

Feild, H. Letter

H. Feild Letter

1865



Title Statement

Feild, H. LetterH. Feild Letter, 1865 Ms.1992.039

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.1992.039

Unit Date

1865

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

Letter from Confederate surgeon H. Feild, written at the general hospital in Petersburg, Virginia, "to my esteemed friend," on January 5, 1865, describing the suffering in the land and the cries of the wounded.

Creator

Feild, H.

Extent

0.1 Cubic Feet 1 folder

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open to research.

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

The H. Feild Letter was purchased by Special Collections and University Archives in 1992.

Processing Information

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Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], H. Feild Letter, Ms1992-039, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical / Historical

The presumed writer of this letter, Hume Feild, was born on November 10, 1829. A son of Dr. John and Mary Bolling Feild, of Brunswick County, Virginia, the younger Feild obtained his medical degree from the University of Pennsylvania in 1850, and practiced medicine with his father. He married Lucy Osborne Jones (1833-1900) in Brunswick County on October 25, 1851. The 1860 federal census lists the Feilds and three Feild children as residents of Dinwiddie County, Virginia. During the American Civil War, Feild served as an assistant surgeon in the Confederate States Army, being assigned to the 15th Virginia Infantry on May 24, 1862. By February 1865, he had been appointed to duty as assistant surgeon at the general hospital in Petersburg, Virginia. Following the war, Feild returned to Dinwiddie County and private practice. The Feilds apparently divorced in the 1880s; Hume Feild married Anna Westmore Atkinson (1856-1946) in Dinwiddie County, Virginia, on April 17, 1889. Feild died August 15, 1891, and was buried in Concord Presbyterian Church Cemetery, Rawlings (Brunswick County).

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of a single four-page letter written by Confederate surgeon H. Feild (presumably Hume Feild) during the American Civil War. Dated from Petersburg, Virginia, on January 5, 1865, the letter is addressed to "my esteemed friend." After extending congratulations for his friend's recent wedding, Feild expresses despondency over the recent course of the war, then recounts his recent experiences, having been temporarily assigned to duty in Abingdon, Virginia, until two politicians intervened on his behalf. Feild concludes with news of mutual acquaintances.

Related Materials

Additional letters from Feild may be found in the Henry Clay Somerville Letters ([Ms1991-045](#)).

Keywords

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

Civil War

Existence and Location of Copies

Typed transcript available.

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