

## Kinzie Bates Papers

### >1863-1929

The Huntington Library

> >

>San Marino, California

#### Contact Information:

- Manuscripts Department
- The Huntington Library
- 1151 Oxford Road
- San Marino, California 91108
- Phone: (626) 405-2203
- Fax: (626) 449-5720
- Email: [lgarcia@huntington.org](mailto:lgarcia@huntington.org)
- URL: <http://www.huntington.org/huntingtonlibrary.aspx?id=554>

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#### Descriptive Summary

**Title:** Kinzie Bates Papers,

**Date (inclusive):** 1863-1929

**Collection number:** HM 60325-60354

**Creator:** Bates, Kinzie

**Repository:** The Huntington Library

San Marino, California 91108

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

**Language:** English

#### Access

Collection is open to qualified researchers by prior application through the Reader Services Department. For more information please go to following [URL](#)

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#### Preferred Citation

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Kinzie Bates Papers, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.

### Acquisition Information

This collection was purchased from L & S Respress Books, August 19, 1998. It contains 32 single-item catalogued items and spans the period 1863 to 1929, with the bulk of the material from 1874-1877. It is arranged chronologically, within one box, with the exception of Elizabeth Chumley Bates' diary which is in an envelope.

The Manuscripts Department also houses another 18 letters by Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, written to his father and aunt while he was stationed at Jackson Barracks in New Orleans, Louisiana, and span the years 1865-1868 (HM 55585-55602).

Acquisition number: 1893

Call Numbers: HM 60325-60354

### Biographical Note

Kinzie Bates (1839-1884) 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 in 1873. Bates participated in the final months of Colonel Nelson A. Miles' "Yellowstone Campaign" as a battalion commander in the U. S. 1st Infantry. Bates died in 1884.

### Scope and Content Note

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 Lamé 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.

Bates, Kinzie, d. 1884-

1874, June 15. Addressee of letter by unknown author. HM 60326

[18]75, Sep. 14. Author of note on last page of Winnie letter to Elizabeth Chumley Bates. HM 60343.

Brul, Indians -

1874, July 14-15. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, letter to Elizabeth Chumley Bates. HM 60330.

1874, July 18. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, letter to Elizabeth Chumley Bates. HM 60332.

1874, July 24. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, letter to Elizabeth Chumley Bates. HM 60333.

Cheyenne Indians -

1877, June 29-July 9. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, letter to Elizabeth Chumley Bates. HM 60348 (10).

Dakota Indians -

1874, July 13. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, letter to Elizabeth Chumley Bates. HM 60329.

1875, May 9. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, letter to Elizabeth Chumley Bates. HM 60337.

1875, May 21. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, letter to Elizabeth Chumley Bates. HM 60340.

1877, June 9-27. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, diary. HM 60348 (9).

1877, June 29-July 9. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, diary. HM 60348 (10).

Hazen, William Babcock, 1830-1887 -

[1877], May 10-11. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, diary. HM 60348 (3).

Lazelle, Henry Martyn, 1832- -

1877, June 9-27. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, diary. HM 60348 (9).

Miles, Nelson Appleton, 1839-1925 -

[1877], May 10-11. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, diary. HM 60348 (3).

1877, May 19-22. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, diary. HM 60348 (5).

1877, May 23-30. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, diary. HM 60348 (6).

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1877, June 5-7. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, diary.HM 60348 (8).  
1877, June 9-27. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, diary.HM 60348 (9).  
Powder River (Wyo. and Mont.) -  
1877, June 9-27. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, diary.HM 60348 (9).  
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, May 19-22. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, diary.HM 60348 (5).  
[1877]. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, letter to Elizabeth Chumley Bates.HM 60349.  
1877, June 29-July 9. Kinzie Bates, d. 1884, diary.HM 60348 (10).

### **Bibliography**

Greene, Jerome A. *Battles and Skirmishes of the Great Sioux War, 1876-1877: The Military View*. University of Oklahoma Press:Norman and London , 1993.  
Greene, Jerome A. *Yellowstone Command: Colonel Nelson A. Miles and the Great Sioux War, 1876-1877*. University of Nebraska Press: Lincoln and London , 1991.  
Robinson III, Charles M. *A Good Year to Die: The Story of the Great Sioux War*. Random House: New York , 1995.  
Wooster, Robert. *Nelson A. Miles and the Twilight of the Frontier Army*. University of Nebraska Press: Lincoln and London , 1993.

**Bates, Kinzie, d. 1884. Letter (1874, June 9 ) to Elizabeth Chumley Bates. HM 60324**

**Unknown author. Letter (1874, June 15 ) to Kinzie Bates, d. 1884. HM 60326**

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

**Bates, Winnie. Letter (1875, Sep. 14 ) to Elizabeth Chumley Bates. HM 60343**

### **Scope and Content Note**

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

**Bates, Kinzie, d. 1884. 4 letters (1875 ) to Elizabeth Chumley Bates. HM 60344-60347.**

**Bates, Kinzie, d. 1884. Diary (1877, May 5 ). HM 60348 (1).**

**Bates, Kinzie, d. 1884. Diary (1877, May 7-10 ). HM 60348 (2).**

**Bates, Kinzie, d. 1884. Diary (1877, May 10-11 ). HM 60348 (3).**

**Bates, Kinzie, d. 1884. Diary (1877, May 13-18 ). HM 60348 (4).**

**Bates, Kinzie, d. 1884. Diary (1877, May 19-22 ). HM 60348 (5).**

**Bates, Kinzie, d. 1884. Diary (1877, May 23-28 ). HM 60348 (6).**

**Bates, Kinzie, d. 1884. Diary (1877, June 2 ). HM 60348 (7).**

**Bates, Kinzie, d. 1884. Diary (1877, June 5 ). HM 60348 (8).**

**Bates, Kinzie, d. 1884. Diary (1877, June 9-26 ). HM 60348 (9).**

**Bates, Kinzie, d. 1884. Diary (1877, June 29-July 9 ). HM 60348 (10).**

**Bates, Kinzie, d. 1884. Fragment of letter (1877 ) to Elizabeth Chumley Bates.** HM 60349.

**Bates, Clara. 2 letters (1906-1912 ) to Elizabeth Chumley Bates.** HM 60350-60351.

**Photograph of Sarah Flint (1863 ).** HM 60352.

**Photograph of Kinzie Bates, d. 1884. (c. 1880 ).** HM 60353.

**Ephemera. 2 items (1874-1884 ).**

**Scope and Content Note**

Includes: Fragment of letter and obituary for Kinzie Bates, d. 1884.

**Typed Transcripts.**

**Bates, Elizabeth Chumley. Diary (1912-1929 ).** HM 60354.