

Franklin, James C., Letter

James C. Franklin Letter

1863



Title Statement

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.2009.076

Unit Date

1863

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

The collection contains an American Civil War letter from James C. Franklin, of the 57th Virginia Infantry, to wife Susan in Galveston (Pittsylvania County), Virginia, describing a recent, difficult march through rain and snow near Fredericksburg, recounting a massive snowball fight between Toombs' and Cross' brigades, and advising his brother to bring a surgeon's certificate when he returns to duty.

Creator

Franklin, James C., 1836-?

Extent

0.1 Cubic Feet 1 folder

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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Source of Acquisition

The James C. Franklin Letter was purchased by Special Collections in 1993.

Processing Information

The processing and description of the James C. Franklin 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], James C. Franklin Letter, Ms2009-076, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

James C. Franklin, son of Tarlton W. and Elizabeth G. Shelton Franklin, was born in 1836 in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. He married Susan W. Shelton (daughter of William Christopher and Christiana Arnold Shelton) on August 8, 1861; the couple had six children. During the American Civil War, Franklin enlisted in Company D of the 57th Virginia Infantry of the Confederate Army at Galveston (Pittsylvania County) on August 1, 1861. He deserted from the regiment on February 21, 1863, but later rejoined. Franklin deserted again on June 12, 1863, then rejoined April 29, 1864 and remained with the regiment through the remainder of the war.

Scope and Content

This collection consists of an American Civil War letter from James C. Franklin, a soldier in Company D, 57th Virginia Infantry of the Confederate Army, to his wife Susan in Pittsylvania County, Virginia. Writing from a camp near Guinea Station, Virginia, Franklin describes a recent, difficult march through rain and snow near Fredericksburg. He then briefly recounts a massive snowball fight between Toombs' Brigade and Cross's Brigade. "It was verry dangerous they hurt some of the men verry bad," he writes. Franklin discusses the unlikely possibility of receiving a furlough but states that those not receiving furloughs are likely to desert soon. "[T]hey wil run away in the Spring and I will be one in the crowd if I live." He complains of short rations and the price of goods, then advises his brother John Billy to bring a surgeon's certificate when returning so that he will be paid for the time he was absent.

Related Archival Material

The Manuscript Department of the William R. Perkins Library, Duke University, holds letters from James C. Franklin of Pittsylvania County, Virginia.

Keywords

Civil War

Local/Regional History and Appalachian South

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

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Description of Subordinate Components

Letter

Unit Date 1863

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