



**State of Tennessee  
Department of State  
Tennessee State Library and Archives**

**Travis, Dr. Milton L. (1822-1878)  
Day Book, 1843-1861**

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**COLLECTION SUMMARY**

**Creator:**

Travis, Milton L., 1822-1878

**Inclusive Dates:**

1843-1861

**Scope & Content:**

The Dr. Milton L. Travis (1822-1878) Day Book, dated 1843-1861, contains lists of individual accounts from the practice of Dr. Milton L. Travis in Camden, Tennessee. An index is included on the first several pages of the day book as an aid to locate individual accounts. The accounts are all listed under the name of the head of household. Dr. Travis usually listed that the treatment was for self (meaning the head of household), wife, child, servants, or negroes. He occasionally listed the given names of the patients treated. Some examples of this can be seen on page 395 where Dr. Travis named L. M. Atchison's servant, Peter; on page 173 where he listed C. K. Wyly's servant, Daniel; and on page 206 where he named James Wyly's servant, John. When looking at James Wyly's account on page 206, it should also be noted that he paid to have Kendrick Blackwell's femur set. According to Jonathan K. T. Smith's 1995 publication, *Tombstone Inscriptions from Black Cemeteries in Benton County, Tennessee*, Kendrick Blackwell was a free man of color who helped to manage James Wyly's farm.

The day book also contains information about folk medicine of the day. Jonathan K. T. Smith has inserted a page into the cover of the day book that lists reference notes on treatments and medical terms included in the journal. Some of the medical treatments referenced in the book are: quinine as a treatment for malaria, kreosote as a treatment for tuberculosis and chronic bronchitis, sumac as a treatment for stomach and kidney ailments, arsenic as a treatment for cancers and ulcers, opium as a treatment for typhoid and cholera, and mercury as a treatment for venereal disease.

**Physical Description/Extent:**

Microfilm reel, 35mm

**Accession/Record Group Number:**

Mf. No. 489

**Language:**

English

**Permanent Location:**

Mf. No. 489

**Repository:**

Tennessee State Library and Archives, 403 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee, 37243-0312

**Administrative/Biographical History**

Dr. Milton L. Travis was born in 1822. He first practiced medicine in South Benton County until he moved his practice to Camden in 1843. He lived in the H. F. Stigall Subdivision, located northeast of the court square in Camden. He practiced medicine in Camden from 1843 until his death in 1878.

Source: The biographical information on Dr. Milton L. Travis was gleaned from the following sources:

Morisette, Nell. (1998-2002). More On The Court Square. *TNGenWeb Project*.

<http://www.tngenweb.org/benton/bentonhistory78.html>

Smith, Jonathan K. T. (2011). Personal correspondence.

**Organization/Arrangement of Materials**

Single volume day book with entries listed under head of household names. An index of names is included in the front of the journal.

**Conditions of Access and Use****Restrictions on Access:**

No restrictions.

**Restrictions on Use and Reproduction:**

No restrictions.

**Index Terms****Personal Names:**

Atchison, L. M.  
Blackwell, Kendrick  
Smith, Jonathan K. T. (Jonathan Kennon Thompson)  
Travis, Milton L., 1822-1878  
Wyly, C. K. (Christopher K.), 1807-1891  
Wyly, James, 1799-1857

**Subjects:**

Arsenic -- Therapeutic use  
Bronchitis -- Treatment  
Cholera -- Treatment  
Creosote -- Therapeutic use  
Malaria -- Treatment  
Mercury -- Therapeutic use  
Opium -- Therapeutic use  
Quinine -- Therapeutic use  
Sumac -- Therapeutic use  
Tuberculosis -- Treatment  
Typhoid -- Treatment  
Ulcers -- Treatment

**Geographic Names:**

Benton County (Tenn.) -- History -- 19<sup>th</sup> century -- Sources  
Camden (Tenn.) -- History -- 19<sup>th</sup> century -- Sources

**Document Types:**

Daybooks

**Acquisition and Appraisal****Provenance and Acquisition:**

The Dr. Milton L. Travis (1822-1878) Day Book was loaned to the Tennessee State Library and Archives by the Benton County Public Library in Camden, Tennessee, in April 2011. After filming, the book was returned to the Benton County Public Library.

## **Processing and Administrative Information**

### **Preferred Citation:**

Dr. Milton L. Travis Day Book, Tennessee State Library and Archives

### **Processing Information:**

Processing was completed by Lori Lockhart, April 18, 2011.

### **Existence and Location of Originals:**

Benton County Public Library, Camden, Tennessee

## DETAILED COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

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### CONTAINER LIST

	Contents/Item Title	Date	Box	Volume
Day book		1843- 1861	1	1