LaGrange County, Account Book from Mongo, Indiana, 1839

Karen M. Wood

The village of Mongo, Indiana, is situated in Springfield Township in the eastern part of LaGrange County. Among the manuscript collections of the William H. Smith Memorial Library at the Indiana Historical Society is a store account book from Mongo (BV 112) containing entries from January to August 1839.

The name of this account book’s owner may have been inscribed on the inside cover of this daybook, but because no cover now exists, we cannot know for certain. A man by the name of Drusius/Drusus Nichols ran a grist mill, distillery, and store as early as 1836. From 1844–1846, he exported over one thousand barrels of flour per year out of Mongo. County history reports that Nichols died in 1848, and that Robert Dykes, a merchant living in nearby Lima Township, took possession of the store after Nichols’s death. However, the 1850 U.S. census demonstrates that a Drusus Nichols was very much alive in Springfield Township and lists his occupation as a mill owner. By 1860 Robert Dykes and family were living in Springfield Township. It is therefore possible that Nichols may have died sometime after 1850 and before 1860.

The account book consists of four hundred pages of daily accounts for goods. Information about customers listed on the first twenty-six pages has been obscured by newspaper clippings glued to the pages. The clippings include local events (marriages and deaths), recipes, fictional serials, and poetry. From page twenty-seven on, the account book provides the date, the customer’s name, and the list and cost of their goods. Items bought from the store include whiskey, brandy, or wine (by the gallon, half-gallon, or pint), butter, flour, sugar, salt, coffee, wheat, corn, eggs, buttons, ribbons, gimlets, hides, lumber, door handles, cloth, and much more.

The names of Springfield Township’s founders (John B. Clark, Jesse Huntsman, Joseph and Benjamin Foos, William Seaburn, Benjamin Jones, and William S. Prentiss) appear in the
account book, suggesting they lived in or near Mongo. Other frequently listed names include Samuel Wellever, Thomas Elliston, Robert Wade, Otis Shephardson, Justus Hall, B. F. Sheldon, William Legg, Harvey Omstead/Olmstead, George Donaldson, and Edwin Davis.5

Housed with the bound volume is a typed transcript of the names by page number as well as a typed master name index (there is no record of who transcribed these names). With the exception of page fifteen, which is still legible, the first twenty-six pages were not included in the transcript. In an attempt to create a new master index, names in the typed transcript were verified against the account book. If a name appeared in more than one way, both spellings, separated by a slash mark (/), are provided here. First names abbreviated in the account book have been spelled out.

Notes


3. On a still-living Nichols, see 1850 U.S. census, LaGrange County, Indiana, Springfield Township, page 72 [stamped], Drusus Nichols household; on the Dykes family, see 1860 U.S. census, LaGrange County, Indiana, Springfield Township, page 62, dwelling 462, family 454, Robert Dykes household, NARA microfilm M653, roll 274.


# Name Index for LaGrange County, Account Book from Mongo, Indiana, 1839

**A**
- Ackerman, David
- Allen, David
- Anderson, Jane
- Anderson, William
- Andruss, Luman
- Appleman, Leonard
- Appleman, Samuel
- Archer, John
- Austin, John W.
- Avaline/Aveline, F. S.
- Avaline/Aveline, J. C.
- Avaline/Aveline, S. F.
- Avis, Samuel
- Burly/Busby, John T.
- Burnard, Lewis
- Burnham, H. enry R.
- Burnside, Lewis
- Burnside, Samuel G.
- Burr, ———
- Butts, William

**B**
- B[ull]en, Roswell
- Barber, Leonard
- Barnard, Lewis
- Barns, Daniel
- Barns, George
- Barns, Samuel G.
- Barrett, Bartholomew
- Barrett, S. A.
- Barry, John, Jr.
- Barry, John, Sr.
- Bartlett, Samuel A.
- Bass, Jason G.
- Beecher, A. F.
- Benham, John
- Benham, Seeley
- Best, Cha[rl]e[s]
- Bisbe[e]/Bisby, Alonza/Alonzo
- Bodley, John
- Boon, Joshua
- Bradford, Samuel
- Brian/Bryan/Bryant, Almond
- Briggs, Job
- Briggs, Joel
- Brink, Abram
- Britton, Alexander C.
- Brockway, ———
- Bromly/Brumley, William P.
- Brott, Michael
- Brown, George
- Brown, M.
- Brown, Russell
- Brundage, Abner
- Brundage, Allen
- Bunnell, Samuell
- Bunnell, Thomas

**C**
- Cain, Simeon
- Campbell, James
- Campbell, Joel N.
- Canfield, ———
- Carpenter, Isaac
- Case, Andrew P.
- Case, Perry
- Caswell, Joseph
- Catton/Cotton, John
- Champlain, Widow
- Champlain/Champlin, Elihu C.
- Champlin, Mrs. Martha E.
- Chapman, Moses S.
- Clark, Benjamin
- Clark, Edward S.
- Clark, J. B.
- Clark, John T./Y.
- Cleavland/Cleveland, Asaph
- Cleavland/Cleveland, David
- Cochran, William
- Col[l]well, Joseph
- Collins, Barton
- Collins, Stephen/Steven
- Comparet, Francis
- Cope, Charles
- Costleek/Costleek, Jacob
- Cowarden, Samuel E.
- Cowles, ———
- Craig, Benjamin
- Crane, ———
- Crane, Arba
- Croy, Jacob
- Cumer/Currier, James
- Curtis, Alanson
Davidson, Joseph
Davis, Abner
Davis, Brinkley
Davis, Daniel
Davis, Edwin
Davis, Harrison
Davis, John
De[pue?], Levi
Deal, Coonrod/Conrod
Diggins, Luke
Dingman, William
Donaldson, George
Donaldson, Joseph
Dunbar, Arthur M.
Dunham, Mrs. ———
Dunham, Widow William
Dunham, William
Dunn, Daniel
Dunn, Harrison
Dunn, William B.
Dutch/Dutcher, Silas
Dyer, Norman

E
Earl/Earls, Nelson
Eastlick, Jacob/Ja’c
Ellis, ———
Ellison/Elliston, Thomas
Elliston, A.
Ely, Christopher
Emerson, Avery
Emerson, Hannah
Emerson, Jane
Emerson, John
Emerson, John, Estate of
Evans, A. G.
Evans, J.

F
Falconer, William P.
Feilds?/Fields, John
Field, David
Filkins, John D.
Fillmore, Cyrus
Fish, Betsey A.
Fish, Eben/Ebenzezer
Fish, Elijah
Fish, Samuel
Fish, William
Fitch, William T.
Fletch[er?], William P.
Foos/Foose, Benjamin
Foos/Foose, Joseph
Fothergill, Mrs. E.
Fothergill, Elisha
Fothergill/Farthengill/Fothergill, Elijah
Francis, Isaac
Francis, Sally
Franklin, Alexander
Franklin, John
Freeman, Rufus B.
Freemantle, Taylor

G
Gage, Abram
Gage, J[oe].
Gage, Jacob
Gage, Mrs. Langdon (alias)
Gardener/Gardner[er], Cornelius
Gifford, Job
Gilbert, Austin
Gilbert, Elias
Glassgo, Peter
Golden, Nathaniel
Goodsell, Stiles
Gove, Ebenezer
Gray, B. D.
Gray, D. B.
Green, Charles
Green, John V.
Greenfield, Robert, Jr.
Greenfield, Robert, Sr.
Greenfield, Samuel
Greenman, Anson
Greeno, Jacob
Greenough, John
Greenough, Michael
Grove/Groves, Jacob

H
Hale, Ambrose, Sr.
Hall, John, Sr.
Hall, Joseph
Hall, Justus
Hall, William
Hall/Hull, Benjamin
Hall/Hull, Charles
Hamilton, Frederick
Hammond, Luke
Harding, George
Hardy, Joseph
Harris, Simon
Hart, Ithel
Hart, J[ohn] C.
Hatch, Sylvanus
Hawes, S. H.
Henry, Marvin
Hern, William, Jr.
Hern, William, Sr.
Herriman, David B.
Hewitt, Thomas
Highbarger, Cyrenus
Hill, Elam
Hill, Ira
Hogker, E. M.
Hobbs, WM.
Hodges, Daniel
Hodges, Darius
Hodges, Samuel
Hol[b/l?][ens?], E. M.
Hornell, Frederick K.
Hull, Malon
Hume, Robert
Hunt, Hiram P.
Huntsman, Jesse
Huntsman, Jesse, Jr.
Huron, William, Jr.

I
Indersoll, Walter
Ireland, Jess
Ireland, King

J
Ja[i/b?][bor?], Alexander
Jackway, Orasmus/Erasmus
Jones, Benjamin
Jones, David K.
Jones, L. G.
Jones, Milo
Jones, R. P.

K
Kelham, Ephraim
Kelly, John B.
Kelso, John
Kilbury, Andrew
Killbury, Robert
Kniffen/Niffen, James P.
Kromer, John

L
La[djsbury, Chester D.
Lackey, Jehu
Lame?, Amos
Lathrop, Mrs. ———
Lathrop, Widow
Latta, William
Lazenby, Thomas
Leaburn, W[illiam].
Lecker/Le[cks?], James
Leeper, James
Legg, William
Leonard, Jonathan W.
Leyer, George
Litchard, Adam
Litchard, Silas
Locke, Joseph
Long, John
Lotz, Henry
Lounsbery, J. C.
Lyman, Elijah

M
Manon, Joseph
Marters, ———
Martin, Samuel
Maudy?/Mundy?, Seth W.
McClish, Isaiah
McCollum, William
McNeil, Matthias
McNeil, William A., Sr.
McNeil, William, Jr.
McVane, George
Michals, David
Miller, Widow Naoma
Miller, William
Murphy, Benjamin
Murray, S. W.

N.
Nelson, ———
Newbury, L. E.
Newman, B.
Newman, Daniel J.
Newman, Gary P.
Newman, Nicholas B.
Newman, William S.
Nichols, ———
Nichols, John
Nichols, Thaddeus
Niles, Jonathan
Noble, Jedidiah
Nostrand, F.

O
Odle, William
Olmstead/Omstead, Elijah
Olmstead/Omstead, Harvey
Olmstead/Omstead, Jacob
Orton, Darius

P
Palfryman/Palphyman, Hugh
Palmer, Stephen/Steven D.
Parmlee, Catharine
Patrick, George Rick
Patterson, ———
Paxton, ———
Peckham, ———
Pelton, Thos.
Perkins, Samuel
Pickle, Richard
Pitts, David
Pollock, George K.
Potter, William. P.
Prentiss, William S.
Price/Pierce?, Dr. Joseph
Pritchen, Jackson

R
Randal/Randall, Enos
Randal/Randall, Henry
Rawls, James
Reed, Benjamin
Reed, Miss
Relso, John
Reynolds, Amos
Rice, Richard
Richards, Charles
Richards, Jo
Richardson, Joseph
Richfield, John
Richmond, Amos
Rilbury, Andrew
Rilbury, Robert
Rillam, Ephraim
Rlectt, Frederick
Robbins, John
Roberts, Esq. ———
Roberts, George
Robinson, William. M.
Roop Joseph
Roop, Christian
Rose, E. G./L.
Rowley, Ithamer
Ruggles, James
Rumsey, Seth
Russell, ———

S
S[c]idmore, Solomon
S[c]aring, J. W.
Sams, David
Saulsbury, Chester D.
Sayer/Seyer, George
Seaburn[e], William
Seaman, Jonathan W.
Searls, John
Seeley, Ephraim

Shehan, Edwin
Shelby, Charles R.
Sheldon, B. F.
Sheldon, B. P.
Sheldon, Elisha
Sheldon, William
Shep[h]ardson, Otis
Shepard, [Widow] Jane
Sherman, ———
Sherman/Shremer, Elizabeth
Sherman/Shuman, Susan
Sherwin, Bildad
Sherwood, Lyman
Shu[m/ns?]way, Nathaniel
Slater, Isaac
Smith, Ed., Estate of,
Smith, Edward
Smith, George W.
Smith, Sally
Smith, Widow Mary
Smith, William
Spears, Tunis
Stanton, J. B.
Ste[rn], William
Stead, William
Stimpson, S. B.
Stio[v]ers, Michael
Stocker, Chester
Stocker, Leland H.
Sturges, Erastus
Sturges, Jacob
Sweet, Alex L.
Sweeting, William
Sylva, Benjamin

T
Taylor, ———
Taylor, Leonard
Taylor, Thester
Teal, Eli M.
Thayer, Eben
Thompson, Aaron
Thompson/Thomson, George
Totten, William. T.
Truesdail, H.
Turner, William
Twitchell, Benjamin
Twitchell, Jonas

Ulmer, George T.
Underwood, ———
Upson, Jonathan
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<thead>
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<th>V</th>
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