



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

Access: Advance notice required.

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