

Collection #
M 0905,
OMB 0109

**CAPT. ALFRED H. HEATH
CIVIL WAR MATERIALS, 1858–1908 (BULK 1863–1865)**

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	Manuscript Materials: 2 document cases, 1 oversized manuscript box, 10 oversized manuscript folders stored in flat files Artifacts: 7 artifacts
COLLECTION DATES:	1858–1908 (bulk 1863–1865)
PROVENANCE:	William G. and Rebecca Owsley, Au Gres, MI, December 2000
RESTRICTIONS:	None
COPYRIGHT:	
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.
ALTERNATE FORMATS:	None
RELATED HOLDINGS:	Other 99 th Regiment Indiana Infantry collections: SC 1848 (Cass); M 0617 (Lucas); E 506.4 C5 fiche nos. 359–363 <i>History of the 99th Indiana Infantry</i> and <i>New History of the 99th Indiana Infantry</i>
ACCESSION NUMBER:	2001.0066
NOTES:	

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Alfred H. Heath was born ca. 1840 in New York. Material in the collection indicates he was a farmer at the time of his enrollment in the Union Army, and he was also certified to teach in both Michigan and Indiana.

Heath mustered into "A" Company, 99th Regiment, Indiana Infantry as a corporal on 11 August 1862. He was promoted to sergeant on 25 November 1862, first sergeant on 10 April 1863, second lieutenant on 4 August 1863, first lieutenant on 1 March 1864, and finally captain on 26 April 1864. On 21 February 1865, Heath was assigned to the Pioneer Corps, 2nd Division, 15th Army Corps as acting assistant quartermaster.

For most of the war, the 99th Indiana was attached to the Department of the Tennessee. The regiment was involved in the Siege of Vicksburg, the Chattanooga-Ringgold Campaign, the demonstration on Dalton, Georgia, the Battle of Resaca, the Battle of Atlanta, the Battle of Jonesboro, the March to the Sea, and the Battle of Bentonville. Heath mustered out of the 99th Indiana on 5 June 1865.

The 1870 census indicates Heath was farming and married to a woman named Cynthia. They were living in Berlin, Ionia County, Michigan with their three children Cora A., Alfred L., and William H. By 1880 Heath was employed as a postmaster living in Ionia City, Michigan and a daughter, Susie, had joined the family. An 1887 letter from William T. Sherman indicates Heath was commander of the Soldiers and Sailors Association and involved in Civil War reunions. In 1900 Heath and his wife were living in Detroit, Michigan, and Heath was working as an electrician. They are last seen on the 1910 census living as boarders in Michigan.

Sources:

Ancestry Library Edition. Available at: <http://www.ancestrylibrary.com>

American Civil War Research database. Available at: <http://www.civilwardata.com>

Civil War Soldiers & Sailors System. Available at: <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss>

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists mainly of Civil War era materials and artifacts such as muster rolls, correspondence, and quartermaster records of stores and supplies. Artifacts include a phlebotomy instrument, powder flask, minie ball, and Heath's field desk among other items. There are a few pre- and post-Civil War materials in the collection as well.

The correspondence, general orders, and special orders provide information on appointments and duty details, foraging, troop movement, and other regimental business. Other materials list soldiers in the company who were sick, wounded, transferred, and promoted. The "final statements" provide physical descriptions of soldiers who died and their causes of death.

Of particular interest is a letter dated 7 March 1863 indicating that "contrabands" or fugitive slaves already within the lines were to be mustered into the Pioneer Corps to perform fatigue duty. Also, the names of "contraband" laborers are included on the clothing receipt rolls for March–April 1865. A few other references to African Americans are found within the correspondence and orders folders.

A letter in the collection from Heath indicates the valise, containing his official papers, quartermaster returns, and invoices of stores was stolen on 5 June 1865 from his tent. He had to reassemble this information, so some of the materials in this collection may be copies of the originals.

SERIES CONTENTS

Series 1: Civil War Materials, 1861–1865

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Abstracts of articles received from and/or transferred to officers, March–May 1865	OMB 0109, Folder 1
Abstracts/lists of articles expended, lost, destroyed in the public service, March–May 1865	OMB 0109, Folder 2
Approximations of funds and stores, March–May 1865	Box 1, Folder 1
Certificates and promotions for Alfred H. Heath, Nov 1862–March 1864	OMB 0109, Folder 3
Civil War correspondence and orders, May 1863–65	Box 1, Folder 2
Civil War correspondence and orders, June 1865–Oct 1866	Box 1, Folder 3
Clothing account ledger, 1864–65	Box 1, Folder 4
Clothing receipt rolls for NCOs, artificers, musicians and privates, Feb 1864	OMB 0109, Folder 4
Clothing receipt rolls for contrabands/pioneer laborers, March–April 1865	OMB 0109, Folder 5
Commutation of rations while on furlough form, 1865	Box 1, Folder 5
Descriptive list of deserters, ca. 1865	Oversize Manuscripts: Flat File 14-i, Folder 1
Descriptive lists of persons hired, employed, transferred, May 1865	OMB 0109, Folder 6
Descriptive rolls and accounts of pay and clothing, Dec 1862–Sept 1864	OMB 0109, Folder 7
Disability discharge for Ephraim Goff, Nov 1863	Box 1, Folder 6
Field desk of Alfred H. Heath [44 x 41.7 x 28.5 cm], ca. 1861–65	Artifacts: R 2746

Final statements for deceased soldiers, Aug 1864–May 1865	Box 1, Folder 7
<i>Infantry Tactics for the Instruction, Exercise, and Maneuvers of the Soldier . . .</i> by Brig. Gen. Silas Casey [also known as <i>Casey's Infantry Tactics</i>], 1862 [two copies]	Box 1, Folder 8
<i>Instructions for Making Quarterly Returns of Ordnance and Ordnance Stores . . .</i> , 1863	Box 1, Folder 9
Inventory and inspection report of camp and garrison equipage, March–April 1865	OMB 0109, Folder 8
Lists/invoices of clothing, camp and garrison equipage received and/or transferred, March–May 1865	Box 1, Folder 10
Lists of ordnance and quartermaster stores received and/or transferred, Feb–May 1865	Box 1, Folder 11
Medical furlough forms for Elijah Spears, Aug–Oct 1864	Box 1, Folder 12
Minie ball [.58 caliber with its paper wrapping, housed in a bank pins box. Note on box states “this is a .58 caliber cartridge for army use during Civil War.”], ca. 1861–65	Artifacts: R 2749
Monthly returns of clothing, camp and garrison equipage, March–June 1865	Box 1, Folder 13
Monthly returns of quartermaster's stores, March–May 1865	Box 1, Folder 14
Muster Rolls, Sept–Oct 1862	Oversize Manuscripts: Flat File 14-i, Folder 2
Muster Rolls, Oct–Dec 1862	Oversize Manuscripts: Flat File 14-i, Folder 3
Muster Rolls, April 1863; Dec 1863–Feb 1864	Oversize Manuscripts: Flat File 14-i, Folder 4
Muster Rolls, Feb–June 1864	Oversize Manuscripts: Flat File 14-i, Folder 5

Muster Rolls, Aug–Oct 1864	Oversize Manuscripts: Flat File 14-i, Folder 6
Muster Rolls, Oct–Dec 1864	Oversize Manuscripts: Flat File 14-i, Folder 7
Muster Rolls, Dec 1864–April 1865	Oversize Manuscripts: Flat File 14-i, Folder 8
Muster Out Roll, June 1865	Oversize Manuscripts: Flat File 14-i, Folder 9
Notices of clothing and pay drawn by company soldiers, Dec 1863–March 1864	Box 1, Folder 15
Official price list of clothing, 1863	OMB 0109, Folder 9
Powder flask [Civil war era, metal/brass with raised relief and four small metal rings], ca. 1861–65	Artifacts: R 2747
Quarterly return of deceased soldiers, March 1863–65	Oversize Manuscripts: Flat File 14-i, Folder 10
Quarterly return of ordnance and ordnance stores, Feb–June 1865	OMB 0109, Folder 10
Reports of persons and articles employed and hired, Sept 1864–March 1865	OMB 0109, Folder 11
Reports of persons and articles employed and hired, Feb–April 1865	OMB 0109, Folder 12
Reports of persons hired and employed who deceased, deserted, or discharged, Sept 1864–May 1865	OMB 0109, Folder 13
<i>Revised United States Army Regulations of 1861 . . .</i> , 1863	Box 2, Folder 1
Volunteer descriptive lists and accounts of pay and clothing, April 1863–65	OMB 0109, Folder 14

Series 2: Pre– and Post–Civil War Materials, 1858–1908

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Copy of discharge certificate for Alfred Heath, ca. 1889

CONTAINER

Box 2, Folder 2

Horn [from unidentified animal], n.d.	Artifacts: R 2752
Illustration of Federal and Confederate Civil War generals, from <i>Century Magazine</i> , 1885	OMB 0109, Folder 15
Knife [triangular blade with smooth wooden handle, “John Milner, Sheffield”], n.d.	Artifacts: R 2750
Letter [LS] from William T. Sherman, June 1887	Box 2, Folder 3
Medical fleam/phlebotomy instrument [folded, three-bladed steel with “G. Gregory” on blade], n.d.	Artifacts: R 2748
Pension claims for John P. Merrill and Alfred Heath, 1886–1908	Box 2, Folder 4
Postmaster accounting statements, 1886–87	Box 2, Folder 5
Receipts, 1872–89; n.d.	Box 2, Folder 6
Speech for Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) Reunion, n.d.	Box 2, Folder 7
State Historical Society of Wisconsin membership certificate, Jan 1888	OMB 0109, Folder 16
Teaching certificates for Alfred H. Heath, 1858–61	Box 2, Folder 8
Wallet [rectangular leather with pockets for bills, railroad tickets, cards], n.d.	Artifacts: R 2751

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog:
<http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 0905).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.