



The New York Public Library  
Manuscripts and Archives Division

Guide to the

**Diary of John M. Copeland**

1876

MssCol 666

## Summary

**Creator:** Copeland, John Milton

**Title:** Diary of John M. Copeland

**Date:** 1876

**Size:** 1 folder

**Source:** Gift of, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Draper, California Academy of Sciences, 1961

**Physical Location:** MssCol 666

**Location of Originals:** Original diary owned by Genevieve Nowlin, Kansas City, Missouri

**Preferred citation:** John M. Copeland diary, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library

## Creator History

Typescript of a diary kept by John Milton Copeland in the mining town of Georgetown, Colorado, from January 30 to December 27, 1876. The majority of the diary is made up of short entries on daily life, such as Copeland's wages and expenditures and the weather (he complains about dust, mud, and rain). Copeland writes that Georgetown had the "stillness of death" because of poor mining prospects and economic decline, as well as a number of deaths from pneumonia. Copeland makes several references to politics, including the voting count from the successful bid to grant Colorado statehood, the Silver Question, and disputes, both local and national, between Democrats and Republicans. He also mentions an incident where "Italians engaged in a general shooting at Silver Plume."

## Key Terms

### Geographic Names

Colorado -- History -- Sources

Georgetown (Colo.) -- History

**Genre/Physical Characteristic**

Diaries -- Colorado -- 19th century

**Subjects**

Frontier and pioneer life -- Colorado

Silver mines and mining -- Colorado

**Names**

Copeland, John Milton