

## Information Sheet

**R**      **Scott, David S.**  
**634**      **Letters, 1862-1863**  
                 **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).

These are Civil War letters of David S. Scott, Co. H, 8<sup>th</sup> Indiana Infantry, written to Kate Missimer in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania. The letters, from Pilot Knob, Black River, Van Buren, and Oregon County, Missouri, concern camp life and the campaign of the Army of South-eastern Missouri.

David Scott's family hailed from Greenfield, Indiana. Scott enlisted early in the war in the 8<sup>th</sup> Indiana Infantry. After three months service with General George McClellan in West Virginia, the 8<sup>th</sup> Indiana was mustered out. The regiment was reorganized at Indianapolis under Colonel (later Brigadier General) William P. Benton for three years service. Scott was among the veterans who reenlisted. The regiment was sent to St. Louis and served successively with John C. Frémont's Army of the West, and Samuel Curtis's Army of Southwest Missouri. Serving with the latter, the 8<sup>th</sup> Indiana was engaged at the Battle of Pea Ridge in March 1862.

From the Pea Ridge battlefield, the army drifted across southern Missouri and northern Arkansas, ultimately winding up at Helena, Arkansas, on the Mississippi River. However, two divisions of the army, including the 8<sup>th</sup> Indiana Infantry, were sent by river back into Missouri and then to the railhead of the Iron Mountain Railroad at Pilot Knob. Here they served under General John W. Davidson in the force styled the Army of Southeastern Missouri. Beginning in October 1862 from a base at Pilot Knob, the army embarked on a mid-winter campaign. The men marched several hundred miles through Patterson, Black River, Van Buren, West Plains, and Eminence, before being recalled to Pilot Knob in March 1863.

Scott's letters begin in October 1862 after the army had reached Pilot Knob from Helena. His correspondent was Kate Missimer of Jersey Shore in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania. The correspondence was suggested by her brother, an army acquaintance of David Scott's. The letters concern the campaign of the Army of Southeastern Missouri, the hardships endured during the winter march, and the eventual return to Pilot Knob.

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## Shelf List

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13 October 1862

Pilot Knob, Mo.

22 October 1862	Pilot Knob, Mo.
16 December 1862	Camp on Black River, Reynolds County, Mo.
6 January 1863	Camp on Current River, near Van Buren Mo.
12 January 1863	Camp on Current River [near Van Buren, Mo.]
11 February 1863	Camp on Jacks Fork of Current River, Mo.
23 February 1863	Camp three miles northwest of Pilot Knob, Mo.

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