

Civil War Small Manuscripts Collection

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1861-1996



Title Statement

Civil War Small Manuscripts CollectionCivil War Small Manuscripts Collection, 1861-1996 Ms.2003.014

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Profile Description

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Revision Description

2024-09-11 Added link to publicly available digital collection hosted on Omeka. alanmun

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2003.014

Unit Date

1861-1996

box

1

box

2

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

This contains a collection of small (1- to 2-folder) manuscripts related to various aspects of the American Civil War and obtained from various sources.

Creator

Hart, Henry Waldo, 1832-1895 (Corporal, 2nd Connecticut Light Artillery Battery)

Creator

Garrett, Samuel Edwin, 1835(?) -1865

Creator

Turner, Mary H.

Creator

Walther, C. F. W., 1811-1887

Creator

Prillaman family

Creator

Shreve, David Prentiss (Lexington, Va.)

Creator

Hilton, John, 1828-1903

Creator

Holcombe family

Creator

Charlton family (Montgomery County, Va.)

Creator

Hayes, Carl N.

Creator

Duncan, William E.

Creator

Compton, John R.

Creator

Fitting, Minnie Adams

Creator

Evans, Washington C.

Creator

Baker family

Creator

Babcock, H. O.

Creator

Briggs, Marian

Creator

Bailey, Pattie Dobson Talley, b.1888

Creator

Jordan, Charles Francis, 1837-1922

Creator

Houck family

Creator

Armistead, Mary Frances

Creator

McKinnis, Henry, 1841-1893

Creator

Campbell, Donald (Co. K, 12th Regiment [New York State Militia?])

Extent

1 Cubic Feet 2 boxes

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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Preferred Citation

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Scope and Content

A collection created from individual small (1- to 2-folder) manuscripts, containing such items as letters, diaries, reminiscences, and ephemera relating to the American Civil War.

Keywords

United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865

Civil War

Montgomery County (Va.)

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South

Women -- History

Existence and Location of Copies

Some of this collection has been digitized and is available online.

Rights Statement for Archival Description

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Arrangement

The collection is arranged alphabetically by name of person, place, military unit, etc.

Description of Subordinate Components

ARMISTEAD, MARY FRANCES. MEMOIR

Unit Date n.d.

Scope and Contents note

Resident of Surry County and Richmond, Virginia during Civil War. Three-page photocopied typescript of Armistead's reminiscences, focusing on the several jobs she held during the war.

BABCOCK, H. O. DIARY

Unit Date 1864

Scope and Contents note

Farmer and schoolteacher from North Stonington, Connecticut. Diary entries record work, social and

church activities, weather, and financial affairs. Also included are comments on the day's political and military affairs, particularly battles and lost friends.

BAKER FAMILY. CIVIL WAR ARTIFACTS

Unit Date n.d.

Scope and Contents note

A collection of buttons and pins relating to the Confederate States of America. Contains two Confederate naval uniform buttons, a Southern Cross of Honor [two pieces] belonging to William J. Baker (15th Virginia Infantry) and Frances M. Baker's pin from the Mississippi Division, United Daughters of the Confederacy.

BAILEY, PATTIE DOBSON TALLEY (b. 1888). UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY APPLICATION

Unit Date 1925

Scope and Contents note

Photocopy of application for membership in the Kentucky Division, United Daughters of the Confederacy. Describes Confederate service of Bailey's grandfather, Nathaniel Henry Talley, who worked as a gunboat mechanic and saddle maker at West Point, Virginia.

BRIGGS, MARIAN. LETTER

Unit Date 1866

Scope and Contents note

Resident of Gorham, New York. Letter to Catherine Weatherbee. Discusses their friendship, her parents' hardships, and the military service of her brothers Henry and Albert (both in the 126th New York Infantry)-particularly Henry's wounding at Gettysburg and his subsequent death.

CAMPBELL, DONALD. LETTER

Unit Date 1861

Scope and Contents note

Soldier in Co. K, 12th Regiment [New York State Militia?]. Letter to his mother from Camp Anderson, Washington D. C. Writes of the regiment being mustered into U. S. service, conditions around Washington D. C., and relations with the local civilian population.

CHARLTON FAMILY. LETTER

Unit Date 1861

Scope and Contents note

Waddy C. Charlton (1839), Montgomery County, Virginia native and soldier in the 4th Virginia Infantry. Photocopy of letter to Charlton from unidentified brother in Christiansburg, Virginia. Mentions family matters, local crop conditions, the local movement of troops aboard trains, prospects for a Confederate invasion of Washington D.C. and Maryland, and military activities in northwestern Virginia.

CIVIL WAR POETRY

Unit Date c.1861-1865

Scope and Contents note

Collection of six handwritten poems said to have been composed during the Civil War and including works entitled "The Contraband" and "The Southern Girls Song," the latter signed by M. M. Williams; together with a writing case bearing the embossed title "Soldiers Home Companion." Digital images available on the VT [Imagebase](#).

COMPTON, JOHN R. LETTERS

Unit Date 1863

Scope and Contents note

Colonel commanding the 198th Virginia Militia. Three notes, possibly from a copybook, signed by Compton. Two notes certify that Drs. Mitchel Kegley and William E. Hoge had served the regiment as surgeons, while the third directs Hoge to obtain payrolls while in Richmond.

CONFEDERATE CURRENCY

Unit Date c.1864

Scope and Contents note

Two notes issued by the Confederate government during the Civil War: a 20-dollar bill bearing the likeness of Vice President Alexander Stephens and a 100-dollar bill featuring portraits of Lucy Pickens (wife of South Carolina's governor) and George Randolph (CSA cabinet member).

DUNCAN, WILLIAM E. COPYBOOK

Unit Date 1862

Scope and Contents note

Confederate assistant quartermaster at Giles Court House, Virginia. Copybook containing requisitions issued and letters written by Duncan. Many of the letters--written on behalf of Brigadier General Henry Heth--concern such matters as supplies for local regiments, while others relate to postal service and transportation. A few of the mention local military combat.

EVANS, WASHINGTON C. LETTERS

Unit Date 1864

Scope and Contents note

Resident of Essex County, Virginia and private in Co. F, 9th Virginia Cavalry, killed near Malvern Hill. Photocopies and transcripts of two letters to Evans' sister, written from camps in the Richmond- Petersburg area, concerning local and camp conditions, military operations and personal matters. Accompanied by photocopies of a letter from Isaac J. Mercer regarding Evans' death, a newspaper death notice and a carte-de-visite of Evans.

FITTING, MINNIE ADAMS. "THE PAST IS NEVER LOST"

Unit Date n.d.

Scope and Contents note

Mimeographed typescript biography of Richard Henry Adams, Jr. (1841-1896), who served in the 5th Alabama Infantry and 51st Alabama Infantry, then later as an engineer under General Wheeler before being captured at Mt. Pleasant Tennessee in 1863. Adams became one of the "Immortal 600" prisoners-of-war held on Morris Island, South Carolina in 1864. He was released from prison in June, 1865. Biography includes lengthy excerpts from Adams' journals.

GARRETT, SAMUEL EDWIN (c.1835-1865). LETTERS

Unit Date 1864

Scope and Contents note

Resident of Cumberland County, Virginia; served in Co. G, 3rd Virginia Cavalry and killed in action at Five Forks, Virginia. Photocopies of letters to wife, Emma, from various camps in Virginia and West Virginia. Discusses family matters, the Southern cause, camp conditions, and military operations, particularly the Gettysburg campaign and the final battles around Richmond and Petersburg.

HART, HENRY WALDO (1832-1895). LETTERS

Unit Date 1862-1865

Scope and Contents note

Corporal in 2nd Connecticut Light Artillery Battery and husband of Margaret Elizabeth Black. Typescript copies of letters written by Hart to his wife from camps in the northern Virginia and gulf coast areas. Discusses at great length camp life; conditions in northern Virginia, Louisiana, and other areas; military actions; the war's progress; and personal matters.

HAYES, CARL N. "NEIGHBOR AGAINST NEIGHBOR, BROTHER AGAINST BROTHER: GREENE COUNTY IN THE CIVIL WAR"

Unit Date [1966?]

Scope and Contents note

Photocopied typescript collection of information regarding the Civil War in Greene County, Tennessee.

HILTON, JOHN (1828-1903). PAPERS**Unit Date** 1856-1903**Scope and Contents note**

English immigrant, corporal in Co. F, 111th Pennsylvania Infantry. Photocopies of Hilton's Civil War letters (written from the Washington, D.C. / Baltimore, Maryland area, Cedar Creek. Loudon Heights and) to his wife, Mary Jane. Also includes photocopies of various military and legal documents, newsclippings and a photograph of Hilton. Digital images available on the VT [Imagebase](#).

HOLCOMBE FAMILY. LETTERS**Unit Date** 1862-1863**Scope and Contents note**

Transcripts of letters written to Amanda M. Fowler Holcombe of Texas by her husband, John M. Holcombe (Co. B, 17th Texas Infantry); her brother, Dr. William S. Fowler; and her brother-in-law, Lt. Charles Keton. The letters are written from camps in Arkansas and Texas and concern family matters, personal acquaintances, military activities, camp life, and Holcombe's illness and subsequent military discharge. Accompanied by photocopied biographical information on Holcombe.

HOUCK FAMILY. PAPERS**Unit Date** 1861-1863**Scope and Contents note**

Thomas G. Houck (1841-1863) of Pottsville, Pennsylvania, served with the 96th Pennsylvania Infantry during the Civil War and died from wounds received at Salem Church, Virginia. Collection consists of photocopied Civil War letters between Thomas Houck and his brother Joseph (1839-1908). Houck's letters are written from camps in Washington, D.C., Maryland and northern Virginia. Transcripts of the letters and of Thomas Houck's Civil War diary are included as well.

JORDAN, CHARLES FRANCIS (1837-1922). MEMOIR**Unit Date** ca. 1922**Scope and Contents note**

Resident of Rockbridge County, Virginia; farmer; banker; businessman; legislator; captain in Company C, 1st Virginia Cavalry. Photocopied typescript of Jordan's reminiscences of the battle at Kelley's Ford, Virginia, on March 17, 1863.

McKINNIS, HENRY (1841-1893). LETTERS**Unit Date** 1863-1864**Scope and Contents note**

Private in Company B, 3rd Iowa Infantry from 1861-1864. Letters written to mother from camps near Moscow, Tennessee (January 20, 1863) and Hebron, Mississippi (March 5, 1864). McKinnis writes of Union and Confederate raids, a lack of rations, and general family matters. Accompanied by photocopies of typed transcripts, biographical material and a photo of McKinnis and his wife, Elizabeth Gilchrist McKinnis.

PRILLAMAN FAMILY. LETTERS**Unit Date** 1862-1864**Scope and Contents note**

Photocopies of Civil War letters of brothers Fleming M., Christian S. and Isaac C. Prillaman, of Franklin County, Virginia, serving in Co. B, 57th Virginia Infantry.

SHREVE, DAVID PRENTISS. WRITINGS**Unit Date** 1995-1996, n.d.**Scope and Contents note**

Minister of Music at Manly Memorial Baptist Church (Lexington, Virginia). Collection of writings on the Shreve family and the Civil War in northern Virginia. Includes "Barbara Ann Shreve, Spy and Nurse for Her Countrymen," "A Young Confederate Sketch Artist Who Became a Scout, C[o]urrier, and Blockade Runner for John S. Mosby, 43rd Battalion, Virginia Cavalry" (regarding Benjamin Rutherford Shreve), "The Mystery of the Star Tavern's Puzzling Green Glass Star of Falls Church, Virginia," "Civil War Action in the No-Man's

Land of Idylwood, Virginia and Vicinity," and "Along the Four Mile Run: Rural Life in 19th Century Arlington and Easter[n] Fairfax County - the Story of William Henry Shreve."

TURNER, MARY H. LETTER

Unit Date 1861

Scope and Contents note

Resident of Petersburg, Virginia. Writes of friendship and the "unnatural and unholy war." Letter captured by J. S. France, of Co. B, 13th New York State Militia, during the Seven Days Campaign in 1862.

WALTHER, C. F. W. (1811-1887). WRITINGS

Unit Date [2002]

Scope and Contents note

President of Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod. Internet printout of Walther's "Slavery, Humanism & The Bible: Selections from *Lehre und Wehre*," containing writings on slavery and the Civil War, extracted from various issues of a synodical publication published in 1863.