Almon Spencer Reminiscence, undated

Overview of the Collection

- **Creator**: Spencer, Almon
- **Title**: Almon Spencer Reminiscence
- **Dates**: undated (inclusive), 1903
- **Quantity**: 1 item
- **Collection Number**: Mss 171
- **Summary**: The collection contains a typescript reminiscence of Almon Spencer describing a journey from Canada to Montana from 1864 through the 1880s.
- **Repository**: University of Montana, Mansfield Library, Archives and Special Collections

- **Languages**: English.

### Historical Note

Almon Spencer was born in February 1838. He left Spencerville, Ontario, in 1864 to move to California, taking passage by sea across the Panama Isthmus, traveling with his friends Peter Irving and Edward Short. Arriving in San Francisco, they continued on to Sacramento, Nevada, and Idaho, then to Montana. They stayed for a time in Helena (Last Chance) before moving over the mountains in 1865 to a gold claim in Gallatin County. He set up a ranch, was joined by his brother Harvey in 1868, and took an interest in a meat market in Cave Gulch. In 1872, they abandoned the mine and moved into Cave. Almon returned home to marry his wife, Margaret Ann Stitt, in 1873, and brought her back to Montana. They remained in Cave until 1878, when they moved to White Sulphur Springs, where he was appointed postmaster that same year. The Spencer brothers started a business there, Spencer and Company, in 1881, which remained in business until 1903, when it consolidated with the Anderson Brothers.

### Content Description

http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv97146
The collection consists of a single typescript transcript of a reminiscence written after 1903. The author describes his journey from Canada to Montana, giving details of both the oversea and overland journeys through several locations. He mentions receiving news of the death of President Lincoln, vigilance committees in Montana, and the dangers of winter travel through the mountains near Helena. He gives few details of his gold mine or his later business ventures.

Use of the Collection

Restrictions on Use

Researchers are responsible for using in accordance with 17 U.S.C. and any other applicable statutes. Copyright status unknown.

Preferred Citation

[Name of document or photograph number], Almon Spencer Reminiscence, Archives and Special Collections, Maureen and Mike Mansfield Library, The University of Montana—Missoula.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information


Names and Subjects

**Subject Terms**:
- Canadian Americans--Montana
- Frontier and pioneer life--Montana
- Ocean travel
- Overland journeys to Montana--Personal narratives
- Vigilance committees--Montana
- Winter--Montana

**Personal Names**:
- Lincoln, Abraham, 1809-1865--Death and burial

**Geographical Names**:
- West (U. S.)--Description and travel

**Form or Genre Terms**:
- Reminiscences--Montana

Finding aid prepared by Jodi Allison-Bunnell
1999

This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License:
http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/

Almon Spencer Reminiscence, undated
http://archiveswest.orbiscascade.org/ark:/80444/xv97146