Wood, William B., Letter

William B. Wood Letter

1863

Title Statement

Wood, William B., LetterWilliam B. Wood Letter, 1863 Ms.1988.069

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Profile Description

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Revision Description

2020-08-24	Finding aid notes updated to new department standards. juliags
2021-03-29	LM Rozema added missing notes for an unprocessed collection, added FA title, added FA date from EAD, and added component with instances previously attached to collection level.

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.1988.069

Unit Date

1863

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

Letter from William B. Wood, Confederate colonel and chief of the military court in General Longstreet's corps. Wood discusses an invitation that he had received to run for the Confederate senate and his desire to return to civilian life after having been passed over for military promotion.

Creator

Wood, William B.

Extent

0.1 Cubic Feet 1 folder

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

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Source of Acquisition

The William B. Wood Letter was purchased by Special Collections and University Archives in 1988.

Processing Information

The processing and description of the William B. Wood Letter commenced and was completed in April, 2021.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], William B. Wood Letter, Ms1988-069, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

William Basil Wood, son of Alexander H. and Mary E. Evans Wood, was born in Nashville, Tennessee, on October 31, 1820. After attending LaGrange College, he passed the bar and became an attorney in Florence, Alabama, and was elected judge of Lauderdale County, Alabama. At the outbreak of the Civil War, he organized the 16th Alabama Infantry and served as its colonel. He was recommended for promotion to brigadier general but instead was assigned to duty as president of the military court in General Longstreet's corps, and served there through the end of the war. Following the war, Wood served as a circuit court judge and Methodist minister. He married Sarah Briscoe Leftwich. William Basil Wood died on April 3, 1891, and was buried in Florence Cemetery, Florence (Lauderdale County), Alabama.

Scope and Content

Written on October 14, 1863, from Chattanooga, Tennessee, to an unidentified recipient, the William B. Wood Letter discusses an invitation that Wood had received to run for the Confederate senate. Wood complains of the treatment that he has received from the Confederate government, particularly noting that other less-deserving officers have received promitions while he has not. Citing his discontent, Wood notes his desire to return to civilian life and asks the recipient for advice regarding a possible senate campaign.

Keywords

Civil War

Confederate States of America

United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865

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Description of Subordinate Components

Letter

Unit Date 1863

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