyn, Samuel Thomas, William Thompson, James Whiteside, and David Yount. He seems to have employed at least three slaves: "Bob," owned by Joseph Moss, "Dade's black boy John," and "A. Fielding[s] black boy Mylo."

There are a few miscellaneous entries for 1867-1868 which concern personal expenses. The final entry is a description of the illness and recovery of Allen M. Doran in 1888-1889.

r654

5 June 1996

Stephana Wheat

Gift

Index Cards

Adams, F. M.
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Faulkner, Robert P.
Ford, John.
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Hubbs, Landsdell.
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