2-2003

MS-041: Thomas Meiser, Company F, 93rd Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers

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Description
The bulk of the collection consists of letters written by Thomas to his grandfather and grandmother. It includes miscellaneous correspondence including four letters written to Thomas from his grandparents during his service in the 31st Regiment (Emergency). The collection also includes various bonds, receipts and subpoenas as well as business correspondence relating to George Person (or Parson), Thomas’s grandfather. It contains various tintype photos, mainly of Thomas’s descendents, and a wallet from a bank in Lebanon. Lastly, it contains copies of research relating to Thomas Meiser, transcriptions of his letters as well as a Senior Paper written by Christopher Culig, class of 2007, on Meiser’s Civil War service and genealogy.

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Keywords
Civil War, 31st Pennsylvania Emergency Volunteers, Battle of Gettysburg, 93rd Pennsylvania, Wilderness Campaign, McKim’s Mansion, Veteran, Pension, Civil War Hospital

Disciplines
History | History of Science, Technology, and Medicine | Military History | Social History | United States History
Guide to the
Thomas Meiser, Company F, 93rd Regiment
Pennsylvania Volunteers

Unidentified photo

Gettysburg College, Musselman Library
Special Collections & College Archives

Processed by Christine M. Ameduri
February 2003
Biography:
Thomas Meiser was born on April 9, 1846. His parents died very early in his life and he was raised by his maternal grandmother and grandfather, John and Maria Person (or Parson), on his father’s farmstead in Newmanstown, Pennsylvania. He first enlisted at the age of 17 with Lee’s Invasion of Pennsylvania and was mustered into Company H of the 31st Pennsylvania Regiment (Emergency) around June 17-30, 1863. He was discharged, after the invasion failed, on August 8, 1863. Thomas Meiser reenlisted with Company F of the 93rd Pennsylvania Regiment on March 7, 1864 and was mustered in the next day. While in the 93rd regiment, he participated in the Wilderness Campaign. In July 1864, Meiser was detailed to the Provost Guard. On December 1, 1864, Meiser was admitted to the hospital with an abscess in his arm. He spent nearly the rest of the war in the hospital, mostly at McKim’s Mansion in Baltimore. Discharged from the hospital in April, he was mustered out on June 27, 1865. After the war, he returned to the house where he was born and lived there until his death on August 29, 1923.

Scope and Content Notes:
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Box 1:

Series I:
1 – Correspondence: July 3, 1863 – May 16, 1864

July 3, [1863] Perrysville: Dear Mother
March 24, [1864] Harper’s Ferry: Dear
March 27, [1864] Camp near Brandy Station: Dear Mother
March 31, 1864 Camp near Brandy Station: Dear Father
April 16, 1864 Camp near Brandy Station: Dear Father
May 15, 1864 Camp near Brandy Station: Dear Father
May 16, 1864  Covington: Dear Father
[May 1864]  [Spotsylvania] Court house: Dear Father and Mother
[May 1864]  Camp near Brandy Station: Dear Father

1 – 2 Correspondence: June 20, 1864 – August 9, 1864

[June 1864]  Camp near Cold Harbor: Dear Father
June 20, 1864  Camp near Petersburg: Dear Father
[July-November 1864]  [Scrap of Sanitary Commission Stationary]
July 4, 1864  Dear Father
July 10, 1864  Dear Grandfather
August 9, 1864  Camp near Maryland Hides: Dear Father
August 12, [1864]  Camp near Strausburg: Dear Father
August 19, [1864]  Camp near Harpers Ferry: Dear Father
August 29, [1864]  Camp near Harpers Ferry, Va.: Dear Father

1 – 3 Correspondence: September 12, 1864 – November 5, 1864

September 12, 1864  Headquarters
September 17, 1864  Headquarters, [Middle] Department: Dear Father
November 5, 1864  Camp near Strausburg, Va.: Dear Father

1 – 4 Correspondence: December 8, 1864 – December 31, 1864

December 8, 1864  Dear Father
December 14, 1864  Sheridan Field Hospital, Ward 4: Dear Father
December 25, 1864  Sheridan’s Field Hospital, ward 2: Dear Father
December 31, 1864  McKims Mansion, Baltimore, MD: Dear Father

1 – 5 Correspondence: January 19, 1865 – April 7, 1865

January 19, 1865  McKims USA General Field Hospital: Dear Father
[January] 20, 1865  USA Gen. Hospital McKims Mansion, Baltimore, MD: Dear Father
January 30, [1865]  McKims USA Gen. Hospital: Dear Father
January 28, [1865]  Baltimore: Dear Father
January 30, [1865]  Baltimore, MD: Dear Father
January 30, 1865  Baltimore, MD: Dear Father
February 11, 1865  Baltimore: Dear Father
February 20, 1865  Baltimore, MD: Dear Father
February 21, 1865  Baltimore, MD: Dear Father
March 18, [1865] USA Gen. Hospital McKims Mansion, Baltimore, MD: Dear Father
March 24, 1865 McKims USA Gen. Hospital, Baltimore, MD: Dear Father
[April 7, 1865] McKims USA Gen. Hospital: Baltimore, MD: Dear Father
n.d Place unknown: Father, I wish you would com and see me

1 – 6 Miscellaneous Correspondence: May 10, 1853 – February 8, 1886

May 10, 1853 Pine Grove: Dear Brother
September 10, 1853 Pine Grove, B.S.: Dear Parents
June 25, 1863 Newmantown, [PA]: Dear Son
June 30, 1863 Newmantown, [PA]: Dear Son
July 8, 1863 Newmantown, [PA]: My Dear Friend
July 28, 1863 Newmantown, [PA]: My Dear Son
March 31, 1865 Newmantown, [PA]: My Dear Cousin Amy
November 25, 1881 Newmantown, [PA]: Dear Brother (bottom ½ ripped off)
October 24, 1885 Newmantown, [PA]: My Dear Thomas
February 8, 1886 Vogansville, [PA]: Dear Brother
n.d. (top ½ ripped off) from Thomas Meiser

Four envelopes addressed to John Person

1 – 7 Bonds, Receipts & Subpoenas, 1806 - 1847

May 13, 1806, Bond between George Parson and John Dingle of [Heidelberg] Twp., Dauphin County, PA and Elizabeth Halftooner of the same place for eighty pounds

April 2, 1821, Bond between George Parson of [Heidelberg] Twp., [Lebanon] County, PA and Samuel Betz of same place for fifty pounds

March 31, 1827, Bond between George Parson of [Heidelberg] Twp., Lebanon County, PA and Jacob Sheenfelder of [Heidelberg] Twp., Berks County, PA for fifty pounds

Receipt - Rec’d March 19, 1810, by M. Lewis one pound ten shillings in full for George Parsons Paper up to the first of January 1809 – A. Albright for Math. Lahn, one of the Executors of the Estate of John Albright deceased. Also, one dollar fifty cents for his Paper up to January 1810 – Anthony Albright

Receipt –George Person (Senc) to Henry Meissemer, 1836
Receipt –George Person to Henry Meissemer, 1837
Receipt – Received January 18, 1823 of George Person, five Dollars & 12 for D. Aukenbaugh Peter Eakert

Subpoena – for George Person to appear as a witness before Reading County Court of Common Pleas, Berks, County, PA March 24, 1823 in the case of Ann Elizabeth Ulrick, plaintiff, and George Ulrich, defendant, dated March 15, 1823

Subpoena – for Christian Struck to appear as a witness before Millcreek Twp. Justice, Lebanon County, PA February 23, 1847 in the case of William Forry, plaintiff, and Henry Reed, defendant, dated February 16, 1847

1 – 8 Miscellaneous Business Correspondence, 1859 - 1865

Receipt – received payment in full for the Lebanon Mutual Insurance Company for $3.50 from John Person, September 17, 1859

Bill/Invoice – to Mr. Person from the Board of Directors of the Annville Fire Insurance Company for $3.10, April 18, 1865

1 – 9 Tintype Photos

#1 - #8 Unidentified

#9 Harry Hal Meiser (left)
#10 Edward Zimmerman (Fish) (middle)
#11 George Meiser – Ann Meiser’s father
#12 John Noll

1 – 10 Tintype Photos

#13 L-R, Sally Meiser Zimmerman, Emma Meiser Burkholder, Mammie Meiser Wolfskill (Amos Klein[?]), Katie Meiser (Will Brooks)

#14 Uncle Harry Meiser & Elizabeth (Emma Burkholder’s brother)

#15 William Meiser
#16 Paul Burkholder
#17 William Meiser (Uncle Will) – R; Mayor of Lebanon

#18 - #20 Unidentified
#21 - #22 (Skipped)

#23 L – Harry Meiser, R – William Will Meiser

1 – 11 Copy Prints of Tintypes
1 – 12 Leather Wallet “Lebanon National Bank”

1 – 13 Research Materials