Collection Summary
Title: Nathan W. Daniels Diary and Scrapbook
Span Dates: 1861-1867
ID No.: MSS84934
Creator: Daniels, Nathan W., 1836-1867
Extent: 5 items
Extent: 2 containers
Extent: 0.6 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm2002084934
Summary: Union army officer and lecturer and advocate for civil rights and the Freedmen's Bureau. Married Cora Hatch, Spiritualist medium and lecturer. Handwritten diary with photographs, illustrations, and newspaper clippings in three volumes kept by Daniels during his Civil War service and Reconstruction. The third volume was written primarily by his wife, Cora Hatch. Also included are a typescript of summaries and transcripts of the diaries by C. P. Weaver and a scrapbook of newspaper clippings assembled by Daniels or his wife.

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
Daniels, Nathan W., 1836-1867.
Richmond, Cora L. V. (Cora Linn Victoria), 1840-1923. Cora L.V. Richmond diary. 1866-1867.
Weaver, C. P., 1939-

Organizations
Republican Party (U.S. : 1854- )
United States. Army. Native Guard Infantry Regiment, 2nd (1862-1863)

Subjects
African American churches--Washington (D.C.)
Civil rights--United States.
Freedmen.
Lectures and lecturing--Middle West.
Reconstruction (U.S. history, 1865-1877).
Spiritualism--United States.
Theater--Washington (D.C.)

Places
Cuba (N.Y.)--History.
Louisiana--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.
New Orleans (La.)--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.
Ship Island (Miss.)--History.
Southern States--History--1865-1877.
United States--History--1865-1898.
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Participation, African American.
United States--Politics and government--1861-1865.
United States--Politics and government--1865-1877.
United States--Politics and government--1865-1877.
Washington (D.C.)--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.
Washington (D.C.)--Social life and customs.

**Titles**
*Nathan W. Daniels Diary and Scrapbook at the Library of Congress*
*Nathan W. Daniels papers*

**Occupations**
Army officers.
Lawyers.

**Provenance**
The diary of Nathan W. Daniels, Union army officer and lecturer and advocate for civil rights and the Freedmen’s Bureau, was given to the Library of Congress by C. P. Weaver in 2002. A scrapbook was given as an addition to the collection by Weaver in 2015.

**Processing History**
The Nathan W. Daniels Diary was processed in 2005. The finding aid was created in 2014. The scrapbook addition was added to the collection in 2015.

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

**Access and Restrictions**
The diary and scrapbook of Nathan W. Daniels 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 diary and scrapbook of Nathan W. Daniels is available on the Library of Congress Web site at [http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/collmss.ms000039](http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/collmss.ms000039).

**Preferred Citation**
Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Nathan W. Daniels Diary and Scrapbook, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**Scope and Content Note**
The papers of Nathan W. Daniels (1836-1867), spanning the years 1861-1867, consist of a handwritten diary with photographs, illustrations, and newspaper clippings mounted throughout the text in three volumes. Included are a typescript of summaries and transcripts of the diaries by C. P. Weaver, who donated the collection, and a scrapbook of newspaper clippings.
In volume one, Daniels describes his Civil War service with an African-American regiment, the U.S. Army 2nd Native Guard Infantry Regiment, chiefly while stationed at Ship Island, Mississippi, and his time in New Orleans during the summer and fall of 1863. In volume two, Daniels discusses military, political, and social affairs in Washington, D.C., during his years in the capital, 1863-1865. Subjects include civil rights, the creation of the Freedmen's Bureau (U.S. Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen, and Abandoned Lands) in March 1864, radical Republicans, and the theater. Volume three was written primarily by Daniels's wife, the Spiritualist medium Cora Hatch (Cora L. V. Richmond). Topics include the Freedmen's Bureau, speaking engagements at African-American churches in Washington, D.C., a visit with her family in Cuba, N.Y., and a lecture tour of the Midwest.

An addition to the Nathan W. Daniels collection consists of a scrapbook of newspaper clippings, 1863-1867, probably assembled by Daniels or his wife. The scrapbook complements the topics and events chronicled in the diaries of Daniels and Hatch. The articles were usually written by Daniels under the pseudonym "Viator." They include references to either him or his wife or pertain to subjects of interest to the couple, such as African-American military service during the Civil War, the condition of freedpeople after the war, Reconstruction, and spiritualism, particularly Washington, D.C.

**Arrangement of the Papers**

This collection is organized by type of material.
## Container List

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<td>Vol. I, 1861, Dec.-1864, May</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Summaries and transcripts by C. P. Weaver</td>
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<td>BOX 2</td>
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