Information Sheet

R  Ledgerwood, Samuel, 1824-1896.
401 Memoranda book, ca. 1851-1853.
     One folder, photocopies and typescript.

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

This is a memoranda book of an early resident of Relfe in southern Phelps County, Missouri. The entries concern the operations of a general store and mill.

Samuel Ledgerwood was a native of Indiana. He came to Missouri circa 1845, settling on Spring Creek in what was then Pulaski County, later part of Phelps County. Ledgerwood’s notebook indicates that he was operating a mill and general merchandise business by 1851. Ledgerwood served several terms as assessor of Phelps County after the Civil War. In 1878, he moved to Montpelier township in Shannon County. He was elected presiding judge (commissioner) of the Shannon County court in the 1880s. He died in Shannon County in 1896.

Ledgerwood’s memoranda book contains entries primarily concerned with his business interests, circa October 1851 -- November 1853. His ventures seem to have included a general store and possibly a blacksmith shop, common adjuncts to milling operations in this period. Much of the business at the mill was paid for in trade, with deer skins, feathers, and labor accepted at various times for mill work and sundry items of general merchandise. The exact location of Ledgerwood’s mill is not known, but his customers included the Bradford, Coppedge, Lanning, Lawson, and Ragan families of Relfe, a few miles to the southwest of the confluence of south Spring Creek with the Big Piney River.

r466  29 January 1990  John E. Ledgerwood  Loaned for photocopying

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