

Alvah H. Granniss Papers

A Finding Aid to the Collection in the Library of Congress



LIBRARY OF
CONGRESS

Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2014

Contact information:

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

Additional search options available at:

<http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms014075>

LC Online Catalog record:

<http://lcn.loc.gov/mm2014085931>

Prepared by Connie L. Cartledge

Collection Summary

Title: Alvah H. Granniss Papers

Span Dates: 1861-1907

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1862-1864)

ID No.: MSS85931

Creator: Granniss, Alvah H. , 1843-1909

Extent: 150 items ; 1 container plus 1 artifact ; 0.8 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

Summary: Soldier. Correspondence, including originals and typescripts of letters, poems and a song, envelopes, printed matter, artifacts, and other material relating chiefly to Granniss's Civil War service with the First Connecticut Cavalry Regiment.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People

Ashby, Turner, 1828-1862.

Granniss family.

Granniss, Alvah H., 1843-1919.

Granniss, Henry H., 1809-1895--Correspondence.

Granniss, Louisa, 1807-1882--Correspondence.

Granniss, Samuel H., 1830-1893--Correspondence.

Jackson, Stonewall, 1824-1863.

Tuttle, Mary Ann, 1836-1904--Correspondence.

Organizations

United States. Army--Military life.

United States. Army. Connecticut Cavalry Regiment, 1st (1861-1865)

United States. Army. Connecticut Infantry Regiment, 12th (1861-1865)

Subjects

Shenandoah Valley Campaign, 1862.

Places

Baltimore (Md.)--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

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

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

Shenandoah River Valley (Va. and W. Va.)--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Suffolk (Va.)--History--Siege, 1863.

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

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

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

Winchester (Va.)--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.

Occupations

Soldiers.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Alvah H. Granniss, Union Army soldier, were purchased by the Library of Congress in 2014.

Transfers

Photographs have been transferred to the Library's Prints and Photographs Division where they are identified as part of the Alvah H. Granniss Papers.

Copyright Status

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

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Alvah H. Granniss 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, Alvah H. Granniss Papers, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1843	Born, Conn.
1861	Enlisted in Company B, First Connecticut Cavalry, United States Army
1864	Mustered out from the First Connecticut Cavalry, United States Army
1909	Died, New Haven, Conn.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Alvah H. Granniss (1843-1909) span the years 1861-1907, with the bulk of the material dating from 1862 to 1864. The papers are in English and are arranged by type of material.

The majority of the collection consists of letters from Granniss to his family documenting his daily life as a Union soldier with the First Connecticut Cavalry Regiment, Company B, during the Civil War from 1861 to 1864. The bulk of the letters are written to his sister, Mary Ann Tuttle, and his parents, Henry H. Granniss and Louisa Granniss. The letters include descriptions of camp life, his stints carrying dispatches and mail, bounties and financial matters, and his occasional observations about the war. In his letters of April 1862, Granniss mentions several encounters with bushwhackers around Moorefield, Virginia, and interactions with Southern civilians, particularly the women who he describes as “the worst you ever see” and “surly as blazes.” Also documented is the First Connecticut’s activities in the Shenandoah Valley, where they fought against Turner Ashby and Stonewall Jackson. In a letter to his father, 17 June 1862, Granniss refers to Jackson as one of the Confederacy's smartest generals. Also represented are Granniss's account of his activities while stationed around Baltimore, Maryland, from late 1862 to early 1864 and his description of a skirmish with Confederate troops outside of Winchester, Virginia, in August 1864.

The papers also contain letters from other soldiers in the Union Army, including Granniss's cousin, Samuel H. Grannis. Samuel, who served in Company B of the Twelfth Connecticut Regiment, describes his experiences in Opelousas and New Orleans, Louisiana. A letter of 26 April 1863, from a friend provides an account of the siege of Suffolk, Va. Also included in this collection are family correspondence, typescripts of the letters, a memoranda by Granniss about his Civil War service, poems and a song, envelopes, printed matter, and artifacts. The artifacts consist of a pocket watch that contains a note inside the case, two winding keys, a metal piece with a screw end, three buttons (one United States, one with the state

seal of Virginia, and one with the seal of Connecticut), and a leather memorandum wallet with a notation on the flap that it belonged to Freeman R. Granniss.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged by type of material.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	Correspondence
BOX 1	Originals, 1861-1864, 1882, undated (16 folders)
BOX 1	Typescripts, 1861-1864, 1882, undated (7 folders)
BOX 1	Loose envelopes, 1862, undated
BOX 1	Miscellany, undated
BOX 1	Poems and song, 1890, undated
BOX 1	Printed matter, 1862, 1907
BOX VA 1	Artifacts, undated