



John Wesley Matthews Papers (R0039)

Collection Number: R0039

Collection Title: John Wesley Matthews Papers

Dates: 1862-1863

Creator: Matthews, John Wesley, 1827-1864

Abstract: The John Wesley Matthews Papers contain photocopies of letters written by John W. Matthews to his family relating his experiences in the 32nd Regiment, Missouri Volunteers. The letters contain descriptions of provost duty in Saint Louis, and the condition of the regiment after the surrender of Vicksburg. There is also a poem describing the Vicksburg campaign.

Collection Size: 0.01 cubic foot
(1 folder)

Language: Collection materials are in English.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at rolla@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given and assigned to the University all rights of copyright, which the Donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor's works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *John Wesley Matthews Papers* (R0039); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

Donor Information: The papers were loaned for photocopying to the University of Missouri by Mary Lee Shomaker on October 17, 1980 (Accession No. RA0048).

Related Materials: Additional materials related to the John Wesley Matthews Papers can be found in the following collections:

William H. Lynch Diaries (C1153)

A. W. Reese, Personal Recollections of the Late Civil War in the United States (C3627)

Processed by: Processed by John F. Bradbury, December 1, 1980. Revised Kathleen Seale, March 26, 2020.

Biographical Note:

John Wesley Matthews was born in 1827, to William and Nancy Matthews in Kentucky. He lived near Dixon in Pulaski County, Missouri working as a farmer. In August 1862, he enlisted in the Union Army. He was mustered into service at Benton Barracks in Saint Louis, and was assigned to Company H. 32nd Regiment, Missouri Volunteers, in October 1862. The regiment remained in Saint Louis as provost guards until the end of the year, when they were assigned to the Department of the Tennessee and the forces operating against Vicksburg, Mississippi. Matthews was garrisoned with his unit in Alabama during the winter of 1863-1864, where he was taken sick. His service record lists Matthews as having died of disease at Woodville, Alabama, in April 1864. His regiment lost 408 enlisted men to disease during the war.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged in its original order in one folder.

Scope and Content Note:

The collection contains photocopies of letters written by John W. Matthews to his family relating his experiences in the 32nd Regiment, Missouri Volunteers. The letters contain descriptions of provost duty in St. Louis, and the condition of the regiment after the surrender of Vicksburg. There is also a poem describing the Vicksburg campaign.

Container List:

Box 001 f. 1 Correspondence, 1862-1863

Index:

Index Term	Folder
Corinth (Miss.)	1
Matthews, John Wesley, 1827-1864	1
Saint Louis (Mo.)--History--Civil War, 1861-1865	1
Sieges--Mississippi--Vicksburg	1
United States. Army. Missouri Infantry Regiment, 32 nd	1
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865	1
Vicksburg (Miss.)	1