

Information Sheet

R Bennett, L. G. (Lyman G.).
274 Collection, 1857-1865.
Ten folders.

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

These are diaries and topographic maps of a civil engineer, member of the 36th Illinois Infantry, and civilian employee of the U. S. Army. The materials concern homesteading in Minnesota in 1857; campaigning in Missouri and Arkansas with the Army of Southwest Missouri, 1861-1862; mapping in Kansas and Colorado in 1865; and the Powder River Indian Expedition in Nebraska and Wyoming in 1865.

Lyman Gibson Bennett was born in 1832 in Schuyler County, New York. He was reared and educated there until 1849, when his family removed to Oswego in Kendall County, Illinois. Bennett taught school for five years, and then trained as a surveyor and civil engineer. He worked as a railroad surveyor and later served as the county surveyor of Kendall County. Bennett spent most of 1857 in Minnesota in an unrewarding attempt to homestead, first near Winona, then in the Faribault District near Ashland. He supported himself by selling maps through subscription and by employment as a member of the surveying team for the proposed Transit Railroad. He terminated his unsatisfactory experience in Minnesota by returning to Illinois late in 1857 to resume teaching school.

When the Civil War broke out, Bennett enlisted as a corporal in Co. E of the 36th Illinois Infantry, a three-year unit known as the "Fox River Regiment." Military authorities took advantage of his skills, assigning him to engineering duties at Rolla and St. Louis.

His detached duty, which included map-making and work on fortifications, ended in time for Bennett to join his regiment at the Battle of Pea Ridge. He was detached after the battle to serve on the engineering staff of Brig. Gen. Samuel R. Curtis. He sketched the battlefield and was the cartographer of the Army of the Southwest as it marched across Missouri to Helena, Arkansas. In 1863, Bennett took a commission as major of the 4th Arkansas Cavalry (U.S.), which he helped raise and organize. He resigned and was discharged in August 1864. As a civilian, Bennett again joined the engineering department of Gen. Samuel R. Curtis, then commanding the Department of Kansas. He mapped the 1864 battlefields of Price's Missouri raid, and was sent to inspect the army's installations along the stage line to Denver. Later in 1865 Bennett served as engineering officer with the Powder River Indian Expedition. Bennett left the army's employ in 1866 to return to Illinois. He moved to Springfield, Missouri, in 1880, purchasing a farm on the west edge of the city. He continued to work as an engineer and surveyor, platting additions to the City of Springfield, and surveying railroad lines in Missouri and Oklahoma. He died in Springfield in 1904.

The Bennett collection consists of diaries and a series of topographic maps. Original materials, photocopies and typescripts are included in the collection. All of the material is indexed. Chronologies and/or itineraries compiled from the diaries also are available. With the exception of the diary for 1857, which pertains to homesteading in Minnesota, all of the materials concern Bennett's Civil War service and subsequent employment by the army. The diaries for 1861-1862 cover Bennett's surveying at Fort Wyman in Rolla, Missouri, his assignment to army headquarters in St. Louis, sickness and hospitalization in that city, participation in the Battle of Pea Ridge, Arkansas, and the movements of the army following that battle. The diaries feature several pen and ink sketches including the regimental camp and Ft. Wyman at Rolla, the camp at Springfield, the Battle of Wilson's Creek, and "Bob's Knob," an unusual topographic feature in McDonald County, Missouri. Some of the information from the diaries for 1861-1862 was later incorporated into the *History of the*

36th Regiment Illinois Volunteers (1876), which Bennett co-authored with the regiment's chaplain, William M. Haigh.

The topographic maps are entitled "Route of the Army of the Southwest," 1862. They begin with the positions of the Union and Confederate armies at the Battle of Pea Ridge, March 6-8, 1862. Subsequent maps show the Union army's march southeast along the White River, ultimately to Helena, Arkansas, in July 1862. Many of the maps also feature notes on distances marched, camps and towns. There are plats of the towns of Cassville, Cape Fair, Galena, Forsyth, and West Plains, Missouri; and Salem, Batesville, Sulphur Rock, Elizabeth, Moro, and Helena, Arkansas.

Bennett's late-war diary of service as a civilian employee consists of entries for January-April and July-October 1865. The first period includes Bennett's work as a surveyor for the Department of Kansas. The entries describe field work on the battlefields at the Big Blue River, the Marmiton River, and Westport, Missouri, and at Mine Creek, Kansas. Bennett's maps of these locations were later published in the *Official Military Atlas of the Civil War*, plate 66, numbers 3-4. Bennett was then ordered on an inspection trip to Fort Scott, Olathe, and Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas, in which he examined and reported on fortifications in those areas. There followed a similar inspection of defenses along the stage line to Denver, Colorado, and at Fort Laramie, Wyoming. The first segment of the diary ends with entries on Bennett's visit to the gold mining camps west of Denver.

The last portion of the diary concerns the Powder River Indian Expedition, a three-pronged offensive against Sioux, Cheyenne and Arapaho Indians in Wyoming and Montana. Bennett accompanied the eastern column, commanded by Col. Nelson Cole of the 2nd Missouri Light Artillery. The column left Omaha in July 1865 bound for Wyoming and a rendezvous with similar columns from Salt Lake City and Fort Laramie. The expedition terminated in failure in September 1865, beset with severe logistical problems, the early onset of winter, and attacks by Indians. Cole's eastern column was particularly hard-pressed. It was near collapse when it reached the supply depot at Fort Connor (later known as Fort Reno), Wyoming. The entries in Bennett's diary record the arduous march through Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming. There are vivid descriptions of incidents along the march, skirmishing with Indians, and the effects of exposure and starvation on the men and animals in the column. After the eastern column reached Fort Connor, Bennett was ordered to Fort Laramie to begin mapping the operations of the Powder River Expedition. The final entry in the diary is that for October 4, 1865, in which Bennett noted meeting famed mountain man Jim Bridger at Fort Laramie.

The Bennett collection includes another diary of the Powder River Indian Expedition. Its author is unknown and its provenance with the Bennett material is unexplained. The author accompanied the western column of the expedition, but he does not appear to have been a soldier. Perhaps, like Bennett, he was a civilian employee of the army. He usually traveled with the wagon train, but was privileged enough to ride away from the main body on brief excursions. He was on familiar terms with many of the officers of the expedition.

The western column originated at Salt Lake City and reached the Powder River country via Fort Laramie. The column marched with the commander of the expedition, Brig. Gen. Patrick E. Connor, and its guide, Jim Bridger. The diary entries begin on July 29, when the command left Fort Laramie. Subsequent entries include descriptions of the march and the expedition's leaders, the construction of Fort Connor on the Powder River, the activities of the Army's Pawnee scouts, and the Battle of Tongue River. The last diary entry, on September 14, 1865, describes attempts to establish communications with the missing eastern column. The volume concludes with an undated discussion of the Indian troubles of the 1860s which suggests that agitation by rebel emissaries to the west had a considerable influence on the behavior of the tribes.

The collapse of the Powder River Indian expedition under logistical duress led to the removal of Gen. Connor from his large command. His final report was destroyed in a hotel fire in Salt Lake City in 1865. Lyman Bennett's diary and the unidentified author's account are useful additions to the sources. The handiest compilation of Powder River materials is that by LeRoy R. and Ann W. Hafen, *Powder River Campaigns and Sawyers Expedition 1865* (Glendale, Calif., 1961). Bennett's

diary may be compared with the reports of Col. Nelson Cole and Capt. Henry Palmer of the eastern column. The anonymous account of Gen. Connor's column can be used in tandem with the diary of Capt. B. F. Rockafellow.

343	16 May 1986	John C. Bennett	Loaned for photocopying
421	27 September 1988	Lyman L. Bennett	Gift
424	7 November 1988	Lyman L. Bennett	Gift
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Shelf List

These are diaries and topographic maps of a civil engineer, member of the 36th Illinois Infantry, and civilian employee of the U. S. Army. The materials concern homesteading in Minnesota in 1857; campaigning in Missouri and Arkansas with the Army of Southwest Missouri, 1861-1862; mapping in Kansas and Colorado in 1865; and the Powder River Indian Expedition in Nebraska and Wyoming in 1865.

Folder 1: Diary, 1 January--31 December 1857 (photocopy of original, Lyman L. Bennett, 183 pp.).

Folder 2: Diary, 19 August--20 December 1861 (photocopy of typescript from Lyman L. Bennett, 74 pp.).

Folder 3: Diary, 21 December 1861--4 April 1862 (original from Lyman L. Bennett, 189 pp.).

Folder 4: Diary, 21 December 1861--4 April 1862 (photocopy of original from John C. Bennett, 189 pp.).

Folder 5: Diary, 21 December 1861--4 April 1862 (photocopy of typescript from John C. Bennett, 114 pp.).

Folder 6: "Route of the Army of the Southwest," 1862 (photocopy of original from John C. Bennett, 61 pp.).

Folder 7: Diary, 1 January--4 October 1865 (original from Lyman L. Bennett, 186 pp.).

Folder 8: Diary, 1 January--4 October 1865 (photocopy of original from John C. Bennett, 186 pp.).

Folder 9: Diary [author unknown], 29 July--14 September 1865 (original from Lyman L. Bennett, 72 pp.).

Folder 10: Diary [author unknown], 29 July--14 September 1865 (photocopy of typescript prepared by Helen Davenport, from Lyman L. Bennett, 24 pp.).

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Folder Shelf Lists

Folder 1: Diary, 1857

- 01 Jan Wedding of "Cousin Mary" near Oswego, Illinois
- 03 Begin Preparation for Trip to Minnesota
- 05 Travel through Chicago
- 05 Travel through Waukegan, Racine, Kenosha to Milwaukee
- 12 To Madison
- 14 Muscoda
- 18 Coon Valley & Raccoon River, Through La Cross
- 19 Winona
- 25 Sketch of Sugar Loaf Mountain, near Winona
- 26 Good Templars meeting at Winona

- 28 Travel to Wabash and return to Winona
- 03 Feb To La Cross and Muscoda
- 05 To Madison
- 12 To Muscoda and Boscobel
- 18 To Winona
- 19 Commence selling maps of area in Winona
- 16 Mar Proceed to Pleasant Valley to begin survey work
- 21 To Winona
- 01 Apr Winter ice on Mississippi River begins to break up at Winona
- 07 Mayoral elections in Winona, ending in a fist fight
- 20 Hunting trip along the Mississippi River, visit Indian camp on 23rd
- 30 Travel to Chatfield District of Minnesota to pre-empt land, arrive 1st May
- 02 May Return to Winona without pre-empting
- 04 Knights of Grand Templars meet at Winona
- 07 Travel toward Faribault District passing through Rochester, Mantorville and Ashland
- 07 Make inspection of land near Ashland and make claims
- 11 Sketch of Bennett's shanty erected on his claim
- 17 Travel to Fairbault to enter claims
- 19 Visit Warsaw
- 21 File for pre-emption, return to Winona
- 24 Employed as Member of survey team for Transit Railroad
- 26 Begin Survey at Minnesota City
- 27 Survey to Stockton
- 28 Davidson Valley
- 30 St. Charles
- 01 Jun Whitewater Valley
- 02 Rochester
- 03 Rochester to Ashland through Manorville, Sacramento & Wasiona
- 04 Reconnaissance survey from Ashland
- 06 Survey toward Owatonna
- 08 Survey toward Lake Elysian & Lake Duster
- 09 Arrive at St. Peter, lodge at Alma Hotel. Remain to 12 June
- 12 Survey to Redstone
- 13 New Ulm
- 15 Back to St. Peter to begin Survey east of Lake Elysian to Oakoman (17)
- 21 Abandon survey and recommence at Strait River
- 22 Jun Survey to point near Wild Goose Lake
- 23 Survey from Winnebago Reserve to outlet of Lake Elysian
- 25 Survey near Lake Madison
- 27 Visit Mankato
- 28 Survey to Hasota
- 30 Move camp to St. Peter
- 02 Jul Head for Sioux Country
- 04 Terminate survey to avoid Sioux areas
- 05 Retrace steps to New Ulm and Redstone
- 11 Arrive at Winona
- 20 Begin Survey of Gilmore Valley, Burns, Barrett's & Bear Valleys
- 27 Survey Straight Valley
- 31 Re-survey Bear Valley
- 03 Aug Bennett quits railroad survey party, return to Winona
- 14 To Rochester
- 16 Ashland
- 17 To Owatonna for Good Templar meeting
- 21 Commence plat of Ashland town lots, finish 5 Sept
- 07 Sep Survey at Head of Tombro River, return to Ashland
- 14 Begin survey of country road from Ashland to Concord
- 22 Comments on grist mill under construction at Ashland

- 29 Head fro Winona, lodge overnight at Rochester
- 04 Oct Comments on economic hard times at Winona
- 06 View tribe of Indian dancers in Ashland
- 12 Cross Mississippi River above Ashland to inspect timber claim
- 13 First elections held in Minnesota
- 19 Start for Wabesha on steamboat Galena to attend Grand Templar Lodge meeting return to Winona
22 Oct
- 24 Take steamboat to Dunleith, then train to Amboy, Illinois on 25 Oct. Arrive home in Oswego 27 Oct.
- 09 Nov Employed as school teacher in Oswego
- 18 Threshing on family farm
- 23 Employed to survey road from Troy to Kane-Kendall county line
- 01 Dec Commence teaching school at Oswego, District No. 4
- 16 Attend church benefit supper at Oswego

Folder 2: Diary, 19 Aug—20 Dec 1861

- 19 Aug Organization of Fox River regiment (36th Illinois Infantry)
- 21 Regiment moved to Camp Hammond, near Montgomery, Illinois
- 22 Mustered into U. S. service, Bennett visits his home in Oswego. Remains at home until 27 Aug.
- 28 [sic] Bennett appointed corporal of Co. E
- 29 Detailed as sergeant of the guard
- 28 [sic] Visitors to camp Hammond
- 29 Monotony of camp life
- 30 Bennett visits his home
- 31 Visitors at camp
- 01 Sep Storm disrupts camp
- 02 Clean-up after storm
- 03 Dysentery in camp
- 04 Battalion drill
- 05 Receives visit from parents; camp regulations tightened
- 06 Homesickness
- 07 Visits home in Oswego, remains until 9 Sep
- 09 Attends temperance meeting in Montgomery
- 11 Dress parade
- 12 Medical examinations of men, and muster-in for second time. Two men refuse to be mustered-in and are severely beaten by soldiers.
- 13 Visit by wife and daughter
- 14 Drunkenness in camp
- 15 Visits family in Oswego
- 16 Visits dentist in Oswego with wife
- 17 Homesickness sweeping camp
- 19 Trouble in camp over removal of non-commissioned officers of company by Capt. Camp
- 20 Partial issue of uniforms
- 22 Religious services held in camp
- 23 Uniforms and equipment issued, no firearms
- 24 Leave Camp Hammond for Missouri by train via Oswego, Arlington, Mendota and Galesburg
- 25 Board steamboat at Quincy, arrive in St. Louis on 27th
- 27 Disembark at St. Louis arsenal for issue of weapons. Two companies refuse to accept rusty guns
- 28 Description of St. Louis arsenal. Board train for Rolla
- 29 Arrive at Rolla
- 30 Description of Rolla. Wyman's column returns from Southwest Missouri
- 01 Oct Col. Greusel attempts to institute prohibition in Rolla
- 02 Comments on drill of 13th Illinois
- 03 Camp and parade grounds cleared
- 04 Wilson's Creek wounded come into Rolla
- 05 Homesickness; patriotic sentiments

- 08 First death by disease in regiment
- 09 Soldiers arrested for passing counterfeit money in trade with Missouri citizens
- 10 Wyman reviews regiment; complaints against inferior rations and company commander Capt. Fish
- 11 General unrest in camp and confrontations between men and overbearing officers. An officer arrested for passing counterfeit money
- 12 Marked improvement in disposition of officers
- 13 Bennett detailed to assist engineers at Ft. Wyman. His company disturbed by problems with commissions of officers
- 14 Ft. Wyman; Douglas County home guard
- 15 Drafted plan of blockhouse at Ft. Wyman and prepare to take levels inside. A jayhawking expedition from regiment is arrested.
- 16 Work on Ft. Wyman. Lt. Chappel dies of disease
- 17 Continue work at Ft. Wyman and blockhouse
- 18 Establish exact center of Ft. Wyman
- 19 Prisoners from Wet Glaze enter town. Account of skirmish at Wet Glaze. Prisoners incarcerated at fort.
- 20 Accidental shooting among pickets of 4th Iowa leaves one soldier dead
- 21 Guns at Ft. Wyman put in order
- 22 Guns fired at Ft. Wyman for first time
- 24 Work force at Ft. Wyman increased, blockhouse begun
- 25 Wright County refugees arrive at Rolla
- 26 Secesh prisoners put to work at fort
- 28 Unrest in camp over rations and fraudulent activities of cooks. Judge Sample Orr and Southwest refugees prepare to return home.
- 29 Continued unrest over cooks and rations
- 31 Work suspended at Ft. Wyman
- 01 Nov Pay for laborers at fort, rumors of attack on Rolla
- 02 Spies at Rolla
- 03 Funeral for soldiers of 4th Iowa Infantry
- 04 Commissioned by Col. Dodge to prepare topographical map of Rolla area, begin along Beaver Creek
- 05 Survey along Houston road
- 06 Survey along Salem road; escort of train to Fremont's army near Springfield
- 07 Survey west of Rolla
- 08 Survey Beaver Creek and Little Piney Creek; return of Texas County expedition
- 09 36th Illinois Infantry paid at Rolla
- 11 Prisoners at Ft. Wyman
- 13 Survey along north Salem Road; a refugee encountered
- 14 Camp excitement and near riot as soldiers force an abusive officer to flee camp; survey Beaver Creek
- 15 Survey area between Salem road and, from Dillon toward Rolla; local inhabitants
- 16 Difficulty between Bennett and Col. Gruesel
- 18 Assist in work at Ft. Wyman
- 19 Work on drawing up maps; temperance
- 20 Gen. Sigel delivers prisoners to Ft. Wyman; Bennett visits camps of Sigel and Osterhaus
- 21 Bennett moves tent to Ft. Wyman
- 22 Prisoners at the fort
- 23 Bennett forced by cold weather to work in headquarters; Col. Phelps and trouble with teamster
- 24 Prisoners from Crawford County
- 25 Refugees from southwest Missouri
- 26 Col. Dodge and Gen. Wyman
- 28 Survey area north of Rolla; description of Rolla as seen from Ft. Wyman
- 29 Exploration of cave near Rolla
- 01 Dec Prisoners removed from Ft. Wyman
- 02 Bitter dispute between Col. Gruesel and the quartermaster
- 03 Description of skirmish at Salem
- 06 Survey along Vienna road

- 07 Arrest of regimental quartermaster; arrival of paymasters
- 08 Sabbath day in camp; sickness and deaths of soldiers
- 09 Survey along Vienna road
- 12 Survey Beaver Creek rd.; ordered by Gen. Halleck to report to St. L. to complete topographic map
- 13 Col. Greusel arrested and confined to camp
- 15 Measels in camp of Col. Phelps' regiment; skirmish between Bowen's cavalry and Coleman's rebel band
- 16 Train to St. Louis; Col. Phelps' wife
- 17 Report to army headquarters; visit Benton Barracks
- 18 Begin work on plats
- 19 Continue platting
- 20 Final entry in volume, followed by Bennett's note to his wife that he is sending diary home in care of M. LaRue Harrison

Folders 3-5: Diary, 21 December 1861—4 April 1862

- 21 Dec Detached duty at headquarters in St. Louis, Mo.
- 22 Visit with cavalrymen from Kane County, Ill.
- 23 Enter military hospital at St. Louis, until 13 Jan 1862
- 25 Lithograph of Benton Barracks, St. Louis
- 27 Visit to the hospital by the Biddle sisters of St. Louis
- 28 Receipt of letters from M. LaRue Harrison and George Walker
- 29 Dwight Follett of Ohio
- 30 Sketch of camp of 36th Illinois Infantry at Rolla, Mo.
- 03 Jan Death of Dwight Follett
- 04 Benjamin F. Wells of Birge's Sharpshooters
- 06 Visit to Benton Barracks; comments on Franz Sigel
- 09 Regimental affairs at Rolla, Mo.
- 11 Visit to home of Biddle sisters, St. Louis
- 13 Release from hospital; return to duty at headquarters
- 22 Arrest and release of Bennett for lack of proper pass
- 31 Begin furlough to Oswego, Illinois. Return from furlough and travel to Rolla on 12 Feb
- 16 Feb Sketch of Fort Wyman, Rolla, Mo. Start westward to join regiment and army of the Southwest Missouri. Stay overnight at cabin between Little and Big Piney
- 17 Pass Waynesville and California House, Pulaski County, Mo.
- 18 Feb—20 Feb Lebanon, Mo.
- 22 Sketch of camp near Springfield, with description of town
- 23 Sketch and description of Wilson's Creek battlefield
- 25 Cassville, Mo. Skirmish near Keitsville.
- 26 Expedition to Newtonia, Mo. to seize Confederate supplies
- 28 Description of Home Guard at Cassville
- 03 Mar Meet Army of Southwest Missouri at Sugar Creek, Ark.
- 06 Rejoin 36th Illinois near Bentonville, Ark., and fighting
- 7-8 Battle of Pea Ridge, Ark.
- 11-17 Rivalry within regiment and criticism of Col. Greusel; duty in engineer department, survey of Sugar Creek; Sketch of "Bob's Knob," McDonald County, Mo.
- 18 Begin plat of battlefield at Pea Ridge; 13th Illinois Infantry arrives from Rolla
- 19 Army begins retrograde march to Keitsville, Mo.
- 22 Begin Plat of telegraph road at Keitsville
- 27 Visit M. LaRue Harrison at Cassville
- 02 Apr Negro arrested for mail robbery
- 04 Final entry. Diary sent home via member of regiment returning on furlough

Folder 6: Diary -- "Route of the Army of the Southwest," 1862

<u>Page</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Map Features</u>
03	10 Mar	Bentonville and Sugar Creek, Benton County, Ark.; plat of battlefield, 6 Mar 1862
04	16	Position of Sigel's batteries, 6 Mar; Camp Stevens, Ark.; site of skirmish 17 Feb 1862
05	--	Cross timbers and Keitsville, Barry County, Mo.
06	06 Apr	Washburn's Prairie and Keitsville, Mo.
07	07	Grist mill and Curtis's encampment near Cassville, Mo.
08	07	Road northeast from Cassville
09	08	Road northeast from Cassville
10	7-8	Road northeast from Cassville
11	--	Plat of Cape Fair and crossing of Flat Creek, Stone County, Mo.
12	08	Plat of Galena, Stone County, Mo.
13	9-10	Valley of Raley's Creek, Stone County, Mo.
14	10	Valley of Bear Creek, Stone or Taney Counties, Mo.
15	10	Camp at confluence of Bear and Bull Creeks, Taney County, Mo.
16	11	Road to Forsyth; confluence of White River & Swan Creek, Taney County, Mo.
17	--	Plat of Forsyth; road northeast to Taney City
18	17-19	Camp Ballou, confluence of Ballou [Blue?] & Swan creeks, Taney County, Mo.
19	19-20	Stormy Camp, Little Beaver Creek, Taney County, Mo.
20	21	Camp Beaver, confluence of Big Beaver & Prairie Creeks; Lyon's Mill & Arno P. O., Douglas County, Mo.
21	--	Valley of Wild Cat Creek and Hunter's Fork and plat of Vera Cruz, Douglas County, Mo.
22	25	Route east from Vera Cruz and campsite
23	--	Crossings of Big North Fork and Spring Creek, Howell County, Mo.
24	--	Plat of West Plains and route along Spring Creek, Howell County, Mo.
25	--	Road south along Spring River
26	--	Missouri-Arkansas border, site of skirmish 18 Mar 1862
27	--	Plat of Salem and camp on Cypress Creek, Fulton County, Ark.
28	--	Road south of Salem and crossing of Strawberry River
29	--	Crossing of Piney Creek
30	--	Junction with Jacksonport Road, plat of Poke Bayou P. O., Izard or Sharp County, Ark.
31	--	Poke Bayou
32	--	Plat of Batesville; Blowing Cave and Star Mills, Independence County, Ark.
33	--	Junction with Clinton Road; crossings of White River and Caney Creek
34	--	Plat of Sulphur Rock, Ark.
35	24 Jun	Camp Galloway
36	--	Turnstall's Ferry over Black River; Jacksonport; plat of Elizabeth, Jackson County, Ark.
37	--	Camp on Village Creek; site of Battle of Waddle's Farm. 12 June 1862
38	03 Jul	Camp Pickett
39	--	Road obstructions
40	4-6	Camp on White River at Augusta, Woodruff County, Ark.
41	--	Road shouthward and cemetery
42	07	Confluence of Bayou Cache and Cache River; site of Battle of Round Hill, 7 July 1862
43	08 Jul	Camp near Bayou de View
44	--	Crossing of unnamed slough
45	--	Road along Cache River
46	9-10	Camp near Clarendon, Monroe County, Ark.
47	--	Road northeast from Clarendon
48	--	Road northeast from Clarendon
49	11	Crossing of Big Creek, Lee County, Ark.; plat of Moro, Ark.
50	12	Crossing of Spring Creek
51	--	Route to Helena, Ark
52	--	Route to Helena, Ark
53	--	Helena, Phillips County, Ark.

Folders 7-8: Diary, 1 Jan –4 Oct 1865**Date**

- 01 Jan Description of Paola, Kan.
 02 Negro wedding at Paola
 03 Abusive soldier shot and killed by Negro at Paola
 04 Travel to Mound City, Kansas, to map battlefield at Mine Creek (25 Oct 1864); account of murder of blacksmith at Mound City on New Year's Day
 05 Description of Mine Creek battlefield, unburied Confederate dead noted. Anecdote concerning Gen. Marmaduke. Return to Mound City, then proceed to Ft. Scott
 06 Select grounds for fortifications at Ft. Scott
 07 Draft maps of Big Blue, Westport and Mine Creek
 08 Ride to Deerfield, Mo. to map battlefield at Marmiton River (25 Oct 1864)
 09 Work on battlefield map
 10 Finish battlefield map
 11 Map area surrounding Ft. Scott
 12 Description of mapping procedures
 13 Ride to Drywood Creek, 9 miles south of Ft. Scott; description of coal mines near Ft. Scott
 14 Mapping in vicinity of Ft. Scott
 15 Mapping in vicinity of Ft. Scott
 16 Map area north of Marmiton River
 17 Continue work on maps
 18 Complete maps
 19 Prepare for move to Leavenworth, Kan.
 20 Move toward Leavenworth, stop to encamp at Twin Springs
 21 Proceed to Paola and inspect fortifications under construction, then move to Olathe, Kansas
 22 Arrive at Leavenworth, reunited with family from Oswego, Illinois
 23 Report for duty, receive suggestions from Gen. Curtis for improvements on maps
 24 Seek lodging for family
 25 Seek lodging for family
 26 Arrange lodging for family
 27 Continue work on maps
 28 Continue work on maps
 29 Visit Congregational Church
 30 Work on maps
 31 Work on maps
 [no entries from 31 January through 10 Feb 1865]
- 11 Feb Prepare for trip to Denver, Colo.
 12 Attend church services, remarks on presence of Col. William F. Cloud. Attend Baptist service in evening
 13 Arrangements for Denver Trip
 14 Arrangements for Denver Trip
 15 Start for Denver, encamp at Mount Pleasant
 16 Camp 4 miles west of Atchison
 17 Pass through Lancaster, encamp on Grasshopper Creek
 18 Remain in camp
 19 Pass through Kinnekuk on edge of Kickapoo Reserve
 20 Pass Granada, camp 3 miles beyond at log tavern
 21 Pass village of Senneca, camp 3 miles west
 22 Start toward Oketa but cannot cross flooded Big Blue River, turn toward Marysville
 23 Pass through Marysville and cross Big Blue, camp 17 miles west of Marysville
 24 Enter Nebraska
 25 Cross Little and Big Sandy Creeks, camp 12 miles from Big Sandy
 26 Proceed along north bank of Little Blue River
 27 Proceed along north bank of Little Blue River
 27 Proceed along north bank of Little Blue River, camp at deserted farm

- 28 Camp at stage station 28 miles from Ft. Kearney, Nebraska
- 01 Mar Reach Platte River, then proceed to Ft. Kearney
- 02 Inspect unfinished fortifications at Ft. Kearney
- 03 Make preparations to continue to Denver
- 04 Pass through Kearney City, continue along Platt River to post at Plum Creek, where fortifications were inspected and approved
- 05 Pass stage stops with small garrisons at Millaley's Ranch, Miller's Ranch, and Dan Smith's Ranch. Make recommendations for defense against Indians.
- 06 Pass Gillman's Station and camp at Cottonwood
- 07 Remain at Cottonwood due to rumor of Indians in vicinity. Make recommendations for considerable alterations at post.
- 08 Remain at Cottonwood due to intense cold weather
- 09 Pass Morrow's Ranch, 12 miles from Cottonwood. Pass Fremont's Springs and post at O'Fallon's Bluff. Order post removed from the latter to Fremont's Springs
- 10 Travel 25 miles to Alkali Station
- 11 Travel 25 miles to Beauvois Station
- 12 Make plans for fortifications at Beauvois Station, move on to Julesburg, Colo.
- 13 Pass ruins of stage station at Wisconsin Ranch, encamp at Buffalo Springs post
- 14 Move through Lillian Springs, camp at Valley Station and order defenses to be constructed
- 15 Reach American Ranch, destroyed by Indians. Corpse of an Indian attacker in evidence. Continue to Godfrey's Ranch and Beaver Creek Station
- 16 Take Denver cutoff from Platte River, travel to Bijeau Creek
- 17 Reach stage stop at Living Springs, continue to Kiowa Creek
- 18 Proceed to Box Elder, reach Denver in afternoon
- 19 Meet Gen. Moonlight, commanding district. Make recommendations for posts at Living Springs, Junction, American Ranch, Spring Hill and Julesburg
- 21 Prepare plans for posts in district
- 22 Tour Denver and Vicinity
- 23 Ride to mountains to view gold mining operations. Visit Golden City, Golden Gate, North Clear Creek, Black Hawk and Central City
- 24 Visit gold mines Gregory No. 2 and Old Gregory, return to Denver
- 25 Prepare for move to Ft. Laramie, Wyo.
- 26 Prepare for move to Ft. Laramie, Wyo.
- 27 Move to Burlington on St. Vrain's Creek
- 28 Arrive at Ft. Collins
- 29 Move north toward Ft. Laramie, encamp on Lone Tin [Pine?] Creek
- 30 Pass Lodge Pole Creek and former site of Camp Walbach. Camp near head of Chugwater Creek, Wyo.
- 01 Apr Arrive at Ft. Laramie
- 02 Examined site for defenses
- 03 Leave Ft. Laramie, proceed southeast along Platte River camp near Indian agency, 32 miles from Ft. Laramie
- 04 Pass into Nebraska to Camp Mitchell, 3 miles from Scott's Bluff, then move 15 miles more to Ficklin's Ranch
- 05 Remain in camp due to storm
- 06 Pass Chimney Rock and Courthouse Rock, reach Mud Spring Station. Hear of capture of Richmond, Va.
- 07 Camp on Pole Creek
- 08 Reach Julesburg, Colo., receive dispatch from Gen. Patrick Connor ordering a return to Denver
- 09 Remain at Julesburg, Hear of surrender of Robert E. Lee's army at Appomattox, Va.
- 10 Remain in camp
- 11 Take stage for Denver, pass through Buffalo Springs, Lillian Springs, reach Valley Station
- 12 Change horses at Godfrey's Station, move to Bijou
- 13 Pass through Living Springs
- 14 Reach Denver
- [no entries from 15 April through 2 July 1865]
- 03 Jul Aboard Missouri River steamer at Nebraska City, Neb., bound for Omaha. Pass Mormon camp

- near small hamlet of Wyoming. Reach Omaha and report. Ordered to proceed with Col. Cole across Plains. Board stage headed west.
- 04 Join Cole's Expedition moving along north bank of Platte River. Camp near mouth of Shell Creek at Confluence with Platte
- 05 Leave Plate and camp above mouth of Loup 3 miles from Columbus
- 06 March up north bank of Loup River, camp 17 miles from Columbus
- 07 Pass town of Genoa and enter Pawnee Reserve. Visit Pawnee Academy and village near mouth of Beaver Creek. Camp near Council Creek
- 08 Camp near Cedar Creek
- 09 Camp on Loup River
- 10 Camp three miles above mouth of North Loup River
- 11 Camp on North Loup
- 12 Camp on North Loup
- 13 Cross divide to main branch of Loup River
- 14 March up south bank of Loup and encamp. Stampede of horse heard at night
- 15 Remain in camp to collect animals
- 16 Proceed northwest along north bank of Loup River
- 17 Proceed northwest along north bank of Loup River
- 18 Proceed northwest along north bank of Loup River
- 19 Camp near mouth of Dismal River
- 20 Proceed up middle fork of Loup River. Another stampede of horse herd
- 21 Collect animals and march three miles. A Threatened mutiny by soldiers who refuse to go on
- 22 Proceed up Loup River, 17 miles
- 23 Proceed up Loup River, 15 miles
- 24 Proceed up Loup river, 17 miles
- 25 Proceed up Loup River 18 miles
- 26 Reach headwaters of Loup, search parties sent out to determine the best route northward
- 27 Proceed from head of Loup, march 16½ miles to camp on Lake Raymond.
- 28 March toward Snake River, 8½ miles.
- 29 Camp on Boardman Creek, a branch of the Snake River
- 30 March to McMurry's Creek. Bennett continues with scout to Snake River, 100 miles west of its mouth. Continue to Niobrara River, then return to camp
- 31 March 31 miles to Snake River
- 01 Aug Pass Angelope Creek and reach Niobrara River, camp on north bank
- 02 March northwest 12 miles to camp on Wounded Knee Creek
- 03 March 13 miles, encamp 10 miles from Porcupine Tail Butte
- 04 March 17 miles down Wounded Knee Creek
- 05 Camp on Wounded Knee Creek
- 06 March 15 miles, cross White River and encamp
- 07 Enter Badlands, march 16 miles to camp at Ash Springs
- 08 Pass head of Bear Creek, camp on Cheyenne River
- 09 Remain in camp
- 10 Cross Cheyenne River and encamp
- 11 March 14 miles to Elk Creek
- 12 Encamp on Bear Creek
- 13 March west along Bear Creek to headwaters, then to camp on head of Broken Water Creek
- 14 March northward, camp on south branch of Bear Butte Creek
- 15 March 12 miles to camp on White Wood Creek
- 16 March 18 miles to camp on unnamed creek
- 17 March west, cross Peak and Cascade creeks, branches of Red Earth River. A Negro dies, the first death of the expedition
- 18 March 10 miles, 16th Kansas from Ft. Laramie joins the column
- 19 March north-northwest to the Cheyenne River, 10 miles
- 20 Cross to north bank of river, march 9 miles
- 21 Aug Pawnee guide found dead, a soldier also dies of disease. March 21 miles to little Missouri River
- 22 March 12 miles northeast down Little Missouri
- 23 Cross river and march 11 miles along west bank

- 24 Another soldier dies, of scurvy. March 11 miles
- 25 Remain in camp
- 26 Cross divide into valley of Box Elder Creek. March 20 miles
- 27 March 9½ miles northwest from Box Elder Creek
- 28 March 30 miles toward Powder River
- 29 March 11 miles to camp on Powder River
- 30 Party sent to explore route to Tongue River and Panther Mountains, the rendezvous point to meet column under Gen. Patrick Connor
- 31 Remain in camp
- 01 Sep Scout returns to camp reporting no sign of Gen. Connor. Band of 30–40 Indians attempts to stampede horses, resulting in skirmish. Another band attacks hunting party. Five cavalymen killed.
- 02 Dead buried. March 24 miles down west bank of Powder River, livestock begin to die
- 03 Return to Ft. Laramie contemplated as livestock begin to die and provisions run low. 150 animals die in course of 17 mile march.
- 04 March 2 miles to camp. 50 Indians attack cavalry squad, pursuit ends with nightfall
- 05 Skirmishing resumes with Indian attempt to capture wagons. Cavalry sortie across Powder River results in many casualties. March 12 miles toward Tongue River after 3-4 hours of skirmishing
- 06 March up Tongue River, 10 miles
- 07 Attack on party of stragglers from 12th Missouri Cavalry, 1 man killed. Total of nine deaths due to Indian attacks. March 11 miles.
- 08 Attack on 16th Kansas at head of advance. March and skirmish 15 miles.
- 09 100 animals left dead at camp, 200 more dying animals shot in 2½ mile march. 300-400 men now dismounted, barely enough draft animals to pull wagons. Excess baggage and 100 wagons burned to lighten loads.
- 10 Pass old Indian camp, march 6-¾ miles
- 11 March 11½ miles. Command on short rations
- 12 Cross to west bank of Powder River, march 15½ miles
- 13 Cross Powder River 8 times in 15½ mile march
- 14 Indians attack stragglers on two occasions, 1 trooper killed. March 9½ miles, passing mouth of Clear Creek
- 15 March 20 miles. Communications received from Gen. Connor, who is moving up Tongue River
- 16 March 20 miles, pass stream thought to be Sandy Fork
- 17 Scout sent to Ft. Connor. March 9 miles
- 18 March 19 miles. Detachment of 50 men arrives from Connor's command
- 19 Relief party arrives with rations from Ft. Connor. March 15 miles
- 20 March 12 miles to encamp within 5 miles of Ft. Connor. Receive rations and newspapers as recent as August 15.
- 21 Remain in camp to issue commissary stores
- 22 Bennett visits Ft. Connor, description of stockade and buildings
- 23 Move camp to within 3 miles of Ft. Connor
- 24 Gen. Connor's column arrives
- 25 Bennett ordered to proceed to Ft. Laramie with Connor's engineer to begin making maps of Powder and Tongue River operations. March 42 miles
- 27 Cross headwaters of Cheyenne River, march 45 miles
- 28 Strike telegraph road and Platte River at Deer Creek, move downstream 20 miles to encamp on Lapasselle [La Prele?] Creek
- 29 Reach stage station at La Bonte. Pass Horseshoe Station to encamp 2 mi. below. March 45 miles
- 30 Pass Maggie's Springs and Limestone Creek, reach Ft. Laramie
- 01 Oct Rest at Ft. Laramie
- 02 Begin work on maps of operations
- 03 Continue mapping
- 04 Continue work, meet Jim Bridger at Fr. Laramie

Folders 9-10: Diary of Powder River Expedition [author unknown], July—September 1865**Date**

- 29 Jul Leave Ft. Laramie
 30 Star Ranch
 31 Horse Shoe Station & Horse Shoe Creek
 01 Aug LaBonte's Ford
 02 "Bad Lands of the Platte"
 03 LaParelle Creek. [LaPrele Creek.]
 04 Sage Creek
 05 Brown's Spring Creek
 06 Bear Lodge Trail & Rattlesnake Run, S. Fork Cheyenne River
 7-8 Middle, or Wine River, Fork of Cheyenne River
 9 Dry Fork of Powder River
 10 Camp Few miles west of Pumpkin Buttes
 11-12 Powder River, Scouts along Powder River
 13 Scout to Old Woman's Fork [Crazy Women Creek]
 14 Camp on Powder, Scout toward Tongue River
 15-16 Cross Powder River, stake out Ft. Reno/Ft. Connor
 17 Return of Capt. North's Pawnee Scouts, account of fight with Cheyenne war party on Powder R.
 18 Move camp 2 miles up Powder River for better grazing
 19 Camp on Powder River
 20 Pawnee scouts chase Sioux
 21 Move camp down river to bluffs below fort
 22 Break camp, pass Ft. Connor, camp on Crazy Woman's Fork, Powder River
 23 Travel Bozeman cut-off to camp on Clear Creek
 24 Remain in camp
 25 Pass Smith [DeSmet] Lake, camp near Piney Fork
 26 Cross Piney Creek, to forks of Bozeman Road, camp on Peno Creek
 27 Peno Creek on Tongue River
 28 Down Peno Creek to Tongue River, camp on Tongue at Wolf Mountain. Gen. Connor moves w/300 men to attack Arapahoe village.
 29 Camp on Tongue River
 30 Account of Battle of Tongue River, camp on Tongue River.
 31 Continue down & camp on Tongue
 01 Sep Continue down river
 02 Continue down river
 03 Continue down river
 04 Continue down river
 05 Remained in camp on Tongue River
 06 Gen. Connor orders withdrawal, move up river.
 07 Camp on Tongue River
 08 Remain in camp, Capt. North with 50 Pawnees sent to make contact with Col. Cole's column on Powder River, another scout sent toward Rosebud River, make preparations to return to Ft. Connor and Ft, Laramie
 09 Remain in camp
 10 Remain in camp
 11 Move camp short distance up river. Capt. North returned to report evidence of Cole's command having camped on Tongue River, and large numbers of dead horses
 12 Continued up Tongue River, encamp near campsite of 1 Sept. Three guides sent to communicate with command on Powder River
 13 Move up Tongue River, 10 mi. Guides return reporting Indians between Tongue and Powder R.
 14 Continue up river toward mouth of Peno Creek. Criticism of Gen. Connor. Comments on Indian uprisings on Plains, with speculation that Confederate emissaries played a part in encouraging unrest against U. S. government.

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