

William B. Stetson Account Book

1856-1870

1 volume (0.1 linear ft.)

Call no.: MS 348 bd



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As a young man in Shutesbury, Massachusetts, William B. Stetson (b. ca.1836) earned a living by performing manual labor for local residents. Most of his work, and increasingly so, was found in the range of tasks associated with lumbering: chopping wood, sawing boards, making shingles and fence boards. By 1870, Stetson was listed in the federal census as a lumberman in the adjacent town of Leverett.

Stetson's rough-hewn book of accounts provides detail on the work and expenditures of a young man from Shutesbury, Massachusetts, in the years just prior to the Civil War. Carefully kept, but idiosyncratic, they document a working class mans efforts to earn a living by whatever means possible, largely in lumber-related tasks. His accounts list a number of familiar local

names, including Albert Pratt, Sylvanus Pratt, Charles Pratt, Charles Nutting, E. Cushman, John Haskins, and J. Stockwell. Set into the front of the volume are a set of work records dated in Leverett in 1870, by which time Stetson had apparently focused his full energies on lumbering.

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Background on William B Stetson

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Scope of collection

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Administrative information

Access

The collection is open for research.

Provenance

Purchased for SCUA by Robert W. Hugo for the Friends of the Library.

Processing Information

Processed by Dex Haven, August 2010.

Language:

English

Copyright and Use (More information)

Cite as: William B. Stetson Account Book (MS 348 bd). Special Collections and University Archives, University of Massachusetts Amherst Libraries.

Search terms

Subjects

Leverett (Mass.)--Economic conditions--19th century.

Lumber trade--Massachusetts--Leverett.

Lumber trade--Massachusetts--Shutesbury.

Shutesbury (Mass.)--Economic conditions--19th century.

Contributors

Stetson, William B. [main entry]

Genres and formats

Account books.

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