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 daybook from a general store operated by Milton Pleasant Cayce and family at Farmington, St. Francois County, Missouri. Entries begin 21 April 1873 and continue through 17 April 1874.

Milton Pleasant Cayce (1804-1888) was a native of Virginia who removed to Missouri in 1830. He located in Farmington, the seat of St. Francois County, and opened a general mercantile business in 1832. Cayce became one of the most prominent businessmen in the county, operating a tanyard, mill, and blacksmith shop in addition to his general store. He also served in various capacities as a county official. When Cayce’s sons Ellis and Milton entered the business, the firm was styled M. P. Cayce & Sons.

The firm’s daybook is a standard rendering of daily sales. The names of customers are cross-referenced to account ledgers which are apparently no longer extant. Among the customers were members of many prominent families in St. Francois County, including Asbury, Beal, Cayce, Estes, Hale, Hawn, Lang, Meloy, Murphy, Peers, Reed, Shaw, and Tolman. The daybook also includes records of transactions for “Gravel Road Co.,” “Flouring Mill,” and “Zinc Mines.”

See also collection R498, the Milton Pleasant Cayce papers.

Shelf List

This is a daybook from a general store operated by Milton Pleasant Cayce and family at Farmington, St. Francois County, Missouri. Entries begin 21 April 1873 and continue through 17 April 1874.

Daybook: 21 April 1873--17 April 1874 (720 pages)

Index Cards

Business records—Missouri—Saint Francois County.
Cayce, Ellis P., 1835-
Cayce, Milton Pleasant, 1804-1888.
Farmington (Mo.).
General stores—Missouri—Saint Francois County.
M. P. Cayce & Sons.
Saint Francois County (Mo.).