

Collection #
SC 2711

GEORGE E. WORDEN CIVIL WAR LETTERS, 1864

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION: 3 folders

COLLECTION
DATES: 1 February–21 March 1864

PROVENANCE: Beltrone & Company, P.O. Box 125, Keswick, VA 22947; Nate
D. Sanders Auctions, Los Angeles, CA, 2006

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBERS: 2003.0168, 2003.0195, 2003.0196, 2003.0197, 2003.0238, 2003.0243, 2003.0297, 2003.0307, 2006.0328

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

George E. Worden from Albion, Indiana, enlisted in the Union army as Private Worden on 9 January 1864. Worden served in the 12th Indiana Regiment, Company B, in Scottsboro, Alabama. During the short time Worden was in service, he became ill. A letter shows that Worden possibly died on or before 21 March 1864, but military records show that Worden died on 22 March 1864. It is believed that Worden died of typhoid fever, leaving behind his wife, Fannie, and his daughter, Adda.

Sources:

American Civil War Research Database, <http://www.civilwardata.com/>. Accessed 10 July 2003.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection contains ten letters, nine of which are written from Worden in Scottsboro, Alabama, to his wife, Fannie, in Albion. The last letter is written to Fannie from Frank J. Saltzgeber, a soldier from Kendallville, Indiana, also in the 12th Regiment.

Folder 1: In the first letter, dated 1 February 1864, Worden tells Fannie that he is receiving plenty of food and thinks he will stay in the company instead of transferring. He describes the countryside of Scottsboro as having mountains all around, no grass, and the Tennessee River is about six miles south of the company's location. Worden's second letter is written to his wife on 14 February 1864. In it he expresses his love for her and tells her he is suffering from homesickness. He is in good health but warns her to tell others that the Army is no place for someone in poor health. On 15 February 1864 Worden says that he is ashamed of all the letters he has written to Fannie. He requests weekly letters from his wife and assures her that is keeping warm and doing fine. In the next letter dated 26 February 1864 he writes that he will be getting his photograph taken, and as soon as he receives the photographs, he will send them to her.

Folder 2: In a letter dated 28 February 1864, Worden still feels ashamed that he writes so often. He tells Fannie that he has gotten used to camp life and is enjoying himself. Aside from his military duties, he reads novels and newspapers. Worden writes a brief note to his daughter, Adda, at the bottom of the letter. On 1 March 1864, Worden writes again, still with regret over the homesick letter he previously sent. He discusses Sonny Stoops, another soldier from Albion, who is still the same since he left home. Worden writes that he does not bunk with him anymore, but also does not have anything to say in his favor. In a letter dated 7 March 1864, Worden says that he has not gotten any mail in the last week, and that the regiment only gets war news when it is old.

Folder 3: Worden's next letter is dated 8 March 1864. He expects that he will have to be in service for at least another year. He also discusses her proposal to buy some new items for their house, but he would like her to wait to purchase them after he returns. Worden writes that he has been sick with a headache and has been very weak but he expects to recover in a few days. Worden writes again on 14 March 1864, telling his wife that he has taken sick again, but expects to be better soon. The final letter is from Frank J. Saltzgeber, a member of Company B of the 12th Indiana Volunteers, he writes to Fannie on 21 March 1864. Saltzgeber writes that he was a friend of Worden's and he regretfully informs Fannie that her husband has died of typhoid fever. An envelope is included with this letter.

CONTENTS

CONTENTS	CONTAINER
1 February–26 February 1864 (four letters)	Folder 1
28 February–7 March 1864 (three letters)	Folder 2
8 March–21 March 1864 (three letters)	Folder 3

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://157.91.92.2/>
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, SC 2711).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.