

William Franklin Patterson Papers
A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2009

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm78058198>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms010135>

Prepared by Michael McElderry

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2010

Collection Summary

Title: William Franklin Patterson Papers

Span Dates: 1812-1937

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1851-1864)

ID No.: MSS58198

Creator: Patterson, William Franklin, 1826-1888

Extent: 230 items

Extent: 1 container

Extent: .4 linear feet

Extent: 1 microfilm reel

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm78058198>

Summary: Civil engineer and army officer. Correspondence, military records, writings, newspapers, notes, and fragments relating principally to Patterson's Civil War service in the Union Army.

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.

Morgan, G. W. (George Washington), 1820-1893.

Patterson, Amelia Sophia, 1826-1904--Correspondence.

Patterson, William Franklin, 1826-1886.

Schaeffer family--Correspondence.

Schaeffer family.

Schaeffer, F. C. (Frederick Christian), 1792-1831--Correspondence.

Schaeffer, F. C. (Frederick Christian), 1792-1831. F. C. Schaeffer papers.

Schaeffer, Maria Wagner, 1794-1831--Correspondence.

Organizations

Evangelical Lutheran Church of New York.

Kentucky Infantry. Patterson's Independent Company (1861-1865)

St. James' Church (New York, N.Y.)

United States. Army. Department of the Gulf (1862-1865)

Subjects

Lutheran Church--New York (State)--New York.

Places

Cumberland Gap (Tenn.)--History.

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

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

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

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

Vicksburg (Miss.)--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Occupations

Army officers.

Civil engineers.

Provenance

The papers of William Franklin Patterson, civil engineer and army officer, were given to the Library of Congress by Mr. and Mrs. Frank Goodwyn in 1978.

Processing History

The papers of William Franklin Patterson were processed and prepared for microfilming in 1978. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of William Franklin Patterson is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of William Franklin Patterson 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.

Microfilm

A microfilm edition of these papers is available on one reel. Consult a reference librarian in the Manuscript Division concerning availability for purchase or interlibrary loan. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the microfilm edition as available.

Preferred Citation

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

Biographical Note

William Franklin Patterson, born in 1826, was a civil engineer in Kentucky and captain and organizer of a company of independent infantry used by the Union Army as engineers during the Civil War and later transferred as a Pioneer Corps to Headquarters, 13th Army Corps. Patterson served at Cumberland Gap in 1862 and in the siege of Vicksburg in 1863. He also served with the Department of the Gulf in Texas and Louisiana. He died in 1886.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of William Franklin Patterson (1826-1888) span the years 1812-1937, with the bulk from 1851 to 1864. The collection contains correspondence, military records, sermons, writings, newspapers, and miscellaneous fragments and notes. It consists mainly of letters written during the Civil War from Patterson to his wife, Amelia Sophia Patterson, and of correspondence of Amelia Patterson's father, Frederick Christian Schaeffer (1792-1831). Correspondence of other members of the Patterson and Schaeffer families is also included.

William F. Patterson, a civil engineer was captain and organizer of a volunteer company of independent infantry who, acting as pioneers and engineers, designed and constructed bridges, buildings, and roads for the Union Army. Patterson

was under the command of General G. W. Morgan at Cumberland Gap in 1862 and Major General Ulysses S. Grant at Vicksburg in 1863. These campaigns as well as others are described by Patterson to his wife in letters that he wrote throughout his enlistment from October 1861 to January 1865. In a notebook under the heading "Notebook and other writings relating to the Civil War," Patterson writes of his time spent at Cumberland Gap.

Patterson was transferred in August 1863, and spent the remainder of the Civil War with the Department of the Gulf in Texas and Louisiana. A file of military records and correspondence documents this service.

Frederick Christian Schaeffer was a pastor to the Evangelical Lutheran Congregation in the City of New York and at St. James Church in New York. The collection includes letters to his wife, Maria Wagner Schaeffer, and correspondence with other members of the Schaeffer family. Copies of sermons delivered by Schaeffer are also included.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is organized by type of material.

Container List

Available on microfilm. Shelf no. 17,596

Container	Contents
BOX 1 REEL 1	Letters to Amelia Sophia Patterson (wife), 1851-1864, undated
BOX 1 REEL 1	Correspondence of Patterson, 1852-1885
BOX 1 REEL 1	Fragments and unidentified correspondence
BOX 1 REEL 1	Correspondents other than Patterson
BOX 1 REEL 1	Genealogy, circa 1937, undated
BOX 1 REEL 1	Military records and correspondence, 1861-1867, undated
BOX 1 REEL 1	Miscellany, 1822-1892, undated
BOX 1 REEL 1	Newspapers, 1812-1840, undated
BOX 1 REEL 1	Notebook and other writings relating to the Civil War
BOX 1 REEL 1	Schaeffer family papers
BOX 1 REEL 1	Letters from Frederick Christian Schaeffer (father) to his wife, Maria Wagner Schaeffer, 1816-1827, undated
BOX 1 REEL 1	Correspondence of Frederick Christian Schaeffer, 1815-1830, undated
BOX 1 REEL 1	Other members of the Schaeffer family, 1812-1856, undated
BOX 1 REEL 1	Religious sermons, 1813-1821, undated