

## Information Sheet

**R**     **Drake, Stephen S., 1833-1913.**  
**572**         **Collection, ca. 1865.**  
               **One folder.**

This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri](http://The State Historical Society of Missouri). If you would like more information, please contact us at [shsresearch@umsystem.edu](mailto:shsresearch@umsystem.edu).

This is a copy of a Civil War photograph of Stephen S. Drake of Company H of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Missouri Cavalry ("Merrill's Horse"). There is also a biographical sketch provided by the donor.

Stephen S. Drake was a native of Tompkins County, New York. He was a resident of Michigan when the Civil War broke out. He enlisted in Merrill's battalion of Missouri Cavalry (later part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Missouri Cavalry) on 30 August 1861, and served as the regiment's blacksmith through the duration of the war. He returned to Michigan after his discharge.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Missouri Cavalry was organized in the fall of 1861 at Benton Barracks in St. Louis. The regiment operated against guerrillas in northern Missouri from January 1862 through June 1863, when it was assigned to the District of Southeast Missouri and Gen. John W. Davidson's Cavalry Division at Pilot Knob, Missouri. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Missouri Cavalry participated in the Little Rock campaign in the fall of 1863, served in the Department of Arkansas in 1863-1864, returned to Missouri briefly during Price's Expedition, and finished the war in Georgia and Tennessee.

The photograph of Stephen S. Drake is a laser copy of the original image, which appears to have been a retouched "hard" image. Drake wears a cavalry jacket bearing a horseshoe badge on the sleeve indicating Drake's position as blacksmith.

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*14 November 1995*

*Jan Olson*

*Gift*

## Index Cards

Drake, Stephen S., 1833-1913.  
Merrill's Horse. **SEE** United States. Army. Missouri Cavalry, 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
Missouri—History—Civil War, 1861-1865.  
Missouri Cavalry—2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment. **SEE** United States. Army. Missouri Cavalry, 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
United States—History—Civil War, 1861-1865.  
United States. Army. Missouri Cavalry, 2<sup>nd</sup>.