

Tilton C. Reynolds Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2023

Contact information: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact>

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm96083923>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms003075>

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2003
Revised 2023 July

Collection Summary

Title: Tilton C. Reynolds Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1851-1963

ID No.: MSS83923

Creator: Reynolds, Tilton C., 1843-1913

Extent: 500 items

Extent: 3 containers

Extent: 1 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm96083923>

Summary: Union Civil War soldier. Chiefly letters by Reynolds to his mother, Juliana Smith Reynolds, during his service with the 105th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment that describe Civil War skirmishes in Virginia, military life, and morale of the soldiers. Includes other letters and papers of Reynolds and his mother after the Civil War.

Online Content: Selected items from the papers of Tilton C. Reynolds have been digitized and are available on the Library of Congress Web site at <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/collmss.ms000018>.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Reynolds, Juliana Smith. Juliana Smith Reynolds papers.

Reynolds, Tilton C., 1843-1913.

Organizations

United States. Army. Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment, 105th (1861-1865)

Subjects

Autograph albums.

Places

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

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Personal narratives.

United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Psychological aspects.

Virginia--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Campaigns.

Titles

Civil War Soldier in the Wild Cat Regiment : Selections from the Tilton C. Reynolds Papers

Occupations

Soldiers.

Acquisition Information

The papers of Tilton C. Reynolds, Union Civil War soldier, were purchased by the Library of Congress in 1996.

Processing History

The Tilton C. Reynolds Papers were processed in 1997 by Connie L. Cartledge. The finding aid was revised in 2003 by Connie L. Cartledge. The finding aid was updated in 2023 by Maria Farmer as part of a division-wide remediation project by the Inclusive Description Working Group.

Transfers

Most of the photographs received with the collection have been transferred to the Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as part of these papers.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Tilton C. Reynolds is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Tilton C. Reynolds are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Online Content

Selected items from the papers of Tilton C. Reynolds have been digitized and are available on the Library of Congress Web site at <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/collmss.ms000018>.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Tilton C. Reynolds, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Tilton C. Reynolds (1843-1913) span the years 1851-1963 and consist of correspondence, diaries, financial and legal papers, writings, a notebook, autograph album, photographs, and other material.

The bulk of the correspondence documents Reynolds's daily life as a soldier with the 105th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment from 1861 to 1865. Reynolds's letters to his mother, Juliana Smith Reynolds, constitute most of the correspondence, although there are also letters during the Civil War period to Juliana Reynolds from her brother, J. S. Smith, her brother-in-law, Orlando Gray, and family friends. Most of the war correspondence describes the morale of soldiers, movements of the regiment, and details of a few skirmishes in Virginia. Some of the locations mentioned are Brandy Station, Culpeper, Fair Oaks, Falmouth, Fredericksburg, Petersburg, and Richmond. Letters in June 1862 from a friend, Joseph Green, and J. S. Smith chronicle Reynolds's capture by Confederate soldiers. Reynolds was held briefly as a prisoner, placed on parole, exchanged, and returned to his regiment. He was promoted to the rank of captain in 1864. In three noteworthy letters, Reynolds discusses the low morale of the troops and their dislike of fighting to free enslaved people, January 1863; a group of Confederates trying to desert near the Rapidan River, 21 March 1864; and his conversation with Confederate pickets at Petersburg, 21 September 1864.

The papers also include diaries, the earliest volumes probably those of Juliana Reynolds, and material relating to other members of the Reynolds family. Much of the printed matter consists of newspaper clippings (photocopied and removed from scrapbooks by Library staff), documenting the various activities and deaths of family members.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material and therein chronologically.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Autograph album, 1881-1884 Correspondence, 1852, 1860-1876, 1886-1888, 1899-1907, 1927, 1963, undated (18 folders) Diaries 1870, 1884
BOX 2	1890 Financial and legal papers, 1851, 1857, 1864, 1883-1895, 1906, 1912, 1922-1923, 1932-1944, undated (2 folders) Miscellaneous, 1893-1898, 1901-1906, undated (2 folders) Notebook, 1900-1913 Photograph albums, undated (6 folders) Photographs, undated
BOX 3	Printed matter, 1879-1884, 1900-1912, 1924-1929, undated (3 folders) Writings, undated