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This is an account ledger of C. C. Bennetsen, a blacksmith in the High Gate community of Maries County, Missouri. The entries list the names of customers and the nature and cost of blacksmithing work done from May 1906 through May 1916.

Christian C. Bennetsen was the son of Christen and Maria I. Skouby Bennetsen. The parents were natives of Denmark who settled in the High Gate neighborhood in the 1850s. Christian C. Bennetsen was born on the family farm east of High Gate in 1885. By 1906 he was operating a blacksmith shop. As evidenced by the account ledger, most of Bennetsen’s business involved making horse shoes, sharpening plow points, and making repairs to farm equipment and wagons. The brief entries for each account list the work performed and Bennetsen’s fee. Settlements of accounts are noted. Most were settled in cash, but there are records of a few payments by labor in lieu of cash. An alphabetical index of the accounts is in the front of the volume.

Biographical information on the Bennetsen family and a photograph of the blacksmith shop may be found in Glenis L. Southard’s history of the High Gate community (1990).

Bennetsen, Christian C., 1885-1968.
Blacksmiths.
Business records—Missouri—Maries County.
Horseshoers.
Maries County (Mo.).