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MS-028: Papers of Daniel Chisholm, Co. K 116th PA, Civil War

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Description

The Chisholm papers include letters to friends and family members, mostly to his father, where he recounts interesting anecdotes of his war experiences and his thoughts on the Lincoln election and later assassination. There is a list of friends and soldiers who died in the war created by Daniel and his brother Alex, and a journal of Daniel's which covers the fighting from November 8, 1864 to Lee's surrender in April 1865. He comments on the action at Hatcher's Run, Fort Stedman, White Oak Road, and Lynchburg Road Bridge. He also mentions General Humphrey's taking command of the Second Corps, daily camp life and picketing, and the execution of deserters.

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Keywords

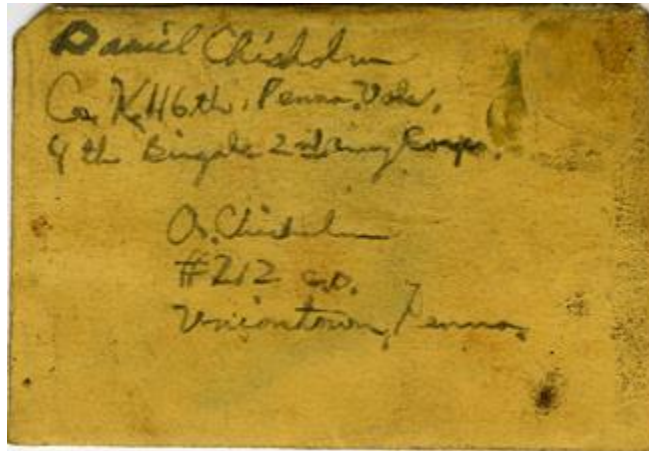
Civil War, 116th Pennsylvania Volunteers, Battle of the Wilderness, Cold Harbor, Reams Station, Petersburg, Pension

Disciplines

History | Military History | United States History

Guide to MS-028:

Papers of Daniel Chisholm, Co. K 166th Pennsylvania, Civil War



Gettysburg College, Musselman Library
Special Collections and College Archives

Leia Dunn

July 2001

MS-028: Papers of Daniel Chisholm, Co. K 116th Pennsylvania, Civil War

Processed by Leia Dunn
July 2001

Size

1 box, 0.27 cubic feet

Dates

Inclusive: 1862-1865

Provenance

Purchased from Charles Apfelbaum, 2000.

Biographical Note

Daniel Chisholm was a young man from Uniontown, Pennsylvania when he enlisted with Company K 116th Pennsylvania Volunteers on February 29, 1864 with his brother Alex. The 116th had already been in service since June of 1862, but it wasn't long before the new recruits from Fayette County were made experienced soldiers in the battle of the Wilderness. Other battles were to follow. They encountered fighting again at Cold Harbor, Reams Station, then Petersburg. Alex was promoted to sergeant on May 29, 1864, and Daniel was put in charge of Company C on November 10th 1864, and promoted to lieutenant. The Chisholm brothers had many close calls, Alex was at one point in the hospital and according to 1883 pension records Daniel would receive a monthly allowance of four dollars because of a wounded leg. Their regiment remained at Petersburg until news reached them on April 9, 1865, of General Robert E. Lee's surrender. Those in Company K that had survived the war were mustered out on July 14.

A few letters from Lt. L. Bentley are enclosed with the Chisholm papers. Bentley apparently also served with Company K 116th Pennsylvania, though he had enlisted earlier than the boys from Fayette County, and was likely transferred with the old veterans to Company D.

Scope and Content Note

The Chisholm papers include letters to friends and family members, mostly to his father, where he recounts interesting anecdotes of his war experiences and his thoughts on the Lincoln election and later assassination. There is a list of friends and soldiers who died in the war created by Daniel and his brother Alex, and a journal of Daniel's which covers the fighting from November 8, 1864 to Lee's surrender in April 1865. He comments on the action at Hatcher's Run, Fort Stedman, White Oak Road, and Lynchburg Road Bridge. He also mentions General Humphrey's taking command of the Second Corps, daily camp life and picketing, and the execution of deserters.

A book of field hospitals and a dictionary which belonged to Daniel are also included in the collection, along with the letters from Lt. L. Bentley.

Box List

Box 1

- 1-1 Correspondence, Daniel Chisholm—March 13, 1862 – near Washington City; to family friends Jenny and Lida
July 18, 1864 – near Petersburg; to his father, A. Chisholm
- 1-2 Correspondence, Daniel Chisholm—August 30? 1864 – camp near Petersburg, Va.; to Chisholm's uncle Andrew
November 1864 – Petersburg, Va.; to his mother and father
- 1-3 Correspondence, Daniel Chisholm—February 13, 1865 – Hatcher's Run; to his father
April 1865 – near Washington; to his father.
- 1-4 Correspondence, Daniel Chisholm—April 22? 1865 – near Washington City; to his father
April 1865 – Philadelphia, Pa.; unknown person and Lina, cousins
- 1-5 Journal, Daniel Chisholm—list of friends and soldiers who died in the war
Journal, November 8, 1864 – April 11, 1865, 4½ x 7", 78 pages
- 1-6 Dictionary, Daniel Chisholm—list of the battles he was in on the front pages
- 1-7 Book, Three Years in Field Hospitals of the Army of the Potomac
- 1-8 Correspondence, L. Bentley—February 19, 1863 – Camp near Williamsburg; to his sister
June 9th, 1863 – Camp near Fredericksburg, Va.; to his wife

Contact Information

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