

Mrs. J. O. Williams Collection

This small collection contains six items that are mostly related to local Civil War guerrilla fighters. Three items pertain to Richard Yeager who was a captain under William C. Quantrill.

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Unknown
Title: Mrs. J. O. Williams collection
Dates: 1861-1865
Size: 1 box, 2 folders
Location: SC15-8

Administrative Information

Restrictions on access: Unrestricted access.

Acquisition information: Earlier processing records indicate that these items were loaned, date unknown, by Mrs. J. O. (Mabel?) Williams, granddaughter of Richard Yeager.

Custodial history: The collection resided in the department's "y" case previous to being processed.

Citation note: Mrs. J. O. Williams collection (SC15-8), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

Collection Description

Biographical/historical note

Richard F. Yeager was a captain with noted guerrilla fighter William C. Quantrill and served with him beginning in 1862 in the Kansas and Missouri border area. His father was James Yeager who at one time was a presiding judge of the Jackson County Court and a freighter on the Santa Fe Trail. Richard Yeager was in charge of one of his father's wagon trains. He died in 1864.

Upton Hayes was born in Callaway County, Missouri in 1832. He lived in Westport, Missouri in Jackson County and was a relative of Daniel Boone. He fought with the Confederacy and was commissioned as a captain of cavalry in 1861. He was to raise troops in and around Westport, which he did and they became involved in defending the property of southern sympathizers in Jackson County and vicinity. He was killed in the Battle of Newtonia in 1864.

William C. Quantrill was a noted guerrilla fighter during the Civil War period of history along the Kansas and Missouri border. He lead raids, the most noted being the raid on Lawrence, Kansas in 1863 with the massacre of male citizens that followed. He was born in 1837 in Dover, Ohio and died in 1865 in Kentucky.

Scope and content note

This small two-folder collection contains six items which include a ledger book, account receipts, a proclamation, a permit, and an oath of allegiance. The dates range from 1861 to 1865. All but one item, the ledger book, have some relation to

the Civil War period. Three of the collection items pertain to Richard F. Yeager (Yager), one to Upton Hayes and William Quantrill, one to Edward F. West, and one is unidentified.

Collection Inventory

Folder 1

- Ledger book, Sept. 8, 1861. R.F. Yager, Wagon Master, Train No 4 – written on outside cover. Contains: supply list, expenses of train, noting of crossing of Arkansas River, July 1, 1861, accounts listing people with items and price.
- Names of people listed in accounts: Peter Convey, James Hunter, G.H. Peterson, W.W. Deister, Thos. Farrell, J.E. Mateer, A.A. Wiley, Harvey Perkins, Rich Casey, F.G. Wilson, Wesley Olvin, Thos. Fuller, C. Keyten, Jno. Cantwell, Jackson Blue, John C. Barns, J.P. Murry, C.G. Cain

Folder 2

5 separate items – photocopies of each item in box

- Receipt – Metropolitan Store, Westport, Mo., Jan. 7, 1862, Mr. Richard Yager, Account - \$4.81 (Primarily dry goods)
- Receipt – The Confederate States, to R. F. Yager, Louisburg, Ark., \$150.00, Dec. 31, 1862, verified by G.D. Page, for saddle horse, Shelbys Cav Brigd (2c.)
- Proclamation – (Reads as follows) Whereas the federal government has issued an order calling upon all male citizens between the ages of eighteen and forty-five to come forward and enroll their names, preparatory to drafting men to reinforce their lately defeated army before “Richmond”. We proclaim to all men if they will come to any of the many camps, now in the brush they will be furnished with arms, and ammunition, with which to Any one who shall be found guilty of reporting to any military post, the whereabouts of any southern man shall be shot. Any one liable to military duty who shall leave the state or shall be found preparing to leave the state to prevent being called into the service will be deemed enemies of the “South”, and treated accordingly. To the state of Missouri, Aug. 4th '62 Upton Hays W.C. Quantrill.
- Permit to Pass - ? Creek, Ark, July 27, 1862, by order of S. Price, Clay Taylor, Aide
- Oath of Allegiance – Edward F. West, Jackson Co., Mo., June 23, 1865, at St. Louis, Mo. Has a description of individual and a witness

Processed by Special Collections Department Manager Gloria Maxwell, 1992, further processing, 2003.