



## **Jewel Family Papers (S0017)**

**Collection Number:** S0017

**Collection Title:** Jewel Family Papers

**Dates:** 1859-1878

**Creator:** Jewell, James, 1834-1865

**Abstract:** The Jewel Family Papers contain photocopies of correspondence between members of the Jewel family during the Civil War. Correspondence between siblings James and Sallie Jewel, the former of whom served as a private in the Confederate army, comprises most of the collection. Also included is correspondence between William, Martha, Mary, and James Jewel Sr., as well as close cousins of the Jewel family. The complete date range of the collection is 1859-1878, with bulk dates from 1862 to 1865.

**Collection Size:** 0.1 cubic foot  
(6 folders)

**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-St. Louis](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at [stlouis@shsmo.org](mailto:stlouis@shsmo.org). Collections may be viewed at any research center.

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**Preferred Citation:** [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Jewel Family Papers* (S0017); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-St. Louis [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-St. Louis].

**Donor Information:** The letters were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by - Maryline Drace on May 3, 1978 (Accession No. SA2030). An addition was made on July 24, 1978 by Marvin Wills (Accession No. SA2050).

**Processed by:** Processed by Reilly McDonald and AJ Medlock, June 28, 2023

**Historical Note:**

The Jewels were a farming family living in Oglethorpe County, Georgia, when the Civil War began in 1861. Born and raised in the rural South, brothers James (1834-1865) and William Jewel (1830-1910) fought for the Confederate States of America. In 1862, James Jewel received basic training at Camp David, located in western Georgia, before being recruited by the Echols Light Artillery, otherwise known as Tiller's Company, in the same year. He then moved to various Confederate encampments across Georgia and northern Florida. Among these were Camp Stephens in 1862, Camp Sidney Johnson in 1863, and Camp Leon in 1864. During this time, James encountered common but deadly diseases such as measles, mumps, and dysentery. He frequently communicated with family members about the war, including the Battle of Fredericksburg in 1862 and the infamous Atlanta Campaign in 1864. James Jewel fought at the Battle of Aversboro in 1865 and has been missing in action ever since.

Like his brother, William Jewel was stationed at several army encampments during the Civil War, such as Camp Georgia in 1863 and Camp Jackson in 1864. Eventually, he was promoted to the rank of Corporal. However, in letters to his family, William frequently described feelings of loneliness and isolation as he slowly lost all hope of returning home. In June 1864, he and his fellow company men attempted to hold Atlanta and the Chattahoochee River in the face of the advancing Union troops. Although unsuccessful, William Jewel survived the war and returned to his farm in Georgia, where he later died in 1910 at the age of 80.

Additional members of the Jewel family included the brother's wives, Eliza (1833-1911) and Martha (1842-1903), sisters Mary (1828-1887), Sarah or "Sallie" (1845-1927), and their father, James Sr. (1789-1878), who upheld their homes and family in the absence of the two soldiers. The women frequently wrote with positive words and welcome conversation for their husbands and brothers and provided integral support to each other. In 1879, Sarah Jewel Campbell gave birth to a baby boy, whom she affectionately named James after her brother and father. She outlived most of her family, dying from Bright's disease at the age of 82 in 1927.

**Arrangement:**

The collection has been arranged into the following 3 series:

James Jewel  
Sallie Jewel Campbell  
William Jewel

**Scope and Content Note:****James Jewel**

This series consists of 97 letters written by Private James Jewel to various members of the Jewel family, including his siblings Sallie, William, and Mary, as well as his wife, Eliza, and father, James (Sr.). The contents include personal narratives that provide insight into the life and experiences of a Confederate soldier through information such as disease outbreaks, food rationing, and military campaigns. Notable correspondence includes reference to Sherman's March to the Sea and the burning of Atlanta, Georgia, which James had heard rumors of through higher ranking officers at Camp Leon. The materials in this series are arranged chronologically from 1862 to 1865.

## Sallie Jewel Campbell

This series consists of 32 letters written by Sarah “Sallie” Jewel Campbell to her brothers, James and William, as well as correspondence received from close cousins of the Jewel family. The contents include information regarding military campaigns, personal narratives, and Southern life following the war’s end. Notable correspondence includes a letter written in 1864 to Sallie from her Cousin W.P. Campbell, in which she admits that her hopes of Southern victory have steadily dropped ever since the Union’s victory at the Battle of Vicksburg in 1863. The materials in this series are arranged chronologically from 1859 to 1878.

## William Jewel

This series consists of 18 letters written by Corporal William Jewel to his wife Martha, sister Sallie, and father James (Sr.). The contents include information regarding Confederate army campaigns, major Southern battles, and personal narratives surrounding the Civil War. Notable correspondence includes conversations regarding Confederate efforts, such as the mobilization of Southern troops to the Chattahoochee River in the days leading up to the Battle of Atlanta in 1864. The materials in this series are arranged chronologically from 1863 to 1864.

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f. 6	William Jewel
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