

Dr. William West's Journal

Transcribed by Carole Goggin, Professional Genealogist

The following index is extracted from Dr. William West's Journal containing entries from about 1852 to about 1857. The book is about an inch thick and in poor condition; the groupings of pages have come unstitched from each other and are lying loose inside the cover. The glue holding them to the spine has dried and the spine is rotting and tearing. The typical hardboard cover and back are thankfully in good shape and it appears as though there were triangle leather corners but they are not there now.



There is an index in the front cross-referencing a patient to a page. Each page was for one family's entry although a few pages had 2 families, and of course some families such as Boughton, Danforth, Dunklin, Rankin, Stewart, and Williams had balances that carried over to three or more pages.

There is a note in the book; Donated to the Jefferson College History Center by Mrs. C. E. Fallet, 620 W. Kelly, De Soto, MO, 63020 (636) 586-2650. In the book was also a short letter written to Blanche from Eddie (*cg-I believe she was Mrs. Blanche (Wilson) Fallet and Eddie to be Eddie Miller, see: AS YOU WERE, Book 2 page 207*).

The letter is as follows:

"Dr. William West was born in 1813 and died about 1870. His wife was Catherine, "Aunt Kate" McCormack (1825-1914). They were married in 1847. She was the daughter of James McCormack, (1792-1846) by his second wife, Margaret McMullin (1796-1874). Her sister Mary, (1823-1857) married Thomas L. Donnell (1818-1888). Thomas L. Donnell was a brother of Earl E. McClain's grandmother-Mary C. Donnell (1822-1859). They had no children. When Dr. West died, "Aunt Kate" married a telegraph operator, Thomas A. Charles in 1872. They befriended an elderly bachelor, a member of the Cadwallader brothers, who willed "Aunt Kate" and Uncle Sam a lot of valuable land at Pevely, Missouri.

Blanche,

I've been able to dig up this much so far—evidently our Dr. West practiced in the Plattin area, for these are all Plattin settlement folks. Thomas L. Donnell was a grandfather of Will S. Boyce, and if I can locate him he has all of the "dope" on Dr. West. Earl McClain, who was my

informant so far, is an old Plattin boy and he is now in his seventies and retired in Arizona. He was a School Superintendent most of his years. He informs me his folks, somewhere back there in the early days of the Plattin settlement---that the family tree rubbed branches with the ancestors of our Charles McClain, of Hillsboro Junior College [cg-aka Jefferson College in Hillsboro] Go back far enough and you'll find we are all more or less kin to each other. Eddie."

There was also a front page article from The Jefferson Republic, DeSoto, MO., Thursday, July 2, 1953 on Thomas Clement Fletcher, Founder of DeSoto that included a photo.

The pages in the book, at one time may have had lines, but they are too faint to see now. In four columns he nicely lays out

- 1) **Date of visit**
- 2) Charges added **To Balance of Account**
- 3) **Dt.**
- 4) **Cr.**

[cg-The last two being Debit and Credit]

For the most part the good doctor was paid by *Cash in Hand* shown at the bottom of the page or above a double line. Therefore, the credits allowed against an account stood out in the Credit column.

Spelling is exactly as it was in the record for both the index and extractions.

The following excerpts were shown as credits given against accounts over the five year period of the Journal.

| CREDIT: | Amount | GIVEN TO: |
|---|--------|-----------------------------|
| 3 days work | 3.00 | Allread, William |
| 6 ½ days work on farm | 6.50 | |
| 8 days work on farm | 10.00 | |
| 1 day harvest last summer | 1.50 | |
| Bushel timothy seed and sack got at St. Louis | 3.90 | Armstrong, Dennis |
| Stage fare to St. Louis | 2.00 | |
| Blacksmith bill and woodwork on Plow | 5.30 | Anderson, James |
| Taking deguryotype of Lilly | 2.50 | Bantrop, Frederick |
| 84 lbs beaf | 4.20 | Blake, James |
| 112 lbs beaf | 5.60 | |
| Weaving 20 yards of carpet @ .10 a yd | 2.00 | |
| 38 lbs beaf @ .05 | 1.90 | Boughton. J. |
| 56 lbs beaf @ .04 | 2.24 | |
| 73 lbs beaf @ .04 | 2.92 | |
| 102 lbs. beaf @ .04 | 4.08 | |
| 3500 Clapboards @ .50/100 | 17.50 | Bouton / Boughton, Benjamin |

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|--|---------------|-------------------------|
| Merchandise | 2.80 | |
| Knitting 12 pr Gloves by his wife | 3.00 | Cain, John |
| Kinitting 12 pr Mittens " | .25 | |
| Kinitting 12 pr stockings " | .38 | |
| Blacksmith's bill @ .75 | .75 | Cottener, Elish |
| Halling one load corn from Plattin Rock | 1.00 | Drinen, William |
| 2 ox yokes and bowes | 2.50 | |
| one black horse | 100.00 | Frazier , Jacob |
| 4.5 days working grass harvest | 5.63 | |
| 7 days work with thrasher | 1.00 | |
| 1 cow | 11.37 | |
| Attention to colt's eyes | 1.75 | Foster, James F., Jr. |
| Fixing stove pipe in chimney | 1.00 | Hendrickson, George |
| Building stove pipe chimney | 1.00 | |
| 1 days work with thrasher | 1.00 | Herington, Joshua Jr. |
| Going to Mill for Dr. 2x in 4 days 1.00/trip | 4.00 | |
| ½ day work with thrasher | .50 | |
| Work on gun | .50 | Herington, Wm, Sr. |
| Smithy bill adj | 2.75 | |
| 5 Bushels oats @ .65 | 3.25 | Herington, Elias |
| ½ doz Brano Roosters | 3.00 | |
| Making Gutters | .75 | Herington, Lewis |
| 1 day work at thrashing | 1.00 | Horn, David |
| 1 deer | 3.00 | Johnston, General |
| 2 days work on crib | 2.00 | Kesler, |
| Amount in tobacco | 1.50 | Lanham, Henry |
| 3 baskets (@ .60, .60, & .50) | 1.70 | Miller or Moder, John |
| 3 baskets (@ .40, .40, & .50) | 1.30 | |
| Labor in grass harvest @1 .25 | 14.00 | |
| 3 days labor | 2.25 | McClain, Joseph |
| 13 sheep @ 2.00 | 26.00 | |
| 3 days work on crib | 3.00 | |
| 5 days work on harvest | 6.25 | |
| 1 day work cutting corn | 1.00 | |
| Knitting 2 pair of stockings | 1.00 | |
| 5 days work in grass harvest | 6.25 | |
| 5 days work in grass harvest @1.25 | 12.50 | |
| 772 lbs pork @ .05 | 38.60 | McCormack, William, Jr. |
| 1 spinning wheel | 4.00 | Martin, Mrs. Emily |
| 16.5 Bushels of Oats | 3.93 | Martin, Falkland |
| 2 bushels corn | 4.00 | |
| 22 bushels oats @ .40 | 8.80 | |
| 101 lbs Lard @ .13 | 13.13 | |
| 2 dinners and keeping house at night | 1.00 | Mitchel, Alferd |
| Dinner and keeping house | .50 | |
| Fixing fireplace hearth | 2.00 | Mockbee, William |
| Giving Credit at store | several bills | Rankin, James L. |
| ½ dozen large brooms | 2.00 | Rose, Aaron |
| ½ dozen small brooms | .50 | |
| ½ doz Brams | 1.50 | |
| One mare | 15.25 | |

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| Halling medicine from St. Louis | .75 | Shelton, Wm |
| Making 2 Bridles | 2.50 | Shipman, |
| Stuffing Saddle | .50 | |
| Coming from home, repairing saddlebags | 4.00 | |
| Coming from home, repairing - - | 4.00 | |
| Pecans (got at Harlow's Store) | .60 | Vandever, Wm |
| Adj acct at blacksmith shop | 3.25 | Williams, Isham |
| Adj acct at blacksmith shop | .95 | |
| Work on house | 13.50 | |
| Making 4 shirts | 2.00 | Williams, Landon |
| 1 bushel dried peaches | 2.00 | |
| Waggon | 33.75 | Winer, John |
| One waggon | 12.25 | Winer, William |
| One day hay work with thresher | 1.00 | |

-end of Credits allowed against account-

The follow is the transcribed index. Names are recorded as they were seen in the index as well as on the account page. The comments shown in parenthesis were noted as such in the original index following the name. Comments following a slash were noted at the top of the page of the individual account. Names in brackets are our common Jefferson County names.

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