

Bryan, W. J., Account Ledger

W. J. Bryan Account Ledger

1860-1911



Title Statement

Bryan, W. J., Account Ledger W. J. Bryan Account Ledger, 1860-1911 Ms.2010.027

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2010.027

Unit Date

1860-1911

Language

The material in the collection is in English.

Abstract

The collection contains an account ledger of W. J. Bryan, a Greene County, Pennsylvania farmer, listing sales and property rental transactions, as well as royalty payments received for coal and oil removed from properties in Marion County, West Virginia and Greene County, Pennsylvania.

Creator

Bryan, W. J. (Weden J.), 1825-?

Extent

0.5 Cubic Feet 1 box

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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Source of Acquisition

The W. J. Bryan Account Ledger was donated to Special Collections in 2009.

Processing Information

The processing and description of the W. J. Bryan Account Ledger commenced in May 2010 and was completed in June 2010. The volume had been accessioned as an unidentified railroad ledger but upon closer inspection during processing was found to be the personal ledger of W. J. Bryan, and the title was changed accordingly.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], W. J. Bryan Account Ledger, Ms2010-027, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

According to census records, W. J. Bryan was born in Pennsylvania in November 1825. He was married around 1849. In the 1860 census, he appears as a 33-year-old farmer residing in Greene County, Pennsylvania, together with his wife, 28-year-old Cecelia Bryan. The couple had one daughter, Sarah, born around 1852. W. J. Bryan seems to have died prior to 1910, though Cecelia is listed in the 1910 census.

Scope and Content

This collection consists of a 408-page ledger belonging to W. J. Bryan, a farmer in Greene County, Pennsylvania. The ledger lists transactions which seem to be related to sales and rental payments. Though the ledger details a few transactions for farm rentals or sales of farm commodities, many of the entries consist only of page numbers and money amounts which have been carried over from an earlier ledger (an entry of "6/2.25/22/.50" apparently representing "page 6, \$2.25; page 22, \$.50" and so forth). On opposing pages, Bryan notes account payments. Payment seems often to have been made in the form of labor, with Bryan noting what work was performed. The entries begin in 1860 and end in 1904, and run through the ledger's first 336 pages. The remaining pages are devoted to bank account records and to money received as royalty payments on coal and oil removed from property in Marion County, West Virginia and Greene County, Pennsylvania.

Also included is a folder containing papers which had been placed within the ledger. These papers consist largely of letters from the Fairmont Coal Company (Fairmont, West Virginia), concerning the payment of mineral royalties during the first decade of the twentieth century.

Keywords

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South

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Description of Subordinate Components

Ledger

Unit Date 1860-1911

box 1

Correspondence and notes

Unit Date 1903-1908

box 1