Collection #
SC 3002

CLEMENS IREN GOTSCH
PAPERS, 1861-2004

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Cataloging Information

Processed by
Timothy Rainesalo
February 28, 2014

Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org
COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 folder

COLLECTION DATES: 1861-2004

PROVENANCE: Cheryl Ratz Gross

RESTRICTIONS: None

COPYRIGHT:

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ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS: Doyle, W. E.; A history of the seventeenth Indiana, from its organization to the end of the war giving each day’s action, lists of killed and wounded, descriptions of battles, etc. : also, lists of all the officers and the roll of the regiment on February 28, 1865…

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2013.0394

NOTES:
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Clemens Iren Gotsch was born March 29, 1836 in Muhlau, Saxony. At the age of 16, he immigrated with his family in 1852 to America and was naturalized in 1858. Sometime before the war, he and his family were living in Olean, Indiana and on May 12, 1861, Iren enlisted as a Private in Company “D” of the 17th Indiana Infantry. Known as the Grand Old 17th, the 17th Indiana participated in many harrowing battles throughout the war, including Elkwater and Greenbrier in Virginia, Corinth in Mississippi, Thompson’s Cove, McMinnville, Farmington and Hoover’s Gap in Tennessee, and Chickamauga, Coosaville and Flat Rock in Georgia. Iren and his comrades were among the few Union cavalry units equipped with the Spencer Carbine in May 1863, and the unit’s speed and stopping power earned them much renown. After engaging in several battles, Iren was wounded in Cleveland, Tennessee on November 27, 1863 and died a month later on December 24th in a Chattanooga hospital.

Sources:
Civil War Database

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection contains a short biographical sketch of Gotsch and the 17th Indiana Infantry compiled by Cheryl Ratz Gross in 2004. In addition to Gross’s manuscript, the majority of the collection contains photocopied documents used by Gotsch’s step-mother when unsuccessfully applying to Indiana’s Adjutant General for her step-son’s military pension in 1886. These documents include: reports of the Adjutant General of Indiana on the actions of the Regiment in 1865, monthly muster rolls for Gotsch from May 15th, 1861 to August 31st, 1863, three casualty reports and two signed letters attesting to Gotsch’s service in the Union army.
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CONTAINER
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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, SC 3002).

5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.