



John Wilson Diary (S0078)

Collection Number: S0078

Collection Title: John Wilson Diary

Dates: 1904, 1906-1909

Creator: Wilson, John, 1831-1910

Abstract: This collection contains a diary written by John Wilson, an English immigrant. In the diary, Wilson chronicles his daily life in the first decade of the twentieth century, discussing the social and political life of St. Louis and Jennings, Missouri, and the St. Louis World's Fair of 1904.

Collection Size: 0.15 cubic foot
(5 folders)

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-St. Louis](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at stlouis@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *John Wilson Diary (S0078)*; The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-St. Louis [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-St. Louis].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the University of Missouri by Avis Stein on December 1, 1981 (Accession No. SA2438).

Processed by: Processed by Rachael Heriford, March 2022

Biographical Note:

John Wilson was born in England in February 1831. Wilson immigrated to the United States and landed in New York on September 12, 1852. Mr. Wilson settled in St. Louis shortly thereafter. Mr. Wilson married Jane Wilson, an immigrant from Scotland, in 1860. Their daughter, Mary Wilson, was born in Missouri in July 1871. The Wilson family later moved to Jennings, Missouri, during the 1880s. He worked and became a stockholder at the M. A. Seed Dryplate manufacturing plant in Jennings, Missouri. John Wilson died on January 25, 1910, in Jennings, Missouri.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged chronologically.

Scope and Content Note:

The collection consists of 263 pages of daily diary entries written by John Wilson from January 6, 1904, to November 29, 1904, and from April 1, 1906, to December 25, 1909. In the diary, Wilson recounts his social and cultural experiences in St. Louis and Jennings, including the 1904 World's Fair, where he witnessed a John Phillips Sousa performance and Theodore Roosevelt's visit to the World's Fair. Also included in the diary is Wilson's description of the 1907 hot air balloon race in St. Louis, Missouri. The collection has been arranged chronologically and covers the years of 1904 and 1906-1909.

Container List:

- f. 1-5 Diary entries, January 6, 1904–November 29, 1904, April 1, 1906–
December 27, 1906– December 25, 1909

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