

John Carvel Arnold 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/mm78011205>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms014076>

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff

Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2014
Revised 2024 October

Collection Summary

Title: John Carvel Arnold Papers

Inclusive Dates: 1856-1937

Bulk Dates: 1864-1875

ID No.: MSS11205

Creator: Arnold, John Carvel, 1833-1865

Extent: 190 items

Extent: 1 container

Extent: .4 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm78011205>

Summary: Laborer and Union soldier. Principally correspondence of Arnold with his wife, Mary Ann Arnold, while he served in the 49th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment during the Civil War, and Mary Ann Arnold's postwar correspondence with their children.

Online Content: The papers of John Carvel Arnold are available on the Library of Congress website at <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/collmss.ms000071>. *To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the online edition as available.* A transcription dataset from "'Such Eventful Times': Women and the American Civil War" that includes transcripts from the John Carvel Arnold Papers is available online at <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gdc/gdcdatasets.2023527887>.

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

Arnold family--Correspondence.

Arnold family.

Arnold, Carrie E. (Carrie Emillia), 1863-1945--Correspondence.

Arnold, Edwin S., 1856-1923--Correspondence.

Arnold, Grant S. (Grant Snoke), 1860-1905--Correspondence.

Arnold, Idabell, 1858- --Correspondence.

Arnold, John Carvel, 1833-1865.

Arnold, John S. (John Sheridan), 1865- --Correspondence.

Arnold, Mary Ann, 1833-1911--Correspondence.

Arnold, Mary Ann, 1833-1911.

Arnold, Mary M. (Mary Mildred), 1862-1921--Correspondence.

Early, Jubal Anderson, 1816-1894.

Sheridan, Philip Henry, 1831-1888.

Organizations

Confederate States of America. Army.

McAlisterville Soldiers' Orphan School.

United States. Army

United States. Army--Pay, allowances, etc.

United States. Army. Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment, 49th (1861-1865)

United States. Army. Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment, 83rd (1861-1865)

Subjects

Appomattox Campaign, 1865.

Boynton Plank Road, Battle of, Va., 1864.

Cold Harbor, Battle of, Va., 1864.

Copperhead movement.

Education--Pennsylvania.

Maryland Campaign, 1864.
Peace movements--United States.
Schools--Pennsylvania--McAlisterville.
Shenandoah Valley Campaign, 1864 (August-November)
Spotsylvania Court House, Battle of, Va., 1864.
Wilderness, Battle of the, Va., 1864.

Places

Maryland--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.
McAlisterville (Pa.)--History.
Pennsylvania--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.
Pennsylvania--Social life and customs.
Petersburg (Va.)--History--Siege, 1864-1865.
Shenandoah River Valley (Va. and W. Va.)--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Campaigns.
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Protest movements.
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Women.
Virginia--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.
Washington (D.C.)--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Titles

John Carvel Arnold Papers at the Library of Congress

Occupations

Laborers.
Soldiers.

Acquisition Information

The papers of John Carvel Arnold, laborer and Union soldier, were given to the Library of Congress by J. R. Arnold in 1937.

Processing History

The John Carvel Arnold Papers were processed circa 1970. The finding aid was created in 2014. The finding aid was updated in 2023 by Maria Farmer as part of a division-wide remediation project by the Inclusive Description Working Group.

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

The papers of John Carvel Arnold 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

The papers of John Carvel Arnold are available on the Library of Congress website at <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/collmss.ms000071>. To promote preservation of the originals, researchers are required to consult the online edition as

available. A transcription dataset from "'Such Eventful Times': Women and the American Civil War" that includes transcripts from the John Carvel Arnold Papers is available online at <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.gdc/gdcdatasets.2023527887>.

Preferred Citation

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

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1833	Born, Union County (later part of Snyder County), Pa. (Some sources list Arnold's birth year as 1831)
1856, Aug. 3	Married Mary Ann Snoke (1833-1911)
1856, Nov. 12	Son Edwin Arnold born (died 1923)
1858, Aug. 23	Daughter Idabell Arnold born
1860, Mar. 18	Son Grant Arnold born
1862, Jan. 3	Daughter Mary Arnold born
1863, Nov. 8	Daughter Carrie Arnold born
1864, Feb.	Enlisted as a private, Company I, 49th Pennsylvania Infantry
1865, Mar. 10	Promoted to corporal
1865, Apr. 6	Killed in action at Sailor's (or Sailors, Sayler's) Creek, Va.
1865, Dec. 4	Son John S. Arnold born

Scope and Content Note

The papers of John Carvel Arnold (1833-1865) span the years 1856-1937, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1864-1875. The collection consists principally of correspondence of Arnold with his wife, Mary Ann Arnold, while he served in Company I, 49th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment, and in which he records his views on the military situation in Virginia and Maryland (1864-1865), the Copperheads, the rebels, army rations and pay, family finances, and her problems of maintaining a home and educating the children. The correspondence between Mary Ann Arnold and her children dates primarily from the time of the children's attendance at the McAlisterville Soldiers' Orphan School after the Civil War. Mary Ann Arnold was unable to write, thus none of the correspondence in the collection is in her own handwriting.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is organized by type of material.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Family correspondence
BOX 1	Originals
BOX 1	John C. Arnold to Mary Ann Arnold, 1864-1865, undated Digital content available
BOX 1	Mary Ann Arnold to John C. Arnold, 1864-1865 Digital content available
BOX 1	Mary Ann Arnold and children, 1866-1877, 1889, 1895, undated Digital content available
BOX 1	Typed copies, 1864-1865, 1937, undated Digital content available
BOX 1	General correspondence, 1864-1873, 1884, 1889, 1892, 1937 Digital content available
BOX 1	Miscellaneous canal receipts, 1856-1864, undated Digital content available
BOX 1	Miscellaneous fragments and envelopes Digital content available
BOX 1	Printed matter, 1864, undated Digital content available