

## Information Sheet

**R**      **Missouri Pacific Railway Company.**  
**1001**      *Summer & Winter Health & Pleasure Resorts, 1888.*  
                 **One folder, photocopies.**

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This is an illustrated promotional booklet published by the passenger department of the Missouri Pacific Railway. It concerns resorts along the rail lines in the western and southwestern states, especially those in Missouri, Kansas, Colorado, and Texas.

Promoted as a transcontinental line with headquarters in St. Louis, the Missouri Pacific Railway was the first railroad west of the Mississippi River. Organized by St. Louis businessmen as the Pacific Railway of Missouri, the company received a state charter in 1849. Thomas Allen became the first president and James P. Kirkwood the first chief engineer. Despite lack of funding from Congress, but with some aid by the State of Missouri, the railroad company broke ground and began work in 1851. Regular operations began to Franklin in 1853, Jefferson City in 1855, Tipton in 1858, and Sedalia by the time of the Civil War. Confederate raiders under Sterling Price in 1864 caused great damage to the line, which was not completed between St. Louis and Kansas City until September 1865.

After financial difficulties, the Pacific Railroad company was reorganized in 1872 as the Missouri Pacific Railway. The company began to build in Arkansas and Texas in the 1870s, attracting the attention of railroad tycoon Jay Gould. He acquired controlling interest in the company in 1879 and, using the Missouri Pacific as the linchpin, created a network known as the "Southwest System." Of the lines constituting this system, only the St. Louis, Iron Mountain & Southern remained associated with the Missouri Pacific when Gould's network collapsed in 1888. During that period, however, the railroad had expanded through Kansas to southern Colorado, and through Arkansas to Louisiana.

Woodward & Tiernan of St. Louis printed *Summer & Winter Health & Pleasure Resorts* for the passenger department of the Missouri Pacific in 1888. The frontispiece of the 156-page illustrated booklet proclaimed it: "A Description of the Summer and Winter Health and Pleasure Resorts and Points of Interest Located and Reached by the Missouri Pacific Railway and Iron Mountain Route, from the Mississippi River to the Rocky Mountains, Gulf of Mexico, and the Empire of the Montezumas." The booklet promoted excursions for tourists and sportsmen, and for those seeking restoration of health at mineral water resorts along the railroad line such as Hot Springs, Arkansas, Colorado Springs, Colorado, and Pertle Springs near Warrensburg, Missouri. Along with written descriptions, the booklet includes views of scenes around St. Louis, the Meramec River, Sweet Springs, and Pertle Springs, Missouri; Fort Leavenworth and Ottawa, Kansas; Manitou Springs, Glenwood Springs, and Pike's Peak, Colorado; Hot Springs, Arkansas; and San Antonio, Texas. A list of passenger and general agents for the Missouri Pacific and Iron Mountain lines is at the end of the booklet.

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