

DeKalb History Center

Civil War Collection

Scope and content: The Civil War collection includes letters, muster rolls and other records dating from 1860 to 1872, including wartime correspondence between Missouri Stokes and DeWitt Morgan.

Provenance: Collection is made up of multiple donations found in the subject files in 2010.

Five letters written by DeWitt Morgan to Missouri Stokes during 1861 and 1862 were donated in 1984 by Mrs. Ralph I. Poucher.

The history of the 42nd Infantry Regiment was donated by Joseph T. Butler: accession date December 7th, 1994; accession #1994.32

Access: Single photocopies may be made for research purposes. Reproductions of photographs and permission to publish materials from this collection must be requested from the Archivist, DeKalb History Center. Citations should be made as follows:

Description of specific item; Civil War Collection, DeKalb History Center Archives.

Processed by Erica Duvic, DHC Archives Intern, April 2010.

Size: One manuscript box containing 24 folders.

Biographical Sketch of Missouri Stokes: Missouri Stokes was the half-sister of prominent DeKalb County resident Mary Gay, who used the journal kept by Stokes in writing her book, *Life in Dixie during the War*. Stokes was a teacher in many places around Georgia and is mentioned often in her sister's book, but her connection with DeWitt Morgan is unknown.

Biographical Sketch of DeWitt Morgan: DeWitt Clinton Morgan was born on November 15th, 1837 and served as a Sergeant in Company E of the 7th Georgia Infantry Regiment until he was discharged at Camp Bartow in September of 1861 due to illness. Morgan appears to have rejoined after recovering from his illness and served in Company D of the 42nd Georgia Infantry Regiment in 1862. According to Mary Gay, Morgan was killed during the Siege of Vicksburg in 1863.

Description: This collection includes letters and muster rolls dating from 1860 to 1872 as well as a booklet on the history of the 42nd Infantry Regiment dating from 1900. Many of the letters were written by DeKalb resident DeWitt Morgan to Missouri Stokes in the years prior to his death. The muster rolls found in the collection are for the companies in which Morgan served during the Civil War. Another notable item in the collection is a handwritten copy of a letter from former Union army General William T. Sherman to

S.A. Marshall in 1866. The majority of the letters in the collection have no apparent connection with DeKalb County but they do reference the Civil War on several occasions.

The Morgan and Stokes letters were donated to the DeKalb Historical Society in 1984 by Mrs. Ralph I. Poucher. Morgan was the brother of Mrs. Poucher's grandmother, Margaret Morgan Ramspeck, and found the letters amongst other family memorabilia. It is possible that the other letters were also donated at this time, which may explain the geographic discrepancies.

For more history, see *Life in Dixie during the War*, by Mary Gay (Mercer University Press, 2001) or the Morgan, DeWitt biographical file.

Civil War Collection (#FITS.51)

<u>Object ID</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Date</u>
FITS.51.1	Letter from Morgan to Stokes, September 6th	Letter	unknown
FITS.51.2	Letter from Morgan to Stokes, June 9th	Letter	unknown
FITS.51.3	Letter from Morgan to Stokes, May 8th	Letter	unknown
FITS.51.4	Letter from Morgan to Stokes, June 12th	Letter	1861
FITS.51.5	Letter from Morgan to Stokes, November 10th	Letter	1862
FITS.51.6	Benning Letter, October 23rd	Letter	1863
FITS.51.7	Post Office mail bag receipt, July 21st	Receipt	1861
FITS.51.8	Gregg Letter, May 8th	Letter	1872
FITS.51.9	Gregg Envelope	Envelope	1872
FITS.51.10	Letter from Brown to Randolph, July 30th	Letter	1862
FITS.51.11	Letter from Malrafel to Louisa, February 19th	Letter	1860
FITS.51.12	Copy of a letter from Sherman to Marshall, February 24th	Letter	1866
FITS.51.13	Envelope addressed to Decatur, Georgia	Envelope	1863
FITS.51.14	Loveless letter, March 26th	Letter	1863
FITS.51.15	Letter dated August 26th	Letter	1861
FITS.51.16	Letter from Savannah, Georgia	Letter	unknown
FITS.51.17	Pitts Letter, November 5th	Letter	1863
FITS.51.18	W.M.C. Letter	Letter	unknown
FITS.51.19	Gorvers Letter	Letter	unknown
FITS.51.20	7th Infantry Regiment, company E	Roll, Muster	1861
FITS.51.21	History of the 42nd Regiment; July 22nd	Booklet	1900
FITS.51.22	56th Infantry Regiment, Company A	Roll, Muster	unknown
FITS.51.23	55th Infantry Regiment, Company A; April 5th	Roll, Muster	1862
FITS.51.24	56th Infantry Regiment, Company A	Roll, Muster	1862
FITS.51.25	Letter from Thornton to Thornton, envelope	Letter	1862
FITS.51.26	Letter from Thornton to Jackson and Harteley	Letter	1862
FITS.51.27	Letter from Spier	Letter	unknown
FITS.51.28	Letter from Thornton to wife	Letter	1862
FITS.51.29	Letter from Stephenson	Letter	1863
FITS.51.30-32	Letters from Weed, Feb, April, July	Letter	1862
FITS.51.33	Weaver letter from Emory College	Letter	1861
FITS.51.34-37	Letters from McElvaney to Livsey	Letter	1862
FITS.51.38	Benjamin A. Camp, commission, leave, brigade order documents, ancestor's history of his service		1836-1865
FITS.51.39	Letter from Lee to mother on father's war service	Letter	1911
FITS.51.40	\$100 Confederate Treasury note	Document	1863
FITS.51.41	Various Confederate currency	Currency	