These are two record books of the community bands of Marble Hill in Bollinger County, Missouri. The records include constitutions, membership lists, minutes of meetings, and financial accounts of the Quartette String Band (1875), the Marble Hill Cornet Band (1876-1878), and the Marble Hill Silver Cornet Band (1887-1902). Although this collection was acquired from two separate donors, the combined material forms a unified history of the Marble Hill bands. The long association of Dr. August Sander with the bands explains the continuity of the records.

On 22 June 1875 the Lutesville and Marble Hill String Bands combined to form the Quartette String Band. Dr. August Sander was elected president. The band’s rules established a minimum fee of fourteen dollars for an engagement, and prohibited “free-lance” engagements by the individual musicians. The band performed at a ball on 5 July 1875, but further bookings were not forthcoming and the last entry by the treasurer was dated 2 September 1875.

On 15 May 1876 many of the same individuals organized the Marble Hill Cornet Band. Again August Sander was elected president, and J. M. Welch was named leader. There are detailed financial accounts for this organization extending into 1878.

There is a gap in the records from 1878 until 15 May 1887, when August Sander, now the secretary of the “Marble Hill Silver Cornet Band,” essayed a brief account of the eleven-year history of the organization. This memoir includes a list of all members during that period, and noted that in late 1886 the band had been reorganized, with Robert W. Fisher as leader and Charles A. Sander as president.

There were subsequent reorganizations in 1891, 1897 (after the resignation of R. W. Fisher), 1899, and 1902 (when R. W. Fisher returned as leader). These reorganizations were reflected in new constitutions and bylaws. Financial accounts are most complete for the years 1895-1898.

Section 1: From the organization of the Quartette String Band in 1875 and the Marble Hill Cornet Band in 1876 through 1878.

Section 2: Marble Hill Silver Cornet Band, 1887-1902, with a recapitulation of the years 1878-1887. Several reorganizations of the Cornet Band are included in this section.

[N.B.: Not all entries are in strict chronological order.]
Index Cards

Bands (Music)—Missouri
Bollinger County (Mo.)
Lutesville (Mo.)
Lutesville String Band (Lutesville, Mo.)
Marble Hill (Mo.)
Marble Hill Cornet Band (Marble Hill, Mo.)
Marble Hill Silver Cornet Band (Marble Hill, Mo.)
Marble Hill String Band (Marble Hill, Mo.)
Music—Societies, etc.
Popular music—Missouri
Quartette String Band (Marble Hill, Mo.)
Sander, August, d. 1907