



## Samuel William James Collection (K0846)

**Collection Number:** K0846

**Collection Title:** Samuel William James Collection

**Dates:** 1898, 1904

**Creator:** James, Samuel William, 1871-1936

**Abstract:** The collection contains sixteen photocopies of photographs of Samuel William James during his time as a lieutenant in Missouri National Guard, Second Infantry Regiment, Company D in the Spanish-American War.

**Collection Size:** 0.03 cubic foot  
(1 folder)

**Language:** Collection materials are in English.

**Repository:** The State Historical Society of Missouri

**Restrictions on Access:** Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at [kansascity@shsmo.org](mailto:kansascity@shsmo.org). Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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**Preferred Citation:** [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Samuel William James Collection* (K0846); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Kansas City].

**Donor Information:** The records were donated to the University of Missouri by John Nave on July 30, 1990 (Accession No. KA0570).

**Processed by:** Processed by Rachel Forester, February 2018

**Biographical Note:**

Samuel William James was born in Washington Township, Pettis County, Missouri, on February 7, 1871, to Samuel B. and Louvina Evans James. At the age of twenty, he began taking courses at the central Business College, in Sedalia, Missouri, his field of study is unknown. After college, he accepted a position as a bookkeeper and cashier for the Gazette Printing Company of Sedalia, Missouri. While working for the Gazette Printing Company, Samuel James, along with George H. Healey, established the *Free Press* weekly newspaper, which ran for a short time in 1895. In 1898, Samuel James met and married Rose E. Grosshans and together they had five children.

Samuel James served as a lieutenant in the Missouri National Guard, Second Infantry Regiment, Company D during the Spanish-American War. After the war, he helped to organize a company of the National Guard in Sedalia, Missouri, to which he was elected captain. In 1905, he was elected major of the company and served as such until 1910.

In 1912, Samuel James organized a battalion in central Missouri, to meet the needs of the National Guard's Sixth Regiment. The battalion was made up of companies from the cities of Sedalia, Boonville, and Warrensburg, Missouri. In 1916, the Missouri State authorities at the requested he organize a Missouri Machine Gun Company for use at the border of Mexico and the United States. Samuel James declined this request because of private matters that needed his attention, which subsequently put an end to his military career.

In 1919, Samuel James began his political career running as a Republican candidate for Probate Judge in Pettis County. He served one four-year term before accepting an offer by Governor Samuel Aaron Baker as a member of the Board of Curators for Lincoln University, located in Jefferson City, Missouri. Little is known regarding his political activities during the 1920s or 1930s.

Samuel William James died on June 27, 1936, in Sedalia, Missouri, and is buried in the Crown Hill Cemetery.

**Arrangement:**

The photographs in this collection have been arranged chronologically by the processor.

**Scope and Content Note:**

The collection consists of sixteen photocopies of photographs which, are primarily of group shots of the Missouri National Guard, Second Infantry Regiment, Company D, taken in Sedalia and St. Louis, Missouri, Lexington, Kentucky, and Chattanooga, Tennessee. Two of these photographs are dated 1898, the remainder are undated. Of particular interest is a group photograph taken during the 1904 World's Fair in St. Louis, Missouri.

**Container List:**

- f. 1                      Photographs, 1898, 1904, no date

**Index:**

<b>Index Term</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Image</b>
James, Samuel William (1871-1936)	1	Yes
Louisiana Purchase Exposition (1904: Saint Louis, Mo.)	1	Yes
Spanish-American War, 1898	1	Yes
United States Army. Missouri Infantry Regiment, 2 <sup>nd</sup> (1898). Company D	1	Yes