

Collection #
M 0996
OM 0492

DR. JOHN H. RERICK
PAPERS, 1862-1928

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Processed by

Paul Brockman
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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION:

2 manuscript boxes, 1 oversize folder, 1 box photographs, 3
negatives.

COLLECTION 1862–1928
DATES:

PROVENANCE: Madeline Rerick Graham's daughters and their families, La Canada Flintridge, California, May 2010

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2010.0127

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

John H. Rerick (1830–1911) was born in Tippecanoe County, Indiana and received a medical degree from the University of Michigan in 1853. He practiced in LaGrange, Lagrange County Indiana, and was instrumental in the formation of the 44th Indiana Regiment at the outbreak of the Civil War and was commissioned Assistant Surgeon in the regiment in December, 1861. Rerick was promoted to Surgeon in August, 1863 and served with the regiment at the battles of Shiloh, Stones River, Missionary Ridge and Chickamauga.

After he was mustered out in September, 1865, Rerick returned to LaGrange and in 1867 purchased the LaGrange Standard. Rerick and his family operated the paper until October 1928 except for the years 1869-1872. He was also elected Clerk of the Lagrange Circuit Court in 1868. Rerick married Marinanett Deaver in May 1856 and they had three children.

Sources:

www.biblioserver.com/19centurydocs/index.php?m=word accessed 9 November 2010.

Ancestry Library Edition accessed 10 November 2010.

Miller, John W. *Indiana Newspaper Bibliography*. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1982.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The majority of this collection is comprised of the letters written by John H. Rerick to his wife, Marinanett, while serving as a surgeon in the 44th Indiana letter during the Civil War, 1862–1865. The bulk of Rerick's correspondence to his wife is from the years 1862 and 1865. In his 1862 letters he writes from the battlefield at Shiloh, Corinth Mississippi, and various locations in Tennessee and Kentucky. He tells of the treating casualties, and engagements and activities of the 44th. Letters written in 1865 are from the brigade hospital in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and speak of more general topics including his disappointment of not being sent home for his illness.

In his 1863 diary he writes of an illness and being granted a leave and the fighting at the Battle of Chickamauga. Entries from the 1864 diary contain the regiment's movements and the loaning and borrowing of money.

Other materials from Rerick's Civil War duty include orders, reports and official correspondence. Included are sick reports, an order exonerating Rerick being AWOL, July 1863, receipts for hospital stores, rosters, and an order naming Rerick recruiting officer in LaGrange, Indiana, January, 1864.

The majority of the Rerick family correspondence consists of letters from their sons while studying at the University of Michigan, 1878–1880. The collection also contains John Rerick's medical writings on such topics as Scarlet Fever and Asphyxia. Also included are photographs of many members of the 44th Indiana and other Civil War soldiers as well as a large number of family photographs, 1860s–1890s.

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CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog: <http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.

3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 0996).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.