

Lykins Family Bible

This appears to be the family Bible of David and Jemima Lykins, parents of Dr. Johnston Lykins, an early Kansas City figure.

Descriptive Summary

Title: Lykins Family Bible

Dates: 18--?

Size: 1 Bible, 1 box

Location: SC33-2

Administrative Information

Restrictions on access: Unrestricted access.

Terms governing use and reproduction: The pages of the Bible may not be photocopied due to preservation concerns.

Related collections in other repositories: Johnston Lykins and Martha Lykins Bingham Papers (KC0294, NSA), Western Historical Manuscripts-Kansas City.

Acquisition information: Loaned, n.d., Therese Lykins Browne, to Missouri Valley Historical Society.

Custodial history: It appears that this Bible was loaned at some point to the Missouri Valley Historical Society and that the library acquired it with the acquisition of the records of the society. Complete provenance is not available.

Citation note: Lykins Family Bible (SC33-2), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

Collection Description

Biographical/Historical note

Dr. Johnston Lykins was a prominent figure in early Kansas City history. He came to this area as a medical missionary to the Indians and was associated with the Baptist Indian Mission. Lykins was also an early real estate developer and plotted the Lykins Addition in what is today the downtown area. He was appointed mayor after the first mayor, William Gregory, was replaced and Lykins became the second elected mayor. His first wife was Delilah McCoy, daughter of Isaac McCoy. After her death he later married Martha (Mattie) Livingston. Johnston Lykins died August 15, 1875.

Scope and content note

The Lykins Family Bible appears to be a late 18th century/early 19th century King James Version of the Bible containing the Old and New Testaments with 966 pages. The title page is missing so that exact identification is not available. Pasted on the back of the front cover is a note that reads "This was the family Bible of David Lykins and Jemima Willis the parents of Dr. Johnston Lykins." Another paste-on just underneath reads: "Library of the Kansas City Historical Society, Bible of Dr. Lykins parents, David and Jemima Lykins with family record."

Loaned by Therese Lykins Browne, Index No. I, Register No. 282." It is presumed that this Bible came to the Kansas City Public Library with the Missouri Valley Historical Society records.

Family genealogical information is found on seven pages bound in between the Old and New Testament. This has been photocopied and placed in a folder with the Bible as well as copies in the vertical file for Johnston Lykins. The birth information begins with David Lykins and Jemima Lykins and continues with the listing of 12 children. Johnston Lykins is listed as second of the children, born April 15, 1800. The last birth mentioned occurred in 1840. Deaths begin with Ruth Lykins and the list includes David and Jemima Lykins and some of their children. The last listed death is that of Sara Lykins Russell, born December 16, 1834, died on December 14, 1891. Marriages begin with David Lykins and Jemima Willis and include their children. Johnston Lykins and Delilah McCoy are listed as married in February of 1828.

Processed by Special Collections Librarian Sara Nyman, 1992.