

Information Sheet

R Rountree family.
325 Diary and reminiscences, ca. 1819-1956.
One folder, photocopies.

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 extracts from the diary of Joseph Rountree, 1819-1831, and the autobiography of William J. Rountree, ca. 1910. There are also notes on the Rountree family by Frank Rountree, 1911-1912, Ruth Fowler Sherwood, 1947, and Joseph G. Rountree, 1956, with obituaries and birth-death records of family members.

Joseph Rountree (1782-1874) and his grandson, William J. Rountree (1847-1934), are the primary authors and subjects of "The Rountree Story" as presented in the family papers. The story was compiled by their descendant, Ruth Fowler Sherwood, in 1947 and was added to by later family members. The most useful portions of the story consist of accounts from the diary of Joseph Rountree, 1819-1831, covering travel from North Carolina to Tennessee in 1819-1820, and from Tennessee to Missouri in 1830-1831.

The Rountree family came to America from Northern Ireland about 1700. By 1800 family members were living in Virginia, North Carolina, and Tennessee. Joseph Rountree was a native of North Carolina. He married Nancy Nichols there in 1806. In 1819 he moved to Maury County, Tennessee. He brought his large family to Greene County in southwestern Missouri in 1831, settling along Wilson's Creek where the town of Springfield grew up. Rountree taught school at Springfield in the 1840s and was a justice of the peace and county court official during the 1850s. He was among the most prominent pioneers of Springfield, where he died in 1874. Joseph Rountree's diary of travel from Tennessee to Missouri has been published, in part, in Fairbanks and Tuck, *Past and Present of Greene County, Missouri* (1915). Lucille Morris Upton cited the diary in newspaper articles on the history of Springfield. The typescript included in the "Rountree Story" contains some garbled chronology and misinterpreted names which will be obvious to most researchers.

William J. Rountree began his autobiography in 1910 at the request of his son. William was a grandson of Joseph Rountree by his fifth son, Almus Linnaeus Rountree, and wife Delilah Mitchell. Almus was living in St. Louis in 1852 when he left for the California gold fields, never to return to Missouri. He left his son to be cared for by his grandfather. William spent the 1850s and 1860s in southwestern Missouri. His autobiography focuses on Greene County in its pioneer and Civil War periods. The memoirs provide many useful details concerning life on the frontier and during the war. William was too young for service in the armies until 1864, when he enlisted in the 16th Missouri Cavalry. He participated in operations against Sterling Price's Confederates in 1864 and the Plains Indians in 1865 before mustering out in October. William J. Rountree was a resident of Lingle, Wyoming, when he died in 1934.

The family story concludes with obituaries of William J. Rountree, followed by vital records taken from a family bible. There are brief paragraphs written by William's son, Frank Rountree, in 1911-1912, and information on the Texas branch of the Rountree family, which was added to the story ca. 1956.

r395

10 November 1987

Springfield-Greene County Library District

Gift

Shelf List

These are extracts from the diary of Joseph Rountree, 1819-1831, and the autobiography of William J. Rountree, ca. 1910. There are also notes on the Rountree family by Frank Rountree, 1911-1912, Ruth Fowler Sherwood, 1947, and Joseph G. Rountree, 1956, with obituaries and birth-death records of family members.

<u>Page(s)</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	Letter by Ruth Fowler Sherwood, 14 December 1947
2-8	Diary of Joseph Rountree, 3 October--21 November 1819
8-11	Diary of Joseph Rountree, 15 November--28 December [no year]
11-13	Diary of Joseph Rountree, 7 October--14 November 1819 [1820?]
13-21	Diary of Joseph Rountree, 19 September 1830--16 January 1831
21	Diary of Joseph Rountree, 6 March--11 March 1831
22-37	Autobiography of William J. Rountree, ca. 1910
23-27	"Pioneer Life" [in Springfield and Greene County, Missouri.]
27-32	"The Gathering Storm" [Civil War, 1861-1865]
32-35	"After the War"
35	"California"
35-36	"Back to Missouri"
36-	"Railroading in Texas"
36--37	"Marriage"
37-38	Letters of William J. Rountree, 18 June 1910
39	Notes by Frank Rountree, 1911-1912
39--40	Notes on Rountree family history, by J. G. Rountree, ca. 1956
41-43	Obituaries of William J. Rountree, 1934
44	Birth-death records from family bible, ca. 1820s
45	Miscellaneous notes from Rountree diary, n.d.

r395

10 November 1987

Springfield-Greene County Library District

Gift

Index Cards

Frontier and pioneer life—Missouri.
 Frontier and pioneer life—Tennessee.
 Greene County (Mo.)—History.
 Missouri—Description and travel.
 Missouri—History—1821-1860.
 Missouri—History—Civil War, 1861-1865.
 North Carolina—Description and travel.
 Railroads—Texas.
 Rountree, Alfred.
 Rountree, Allen Jones.
 Rountree, Almerinda Caroline.
 Rountree, Almus Linnaeus.
 Rountree, Andrew.
 Rountree, Bentley.
 Rountree, Carl.
 Rountree, Caroline Fetnah.
 Rountree, Charles.
 Rountree, David How.
 Rountree, Delilah Mitchell.
 Rountree, Edward T.
 Rountree, Elizabeth Hildreth Rubottom.
 Rountree, Elizabeth Massey.
 Rountree, Ettie.
 Rountree, Eva Sturgess.
 Rountree, Evy.
 Rountree, Fannie Massey.
 Rountree, Florence.
 Rountree, Frances.
 Rountree, Frank, -1912.
 Rountree, Frank Massey.

Rountree, Helen.
Rountree, I. T.
Rountree, J. G.
Rountree, J. T.
Rountree, Jack.
Rountree, James.
Rountree, Jane.
Rountree, Janes McClery.
Rountree, John.
Rountree, John Flintham.
Rountree, Joseph.
Rountree, Joseph, 1782-1874.
Rountree, Joseph G.
Rountree, Junius Meredith.
Rountree, Lenas Marion.
Rountree, Louisa Amanda.
Rountree, Lucius Amades.
Rountree, Lydia.
Rountree, Lydia Ann Fisher.
Rountree, Marzavon Jerome.
Rountree, Nancy Nichols.
Rountree, Newton M.
Rountree, Pally [Polly?].
Rountree, Rachel.
Rountree, Thomas.
Rountree, William.
Rountree, William J.
Rountree, William J., 1847-1934.
Rountree, Zenas Marion.
Rountree family—genealogy.
Sherwood, Ruth Fowler.
Springfield (Mo.)—History.
Tennessee—Description and travel.
Tennessee—History—1815-1861.
United States—History—1815-1861.
United States—History—Civil War, 1861-1865.
Virginia—Description and travel.
Voyages and travels.