

Payne, Elizabeth Barton Smith, Letter

Elizabeth Barton Smith Payne Letter

[1864]



Title Statement

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2009.072

Unit Date

[1864]

Language

The materials in the collection are English.

Abstract

The collection contains letter of Elizabeth Barton Smith Payne, a resident of Fauquier County, Virginia during the American Civil War. The letter mourns loved ones killed in battle and mentions raids by soldiers, the capture and imprisonment of a brother, and a son's desire to join the army.

Creator

Payne, Elizabeth Barton Smith, 1817-1895

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 Elizabeth Barton Smith Payne Letter was purchased by Special Collections in 1994.

Processing Information

The processing and description of the Elizabeth Barton Smith Payne Letter commenced and was completed in May 2009.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], Elizabeth Barton Smith Payne Letter, Ms2009-072, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

Elizabeth Barton Smith, the daughter of John Puller and Mary Gilbreth Barton Smith, was born in Fauquier County, Virginia on March 11, 1817. She married Dr. Amos Payne (1808-1887) in 1837. The couple had 10 children: Edward A., Martha E., Jacqueline M., Mary C., Hugh G., William U., Amos, John B. Elizabeth S., and Ernestine V. While the Paynes lived most of their lives in Fauquier County, they seem to have resided at least for a time in Taylor County, (West) Virginia, their children John and Elizabeth having been born there in 1855 and 1857, respectively. Elizabeth Barton Smith Payne died in Orlean (Fauquier County) on May 12, 1895.

Scope and Content

This collection consists of a letter from E. B. Payne, a resident of Fauquier County, Virginia during the American Civil War. The contents of the letter, coupled with research, indicate that the letter was written by Elizabeth Barton Smith Payne, wife of Dr. Amos Payne, on October 16, 1864. Writing from Orlean, Virginia to an unidentified friend, Payne mourns a loved one killed in battle (most likely her son, Edward Alexander Payne of the 7th Virginia Cavalry, killed at Parker's Store, Virginia in November 1863) and the loss of her husband's cousin, Robert J. Johnson, in the same battle. She describes a recent Union raid in which the Chancellor family's home was burned and mentions the arrest of her brother Golder and his captivity at Fort Delaware. ("He was well but fare bad water scarce & treatment harsh," she writes.) Payne states that the autumn apple harvest has been bountiful but that there is a constant fear of Union scouting parties. After conveying personal sentiments, she states that Hugh (her son, Hugh Golder Payne) is anxious to join the army but that she hopes to keep him at home until spring.

Keywords

Civil War

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South

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

Women -- History

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Description of Subordinate Components

Letter -

Unit Date [1864]

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