

C Fike, Henry C., (1832-1919), Diaries, 1851-1919
2215 .1 linear feet, 43 volumes

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INTRODUCTION

Diaries written by Fike while a student in McKendree College, IL; while a soldier in the Civil War; and about his migration to and life in Warrensburg, MO, and his work in Kansas City, MO, and various cities in the West.

DONOR INFORMATION

The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Stanley R. Fike and Mrs. L.W. Fike on 4 November 1964

FOLDER LIST

- v. 1 Student at and graduation from McKendree College, Illinois; founding of Platonian Literary Society; farm life; school teaching.
- v. 2 Civil War; capture and occupation of Fort de Russy; Red River Campaign; river defenses, Louisiana; gunboat flotilla; overland march, St. Louis to Kansas City to overtake Price; Battles at Franklin and Nashville, Tennessee; poem; list of transports in fleet going from Vicksburg to Memphis; list of transports going from St. Louis to Nashville; whistle signal code for transports; recipe to cure hand "tetter."
- v. 3 Siege and capture of Spanish Fort, Alabama; sketch of Spanish Fort; capture of Mobile; comments on Lincoln's assassination; peace; occupation of Montgomery, Alabama; discharge; return to Illinois. OVERSIZE: Map drawn by Fike.
- v. 4 Moves to Warrensburg, Missouri; opens grocery store; construction of a mill; business affairs; founding of State Normal School at Warrensburg.
- v. 5 Construction of main building of Normal School; routine affairs of Methodist Episcopal church; family life; drought.
- v. 6 Grasshopper plague; church affairs; General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church; report of Custer's last stand; camp meetings
- v. 7 Celebration of Independence Day; organization of local WCTY; activities of Normal School; sharecropping.
- v. 8 Lobbying for and expansion of Normal School; failure and sale of mill; becomes a claims agent for railroad; travels to west; descriptions of San Antonio, Texas; description of events at St. Louis Fair of 1882; Accounts of various claims he works on.
- v. 9 Travels through Texas; comments on presidential election of 1884; description of claims cases; New Orleans Exposition of 1885 described;

- expansion of Normal School. Vol. 10-12 Family life; church work; loses job.
- v. 10-12 Family life; church work; loses job.
- v. 13-14 Job-seeking with federal government; expansion of Methodist Episcopal Church in Warrensburg; becomes Deputy Collector of Internal Revenue; commutes from Kansas City; GAR activities; comments on use of electric chair; activities at Normal School.
- v. 15-30 Church activities; Normal School; tornado in Warrensburg; description of hunting trip into southern Missouri and northern Arkansas; description of Chicago Fair; loss of job; electrification of Normal School; becomes secretary to President of Normal School; establishment of library at Normal School; fishing trip described; resignation from post with Normal School; Spanish-American War comments; medical quackery; becomes clerk in Kansas City, for the Internal Revenue Department; reunions with his Civil War unit; description of St. Louis Exposition of 1904; death of wife.
- v. 31-43 Meets William Jennings Bryan; account of his first automobile ride; burning of Normal School in Warrensburg; reunions with 117th Regiment; resigns from job; at home; death.
- f. 1-18 Loose papers, newspaper clippings, programs, lists, notes culled from the diaries.

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