

Collection #  
SC 3065

## OPHELIA CLOSSER CIVIL WAR STORY, 1862–64

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Processed by

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## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 manuscript folder

COLLECTION DATES: 1862–64

PROVENANCE: Julius C. Travis, Berkeley, California, 1998.

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1998.0182

NOTES:

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Ophelia Viola Churchill (October 9, 1839–October 24, 1934) married Jerome Bonaparte Closser (Oct. 27, 1837–May 4, 1910) on Christmas day, 1860. Jerome joined the Union Army in 1862, enlisting in the 87th Indiana Regiment. By this time, Ophelia had a two-month-old baby and went to live with Jerome's family on a farm near La Porte, Indiana.

In February 1863, Ophelia received a letter from Jerome stating that he was very ill and expected to die. Despite protestations from her family, Ophelia insisted on going down to see him, traveling with a male relative to Gallatin, Tennessee. She stayed in the hospital with Jerome for a time, finally taking him back to Indiana when he was strong enough to travel.

After recovering at home in Indiana, Jerome re-entered the army and served until the end of the Civil War.

Sources:

Materials in the collection.

California Death Index, [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com).

United States Find A Grave Index, [ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com).

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The story was originally written on paper by Ethel Rebecca Closser Travis, who interviewed her mother, Ophelia Closser, when she was 87 years old. Julius C. Travis [Ophelia's grandson] typed the manuscript in the collection.

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CONTAINER

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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, SC 3065).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.