



## David S. Scott Papers (R0634)

**Collection Number:** R0634

**Collection Title:** David S. Scott Papers

**Dates:** 1862-1863

**Creator:** Scott, David S., 1831-

**Abstract:** The David S. Scott Papers contain the Civil War letters of David S. Scott, Co. H, 8th Indiana Infantry, written to Kate Missimer in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania. The letters, from Pilot Knob, Black River, Van Buren, and Oregon County, Missouri, concern camp life and the campaign of the Army of Southeastern Missouri.

**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](mailto:rolla@shsmo.org). Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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**Preferred Citation:** [Specific item; box number; folder number] *David S. Scott Papers* (R0634); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

**Donor Information:** This letter was purchased for the University of Missouri from James Smalldon Americana on March 30, 1998 (Accession No. RA0697).

**Processed by:** Processed by John F. Bradbury, June 23, 1998. Revised by Aaron Schmidt, April 2020.

**Biographical Note:**

David Severn Scott was born in Fayette County, Indiana to William and Rebecca *Severn* Scott on June 5, 1831. Scott enlisted early in the war in the 8th Indiana Infantry. After three months service with General George McClellan in West Virginia, the 8th Indiana was mustered out. The regiment was reorganized at Indianapolis under Colonel (later Brigadier General) William P. Benton for three years' service. Scott was among the veterans who reenlisted. The regiment was sent to St. Louis and served successively with John C. Frémont's Army of the West, and Samuel Curtis's Army of Southwest Missouri. Serving with the latter, the 8th Indiana was engaged at the Battle of Pea Ridge in March 1862.

From the Pea Ridge battlefield, the army drifted across southern Missouri and northern Arkansas, ultimately winding up at Helena, Arkansas, on the Mississippi River. However, two divisions of the army, including the 8th Indiana Infantry, were sent by river back into Missouri and then to the railhead of the Iron Mountain Railroad at Pilot Knob. Here they served under General John W. Davidson in the force styled the Army of Southeastern Missouri. Beginning in October 1862 from a base at Pilot Knob, the army embarked on a mid-winter campaign. The men marched several hundred miles through Patterson, Black River, Van Buren, West Plains, and Eminence, before being recalled to Pilot Knob in March 1863.

Scott was discharged in February 1864. He then travelled to Pennsylvania where he married Mary Catherine Missimer. Soon after he was elected sutler of his old regiment and served through August 1865. He and his wife then settled in Hannibal, Missouri.

**Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged in its original order.

**Scope and Content Note:**

This collection contains seven letters written by David S. Scott. Scott's correspondence begins in October 1862 after the army had reached Pilot Knob from Helena. His recipient was Mary Catherine "Kate" Missimer of Jersey Shore in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania. The correspondence was suggested by Missimer's brother, an army acquaintance of Scott's. The letters concern the campaign of the Army of Southeastern Missouri, the hardships endured during the winter march, and the eventual return to Pilot Knob.

**Container List:**

f. 1 Correspondence  
Box 001 f. 1 David C. Scott to Kate Missimer, 1862-1863

**Index:**

Index Term	Folder
Carter County (Mo.)	1
Iron County (Mo.)	1
Missimer, Mary Catherine, 1827-1890	1
Missouri--History--Civil War, 1861-1865	1

Index Term	Folder
Oregon County (Mo.)	1
Pilot Knob (Mo.)	1
Reynolds County (Mo.)	1
Scott, David S., 1831-	1
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865	1
United States. Army. Indiana Infantry Regiment, 8th	1
Van Buren (Mo.)	1