Overview of the Collection

Title: Kinzie Bates Papers
Dates (inclusive): 1863-1929
Bulk dates: 1874-1877
Collection Number: mssHM 60325-60354
Creator: Bates, Kinzie, -1884.
Extent: 32 items in 1 box
Repository: The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Manuscripts Department
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, California 91108
Phone: (626) 405-2129
Email: reference@huntington.org
URL: http://www.huntington.org

Abstract: The collection contains 32 items by or related to United States army office Kinzie Bates (died 1884), including his 1877 diary written during his field assignments to various Dakota Territory camps near the Black Hills during army campaigns against the Sioux and their search for Sitting Bull and Lame Deer.

Language: English.

Access
Open to qualified researchers by prior application through the Reader Services Department. For more information, contact Reader Services.

Publication Rights
The Huntington Library does not require that researchers request permission to quote from or publish images of this material, nor does it charge fees for such activities. The responsibility for identifying the copyright holder, if there is one, and obtaining necessary permissions rests with the researcher.

Preferred Citation

Provenance
Purchased from L & T Respess Books, August 18, 1998.

Biographical Note
United States Army Officer Kinzie Bates joined the 1st Michigan Infantry as a private in 1861 and saw battle during the United States Civil War at Corinth and Vicksburg, Mississippi. After the war he was promoted to Captain and stationed at Jackson Barracks in New Orleans, Louisiana. He was transferred to the frontier in 1869 and married Elizabeth Chumley Bates in 1873. Bates participated in the final months of Colonel Nelson A. Miles' "Yellowstone Campaign" as a battalion commander in the US 1st Infantry. Bates died in 1884.

Bibliography

Scope and Content
The collection contains 32 items by or related to United States army office Kinzie Bates (died 1884), including his 1877 diary written during his field assignments to various Dakota Territory camps near the Black Hills during army campaigns against the Sioux. The collection contains typed transcripts of all the correspondence by Kinzie Bates and his diary. Elizabeth Chumley Bates' 134 page diary, which contains mostly blank pages, includes a three-page chronology of Kinzie Bates' life.

The majority of correspondence in the collection was written by Bates to his wife, Elizabeth Chumley Bates, in 1874 and 1875, during three thirty-day field assignments to various Dakota Territory camps along the Niobrara River south of the
Black Hills. His diary, made up of 48 letters written to his wife, was written in 1877 during the army's search for Sitting Bull and Lame Deer. The letters and journal entries record the U. S. Army campaigns during the war with the Sioux. Bates' letters tell in great detail the everyday hardships of military life including the separation from his wife. He also gives opinions regarding fellow officers, including Colonel Nelson A. Miles, General William Hazen, and his commanding officer Major Henry Lazelle. Bates gives detailed descriptions of the scenery, game and people he encountered on his marches, as well as his experience with several groups of Indians including the Yankton Sioux and the Brul Indians. Bates often mentions Sitting Bull's current location and the army's newest strategy to catch him.

The collection also contains a photograph of Kinzie Bates from late in his military career, and his obituary from the Detroit Free Press.

- Kinzie Bates Letters, 1865-1869  (Call number: mssHM 55585-55602)

Arrangement
The collection is broadly arranged chronologically.

Indexing Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Huntington Library's Online Catalog.

Subjects
Bates, Kinzie, -1884.
Hazen, William Babcock, 1830-1887.
Lazelle, H. M. (Henry Martyn), 1832-1917.
Miles, Nelson Appleton, 1839-1925.
Sitting Bull, 1831-1890.
United States. Army -- Military life.
Brulé Indians.
Black Hills War, 1876-1877.
Indians of North America -- North Dakota.
Indians of North America -- South Dakota.
Indians of North America -- Wars -- 1866-1895.
Indians of North America -- Wyoming.
Indians of North America -- Montana.
Black Hills (S.D. and Wyo.)
Fort Buford (N.D.)
Fort Peck (Mont.)
Fort Randall (S.D.)
Niobrara River (Wyo. and Neb.)
Powder River (Wyo. and Mont.)
Tongue River Cantonment (Mont.)
Yellowstone River Valley.

Forms/Genres
Diaries -- West (U.S.)
Letters (correspondence) -- West (U.S.)

Alternate Authors
Bates, Elizabeth Chumley, correspondent.
Brulé, Indians -
1874, July 24. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, letter to Elizabeth Chumley Bates.HM 60333.
Cheyenne Indians -
Dakota Indians -

Hazen, William Babcock, 1830–1887 –
[1877], May 10–11. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, diary. HM 60348 (3).

Lazelle, Henry Martyn, 1832– –

Miles, Nelson Appleton, 1839–1925 –
[1877], May 10–11. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, diary. HM 60348 (3).

Powder River (Wyo. and Mont.) –

Sitting Bull, 1834?–1890
[1877], May 7–10. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, diary. HM 60348 (2).
[1877], May 10–11. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, diary. HM 60348 (3).
[1877]. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, letter to Elizabeth Chumley Bates. HM 60349.

---

**Box 1 mssHM 60325-60354**

Bates, Kinzie, -1884. Letter to Elizabeth Chumley Bates. 1874, June 9 HM 60324
Unknown author. Letter to Kinzie Bates. 1874, June 15 HM 60326

Bates, Kinzie, -1884. 16 letters to Elizabeth Chumley Bates. 1874-1875
HM 60327-60342.


Scope and Content Note
Last page of letter has a note written to Elizabeth Chumley Bates by Kinzie Bates, d. 1884.

Bates, Kinzie, -1884. 4 letters to Elizabeth Chumley Bates. 1875 HM 60344-60347.
Bates, Kinzie, -1884. Diary. 1877, May 5 HM 60348 (1).

Bates, Kinzie, -1884. Diary. 1877, May 7-10 HM 60348 (2).
Bates, Kinzie, -1884. Diary. 1877, June 2 HM 60348 (7).
Bates, Kinzie, -1884. Diary. 1877, June 5 HM 60348 (8).
Bates, Kinzie, -1884. Diary. 1877, June 9-26 HM 60348 (9).
Bates, Kinzie, -1884. Diary. 1877, June 29-July 9 HM 60348 (10).

Bates, Kinzie, -1884. Fragment of letter to Elizabeth Chumley Bates. 1877 HM 60349.
Bates, Clara. 2 letters to Elizabeth Chumley Bates. 1906-1912 HM 60350-60351.
Photograph of Sarah Flint. 1863 HM 60352.
Photograph of Kinzie Bates. Approximately 1880 HM 60353.
Ephemera. 2 items. 1874-1884

Scope and Content Note
Includes: Fragment of letter and obituary for Kinzie Bates.

Typed Transcripts.