

# Dietz, August, Civil War Collection

August Dietz Civil War Collection,  
1862-1909



## Title Statement

Dietz, August, Civil War Collection A Guide to the August Dietz Civil War Collection, 1862-1909 Ms.2010.069

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## Publication Statement

**Publisher:** Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Special Collections and University Archives, University Libraries (0434)  
560 Drillfield Drive  
Newman Library, Virginia Tech  
Blacksburg, Virginia 24061  
Business Number: 540-231-6308  
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URL: <http://spec.lib.vt.edu>



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## Profile Description

**Creation:** This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2023-08-07 13:43:09 -0400.

**Language Usage:** English

**Descriptive Rules:** Describing Archives: A Content Standard

## Revision Description

**2021-01-20** Finding aid notes updated to new department standards. juliags

## Descriptive Summary

### Unit ID

Ms.2010.069

### Unit Date

1862-1909

### Language

English .

### Abstract

The August Dietz Civil War Collection contains materials originally collected by August Dietz, Richmond, VA, philatelist and printer. The collection contains single editions of Civil War-era newspapers, photographs, a woodcut and prints, quartermaster records, playing cards, a handwritten memoir, correspondence, and reproductions of stamps from the Civil War.

### Creator

Dietz, August, 1869-1963

**Extent**

0.7 Cubic Feet 2 boxes; 1 folder

**Repository**

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

## Administrative Information

**Conditions Governing Access**

Collection is open for research.

**Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use**

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**Source of Acquisition**

The August Dietz Civil War Collection was donated to Special Collections in 2010.

**Processing Information**

The processing, arrangement, and description of the August Dietz Civil War Collection was completed in October 2010.

**Preferred Citation**

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], August Dietz Civil War Collection, Ms2010-069, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

## Biographical Note

August Dietz, born in Germany in 1867, came to the United States in 1871 with his family and settled in Richmond, Virginia. In 1883, he took his first printing job and eventually took an apprenticeship at Andrews and Baptist of Richmond, considered "the art printers of the South." It was here that Dietz learned about printing and Confederate philately, which Frank Baptist had been involved with during the Civil War. Dietz founded the Dietz Printing Company in 1900. He was a lifelong master printer and leading philatelist.

Dietz authored many publications, including *The Postal Service of the Confederate States of America* (1929), *The Dietz Confederate States Catalog and Handbook* (1931), and *The Confederate States Post-Office Department: Its Stamps and Stationery; A record of Achievement* (1950).

Dietz died in 1963 in Richmond. He is known as the "father of Confederate philately."

## Scope and Contents

The August Dietz Civil War Collection contains materials originally collected by August Dietz, Richmond, VA, philatelist and printer. The collection contains single editions of Civil War-era newspapers, photographs, a woodcut and prints, quartermaster records, playing cards, a handwritten memoir, correspondence, and reproductions of stamps from the Civil War.

The newspapers, largely from Richmond, date from the 1860s. The handwritten memoir of Colonel William McComb details the Civil War record of the 14th Tennessee Infantry. It describes the formation of the Regiment and battle descriptions through the Civil War. Along with the memoir, the collection contains two letters in regards to helping Jefferson Davis re-establish himself after the Civil War, one written by General Robert E. Lee; Confederate War Bonds; the 1862 Muster Roll of the 21st Regiment of Illinois Volunteers; and the Quartermaster Reports from Fort Wood, NY, in March 1866.

Artifacts include a woodcut, playing cards, a souvenir bookmark from the 1896 Confederate Reunion, and a commemorative medal of Lincoln's centenary. The photographs were taken at post-war Confederate Veteran reunions and other images portray Lincoln, Davis, Booth and others.

## Separated Materials

The following items have been removed from the collection and are available in Rare Book Room in Special Collections:

*A Memorial of the 6th Annual Reunion of the United Confederate Veteran Association and the laying of the Cornerstone of the Jefferson Davis Monument, 1896*

*Confederate War Journal* (Vol 1 Nos 1-3, 6-11)

*Official Guide to the Confederate Government 1861-1865 at Richmond*

*Parallel Column Constitutions of the United States of America and the Confederate States of America, 1862.*

*Stonewall's Song-Book, n.d.*

*The Battle Record of the American Rebellion, 1860-1862*

## Keywords

Civil War

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

## Rights Statement for Archival Description

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## Arrangement

The collection is divided into 4 series based on material type. **Series I: Newspapers**, contains single editions of several southern newspapers, as well as clippings relating to JEB Stuart. This series is arranged chronologically.

**Series II: Manuscripts**, contains several original Confederate documents, including the handwritten memoir of General William McComb, a war bond, and quartermaster records. This series is arranged in chronological order, with undated materials at the end.

**Series III: Images**, contains photographs from Confederate reunions, prints of various war-era figures, and prints created from a woodblock (located in Series IV). This series is arranged by material type.

**Series IV: Artifacts**, includes several items of Civil War memorabilia, including reproductions of stamps, playing cards with Confederate figures on them, and a commemorative medal of Lincoln's Centenary. This series is arranged chronologically, with undated materials at the end.

## Description of Subordinate Components

### **Series I: Newspapers,**

**Unit Date** 1862-1868, n.d.

#### **Civil War Newspapers,**

**Unit Date** 1862-1868

**oversize** 1 (folder)

#### **Jeb Stuart Clippings,**

**Unit Date** n.d.

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 1 (folder)

### **Series II: Manuscripts,**

**Unit Date** 1865

**Muster Roll 21st Regiment Illinois Volunteers,**

**Unit Date** 1862

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 2 (folder)

**N.Y. Harbor Quartermaster Records**

**Unit Date** 1865-1866

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 2 (folder)

**Confederate War Bond,**

**Unit Date** 1862

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 3 (folder)

**Confederate's Oath of Allegiance,**

**Unit Date** 1865

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 3 (folder)

**Correspondence Regarding Jefferson Davis,**

**Unit Date** 1869

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 4 (folder)

**William McComb's Memoir,**

**Unit Date** n.d.

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 5 (folder)

**August Dietz Biography,**

**Unit Date** n.d.

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 6 (folder)

**"Blue and Grey" Poem,**

**Unit Date** n.d.

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 6 (folder)

**"The Confederate Souvenir" Pamphlet,**

**Unit Date** n.d.

**box-folder** 1 (box)

**Container** 6 (folder)

**Series III: Images,**

**Unit Date** n.d.

**Woodcut print,**  
**Unit Date** 1862  
**box-folder** 1 (box)  
**Container** 7 (folder)

**Confederate Reunion Photos,**  
**Unit Date** n.d.  
**box-folder** 1 (box)  
**Container** 8 (folder)

**Prints of Famous Civil War-Era Figures,**  
**Unit Date** n.d.  
**box-folder** 1 (box)  
**Container** 9 (folder)

**Series IV: Artifacts,**

**Souvenir of the Sixth Annual Reunion U.C.V.,**  
**Unit Date** 1896  
**box** 2

**Commemorative Medal of the Centenary of Abraham Lincoln,**  
**Unit Date** 1909  
**box** 2

**Woodblock,**  
**Unit Date** n.d.  
**box** 2

**Confederate Playing Cards,**  
**Unit Date** n.d.  
**box** 2

**The Postage Stamps of the Confederate States of America,**  
**Unit Date** n.d.  
**box** 2