

Information Sheet

R Williams, William B., ca. 1812-ca. 1888.
113 Records, 1837-1888.
Four volumes.

MICROFILM

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

These are daybooks, 1837-1860, and a ledger, 1855-1888, of a physician in Farmington, St. Francois County, Missouri. (See also WHMC-R collection R103).

These volumes contain the business records of the medical practice of Dr. William B. Williams. Another volume from the same set of records, a ledger borrowed from a different donor, has been cataloged and microfilmed as collection R103.

Although he practiced medicine in St. Francois County for over forty years, very little is known about William B. Williams. The Federal censuses for 1850 and 1860 are contradictory, listing his birthdates as 1812 and 1814. The censuses agree, however, that he was a physician, that he was born in Connecticut, and that his wife was named Mary. His records indicate that he practiced at Farmington into the 1880s, but no references are made to him in the censuses of 1870 and 1880, in medical society records, or in any histories of Farmington or St. Francois County. The results of a search for biographical data by the State Historical Society of Missouri are contained in the Information Folder.

The records of Dr. Williams's practice include three consecutive daybooks, 1837-1860, and a partially indexed ledger, 1855-1888. Typical entries include the name of the patient or the head of the household, the nature of the medical service rendered, and the fee. Two of the daybooks also contain memoranda of agreement for medical service. For a set fee, Williams contracted to attend to a family for one year. Childbirth was excepted, and any new offspring in the family required an additional payment. This arrangement was popular around 1840-1850.

Most of Williams's practice centered around Farmington in St. Francois County, but there are daybook entries in the 1840s for patients in Fountain Green, Jackson, Castor River, and Arcadia, Missouri. Many of the early settlers of St. Francois County are noted in the volumes, and many of the entries indicate that he treated slaves.

r128 10 June 1982 Matthew Ledbetter Loaned for microfilming

Shelf List

These are daybooks, 1837-1860, and a ledger, 1855-1888, of a physician at Farmington in Saint Francois County, Missouri. See also WHMC-Rolla collection R103.

Volume 1: Daybook, 1837-1848.

Volume 2: Daybook, 1848-1853.

Volume 3: Daybook, 1853-1860.

Volume 4: Ledger, 1855-1888.

r128

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Index Cards

Arcadia (Mo.).

Business records—Missouri—Saint Francois County.

Castor River (Mo.).

Farmington (Mo.).

Fountain Green (Mo.).

Jackson (Mo.).

Medical fees.

Medical records.

Physicians—Missouri—Iron County.

Physicians—Missouri—Saint Francois County.

Physicians—Missouri—Sainte Genevieve County.

Saint Francois County (Mo.).

Williams, William B., ca. 1812-ca. 1888