



Henry Kuck Letters (S0242)

Collection Number: S0242

Collection Title: Henry Kuck Letters

Dates: 1861-1865

Creator: Kuck, Henry

Abstract: This collection consists of letters written by Henry Kuck to his wife, Metta Kuck, while he served in Company G, 31st Missouri Volunteers, during the Civil War. In the letters, Kuck describes the siege of Vicksburg, the battle of Atlanta, and military actions in Alabama, Tennessee, and Georgia.

Collection Size: 0.15 cubic foot
(5 folders)

Language: Collection materials are in German. English translations are included with the letters.

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. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: Materials in this collection are in the public domain.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Henry Kuck Letters* (S0242); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-St. Louis [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-St. Louis].

Donor Information: The papers were loaned to the University of Missouri for photocopying by Marilyn Difani on March 10, 1986 (Accession No. SA2737).

Processed by: Processed by Dr. Steven Rowan, 1986; Revised by AJ Medlock, April 2023.

Biographical Note:

Henry Kuck was a German immigrant who served in the 31st Regiment, Missouri Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil War from 1862 to 1865 (Kuck previously served in another regiment in 1861, but the available historical records remain unclear on the identity of the regiment). During

his wartime service, his wife, Metta Kuck, and their children remained in the St. Louis region, living on the outskirts of Carondelet in a home owned by Mr. John Eggers. During the war, Kuck participated in the Union Army's early efforts to conquer Vicksburg. Kuck and the 31st Regiment also engaged Confederate forces in upper Alabama, Tennessee, and the highlands of Georgia. After service in the Battle of Atlanta, Kuck's unit remained in upper Alabama while General Sherman's army marched to Savannah. The 31st Regiment disbanded on July 18, 1865, after marching with General Sherman through Washington, D.C., during the previous May.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged chronologically into five folders.

Scope and Content Note:

The collection consists of letters written by Henry Kuck, a German immigrant, to his wife, Metta Kuck, while he served in the 31st Regiment, Missouri Volunteer Infantry, during the Civil War. In the letters, Kuck describes participating in the Union's Army's first attempt to take the City of Vicksburg in early 1863, including the heavy losses his regiment incurred during the battle. Kuck also recounts the battle of Atlanta, providing Metta Kuck with extensive descriptions of the siege. However, the most significant characteristic of these letters is Henry and Metta Kuck's relationship. Henry Kuck frequently expressed affection for his wife and their children, including his often-ill daughter, Elise. The materials in this collection date from 1861 to 1865 and are arranged chronologically.

Container List:

f. 1 -5 Correspondence, 1861-1865

Index Terms	Folder
Atlanta Campaign, 1864	3-4
Blair, Frank P., Jr. (Francis Preston), 1821-1875	2
Camp Blair (Mo.)	1
Camp Fletcher (Mo.)	1
Camp Haines (Mo.)	1
Camp Proclamation (Mo.)	1
Camp Steele (Ark.)	1-2
Grant, Ulysses S. (Ulysses Simpson), 1822-1885	3, 5
Hood, John Bell, 1831-1879	3
Johnston, Joseph E. (Joseph Eggleston), 1807-1891	2
Kuck, Henry	1-5
Kuck, Metta	1-5
Saint Louis (Mo.)--History--Civil War, 1861-1865	1-5
Sherman, William T. (William Tecumseh), 1820-1891	4
Soldiers—Confederate States of America	2-3
United States. Army. Missouri Infantry Regiment, 30 th	3

Index Terms	Folder
(1862-1865)	
United States. Army. Missouri Infantry Regiment, 31 st (1862-1865)	1-5
United States. Army--Pay, allowances, etc.	1-5
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865	1-5
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--African Americans	3
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Campaigns	2-4
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Casualties	2-3
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865-- Participation, Immigrant	1-5
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Prisoners and prisons	1-3
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Women	1-5
Vicksburg (Miss.)--History--Siege, 1863	1-2, 5