

Colley, William L. Letter

William L. Colley Letter

1861



Title Statement

Colley, William L. Letter William L. Colley Letter, 1861 Ms.2018.007

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

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Unit Date

1861

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Language

English .

Abstract

Letter from William Lewis Colley to sister, written from a hospital around Winchester, VA, September 3d, 1861. In the letter Colley describes how he accidentally shot off his little finger on his left hand while on picket duty on Millwood Pike near the Opequon River four miles from Winchester.

Creator

Colley, William L. (William Lewis) (45th Regiment, Virginia Infantry/1st Virginia Cavalry)

Extent

0.1 Cubic Feet 1 Folder

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0.1 Cubic Feet 1 Folder

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Access Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Use Restrictions

Permission to publish material from William L. Colley Letter must be obtained from Special Collections, Virginia Tech.

Acquisition Information

The William L. Colley Letter was purchased by Special Collections in November 2014.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the William L. Colley Letter was completed in September, 2018.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: William L. Colley Letter, Ms2018-007, Special Collections, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of a letter from William Lewis Colley written from a hospital around Winchester, VA, September 3d, 1861, to his sister. In the letter, Colley describes how he accidentally shot off his little finger on his left hand while on picket duty on Millwood Pike near the Opequon River four miles from Winchester. The letter is very descriptive of the injury to his finger and exactly which joints and bones were affected. Colley also related how Federal troops advanced toward them only to fall back. Colley believed he would get a furlough on account of his wound but did not want to stay at the hospital but would return to his regiment. He tells his sister that he would stay with a Capt Preston, quartermaster of the 37th VA Regiment.

Related Materials

Special Collections also contains a collection of materials relating to William Colley's brother, Thomas, which includes additional letters by William: Thomas W. Colley Collection, Ms2003-017, Special Collections, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va. [Finding aid available online.](#)

Keywords

Civil War

Confederate States of America

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

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Description of Subordinate Components

Letter

Unit Date 1861

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