

Missouri State Archives

Finding Aid [998.247]

MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

Edward Newton Civil War Correspondence Collection

Abstract: Five letters written by soldier Edward D. Newton during the Civil War to his family members. Transcriptions included.

Extent: 5 letters

Physical Description: Paper

Location: Missouri State Archives; Stacks

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Alternative Formats: TIFF

Access Restrictions: None

Publication Restrictions: None

Preferred Citation: [item description], [date]; *Edward Newton Civil War Correspondence Collection*, Record Group 998.247; Missouri State Archives, Jefferson City.

Acquisition Information: Gift with deed; Accession #1996-0148

Processing Information: Processing completed by EW on 04/13/2017.

HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Edward/Edmond D. Newton (1831-1881) was with the 85th New York Infantry Band as a musician throughout the Civil War. He wrote letters to his siblings Mary and Darius, five of which have been donated to the Archives. The letters chronicle his time with the regiment near the James River in 1862 and then in Fort Reno, Washington, DC. Two of the letters mention President Abraham Lincoln, and one is especially noteworthy for its account of Lincoln's funeral procession in the Capital. Sometime between 1865 and 1870, Newton moved to Caldwell County, Missouri. He died in 1881 in Caldwell County.

ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

Related Collections

None

Additional External Resources

A transcription of Edward D. Newton's Civil War service card can be found on the National Park Service's Civil War Soldiers Database online here: <https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-soldiers-detail.htm?soldierId=4A6CBDBE-DC7A-DF11-BF36-B8AC6F5D926A>. A summary of the 85th NY Inf.'s activities is here: <https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-battle-units-detail.htm?battleUnitCode=UNY0085RI>.

SERIES

Edward Newton's letters, 1862-1865

Arranged chronologically

Scope and Content

All five letters were transcribed by the donor Mr. Paul Doll and the transcriptions are included in the folder with the original letter. TIFF images of the originals are available on Manuscript DVD #1 in Reference.

Container List

Location	Box	Folder	Contents	Date
	66	1	Written to Edward's brother D.A. Newton of Bolivar, NY. Describes the company's activities over the last few days.	06/30/1862 to 07/05/1862
	66	2	Addressed "dear Mate," but envelope is for his sister Miss Mary Newton of Bolivar, NY. At this time, Edward was in Fort Reno, Washington, DC. He is asking for certain supplies to be sent to him and also asks for more letters. Mention of the military band.	01/09/1865
	66	3	Written to Edward's sister Miss Mary Newton of Bolivar, NY. This letter is similar to the one above.	01/31/1865
	66	4	Written to Edward's sister Miss Mary Newton of Bolivar, NY. The letter describes a brief encounter he had with President Abraham Lincoln and Mary Todd Lincoln.	02/13/1865
	66	5	Written to Edward's sister Miss Mary Newton of Bolivar, NY. The letter describes the funeral procession for President Lincoln. He also asks his sister again to send supplies.	04/20/1865