

D. W. Whittle Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2008

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm89077522>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms008124>

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Collection Summary

Title: D. W. Whittle Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1861-1974

Bulk Dates: 1861-1865

ID No.: MSS77522

Creator: Whittle, D. W. (Daniel Webster)

Extent: 46 items

Extent: 1 container plus 1 oversize

Extent: .2 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm89077522>

Summary: Union army officer, business manager, songwriter, and evangelist. Correspondence, court records, diary, maps, and military orders pertaining to Whittle's Civil War service.

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

Grant, Ulysses S. (Ulysses Simpson), 1822-1885.

Sherman, William T. (William Tecumseh), 1820-1891.

Whittle, D. W. (Daniel Webster), 1840-1901.

Organizations

United States. Army of the Tennessee.

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

United States. Army. Illinois Infantry Regiment, 72nd (1862-1865)

Subjects

Judge advocates--United States.

Reconstruction (U.S. history, 1865-1877)--Alabama.

Reconstruction (U.S. history, 1865-1877)--Georgia.

Places

Illinois--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

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

Titles

Daniel Webster Whittle papers

Occupations

Army officers.

Businessmen.

Composers.

Evangelists.

Acquisition Information

The papers of D. W. Whittle, Union army officer, business manager, songwriter, and evangelist, were given to the Library of Congress by Emma Moody Smith in 1989.

Processing History

The papers of D. W. Whittle were arranged and described in 1997. The finding aid was revised in 2008.

Related Material

The Dwight Lyman Moody Papers at <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms012034> contain a Civil War diary kept by D. W. Whittle in 1864 while serving under General William T. Sherman in Georgia.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of D. W. Whittle is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of D. W. Whittle 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.

Preferred Citation

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

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Daniel Webster Whittle (1840-1901) span the years 1861-1974, with the bulk of the material produced during the period 1861-1865. They consist of biographical sketches, correspondence, court records, maps, military orders, a diary, dinner menu, photograph, poem, and tax list.

Whittle was born in Chicopee Falls, Massachusetts, and moved to Chicago shortly before the outbreak of the Civil War. Raising a company of volunteers at the Chicago Board of Trade, he served as a Union officer in the Seventy-second Illinois Volunteer Regiment, eventually attaining the rank of major. He served with General O. O. Howard and was with William T. Sherman on his March to the Sea. Whittle was wounded at Vicksburg, Mississippi, and was discharged when the war ended before he had fully recovered. After the war he was a business manager for the Elgin Watch Company and in 1874, at the invitation of Dwight Lyman Moody, became a traveling evangelist. Writing under the pseudonym El Nathan, he was also a prolific writer of gospel songs, the best known being *Moment by Moment*, written in 1893 with his daughter, Mary Whittle Moody.

The Whittle Papers deal almost exclusively with Whittle's Civil War military service as an officer assigned to the Headquarters Department of the Army of the Tennessee. They contain official correspondence, field orders, and general orders concerning troop movements, complaints from local citizens about looting by Union soldiers, prisoner exchanges, and routine military matters. Included in some letters are marginalia by William T. Sherman and Ulysses S. Grant. The papers also contain material pertaining to cases heard by Whittle as a military judge advocate and a diary that he kept during the latter months of the war detailing local conditions in western Georgia and eastern Alabama and the transition from military to civilian law.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Biographical sketches, 1963, 1974 (2 folders)
BOX 1	Correspondence, 1863-1869
BOX 1	Court records, 1864
BOX 1	Diary, 1865
BOX 1	Field orders, 1864
BOX 1	General orders, 1865
BOX 1	Miscellany, 1863-1864, 1889
BOX OV 1	Oversize maps, circa 1861-1862