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This is a list of collections in the Manuscripts & Folklife Archives holdings of WKU’s Department of Library Special Collections that relate to the Civil War. Included are letters and diaries of soldiers and civilians, military records and papers, and other, mostly unpublished material. Our collections are particularly strong on Bowling Green, Kentucky’s Civil War history and in documenting the experiences of Kentuckians or those who passed through Kentucky and surrounding states during the war.

Below is an alphabetical list and brief description of the Civil War elements of each collection. Clicking on the link will direct you to TopSCHOLAR®, WKU’s online digital repository, where you can download a detailed finding aid for the collection, and in some cases view materials in the collection. For further information, e-mail mssfa@wku.edu.

To broaden your search to include sources such as published material, additional photographs, broadsides, etc. search KenCat, the Kentucky Library Research Collections catalog.

**Links to collections that highlight:**
- African Americans
- The Battle of Mill Springs, Kentucky
- The Battle of Perryville, Kentucky
- The Confederate Occupation of Bowling Green, Kentucky
- The Confederate Evacuation of Bowling Green, Kentucky
- John Hunt Morgan
- Medical Affairs
- Military Draft
- Prisoners of War
- Women
Alexander Family Papers
Letters of Martha (Lucas) Graham detail life in Bowling Green, Kentucky during and after the Confederate occupation of 1861-1862, and also comment on the recruitment of African Americans into the Union Army.

Allen, John G., 1837-1863
Pocket diary and letter of this Union soldier, camped near Nashville, Tennessee, 1862.

Allen, Robert
Letter of this soldier on his arrival in hospital at Camp Dennison, Ohio, 1865.

Allison, James Nicholls, 1848-1918
Information about this Boyd County, Kentucky infantryman (later a brigadier general) and his regiment.

Alvis, Elizabeth Duncan (Stark), 1876-1959
Information about the Confederate Army service of John William Stark of Allen County, Kentucky.

Anderson, James Patton, 1822-1872
Order of General Patton, 1863, reassigning four soldiers of the Army of Tennessee, who later deserted.

Angel, E. M.
Recruitment notice and bounty offer, 1865, to African-American men in Green County, Kentucky and the 4th Congressional District.

Armitage, Valerius, 1827-1888
Confederate military pass issued at Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Ashcraft Family Papers
Certificates of exemption from military draft, issued at Lebanon, Kentucky.

Atkinson Collection
Letters of this Bowling Green, Kentucky family describe conditions during the war.

Baer, Levi W., 1839-1905
An Indiana soldier writes in 1862 of camp life and expected action at Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Baird, Nancy Disher, b. 1935 – Collector
An 1863 letter to Ellen C. Fort from two prisoners of war at Camp Douglas, Illinois. Related collection
Baird, Nell (Bate), d. 1988 – Collector
Loyalty oath, 1865, of a member of the Bate family of Sumner County, Tennessee.

Ballew, William A., 1842-1915
A Kentucky infantryman camped in Tennessee in 1864 describes his regiment’s support of George B. McClellan for president and a mock election among African Americans in support of President Lincoln.

Barren, County, Kentucky History
List of veterans joining the county’s Confederate Aid Society, 1872.

Barter, Edwin Henry Steele, d. 1873
An 1865 letter to Benjamin Covington Grider recollects the payment of bounties to recruits for the Ninth Kentucky Regiment. Related collection

Bates, John
A Confederate Army surgeon corresponds with his wife from various locations in Tennessee and Kentucky, including Bowling Green.

Battey Family Letters
Letters of three English-born brothers, serving in the Union Army, to family in Ohio. Two write from Bowling Green, Kentucky, and one from hospital in New Orleans. Includes news of John Hunt Morgan’s death.

Bell, Cincinnatus Douglas, 1833-1884
Letters and diary of this Christian County, Kentucky native, written mostly during his Confederate Army service in middle Tennessee.

Beller, William Y., 1834-1892
Pension claim papers of this Butler County, Kentucky soldier.

Benedict, Harrison, 1813-1900
An 1862 letter of this Scottsville, Kentucky man describes Confederate theft and destruction in the area.

Blackburn, John W.
“Butler County [Kentucky] Boys in the Civil War,” a paper focusing on the 11th Volunteer (Union) Infantry.

Blake, Rufus George, 1846-1929
Brief Civil War reminiscences of this Arkansas man include his father’s death near Bowling Green, Kentucky.
Blaney Family Papers
Discharge and pension certificates of Pennsylvania cavalryman Henry C. Blaney.

Bledsoe, Henry Payton, 1841-1907
Enlistment, promotion and discharge papers of this Logan County, Kentucky soldier.

Boatman, John, 1842-1916
An Illinois soldier writes of conditions at Paducah, Kentucky, 1861.

Bonjour, Thomas L.
This Illinois soldier writes from Atlanta, 1864.

Bowker, Lewis Gray, 1840-1863
Letters of an Ohio soldier in Bowling Green, Kentucky, November 1862-January 1863 describe the prevalence of illness. A comrade’s letter brings news of his death. Read more

Bowles, Orlando Charles, 1839-1896
Letters to Bowles, a Union Army captain of Pikeville, Kentucky, refer to conditions in Pike and Floyd counties in Kentucky and Madison County, Ohio. Papers of Bowles relate to bounty payments and back pay for soldiers.

Bowling Green, Kentucky

Bowling Green, Kentucky - Fortifications
Plans for fortifications, hospitals and troop quarters for Bowling Green. Read more

Boyd, Alex
A letter of this Confederate soldier describes conditions in Bowling Green, Kentucky, January 1862.

Boyd Family Papers
Loyalty oath and Union military pass issued at Paducah, Kentucky.

Braly, William D.
A soldier’s 1863 letter, written near Tullahoma, Tennessee.

Bratcher, John W., b. 1835
Discharge and pension papers of this Kentucky mounted infantryman.

Brown Family Letters
A letter to Charles Nourse of Bardstown, Kentucky from his sister Sally Doom eloquently deplores the Southern secession movement and the defense of slavery. Read more
Brownsville, Kentucky
A Confederate soldier writes from camp at Brownsville in October 1861 of Unionist sentiment and an incident of gunfire directed at a comrade. Read more

Bruce, Horatio Washington, 1830-1903
Statement of candidacy for this Kentuckian, seeking a seat in the Confederate Congress, 1862. Read more

Bryan Family Letters
Letters of this Tennessee family include two from Confederate soldiers writing from Shelbyville of local Union sympathizers and carriers of contraband.

Buckner, Simon Bolivar, 1823-1914
A 1907 letter of Lieutenant General Buckner suggests that attendees at a forthcoming Orphan Brigade reunion recommend the acquisition of land for a memorial at the birthplace of Jefferson Davis.

Burch, James W.
A letter of this Henry County, Tennessee man describes local conditions and guerrilla activities, November 1862.

Bush, Thomas
Letter of this soldier, 1863, in hospital in Louisville with tuberculosis.

Cain, Bevie Waughn, 1844-1883
Letters of a young Breckinridge County, Kentucky woman and Confederate sympathizer discuss abolitionism, Lincoln, and the war. Read more

Caley, Charles
An 1862 letter of this Union soldier to his wife in Ohio describes his illness and his march from Louisville to Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Calvert-Obenchain-Younglove Collection
Various pension claims, and scrapbook items relating to Bowling Green, Kentucky and the war.

Camp Gilmore, Kentucky
A soldier’s 1863 letter from this camp near Frankfort comments on public opinion of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Campbell, John O., d. 1865
A Pennsylvania infantryman writes in 1863 from Bourbon County, Kentucky with comments on Confederate sympathizers and on local members of the Clay and Bacon families.
**Carmichael Family Papers**
Claim for the loss of a slave who joined the Union Army.

**Carter, Chillon Conway, 1830-1891**
Letters of this Monroe County, Kentucky Union soldier, whose regiment was involved in battle at Shiloh, Stones River, and Chickamauga.

**Chapin, Margaret (Terwillinger)**
Serving in a Michigan regiment, Margaret’s husband David writer her from Camp Despair, Kentucky about his pension and pay.

**Cheairs, Nathaniel Frances, 1818-1914**
Deposition of this Tennessee soldier relating to a war claim filed by Larkin F. Baker, Bowling Green, Kentucky for damage to his property during construction of fortifications.

**Cherry, Thomas Crittenden, 1862-1947**
Souvenir program from the 21st reunion (1912) of Kentucky’s Orphan Brigade.

**Children of the Confederacy**
Membership applications, 1922-1963, for this youth auxiliary of the United Daughters of the Confederacy.

**Chism Family Papers**
Receipts for Union Army purchases in Monroe County, Kentucky.

**Civil War, 1861-1865 – Lexington, Kentucky**
Soldier “Albert” writes his wife in 1863 from Lexington, Kentucky of his painful facial inflammation, the state of his military accommodations, and the “howl” of a military band.

**Civil War, 1861-1865 – Reenactors**
A handbook for a company of Civil War reenactors based in Owensboro, Kentucky and modeled on the 26th Kentucky Volunteers.

**Clagett, Marjorie Elizabeth, 1900-2000**
Notes on Theodore Clay Northcott’s experience of Lost River Cave, Warren County, Kentucky during the war.

**Clagett, David McKee, b. 1835?**
Diary of this Todd County, Kentucky soldier, 1861-1865.

**Claims**
Power of attorney, 1888, in connection with the war claim of George Givens.
Clark Family Papers
Confederate soldier Philip G. Clark writes to his family near Roanoke, Virginia of the hardships of military life.

Clark, John Thomas, b. 1828?
Union Army discharge of this Logan County, Kentucky soldier.

Clark, Samuel, 1870-1934
Monthly report of clothing and equipment issued to Lieutenant B. V. Tyler, commander of a Kentucky infantry company, 1864.

Clark, William T.
An 1861 letter to his aunt in Pennsylvania, written from Camp Nolin, Hardin County, Kentucky.

Clarke, Marcellus Jerome, 1844-1865
Clippings, letters, and assorted information about the life and exploits of Clarke, better known as Confederate guerrilla “Sue Mundy.”

Claybrook-Doswell Papers
Union military pass issued at Lebanon, Kentucky.

Collins, John
A letter to this soldier from his wife in Newport, Kentucky describes caring for their sick children.

Coombs Family Collection
Research conducted by WKU librarian Elizabeth Coombs relating to the Civil War in Bowling Green, Kentucky, including data on soldiers with connections to Warren County.

Cosby Family Collection
Letters to the family of John Dudley Cosby of Muhlenberg County, Kentucky from Union soldiers camped at Bowling Green and Russellville, Kentucky; Pittsburg Landing (Shiloh), Tennessee; and Corinth, Mississippi.

Courts-Martial and Courts of Inquiry
Printed general orders regarding courts-martial of Kentuckians or those acting in Kentucky.

Covington, Josephine (Wells), 1832-1872
A March, 1862 letter from this Bowling Green, Kentucky woman describes her encounters with Confederates during their occupation of the town, and with Union troops thereafter.
Cowing, Rufus Billings, 1840-1920
A New York lawyer writes in February, 1861 about his brother Kirkland’s Union Army service and his bright future in business. Arriving in Bowling Green, Kentucky just after the Confederate withdrawal, Kirkland was later killed at the Battle of Chickamauga.

Cox, Samuel K., 1849-1925
The diary of this Kentucky Confederate Army captain includes details of the capture of Fort Donelson, Tennessee.

Crabb, Alfred Leland, 1884-1979
Drafts of Peace at Bowling Green, Crabb’s work of historical fiction about the Civil War.

Cuppy, John W.
This soldier writes of his Illinois regiment’s activities near Louisville, Kentucky in September 1861, and from hospital in Bowling Green, Kentucky, December 1862.

Dalton, C. David – Collector
Research materials for Dalton’s thesis on Confederate operations in eastern Kentucky, 1861-1862.

Daniel, Hannah (Lewis) Hawkins, 1833-1870
This Fleming County, Kentucky woman writes in 1864 of raids, looting and travel difficulties in the area.

Daniels, Herbert, 1836-1899
Letters of a Rhode Island infantryman serving in Kentucky, Maryland and Washington, D. C. to his future wife. He relates incidents of military life and camp gossip, and longs to resume their physical intimacy.

Davis, Jacob Weaver, 1819-1862
Letter, 1862, of this Union Army soldier from McLean County, Kentucky, concerning the Battle of Shiloh in Tennessee. Read more

Davis, Jefferson Finis, 1809-1889 (2 collections)
Copy of Davis’s 1861 letter of resignation from the U. S. Senate, with comments on conditions following Mississippi’s secession.
An 1886 letter of Davis refutes the claim that he once offered to resign as president of the Confederate States in favor of Albert Sidney Johnston.

Davis, Samuel Thomas, 1838-1908
Journal of this Pennsylvania infantryman of his tour through Kentucky (including Bowling Green), Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama.
Davis, William P., b. 1840?
Diary of a Mississippi guardsman recording his tour in Bowling Green, Kentucky, late in 1861.

Dean, Jefferson, 1824-1864
Letters of this Tennessee Confederate soldier, written while serving in Kentucky and Tennessee and while a prisoner of war at Johnson’s Island, Ohio.

Dearmin, Robert Allen, 1836-1926
Diary of a Minnesota infantryman who served in Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi and Tennessee.

De Roode, Eugenia
This Nashville, Tennessee woman’s 1862 letter disparages Confederates and comments on the state’s military governor, Andrew Johnson.

Deupree Family Letters
Letters describe conditions at Richmond, Virginia, 1865, and report on the death of a family member in Confederate service.

DeWitt, Marcus Bearden, 1835-1901
Pocket diary of a soldier for the years 1863 and 1865.

Dickerson, Rosa Belle (Praigg), 1843-1902
Carte de visite photographs of Confederate officers collected by this Perryville, Kentucky native.

Dickerson-Venable Family Papers
Military papers of William H. Dickerson, a Confederate Army surgeon who later practiced in Simpson and Warren counties in Kentucky.

Doll, Howard D. and Anne (Parker) Doll – Collectors
Civil war letters in this collection include a humorous letter from a civilian who witnessed a standoff of Union and Confederate troops on the Cumberland River at Nashville, Tennessee. Read more

Donaldson, Gary – Collector
Research material consisting of communications to General Braxton Bragg regarding military operations in Kentucky, 1862-1863.

Downing, Amos
Letter of this Maine soldier, 1862, writing from Missouri of his experiences, especially at Columbus, Kentucky.
Downing-Eubank Collection
Letters, 1862-1865, of Union soldier DeWitt Clinton Downing of Allen County, Kentucky, while camped at Chickamauga, Tennessee; Mill Springs, Kentucky; and Stones River, Tennessee.

Downing, H. H.
This Union soldier writes from Somerset, Kentucky of the Battle of Mill Springs, January 1862.

Dowsman, George B.
This Indiana infantryman writes from Louisville, Kentucky, 1862, in anticipation of a Confederate attack under General Braxton Bragg.

Draft
Commutation money receipt issued to Henry J. McLean, Owensboro, Kentucky, discharging him from liability for conscription into military service. Read more

Dulaney Family
An account of the Civil War service of Hiram Woodford Dulaney of Warren County, Kentucky. Related collection

Dumarey?, J. R.
An 1862 letter of this soldier in Lexington, Kentucky to his father in Ohio. Mentions recovery of an African-American camp servant by his master.

Duncan and Hines Family Papers
Accounts of the Civil War service of Edward Ludlow Hines and Hiram Woodford Dulaney, both Confederate soldiers of Warren County, Kentucky.

Duncan, Wand Bolivar, 1884-1970
Correspondence of the Wand and Duncan families of Bowling Green, Kentucky, and 20th-century letters regarding Confederate spy Jerome Clark ("Sue Munday").

Dunn Family Papers
Letters to this Grayson County, Kentucky family comment on the war from Palmyra, Missouri.

Durham, John G., 1813-1896
Military passes issued at Bowling Green, Kentucky, 1862-1863.

Edmunds Family Papers
Letters of secessionist William H. Edmunds and family of Caldwell County, Kentucky. Edmunds fought charges of disloyalty during his term in the Kentucky General Assembly.

Ellis, Courtney M., 1888-1964
Photographs of Civil War steamboats and gunboats collected by Ellis.
Ellsworth, Oliver Carnell, 1842-1864
This Michigan soldier writes from Kentucky, Tennessee and Alabama, 1862-1864.

Enscore, James A., d. 1865
An Illinois soldier writes from Tennessee, 1862. He and his brother were later lost with the steamer *General Lyon*.

Farnsley, Alexander Pericles, 1832?-1906
Letters of a Louisville, Kentucky family comment on the approach of war.

*Faught Family Papers*
Discharge papers of Ohio County, Kentucky infantryman Bagges M. Faught.

Ferguson, Champ, 1821-1865
A record of the 1865 murder trial at Nashville, Tennessee of this Confederate guerrilla commander, who once rode with John Hunt Morgan.

*Field, Robert Willis, b. 1841*
Discharge and pension papers of this soldier, wounded at the Battle of Perryville.

Fleming, Peter, b. 1842?
An Illinois soldier writes in 1862 of camp life near Danville, Kentucky.

*Forgy, James Monroe, 1820-1895*
Records of this Morgantown, Kentucky pension agent.

*Fort Williams – Glasgow, Kentucky*
Research in connection with the 1970s excavation and restoration of this Union fortification.  
*Related collection*

*Fox-Walthall Letters*
Letters of these Muhlenberg County, Kentucky families include those of a Union soldier in Bowling Green, Kentucky, December 1862.

*Frazer Family Legal Papers*
An 1894 letter relates to a disallowed war claim of Thomas A. Frazer of Warren County, Kentucky.

*Frazer, Thomas A.*
Draft notice to Frazer, issued at Owensboro, Kentucky, 1864.

*Frazer, William?, d. 1863*
An 1862 letter thought to be from this Indiana infantryman describes his duties as a cook at Camp Henderson in Kentucky and notes the deaths of two members of his company.
**Fry, Samuel Van Buren, 1840-1903**  
A Kentucky infantryman writes in 1864 of engaging Confederate forces near Atlanta.

**Gaines, Elizabeth, b. 1852**  
A Bowling Green, Kentucky woman’s recollections of Civil War incidents from her childhood, including troop illness and the Confederate occupation and withdrawal.

**Gardenhire, Erasmus Lee, Sr., 1815-1899**  
Ann 1865 letter of this Burkesville, Kentucky Confederate sympathizer seeks aid in recovering his forfeited U. S. citizenship. [Read more](#)

**Gardner, Betty, b. 1933**  
A high school student’s paper on Bowling Green, Kentucky during the Civil War.

**Geisy, Henry H., d. 1864**  
Letters of this Ohio officer discuss military activities, including battles at Shiloh, Tennessee and Vicksburg, Mississippi.

**Gibble, Harrison H., 1822-1898**  
A Manheim, Pennsylvania infantryman camped near Munfordville, Kentucky writes in 1862 of bridge repair on the Green River, withdrawing Confederates, and thousands sick in hospital at Bowling Green.

**Gingles, Mabel (Mercer) – Collector**  
A soldier’s letter describes activities near Corinth, Mississippi, 1862.

**Ginther Collection**  
Letters of William and David Ginther, Pennsylvania brothers serving with the Army of the Potomac, 1861-1865.

**Gooch, Thomas Claiborne, 1830-1889**  
An 1864 letter written from Louisville, Kentucky comments on Major General Stephen Burbridge, George B. McClellan and Robert E. Lee.

**Goodman Family Papers**  
Receipt for Army supplies issued at Monroe County, Kentucky.

**Goodnight Family**  
Journal of Thomas M. Goodnight of Allen County, Kentucky, detailing his service as a Confederate chaplain.

**Gordon, George, 1802?-1862**  
This 60-year-old Confederate captain in command of a Tennessee regiment writes mournfully of the war’s promised bloodshed.
**Gordon, Maurice Kirby, 1878-1974**
*Carte de visite* photographs of soldiers and officers; some may be from Hopkins County, Kentucky.

**Gray, John H.**
Letters of this Indiana soldier written October 15 and October 17, 1862 describe conditions in the aftermath of the Battle of Perryville, Kentucky: property damage, unburied dead, prisoners of war, the suffering of the wounded, and food and water shortages. [Read more]

**Green County, Kentucky Records**
Broadside, 1863, requisitioning enslaved African Americans in Greensburg, Kentucky for military service.

**Green Family Papers**
Correspondence of Lafayette and Ella (Scott) Green of Grayson County, Kentucky, including a letter from a Confederate prisoner of war in Ohio.

**Green, William J., 1838-1867**
This Illinois soldier’s 1862 letters describe camp life in western Kentucky. [Read more]

**Grider, Benjamin Covington, 1826-1874**
Papers of the commander of Kentucky’s Ninth Volunteers detail the Battle of Stones River, Tennessee.

**Grider, John Hobson, 1822-1884**
Service records and pension claims of this Warren County, Kentucky, infantry officer.

**Gunning, John**
Pension certificate issued to this Kentucky soldier.

**Guthrie Family Papers**
Pension documents of William Guthrie, Burkesville, Kentucky.

**Guthrie, James, 1792-1869**
Portion of a letter from this former U. S. Treasury Secretary regarding General Leonidas Polk and troops in Kentucky.

**Hagerman Family Papers**
Enlistment papers of African Americans Lee and Perry Hagerman of Bowling Green, Kentucky.

**Hamby, Golden H., 1842-1922**
Discharge and pension papers of this Hopkins County, Kentucky soldier.
Hamilton, Andrew Graff, 1835-1895
Accounts of Hamilton’s role in aiding the escape of Union prisoners of war from Virginia’s Libby Prison.  Read more

Hardesty, Isaac Ellis, 1841-1917
This Ohio infantryman writes his family from Covington and Louisville, Kentucky of the perils of battle and his longing to secure a medical discharge.

Harding, Aaron, 1805-1875
A Kentucky congressman writes of his political battles to secure a promotion for Colonel Edward H. Hobson.

Harper, J.
This strongly pro-Union correspondent writes in 1862 about conditions in Cincinnati, Ohio and northern Kentucky.

Harris, Edward
A Massachusetts volunteer writes from Maryland, 1862.

Harris, M. A.
Information about James A. Stone, an African American who served in an Ohio regiment.

Hatfield-Gaines Family
Letters of Erasmus Smith Hatfield of Simpson County, Kentucky, camped in Georgia with a battalion of John Hunt Morgan’s men.

Hawes Family Papers
Recollections of Maria (Southgate) Hawes, a Daviess County, Kentucky woman who followed her husband through the South during his Confederate Army service.

Hay, Vincent Smiley, 1808-1863
A letter of this Union soldier describes conditions at Corinth, Mississippi in mid-1862.

Haynes, James Pleasant, 1843-1919
Diaries, 1864-1865, of this Warren County, Kentucky native, who served in the Union Army on tours through Kentucky, Tennessee, Ohio, North Carolina and Washington, D. C.

Heard, Grant D.
Letters of this Georgia volunteer to his father, 1861-1864, describe conditions in Georgia and Virginia.
Hebron, John L., 1842-1914 (3 collections)
This Ohio soldier writes from camp near Covington Kentucky in 1861 of the march from Ohio, a shooting incident, officers’ treatment of the men, and of finding no “secesh women” in the area.
Hebron writes from West Liberty, Kentucky in 1861 after an engagement with Confederate troops.
From Hart County, Kentucky, Hebron writes of camp life, 1862.

Hendricks, Josiah S., 1843-1932
Union Army discharge and pension certificate of this Simpson County, Kentucky soldier.

Herbert, William H.
Charges against an Ohio soldier, court-martialed in 1863 for actions at Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Higgins, R. G.
An 1861 letter of this Confederate sympathizer in Russellville, Kentucky comments on the war, Abraham Lincoln, and African Americans.

Hines Family Papers
Civil War reminiscences of members of this Warren County, Kentucky family.

Hines, James Davis, 1838-1911
Accounts of service in the Confederate cause of members of the Hines family of Warren County, Kentucky. James D. Hines was a commander under General John Hunt Morgan.

Hinton, John L., b. 1845
Discharge papers of an Allen County, Kentucky soldier.

Hobson Family Papers
Civil War reminiscences of William and Atwood Hobson of Bowling Green, Kentucky. Confederate sympathizer Mary Elizabeth (Shrewsbury) Van Meter’s diary records her flight from Bowling Green in 1862. Read more

Hobson Family Papers
Records relating to the Union Army service of William E. Hobson of Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Hobson, William Edward, 1844-1909 (2 collections)
Petition, 1864, of citizens of Bowling Green, Kentucky requesting that Colonel Hobson retain command of Union troops stationed there.
Certificate of discharge, 1899, for Hobson, of Bowling Green, Kentucky, from his local post of the Grand Army of the Republic, including particulars of his service.
Hoffman, Mary Elizabeth
Reminiscences of a Confederate sympathizer of Harrison County, Kentucky. [Read more]

Holder, R. D. – Collector
Letters of John P. Hill of Monroe County, Kentucky, written while a prisoner of war at Rock Island, Illinois.

Holt, Joseph, 1807-1894
An 1861 speech of Holt, delivered to Kentucky troops at Camp “Jo Holt” in Indiana.

Hooks, Malinda (Cunningham), b. 1853
Reminiscences of this Trigg County, Kentucky woman include Civil War memories.

Hope, James
Union military pass issued at Franklin, Kentucky.

Hope, Robert A.
Letter of a Confederate prisoner of war from Camp Beaver, Kentucky.

Hopkins County, Kentucky
Letters attempt to identify four Confederate soldiers killed at Earlington, 1865.

Hopkins County, Kentucky – Letters
Joseph Fuquay’s letter comments on General H. B. Lyon’s raid on Madisonville, Kentucky, 1864.

Hopkins, Lewis Franklin, 1841-1921
An infantryman from Clinton County, Kentucky, describes camp at Burnside’s Point in Pulaski County, Kentucky.

House, John Moore, 1844-1865
Correspondence of this Tennessee soldier, a prisoner of war at Johnson’s Island, Ohio.

Howard, William Barnett, 1837?-1863
This Confederate soldier writes from Bowling Green, Kentucky, September 1861-January 1861, describing his illness and expectation of battle. [Read more]

Huddleston, William A., 1833-1863, and Joseph Duley
Letters of these Union soldiers in Tennessee describe Confederate movements and a battle at Sweeten’s Cove, 1862.

Hughes, George Henry
Letters of this Ohio soldier, 1862-1864, describe battles in Alabama and Tennessee.
Huntsman, John W. B., 1842-1918
Pension increase applications for this member of Kentucky’s Ninth Infantry include an account of his war wounds.

J. W. Cardwell and Company
Forms relating to this firm’s services in filing claims for loss of African-American slaves who joined the Union Army.

Jackson, Martha Washington, 1836-1938
Civil War reminiscences of a Bowling Green, Kentucky woman.

Jackson, Thomas Jonathan, 1824-1863
An 1861 letter of “Stonewall” Jackson clarifying a promotion recommendation for Major William Baylor.

Jarvis, George P., b. 1843? (2 collections)
An Ohio infantryman writes from Bowling Green, Kentucky of retaking the fortified town (which he calls the “Gibraltar of Kentucky”) from the Confederates, February 1862.
Additional 1862 letters dispel rumors of inadequate food, and comment on recruiting and the length of the war. Includes a letter from Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Jenkins, William M.
This Union soldier’s letters describe the battle at Williamsburg, Virginia, 1862.

Jessee, William Mortikey, 1846-1931
Discharge papers of this Metcalfe County, Kentucky soldier.

Johnson, Samuel F.
An 1864 telegram from this officer warns of General Hylan B. Lyon’s plundering Confederate troops in Webster County, Kentucky and asks for reinforcements to be sent to Russellville, Kentucky

Johnson, William, b. 1819?
Civil War-era envelope, printed on the order of Johnson, of Bardstown, Kentucky, and bearing a flag of his wife’s design.

Jones, Drucilla Montgomery (Stovall), 1907-2007
Letters of the Horn family, including Henry Horn Fort of Tennessee, a prisoner of war in Ohio, and Henry C. Merritt, a prisoner of war in Pennsylvania.

Jones, Edgar – Collector
Letters, 1861-1863, of Union soldier Jacob J. Burnett of Indiana, and a brief, unidentified diary of war events in Kentucky, February-April 1863.
Jones, John Rutherford, 1837-1907
Discharge papers of this Union Army soldier from Butler County, Kentucky.

Jouett, George P., 1813-1862
Letters of a Union officer describe the fortifications at Bowling Green, Kentucky after the Confederate withdrawal in 1862.

Kentucky – Cavalry – 5th Regiment
A record of this regiment, its itinerary and officers.

Kentucky – Cavalry – 14th Regiment (C. S. A.)
Roll of Quirk’s Scouts, led by John Hunt Morgan.

Kibbee, Amos Watson, 1828-1915
An Ohio soldier camped at Cairo, Illinois writes about his scouting and guard duties, his changing religious views, and of securing the town of Blandville, Kentucky.

King, Stephen Lynn, b. 1954
Research materials for King’s book The Confederate Dead at Bowling Green, Kentucky and Vicinity.

King, Stephen Lynn, b. 1954 – Collector

Kirby, Carlisle W.
Research on Warren County, Kentucky Civil War veterans compiled for the Works Progress Administration’s Graves Registration Project.

Kirby, Isaac Minor, 1835-1917
A letter of this Ohio infantry captain describes his activities while marching to Fort Donelson, Tennessee, at camp in Bowling Green, Kentucky, and at Camp Andrew Johnson near Nashville, Tennessee, 1862.

Kithcart, Mary L., 1837-1925
An 1862 letter to Mary reports on encounters between Confederates, including John Hunt Morgan, and Union troops near Lexington, Kentucky, horse thefts, and the actions of home guards.

Knott Collection
Correspondence of James Proctor Knott, his mother Maria Irvine (McElroy) Knott, and his wife Sarah “Sallie” (McElroy) Knott relating to the war, especially in Marion County, Kentucky and in Missouri. Knott became governor of Kentucky in 1883.
**Kouwenbergh, Ella – Collector**
Envelopes showing the first flag of the Confederacy.

**Lafferty, John Aker, 1832-1905**
Reminiscences of a Kentucky cavalryman and member of a Harrison County, Kentucky family of Confederate sympathizers.

**Lane Collection**
Discharge papers of Charles Lane, a Union soldier from Green County, Kentucky.

**Lane, John E., 1841-1919**
A letter of this Ohio soldier describes his march to Nashville, Tennessee and skirmishes near Somerset, Kentucky.

**Lawson, H. M.**
Report of this Confederate surgeon on the health of members of a Georgia regiment in South Carolina.

**Lawson, Marjorie (Barker)**
Details of the Confederate service of John Walton Barker, supplied by his granddaughter of Hopkinsville, Kentucky.

Lee, Robert Edward, 1807-1870 (2 collections)
Copy of General Lee’s 1863 letter to the Provost Marshall at Guiney’s Station, Virginia, regarding military matters.
Copy of the General’s 1865 letter to Brigadier General Walter Husted Stevens regarding the terms of surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia.

**Lehman-Collet Papers**
Civil War claims of George Lehman of Bowling Green, Kentucky. Receipt from the provisional Confederate government of Kentucky for the use of shotguns.

**Lehman, George, 1812-1889**
Civil War claims of this Bowling Green, Kentucky man relating to property loss and damage in the course of his dealings with Union and Confederate forces.

**Letter – Union Soldier**
A letter from “Hank,” camped in Hart County, Kentucky, 1862.

**Letters**
From two Confederate soldiers, “Foster” in Bowling Green, Kentucky, December 1861, and Martin N. Rogers at Camp Morton in Indiana, where he is a prisoner of war.
Letters
From three soldiers, two of them from Indiana, write from Virginia in 1861 and North Carolina in 1864.

Letters
From three Illinois soldiers, written from camps in Tennessee and Georgia.

Lewis-Starling Collection
Correspondence of Union Army officer Samuel McDowell Starling of Logan County, Kentucky and his family. Two of Starling’s sons died fighting on opposite sides in the war.

Ligon, Lucy Ann (Parker) Robbins, 1833-1891
Letters of the Parker family of Fulton County, Kentucky vividly portray the upheaval of war and the divided loyalties of the town of Hickman. Read more

Lincoln, Abraham, 1809-1865 (2 collections)
Lincoln’s 1861 certificate appointing Hebert M. Enos to a first lieutenancy. Facsimiles of the Gettysburg Address, Cemetery dedication program, and letters regarding the draft and a soldier’s desertion.

Long, Juliette Blanche (Underwood) Western, 1835-1909
A memoir of her Civil War experiences by this Bowling Green, Kentucky native, a member of a Unionist family whose husband served in the Confederate Army. Related collection

Loving, Hector Voltaire, 1839-1913
A young Bowling Green, Kentucky lawyer recounts conditions in his home town at the outbreak of war, including secessionist “treason,” the Confederate occupation, and the subsequent rebuilding of the city. Read more

Loyalty Oaths
Blank form of oath to be signed by residents of Warren County, Kentucky.

Lucas Collection
Scrapbook items relating to the Civil War and Kentucky, including Bowling Green.

Lucas Family Papers
Lyrics, 1863, to the song “Weeping Sad and Lonely, or, When This Civil War is Over.”

Lyon-O’Hara Papers
Letters of these Louisville and Eddyville, Kentucky families concern Union and Confederate military life.
Madden, Cornelius, 1842-1903
An Ohio soldier writes from Bowling Green, Kentucky of patrols and fortifications in response to rumors of guerrilla leader John Hunt Morgan’s presence in the area, and the possibility of a winter encampment.

Magoffin, Beriah, 1815-1885
Copies of letters, 1860-1861, to this Kentucky governor reacting to the new Republican Party and reporting on the Confederate occupation of Columbus, Mississippi.

Manning, Will Paul, Jr., b. 1928
A contemporary recollection of Confederate stone chimneys on Manning’s family farm near Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Martin, Robert Green, 1839-1913
Muster roll records, reunion badge, and photograph of this Kentucky infantryman.

Matlock Family Papers
Correspondence regarding the claim of James Monroe Matlock, Warren County, Kentucky, for loss of a horse during the war.

Mayes Family Papers
An 1862 letter of James Spencer describes the pursuit of Confederates at Nashville, Tennessee.

McBride, John Randolph, 1841-1912
A volunteer camped near Cumberland Ford in Bell County, Kentucky writes in 1862 about a recent march, his diet, and the camp command, and reflects on his fortunes since leaving his home in Bluffton, Indiana.

McChord, William Caldwell, 1850-1928
Reminiscences of the Civil War experiences of this Washington County, Kentucky native.

McClernand, John Alexander, 1812-1900
Account of Brigadier General McClernand, submitted to Ulysses S. Grant, of 1861 battles at Columbus and Belmont, Kentucky.

McDonald Dan Allyn, 1905-1974 – Collector
Materials related to the Civil War and Allen County, Kentucky, including pension and war claims, data on the Ninth Kentucky Volunteer Infantry (Union), correspondence of Gilbert M. Mulligan, and McDonald’s research on Civil War veterans and the Confederate Navy. Related collection
McElroy, Clarence Underwood, 1849-1928
Legal files of Bowling Green, Kentucky attorneys McElroy and Daniel Webster Wright related to war claims. Letters to Henry H. Skiles of Warren County, Kentucky regarding Confederate prisoners of war.

McGrath, Wallace, 1844-1909
This Ohio infantryman writes of his duties in camp near Bowling Green, Kentucky, 1861-1862, and notes the transport through the area of the body of Confederate general Felix Zollicoffer.

McKee, John, 1829-1882
This Indiana infantryman writes of camp life near Nashville and Murfreesboro, Tennessee, and of nearby guerrilla activity involving John Hunt Morgan.

McNear, William, 1817?-1864
A letter to Emily McNear from a Kentucky cavalry commander notifies her of her husband William’s death. Includes her pension application.

McWhirter, James S., 1837-1862
Letters of a Confederate soldier to his family in Tennessee, written from Bowling Green, Kentucky, January-February 1862.

Medical Affairs – Confederate
Instructions from a surgeon with a Tennessee regiment on completion of reports of sick and wounded soldiers.

Melton Family Papers
Letters to the Melton family of Henderson County, Kentucky, including one from Missouri discussing the religious ramifications of the war.

Messer, George, 1833-1863 (10 collections)
Letters of this Illinois soldier in 1862 and 1863 from Camp Hobson near Glasgow, Kentucky and from Hart County, Kentucky describe a hospital fire, the remnants of a local battle, illness among the troops, and the qualities of his commanding officers. Other letters from late 1862 and summer 1863 include a sketch of Camp Waller near Elizabethtown, Kentucky, describe camp life and disparage the local citizens. Messer writes in December 1863 from camp near Munfordville, Kentucky of troop movements, nearby soldiers’ graves, and recent desertions. Messer writes in January 1863 from Hart County, Kentucky of recent disruptive Confederate attacks. Messer writes in January-May 1863 from Glasgow and Hart County, Kentucky, describing camp life and the local citizenry, and expressing his weariness of a war prolonged by rich men. Messer writes in February 1863 from Hart County, Kentucky of his life in camp and an outbreak of scurvy.
Messer writes to his wife in March 1863 of his duty at Camp Hobson near Glasgow, Kentucky.

Messer writes in March-May 1863 of life at Camp Hobson: construction of fortifications, the arrival of reinforcements, nearby Confederates, and fistfights among the locals. One letter includes a simple pencil sketch of the fort. Messer writes in May 1863 of his health, battle prospects, and unhappiness among the men at Camp Hobson after some unpopular promotions and the issue of two-man “dog tents.”

Messer writes in August 1863 from Lebanon, Kentucky, praising his camp and officers but fearing that illness will prevent his participation in a march to Tennessee.

Military Life (3 collections)
A letter of soldier “Tom” relates conditions of camp life.
A letter of Missouri soldier William Githens(?), 1862, describes conditions in Cairo, Illinois, and includes sketches of Forts Holt and Payne in Kentucky.
A Union soldier writes from camp at Paint Creek, Kentucky, 1863, describing his march from Winchester, Kentucky.

Military Service
Legal papers relating to the discharge or exemption from military service of three individuals in Barren and Warren counties in Kentucky.

Miller Family Papers
Notice of impressment and receipt for corn, and receipt for Confederate bonds issued to Tobias Miller, Giles County, Virginia.

Miller, George W., b. 1843?
This unhappy Ohio soldier writes from Bowling Green, Kentucky of the threat of death and disease, of “tyrannical” officers, and of brother Jacob’s participation in a recent lengthy battle.

Milliken, Edna Beatrice (Myers) Moore, 1921-2005 – Collector
Copy of an 1865 letter of Henry Grider, Warren County, Kentucky, commenting on the war and its effects.

Mohr, James
An 1861 letter of this Union soldier, camped near Mammoth Cave on his way to Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Monroe, Quincy Adams, 1841-1928
An Ohio soldier camped on the Green River in Kentucky writes in late 1861 of troop strength, Confederate fortifications at Bowling Green, and the possibility of battle.

Moore, Levi A.
Corporal’s appointment and discharge papers of this Warren County, Kentucky soldier.
Moore-Mulligan-Brown Collection
Correspondence of Gilbert M. Mulligan of Allen County, Kentucky, a Union Army captain in the Ninth Kentucky Infantry. Read more

Moore, Nancy Elam, 1807-1889
Journal of a Shaker elderess at South Union, Logan County, Kentucky, describing the colony’s encounters with Union and Confederate forces, 1861-1863. Related collection

Morgan, John Hunt, 1825-1864
Research materials on the life and family of this Confederate cavalry commander.

Morgan, Joseph Underwood, 1835-1892
A Confederate soldier of Logan County, Kentucky writes of military life and conditions while a prisoner of war at Rock Island, Illinois.

Morgan, William Montrose, 1842-1926 (2 collections)
A Wisconsin volunteer writes to his family in January 1862 of Union activity near Camp Wood in Kentucky.
Montrose writes in February 1862 of his duties, including protection of a bridge and ferry on the Green River, and tells of transporting materials to take the rebel stronghold at Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Morningstar, Jane (Hines), 1904-1989
Letters of the Covington family of Bowling Green, Kentucky relate to the war in Kentucky and Missouri.

Morse, Alexander P.
A Louisiana cavalryman writes from camp near Bowling Green, Kentucky of activity in the area and of his conversation with a veteran of the battle of Belmont near Columbus, Kentucky. Read more

Nelson, William D., 1824-1862
Letter of General Nelson of the Army of the Ohio, with comments on action at Corinth, Mississippi.

Newcomb, Horatio Dalton, 1809-1874
A former resident of Massachusetts writes in 1863 from Louisville, Kentucky with his thoughts on “imbecile abolitionists,” government corruption, the financial burdens of war, and the need for a negotiated peace with the South.
Obetz, Jeremiah H., 1843-1923
A soldier from Manheim, Pennsylvania, writes from camp near Bowling Green, Kentucky and Jeffersonville, Indiana of the pursuit of Confederate raider John Hunt Morgan, camp life, the strength of Bowling Green’s fortifications, and officers’ poor treatment of him and his comrades.

Paducah, Kentucky (2 collections)
A Union soldier camped here in 1864 writes of a skirmish and comments on Confederate forces. An Illinois volunteer’s 1864 letter describes guerrilla activity near Paducah and the “take no prisoners” approach of his commander, General Eleazer A. Paine.

Papers
Letters of McLean and Hopkins County, Kentucky soldiers, including a prisoner of war at Johnson’s Island, Ohio, and others camped in Tennessee and Alabama. Soldiers’ reunion program, 1887.

Parker, Elvis Brooks, 1841-1862
Research data about this Tennessee Confederate, court-martialed and shot for deserting to the Union Army.

Parker Family Papers
Letters of Mary “Molly” Liddell of Buena Vista, Alabama refer to public opinion of the war. Letters of J. W. Anderson of Covington, Georgia remember his time as a prisoner of war in Maryland.

Parsons, James T., 1835-1875
An Ohio infantryman writes of his long march through Kentucky, especially Boyle and Pulaski counties, but has little regard for Kentucky soldiers.

Payne Family Papers
Letter from a member of this Warren County, Kentucky family, written while a prisoner of war at Camp Douglas, Illinois. Another letter describes his brother’s death at Paris, Tennessee.

Payne, Selden H., 1841-1926
This Ohio soldier’s 1863 letter recounts his tour through Louisville, Lexington and Nicholasville, Kentucky, including an accident involving a comrade who fell under a train.

Pearson, Catherine Diaden, 1859-1947
Poem about the Battle of Shiloh, Tennessee, written in a copybook.

Pensions (2 collections)
Pension claim papers of Thomas J. Winfrey of Russell County, Kentucky; also certificate related to the death of Corporal Hugh A. Sharp of Tennessee, 1863. Materials relating to pension applications in Allen County, Kentucky.
**Perkins, Abraham S., 1820-1891**
Nomination of Thomas Esherwood Leslie to serve as Perkins’ substitute in the U. S. Army, 1864.

**Perkins Collection**
Letters to Warren County, Kentucky native Elizabeth Thompson (Curd) Finch from Confederate prisoners of war in Ohio and Indiana, 1862-1865. Military passes issued at Cairo, Illinois and Paducah, Kentucky, 1864-1865.

**Perry, Emily Bailey, 1844-1923**
Autograph album of Confederate soldiers, including some who served with John Hunt Morgan.

**Peter, W. Henry, 1840-1865**
An Illinois soldier reports on military life while stationed at Paducah, Kentucky late in 1863.

Phelps, Frank M. (2 collections)
**Letter** of a Wisconsin infantryman, camped near Shepherdsville, Kentucky, 1861. Phelps writes of his approach to Bowling Green, Kentucky, February 1862, and the destruction caused by the Confederates. [Read more]

**Poak, David**
An Illinois volunteer writes from camp near Cairo, Illinois, with news of maneuvers in western Kentucky, 1862.

**Poetry**
War-related poems, some to be sung to popular tunes, on such subjects as the battles of Mill Springs and Perryville, John Hunt Morgan, and Lincoln’s election.

**Politics**
Writing from Orleans, Indiana in 1864, a correspondent comments on politics and slavery in Indiana and Kentucky, and on Lincoln’s re-election bid.

**Porter Family Papers**
A lengthy 1872 memoir of John Moses Porter, a Bowling Green, Kentucky lawyer, Confederate soldier, and prisoner of war in Ohio.

**Porter, John Marion, 1839-1884**
Recollections and keepsakes of Porter, of Warren County, Kentucky, including attendance at a reunion of John Hunt Morgan’s men.

**Potter, Clinton C., 1849-1934**
Diary of this Warren County, Kentucky businessman recalls Bowling Green during the war.
Potter, Thomas C., 1841-1863
This Ohio artilleryman describes conditions near Somerset, Kentucky preceding the Battle of Mill Springs, January 1862.

Prater?, Emily
Union military pass issued at Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Prouse, George O., 1840-1884
Pension applications of this Kentucky cavalryman and his widow.

Randolph, A. W., d. 1895
A Confederate soldier in Chattanooga writes of the Battle of Chickamauga and various officers.

Ray, A. W.
An 1862 letter of this Confederate soldier, a prisoner of war at Camp Morton, Indiana.

Read, Samuel James, 1808-1889
Read’s note to an Allen County, Kentucky doctor relates to grain supplies provided to the military, 1862.

Reid, Josephine Rogers (Rowan), 1838-1911
Letters of a Bardstown, Kentucky woman include news of brother Lytle Rowan’s service in Tennessee, 1863.

Reppert, Charles K., 1842-1921
Reppert tells his brother, then serving with a Pennsylvania company in Tennessee, of the progress of their soap business in Louisville and the problems of trading in Kentucky without showing proof of loyalty to the Union.

Riggs, Benjamin Franklin, 1849-1930
A Confederate soldier’s memoir of his service in Arkansas, and his 1865 surrender document.

Rigsby, James E., b. 1845
Corporal’s appointment and discharge papers of this Kentucky soldier.

Rodes Collection
Letters of Clifton Rodes describe the war’s effect on Boyle County, Kentucky; also letters of his son, Bowling Green lawyer Robert Rodes, written on the eve of the Confederate invasion of Kentucky, his receipt for payment for a substitute to serve in the event of a draft, and papers relating to payment of bounties and back pay for soldiers. Read more

Rose, John W.
Letter of this Confederate soldier from Tennessee, camped near Bowling Green, Kentucky, 1862.
**Row, Jacob D., 1835-1910**
Recovering from illness, an Indiana soldier writes his wife from Louisville, Kentucky.

**Rowan, Rebecca (Carnes), 1813-1897**
Letters of the widow of John Rowan, Jr., Federal Hill, Bardstown, Kentucky, written to her son William during his Confederate Army service.

**Rowlett, David B.**
An 1864 letter of this Indiana volunteer praises the care he received in a Nashville, Tennessee hospital.

**Saffell, Richard**
Letters of this Confederate soldier describe his tour in Bowling Green, Kentucky, October 1861-February 1862, including civilian loyalties and construction of fortifications. A final letter finds him a prisoner of war at Fort Donelson, Tennessee. [Contact us](#) for further information.

**Sanders, L. J.**
The diary of this Tennessee Confederate soldier includes comments about the Battle of Vicksburg.

**Schenck, William T. Y., 1844-1904**
An 1866 letter of a commander of African-American troops near Bowling Green, Kentucky disputes their responsibility for a smallpox outbreak. [Read more](#)

**Scott, George W.**
Letters of this Confederate soldier instruct his wife in Georgia in the event of a Union occupation.

**Seay Family Letters**
Letters of this Indiana family describe activities in Missouri and Kansas, and in Tennessee shortly after the Battle of Shiloh.

**Settle-DeWitt Family Papers**
Autobiographical sketch of Marcus Bearden DeWitt, a Tennessee native and Confederate Army chaplain.

Shakers – South Union, Kentucky (2 collections)
The journals of Shaker elder Nancy Elam Moore record the colony’s experience of the war, 1861-1863 and 1863-1864. Journals of the colony record its experience of the war, 1865.

**Shuster, John W., 1846-1916**
An Indiana volunteer reports on life in Fort Jones at Lebanon Junction, Kentucky in summer 1864.
Simmons, James Madison, 1842-1905, and Josephus Simmons, 1844-1911
Grant of a furlough to two cousins from Sumner County, Tennessee.

Simons, J. R.
This Todd County, Kentucky Union soldier writes from Vicksburg, Mississippi, 1863.

Sinnet, Edwin, 1827-1902
This surgeon with an Ohio company writes vividly of the fate of the Confederates in the aftermath of the Battle of Mill Springs, Kentucky.

Sixty-First U. S. Colored Infantry
Book containing general and special orders for this African-American unit and the 2nd West Tennessee Infantry of African Descent.

Skiles, Henry Hamilton, 1832-1889
Papers of this Warren County, Kentucky lawyer relating to Civil War claims (including loss of slaves), courts martial, and release of prisoners of war.

Skinner, Asahel, 1814-1902
Claim for property loss of this Ohio farmer arising out of John Hunt Morgan’s “Great Raid” through Indiana and Ohio in 1863. Read more

Slaton Family Papers
Civil War letters of this Hopkins County, Kentucky family.

Slaughter Family Papers
The wife of Dr. W. G. Bryant of Covington, Ohio writes of his Union service in 1863 to an acquaintance and recent prisoner of war.

Smith, Charles Ferguson, 1807-1862
General order, 1861, of this Union officer concerning military activities in Carlisle County, Kentucky, including looting by troops under General Eleazer A. Paine.

Smith, Edmond
A Union soldier writes of his regiment’s reception in Louisville, Kentucky.

Smith, Elvin, Jr. – Collector
Typescripted soldiers’ letters and diaries, bibliographic lists and other data collected by this researcher, with emphasis on the Civil War in Bowling Green, Lost River Cave, and elsewhere in Kentucky.

Smith Family Papers
An 1865 letter and military discharge of James W. Howard, Butler County, Kentucky.
Smith, Furman A. – Collector
Letters between two brothers in Illinois and Kentucky demonstrate how the Civil War fractured and embittered families. Read more

Smith, Jesse
Letters of a Union soldier describe conditions in Bowling Green, Kentucky after the Confederate withdrawal in February 1862.

Soldiers from – Tennessee
John Dill Paschal and Elisha Paschal’s applications for the Confederate States of America Roll of Honor.

Somers, Henry
A soldier’s letter from camp at Nicholasville, Kentucky, 1862.

Songs
Lyrics to a Confederate song, “The Southern Wagon.”

Spiller, Mary Jane (Singletary), 1841-1939
A woman’s reminiscences of her Civil War experiences in Louisiana.

Staats, Abyram P., 1839-1931
An Illinois infantryman writes from Bowling Green, Kentucky of camp life and his accidental wounding.

Stahl Family Papers
Letters to this Warren County, Kentucky family describe activities in Kentucky, Missouri and Kansas.

Stanley, William
Captain’s morning report of the 6th Kentucky Infantry (Confederate).

Stark Family Papers
His daughter’s account of the military service in Kentucky of Confederate officer John W. Stark of Edmonson County, Kentucky.

Steele, Henry N., b. 1833?
An 1861 diary of this Mississippi artillery officer records action in Arkansas, Missouri, Tennessee and southcentral Kentucky, especially Hart County.

Steele, Ira
This Union soldier writes of activity in and around Bowling Green, Kentucky, February 1862.
Steen Family Papers
Disability claim of Isaac Newton Steen of Monroe County, Kentucky, arising out of his Union Army service.

Stephens Family Papers
Military pass issued at Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Stevens Family Papers
Letters of Albert L. Stevens, written from a military hospital in Russellville, Kentucky.

Stickles, Arndt Mathis, 1872-1968
Research for Simon Bolivar Buckner: Borderland Knight, published by Stickles, a WKU history professor.

Stovall, Henry Clay, 1845-1936
Reminiscences of this soldier include his wounding at Fort Donelson, Tennessee.

Strange Collection
Journal, family history, and scrapbooks of Agatha (Rochester) Strange of Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Stuver, Aaron, 1842-1894
Writing during the defense against guerrilla leader John Hunt Morgan’s “Great Raid,” an Ohio soldier includes a description of the funeral of Major Daniel McCook. Read more

Sumpter, Irene (Moss), 1902-1996
Letters of a Georgia mother to her son, 1861, commenting on the war.

Taylor Family Papers
Kentucky volunteer George Fortner writes to his cousin in Warren County, Kentucky of nearby battles in east Tennessee, 1864.

Taylor, Miles A., b. 1844?
Union Army discharge and pension restoration certificate of this Caneyville, Kentucky soldier.

Taylor, R. W.
An 1863 letter of a Kentucky medical student in Philadelphia gives his views on the war and the enlistment of African Americans.

Taylor, Richard F.
Commission as a member of the Middle Green River Battalion Volunteer Militia for this Ohio County, Kentucky soldier.
**Tebbs Bend, 1863**
Letters of two Michigan soldiers, Orlando Moore and Henry Phillips, relate to the Battle of Tebbs Bend.

**Thomas Collection**
Account by Elizabeth (Wright) Thomas, Bowling Green, Kentucky, of the fall of Fort Donelson, Tennessee.

**Thomas, Elizabeth (Wright), 1842-1931**
Thomas’s reminiscence of her departure from Bowling Green, Kentucky, 1862, in the wake of the Confederate withdrawal.

**Thomas, Joseph Vineyard, 1837-1924**
Discharge and pension papers of this Warren County, Kentucky soldier.

**Thomas-Stiles Families**
Letters of these Nelson and McLean County, Kentucky families discuss local incidents of war, including guerrilla activities.

**Thompson, J. Q.**
Reminiscences of this Texas resident about a group of Arkansas volunteers.

**Tiffany, John, 1842-1862**
A Wisconsin infantryman writes from Nashville, Tennessee of a long march from Bowling Green, Kentucky, sickness among the troops, and Confederate bridge-burning.

**Todd, Theophilus L., 1841-1863**
Camped near Louisville, Kentucky in 1862, this Ohio soldier describes his surroundings and the local trade in foodstuffs. He criticizes the conduct of an officer during a recent review of the troops.

**Tolle Collection**
Paper of William Daniel Tolle of Barren County, Kentucky relating to soldiers’ pensions, including at least one African American. Letters of other family members written during their Union Army service express strong anti-Lincoln sentiments.

**Tolle Family Papers**
An 1864 letter of William Mansfield, a Kentucky infantryman in the Union Army, to his wife in Barren County, Kentucky.

**Trago, Vincent T., 1838-1880**
Letter of an Ohio soldier on the outskirts of Bowling Green, Kentucky, following the Confederate evacuation in February 1862. Read more
Traughber, John, 1793-1867
An 1861 letter from North Carolina to this resident of Logan County, Kentucky contemplates the possibility of war.

Tuttle, Augustus S., b. 1824
This Massachusetts infantryman writes in 1863 from Nicholasville, Kentucky of his duty with an ambulance corps.

Tuttle, John William, 1838-1927
History of the Third Kentucky Volunteers based on the diary of Tuttle, of Wayne County, Kentucky. Read more

Underwood Collection
Essays on the battles of Chickamauga and Antietam by John Cox Underwood of Bowling Green, Kentucky, who broke with his family to serve in the Confederate Army and was prisoner of war in Cincinnati and Boston.

Underwood, Johanna Louisa “Josie,” 1840-1923
The first of two diaries of this young Bowling Green, Kentucky woman, a member of a prominent pro-Union family, with a vivid record of the war’s effect on her town. Read more

Underwood, Johanna Louisa “Josie,” 1840-1923
The second of two diaries of this young Bowling Green, Kentucky woman, a member of a prominent pro-Union family, as she hears news of the war from Scotland, where her father is serving as U. S. Consul in Glasgow. Read more

Underwood, Joseph Rogers, 1791-1876
An account by Douglas Gordon of the escape of prisoners of war from Fort Warren, Massachusetts.

Underwood, Warner Lewis, 1808-1872
This Bowling Green, Kentucky legislator and diplomat writes in praise of the Civil War service of his son-in-law, Benjamin Covington Grider. Related collection

United Daughters of the Confederacy – Louisville, Kentucky
Minutes and membership roster, 1897-1899, of the Albert Sidney Johnston Chapter, Louisville, Kentucky.

Van Buskirk, Michael Henry, b. 1840
Diary of this Indiana volunteer and prisoner of war.

Van Valin Family
Waldo C. Van Valin’s reminiscences about the 1864 Wilderness Campaign in Virginia.
**Veluzat Family Papers**
Comments about Lincoln and the war in letters to this Barren County, Kentucky family. Military passes issued at Washington, D. C. and Louisville, Kentucky.

**Vertrees, Peter, 1840-1926**
Autobiography of this African American from Edmonson County, Kentucky, who served in the Confederate Army as a cook.  Read more

**Virginia**
A letter of soldier’s mother comments on the war’s effect on Smithfield, Virginia.

**Waite, Martin Van Buren, 1843-1923**
A Wisconsin infantryman writes in September, 1862 near Bowling Green, Kentucky of camp life, his African-American cook named John Brown, and his confidence in the Union forces.

**Wall Family Papers**
Letters of this Harrison County, Kentucky family include a parent’s anxious inquiry about Kentucky soldier Horace January, and the lyrics to a Confederate song.

**Ward Family Letters**
An 1861 letter of Catherine Ward, Talbottom, Georgia relates her experience traveling on a railway car with Jefferson Davis and comments on Southern sentiments on the eve of war.

**Ward, Williamson Dixon, 1841-1917**
Journal of this Indiana cavalryman, who served in Indiana and Kentucky.

**Warr, Joseph W., 1836-1864**
This Minnesota volunteer writes from Somerset, Kentucky of the recent battle at Mill Springs, the Confederate wounded, and the enemy’s long knives (“Mississippi toothpicks”).

**Warren County, Kentucky Court Records – Civil War Indictments**
 Prosecutions of soldiers and sympathizers in Warren County, Kentucky for aiding the Confederacy. Defendants include Simon Bolivar Buckner, John C. Breckinridge and John Hunt Morgan as well as local citizens and members of the provisional Confederate government of Kentucky.  Read more

**Warren County (Kentucky) Historical Society**
Papers relating to soldiers’ pay and the discharge of African-American soldiers.

**Watwood, Warren G., 1922-1996 – Collector**
Certificate of disability exemption from the draft, issued to Felix Crady at Lebanon, Kentucky.
Weber, William
This soldier’s 1862 letter to his brother in Ohio describes duty in Louisville, Kentucky and a march to Bardstown.

Webster, Mrs. William
A letter to this Ohio woman from her sister, living with her husband at a garrison at Columbus, Kentucky, relates his military duties but professes to be unconcerned over the threat from Confederates, including General Nathan Bedford Forrest.

Weeks, George Henry, 1839-1914
Letters, 1863, of an Ohio soldier camped at Somerset, Kentucky and the Cumberland River.

Weir Family Collection
Letters and papers of this prominent Muhlenberg County, Kentucky family document their support for the Union through financial support, advocacy, and military service. Read more here and here

Wells, Thomas H., d. 1862
This Ohio infantryman writes from LaRue County and Louisville, Kentucky of his duties and his hospitalization for mumps.

Western, William Wallace, 1834-1870
“Prison Pastime: A Poem,” written by this Tennessee Confederate and husband of Juliette Underwood. Related collection

Whitaker, Matilda Lucretia, b. 1841
Diaries of this Logan County, Kentucky resident, 1861-1865, relate the effects of the war on Russellville and surrounding area. Two of Matilda’s brothers were Confederate soldiers and prisoners of war.

Whitehead, Thomas D., 1832? -1873?
Diary of this Wayne County, Tennessee cavalryman, 1862-1863, as he travels to Louisiana.

Wickersham Family Papers
Letters of members of this Mercer County, Kentucky family who served with the Union Army in Arkansas, Mississippi, Virginia and Tennessee.

Wier, Nancy A.
A Webster County, Kentucky woman, the widow of a prisoner of war at Camp Douglas, Illinois, writes in 1865 to reestablish contact with her family in Virginia. Read more

Wiley, John R., 1842-1886
Union Army discharge issued to Wiley, of Hamilton County, Ohio.
Wilkerson, William D., 1831-1893
Oath of allegiance to the United States by Wilkerson, Simpson County, Kentucky. Receipt for money deposited for a prisoner of war at Louisville, Kentucky.

Williams, Freeman
A Confederate soldier’s letter from Bowling Green, Kentucky to his brother in Mississippi, 1862.

Williams, J. J.
This Confederate soldier writes of conditions at Bowling Green, Kentucky early in 1862. Read more

Williams, Samuel J., d. 1864
An Indiana infantryman writes from Laurel County, Kentucky shortly after the Battle of Camp Wildcat, describing nervous sentries, illness among the men, and preparing for battle.

Wilson, Ansel, 1834-1912
Letters regarding the pension of this Grayson County, Kentucky soldier.

Wilson, John W.
This Kentucky cavalryman writes from Virginia, 1864, informing the father of James Minter of his son’s death at the second battle of Mt. Sterling, Kentucky.

Wiltse, Jason S., 1843-1874
Diary of a Michigan infantryman during his service in Ohio and Kentucky, and at the Battle of Campbell’s Station in Tennessee, 1863-1864. Read more

Winn Family Letters
Letters of Confederate Kentuckian Marcus De Lafayette Winn, his parole and oath of allegiance, and letters from former comrades.

Winters, Erastus
A soldier’s 1863 letter from Hardin County, Kentucky.

Wise Family Papers
Letters of Levi Franklin “Frank” Wise, a Union soldier from Ohio County, Kentucky, several written from hospital in Bowling Green, Kentucky, 1864. Wise became a lieutenant with an African-American regiment.

Wood, James Willis, 1841-1940
Enlistment and discharge papers and letters, 1864, of this Muhlenberg County, Kentucky soldier, who served the Union in Kentucky, Tennessee and Georgia.
Wood, Jonathan
This Pennsylvania father’s 1865 letter to his son in the Union Army offers opinions on military life, Andersonville Prison, and emancipation.

Wood, Oscar
This Wisconsin volunteer writes of action at Paducah, Kentucky, 1864.

Woods, Elizabeth Moseley, 1865-1967
Letters, 1862, from Confederate soldiers in the Mississippi infantry stationed in Virginia, and from Colonel William Barksdale of the 13th Mississippi.

Wray, David M., 1840-1909
Letters and documents relate to Wray’s service in Tennessee, his mustering out at Louisville, Kentucky, and his pension.

Wright, George H.
Oath of allegiance to the United States, given in 1865 by this McLean County, Kentucky prisoner of war upon his release from a Union prison in Delaware.

Yandell, David Wendel, 1826-1898
Dr. Yandell’s 1861 letter to General Albert Sidney Johnston concerning proposed Confederate hospital facilities at Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Yeager, Josiah Harvey, 1785-1860
Military pass issued in Hardin County, Kentucky, 1862.

Younglove, Joseph Isaiah, 1818-1894
Letters of this Bowling Green, Kentucky druggist describe the destruction left behind after the Confederate withdrawal early in 1862.

FOCUS ON:

African Americans
Alexander Family Papers
Angel, E. M.
Ballew, William A.
Green County, Kentucky Records
Hagerman Family Papers
Harris, M. A.
Schenck, William T. Y.
Sixty-First U. S. Colored Infantry
Tolle Collection
Vertrees, Peter
Battle of Mill Springs, Kentucky
Alvis, Elizabeth Duncan (Stark)  
Dean, Jefferson  
Downing-Eubank Collection  
Potter, Thomas C.  
Tuttle, John W.  

dalton, C. David  
Downey, F. H.  
Poetry  
Sinnet, Edwin  
Warr, Joseph W.

Battle of Perryville, Kentucky
Bates, John  
Dickerson, Rosa (Praigg)  
Lewis-Starling Collection  
McChord, William Caldwell  
Underwood, Josie  

davis, Samuel Thomas  
Field, Robert Willis  
Gray, John H. / Gray John H.  
Long, Juliette Blanche (Underwood)  
Poetry

Confederate Occupation of Bowling Green, Kentucky
Alexander Family Papers  
Cheairs, Nathaniel Frances  
Davis, William P.  
Howard, William Barnett  
Letter of “J. S. H.”  
McWhirter, James S.  
Rose, John W.  
Warren County Court Records  

Boyd, Alex  
Covington, Josephine (Wells)  
Gaines, Elizabeth  
Letter of “Foster”  
Loving, Hector Voltaire  
Morse, Alexander P.  
Underwood, Josie  
Williams, J. J

Confederate Evacuation of Bowling Green, Kentucky
Alexander Family Papers  
Hobson Family Papers  
Jouett, George P.  
Smith, Jesse  
Thomas, Elizabeth (Wright)  
Younglove, Joseph I.  

Gaines, Elizabeth  
Jarvis, George P.  
Phelps, Frank M.  
Steele, Ira  
Trago, Vincent T.

John Hunt Morgan
Battey Family Letters  
Hatfield-Gaines Family  
Kentucky – Cavalry – 14th Regiment  
Perry, Emily Bailey  
Porter, John M.  
Skinner, Asahel  
Warren County Court Records  

Ferguson, Champ  
Hines, James Davis  
McKee, John M.  
Poetry  
Morgan, John Hunt  
Stuver, Aaron
Medical Affairs
Bates, John
Bowling Green, Kentucky – Fortifications
Dickerson-Venable Family Papers
Howard, William Barnett
Medical Affairs – Confederate

Bowker, Lewis Gray
Caley, Charles
Gaines, Elizabeth
Lawson, H. M.
Rowlett, David B.

Military Draft
Ashcraft Family Papers
Frazier, Thomas A.
Rodes Collection

Draft – Commutation Money
Lincoln, Abraham
Watwood, Warren G.

Prisoners of War
Baird, Nancy Disher
Goodnight Family
Hamilton, Andrew Graff
Hope, Robert A.
Jones, Drucilla (Stovall)
Morgan, Joseph Underwood
Parker Family Collection
Perkins Collection
Ray, A. W.
Van Buskirk, Michael H.

Dean, Jefferson
Green Family Papers
Holder, R. D.
House, John Moore
Letter of Martin Rogers
Papers – McLean and Hopkins County
Payne Family Papers
Porter Family Papers
Underwood, Joseph Rogers

Women
Alexander Family
Covington, Josephine (Wells)
Hawes Family Papers
Hoffman, Mary Elizabeth
Spiller, Mary Jane (Singletary)
Underwood, Josie
Weir, Nancy A.

Cain, Bevie Waughn
Gaines, Elizabeth
Hobson Family Papers
Long, Juliette Blanche (Underwood)
Thomas, Elizabeth (Wright)
Underwood, Josie
Whitaker, Matilda Lucretia

03/2021