

**Hiram S. Wilson Civil War Letters
1861-1864; bulk, 1862-1863**

**MSS W748
#176**

Quantity: 1 box
Access: Open to research
Acquisition: Gift; Hugh Allen Wilson, September 1977
Processed by: Meghan Heisinger, June 2006; revised by Abigail Stambach, May 2012

Biographic Note:

Hiram S. Wilson was born in 1815 to Henry and Nancy Wilson. He married Elizabeth Wickes in 1839 in Sandy Hill (now Hudson Falls), New York. They had seven children. Before the outbreak of the Civil War, the Wilson family moved to Bolton, NY where Wilson was the proprietor of the Mohican House, the oldest hotel in the town. He enlisted in the United States Military on November 1, 1861 and was commissioned as captain in Company H of the 93d New York Voluntary Infantry. His regiment was present at the Peninsula Campaign, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Wilderness Campaign, and Cold Harbor. Wilson died suddenly on March 24, 1864 of erysipelas while stationed in New York City. At the time, he was in command of a detachment of troops who were responsible for escorting new conscripts to the seat of war. He was buried in the Oakwood Cemetery in Troy, NY.

Scope and Content Note:

This collection contains letters written by Wilson to his wife, Elizabeth from 1861 to 1864 with the majority of the letters dating between 1862 and 1863. While most letters were addressed to his wife, there are a few letters written to other family members including his daughter, Stella. Most of the letters were written while he was stationed at various army camps in Virginia and Maryland. He mostly writes about family and home issues but he also talks about military activities. Wilson often exudes confidence about the army's abilities and writes often about his trust in General McClellan and other Generals. He also writes about camp life, troop movement and general war news. For instance, several letters discuss the passage of two acts in Congress that allowed the enlistment of African Americans. Additionally, Wilson frequently discusses the weather and his health. He often asks his wife and children to write him more letters. On one occasion, he offers to buy his daughter a new dress if she would write to him.

The collection is primarily arranged in chronological order; however, there are some exceptions. A handful of letters have been transcribed and copies of the transcriptions can be found with the original letter. These letters are noted on the Box and Folder Listing with an asterisk.

Box and Folder Listing:

Box Number	Folder Contents
1	Control Folder
1	Folder 1 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• September 17, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth• September 19, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth*• September unknown year; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth*

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • October 1, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth* • October 2, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth* • October 3, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth* • October 4, 182; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth* • October 6, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • October 30, 1862, from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • November 1, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth
1	<p>Folder 2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 4, 1861; from Hiram to brother* • September 1, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth* • September 23, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • September 25, 182; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth* • September 26, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • n.d.; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • n.d.; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth
1	<p>Folder 3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 17, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • June 18, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • July 15, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • July 16, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • July 18, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • August 1, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • August 2, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • August 7, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • August 10, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • August 27, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • August 30, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • August 31, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • n.d. • Masonic memorial note for Hough Wilson
1	<p>Folder 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • November 7, 1861; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • January 6, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • January 11, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth* • February 6, 1863, from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth* • February 18, 1862; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • February 19, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • March 4, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • March 11, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • March 21, 1863; from Hiram to Steve • March 31, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • April 5, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • April 18, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • November 4, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth* • November 14, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • December 2, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth

1	<p>Folder 5</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 29, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • April 10, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • April 12, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth* • April 24, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • May 5, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • May 14, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • May 17, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • May 18, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • May 19, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • May 31, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • June 3, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • June 19, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • June 21, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • June 22, 1861; from Hiram to daughter, Stella • June 30, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth
1	<p>Folder 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 25, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • June 26, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • June 29, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • June 30, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • July 3, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • July 4, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • July 5, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • July 6, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • July 7, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • July 13, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • July 20, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • July 22, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • July 22, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • July 23, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • July 24, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • July 25, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • July 26, 1863; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • February 13, 1864; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth • March 10, 1864; from Hiram to wife, Elizabeth