



MSS 197
Daniel Kilgore Papers
1 1/4 cubic feet
Standard inventory

Collection Synopsis

Provenance: The Ohio Historical Society acquired the Daniel Kilgore Papers prior to 1951. Clara Ireland processed the collection in March 1981.

Property rights: The Ohio Historical Society owns the property rights to this collection.

Copyrights: Copyrights have not been dedicated to the public. Consideration of the requirements of copyright is the responsibility of the author and publisher.

Access: This collection is open under the rules and regulations of the Ohio Historical Society.

Citation: Researchers are requested to cite collection name, collection number, and the Ohio Historical Society in all footnote and bibliographic references.

Note to researchers: Prior to 1951 the Ohio Historical Society acquired the Kilgore-Shotwell collection. During the preliminary processing of this material in 1978, the collection was divided into the Daniel Kilgore Papers (MSS 197) and the Shotwell Family Papers (MSS 225). Researchers, therefore, are advised to check both collections for related material.

Transfer: Four business cards and one manuscript map of Cadiz were transferred to the audiovisual department in March 1981.

Related material: Ohio. Canal Fund Commissioners, Letterbooks, 1825-1845, SAMIC 268, Series 1181; Ohio. Board of Canal Commissioners, Correspondence, 1820-1842, SAMIC 267, Series 1177, State Archives, Ohio Historical Society.

Biographical sketch: Daniel Kilgore, son of William and Nancy Kelly Kilgore, was born in Kings Creek, (West) Virginia in 1793. He came to Steubenville, Ohio, where he developed the skill of making nails by hand. He then moved to Cadiz, Ohio, where he opened a small business making and selling nails. He expanded the business to include other hardware, eventually developing it into a general merchandise store. His half brother, Robert Lyon, acted as clerk and later as co-partner, as did Kilgore's son in the 1840s. Kilgore also partnered with John S. Hull in a general merchandise business in New Philadelphia, Ohio, during the 1840s. During the 1820s Kilgore developed a real estate business in partnership with W. B. Beebe, Chauncy Dewey, and John Olmsted.

Kilgore served in the Ohio Senate from 1828 to 1832. In 1834, he was elected as a Democrat to the U.S. House of Representatives and served until his resignation on July 4, 1838. He was also a commissioner for the Ohio Canal Fund ca. 1834 to 1840.

Kilgore organized and became the first president of the Harrison Branch of the State Board of Ohio in 1847. He appointed Robert Lyon cashier. During this period he also founded the Cadiz High School Association which built, established, and conducted a high school in Cadiz. By 1849, Kilgore had turned to railroads. He originated and promoted the Steubenville and Indiana Railroad Company and became its first president. In 1850 he moved his family to Steubenville, Ohio.

Kilgore's first wife, Nancy Prichard (1800-1825) was a sister of Chauncy Dewey's wife. They had two children, Narcissa (b. 1817) and John P. (b. 1823). In 1831, Kilgore married Ellen Downey (1811-1872). They had eight children: Daniel, William, Ellen, Alice, Charles, Henry D., Anna, and Elizabeth (Dolly?). Kilgore died in New York City on December 12, 1851, while on a business trip concerning railroad business.

Sources: Daniel Kilgore Papers, MSS 197; Eckley, H. J. and William T. Perry, eds. History of Carroll and Harrison Counties, Ohio. Volume I and II (P. Lewis, Chicago, 1921) Vol. I pp. 155, 189, Vol. II p. 620; Commemorative Biographical Record Harrison County, Ohio (J. H. Beers Co., 1891) pp. 24, 47-49, 758. Biographical Directory of the American Congress 1774-1971 (U. S. Government Printing Office, 1971) p. 1232. Hasse, Adelaide R., Index of Economic Material in Documents of the States of the United States. Ohio. 1787-1904. Part 1 - A to F (Carnegie Institution of Washington, 1912 reprint: Kraus Reprint Corp., New York, 1965) p. 379.

Scope and content: The Daniel Kilgore Papers date from 1820 to 1884 and occupy one and one-quarter cubic feet. The collection consists of loose papers and twenty six bound account books and day journals.

The loose papers consists of correspondence, legal documents, and financial records. The legal documents and financial records are further filed by type. Each type of material is arranged chronologically.

The correspondence dates from 1832 to 1884 and contains both personal and business correspondence. Personal correspondence includes letters from Kilgore's wife Ellen, and his daughter Narcissa Kilgore Paulson in Pittsburgh. Letters concerning settlement of Kilgore's estate are written to Stuart B. Shotwell, executor.

The business correspondence reflects Kilgore's many interests including land, politics, dry goods, canals, and railroads. Letters from Samuel Maccracken during 1837 and 1838 discuss canal fund business he is conducting in Washington, D.C., and New York City. An 1837 letter from Simon Perkins inquires of Kilgore what congress will do about money matters. Kilgore reassures Allen Trimble in 1837, that there are sufficient monies in the canal fund to pay the bank. While in New York in 1839 Kilgore writes to his wife charging "Amos" with speculating

in hard money instead of conducting official duties. He also refers to Maccracken's return from London, the Loco-foco victory in New York City, and his negative opinion on Van Buren's sub-treasury policy. Kilgore's April 2, 1840, letter of resignation from the canal fund is also included.

Letters discussing politics are found throughout the correspondence. An 1848 letter from Kilgore explains his support for free-soiler General (Zachary) Taylor rather than locofocos (Lewis) Cass and (Martin) Van Buren. Letters from William Kilgore in Steubenville, Ohio, almost exclusively deal with politics.

Much of the correspondence concerning the dry goods business consists of invoices for goods purchased in Ohio or in other states. The invoices often contain additional notes concerning quality, quantity, cost, and shipping. Many letters during the 1840s are from John S. Hull concerning their dry goods partnership in New Philadelphia.

Correspondence during 1849 includes a copy of a letter written by Kilgore to Thomas Swan, president of the B and O Railway Company, asking Swan to consider Kilgore's proposal for a continuation of the "railroad from Wheeling westward by what is commonly called the central Valley route [through Cadiz, Uhrichsville, Coshocton, Newark, to Columbus]."

The legal documents date from 1820 to 1860. The collection inventory lists the various types of documents contained in each folder. The majority concern land transactions made either by Kilgore and his wife Ellen, or by Kilgore and his partners W. B. Beebe, Chauncy Dewey, and John Olmsted. Also included is the Hull-Kilgore business agreement dated September 9, 1839. Other documents concern the settlement of Kilgore's state.

The financial records date from 1825 to 1874 and consist of accounts, receipts, and promissory notes. These records include invoices from Ohio merchants and merchants in other states as well as receipts and agreements to pay rents on properties owned by Kilgore.

The twenty-six bound account books and day journals date from 1829 to 1851. The collection inventory lists volumes by title or subject and gives first date recorded in the book. Kilgore titled many of the volumes "memorandum" and recorded more than one type of information in them. Researchers are advised to check these records carefully when pursuing a specific topic. The 1849 accounts contain an alphabetized list of people living in Cadiz and vicinity and the amount of their account. The day journals and memoranda in box 3, folder 1 contain banking information as well as notes on railroad matters. The day journal in box 3, folder 4 documents Kilgore's trips to New York City and notes railroad brokers he contacted and sale of Steubenville county and township bonds.

Collection Inventory

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>
		Correspondence
1	1	1832-1836
	2	1837
	3	1838-1840
	4	1841-1843
	5	1844-1845
	6	1846-June 1847
	7	July 1847-1848
	8	January-June 1849
	9	July-December 1849
	10	1850-1884 and undated
		Legal documents
1	11	Contracts, deeds, indentures, 1820-1860
	12	Agreements, 1830-1868
2	8	Judgments, petitions, partitions, and settlements, 1830-1854
	9	Proposals, certifications, transfers, and authorizations, 1843-1863
		Financial records
2	10	Accounts, 1827-June 1849
	11	Accounts, July 1849-1874 and undated
	12	Receipts, 1825-1847
	13	Receipts, 1848-1865 and undated; promissory notes, 1841-1850 and undated
	14	Miscellaneous papers, ca. 1832-1851
		Bound volumes
2	1	Land accounts, 1835
	2	"Accounts while at Congress," 1835
	3	"Memo of Uhrichsville matters," 1845
	4	"Order book, Kilgore and Son," 1846
	5	"Family account, D. Kilgore," 1846
	6	"Invoice of a/c s [accounts] of D. Kilgore and Son March 26, 1849"
	7	Goods taken on consignment, 1849
3	1	Day journal and memorandum, Ohio Canal Fund, 1839-1840; railroad, 1850-1851
	2	"Memorandum" of dry goods, 1830; September 1832; Philadelphia, 1833; 1848; "Hogs," 1833; business accounts, 1842; "Wheat and flour book," 1844; "D. Kilgore, deceased," 1851

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder</u>	<u>Description</u>
3	3	Expense and business accounts, 1829; Accounts received, 1831; Dry goods and "accounts for pasture," March 1832; "Inventory of debts due D. Kilgore," 1834
	4	"Eastport," 1840; Account book [Samuel George, School House], 1848; "D. Kilgore Bank Book," 1848; "Accounts left with J. P. Kilgore," 1850; Record book, re. railroad, ca. 1850; Day journal, re. railroad, 1851