



## THE STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MISSOURI RESEARCH CENTER-KANSAS CITY

K0557

Thomas W. Records (1841-1931) Papers

1866

1 volume

*Daily diary with entries on the weather; business activity; unusual events in the city such as runaway horses, Cholera, or the circus; record of visitors, letters written and received, and his travels during that year. Records was a merchant/farmer in Blue Springs, MO.*

### BIOGRAPHY:

Thomas W. Records was born May 13, 1841 in Sussex County, Delaware and came to Kansas City by steamboat in September 1865. He was twenty years old at the time and became a clerk at a grocery store at Fifth and Main Streets. After saving enough money, he moved to Blue Springs, Missouri where he built the first general store. He often traded goods for produce from local farmers then made the trip into Kansas City to sell at market.

In April 16, 1868, Records married Estelle Ellington (1843-1919) of Platte County, niece of Mrs. Dofflemyer, wife of the owner of the store in which Mr. Records worked when he first came to Kansas City.

In 1875, Mr. Records sold his store for a part in the Morgan Walker farm near Blue Springs. By 1881, he sold the farm to enter the dry goods business in Blue Springs. That business was incorporated in 1888 as the Blue Springs Mercantile Company. He also became co-owner of the E.B. Fields Bank at Blue Springs, serving as president there until 1918, when he resigned and moved to Independence, Missouri, where he died in February 28, 1931.

Excerpts from "T.W. Records, 88 Years Old, Came to Jackson County in 1865" *The Independence Examiner*, Friday, May 17, 1929

### PROVENANCE:

This gift was received from Joanne Records Bodner as accession 1771kc on February 24, 2010.

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Specific item; folder number; *Thomas W. Records (1841-1931) Papers* (K0557); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Kansas City [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-KC].

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## DESCRIPTION OF THE PAPERS:

This collection consists of one leather bound diary dated 1866. Daily entries in the diary include: the weather; business activity; unusual events in the city such as runaway horses, Cholera, or the circus; record of visitors, letters written and received, and his travels during that year.

## INVENTORY:

Folder 1.      Diary for 1866