

NUCMC Catalog Record

Creator: Donohoe family.

Title: Donohoe family collection.

Date Created: 1861-1865

Extent: 10 items.

Biographical Note: The four eldest sons of Stephen George Donohoe (1809-1915), a Loudoun County, Va., justice of the peace, entered the Confederate Army in 1861 and recounted their experiences during battle in letters to family members. George Augustus Donohoe (1843-1861), who enlisted in the 8th Virginia Infantry, was killed by a gunshot wound at the Battle of Ball's Bluff on 21 Oct. 1861; Stephen Joseph Donohoe (1841-1864), who served in the 6th Virginia Cavalry, died on 14 May 1864 of wounds received during the Battle of Spotsylvania Court House a week earlier (7 May 1864). John Carroll Donohoe (1838-1921), also a member of the 6th Virginia Cavalry, survived the war and later became a bookkeeper in Baltimore, Maryland. LeGrand Donohoe (1846-1920) served in the 35th Battalion and survived the war, but was bedridden for much of his later life. These four men frequently wrote letters home to their family, often to their aunts Amanda (1815-1901), Ann (1805-1894), and Mary E. Donohoe (1812-1899).

Summary: The collection is comprised of transcriptions of letters to and from various members of the Donohoe family, as well as the last will and testament of Stephen George Donohoe and the obituary of Stephen Joseph Donohoe. The letters, dating from July 1861 to March 1865, contain notes in the margins made by Mary Walton Livingston, granddaughter of Stephen George Donohoe. Letters from the soldiers in the collection describe poor food and conditions at camp, fighting in breastworks, and injuries and deaths during the Civil War. Battles mentioned include First Manassas (July 1861), Spotsylvania Courthouse (May 1864), Battle of the Wilderness (May 1864), skirmishes with Union troops near Petersburg, Va. (July 1864), and skirmishes between White's 35th Battalion and the Loudoun Rangers. Family members write with local news and express concern for those serving. Stephen George Donohoe's will and the obituary of Stephen Joseph Donohoe are also included in the collection.

Subjects:

Confederate States of America -- Army -- Virginia Cavalry Battalion, 35th

Confederate States of America -- Army -- Virginia Cavalry Regiment, 6th

Confederate States of America -- Army -- Virginia Infantry Regiment, 8th

Confederate States of America -- Army -- Military life

United States -- Army -- Loudoun Rangers

Bull Run, 1st Battle of, Va., 1861 -- Personal narratives, Confederate

Soldiers -- Confederate States of America -- Correspondence

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Spotsylvania Court House, Battle of, Va., 1864 -- Personal narratives, Confederate

Loudoun County (Va.) -- History -- 19th century

Petersburg (Va.) -- History -- Siege, 1864-1865

United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives, Confederate

Virginia -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives, Confederate

Wilderness, Battle of the, Va., 1864 -- Personal narratives, Confederate