

Collection #
M 0996
OM 0492

**DR. JOHN H. RERICK
PAPERS, 1861–1928**

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	2 manuscript boxes, 1 oversize folder, 1 box photographs, 3 negatives, artifacts.
COLLECTION DATES:	1861–1928
PROVENANCE:	Madeline Rerick Graham's daughters and their families, La Canada Flintridge, California, May 2010; June, 2015
RESTRICTIONS:	None
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ALTERNATE FORMATS:	
RELATED HOLDINGS:	
ACCESSION NUMBER:	2010.0127; 2015.0181
NOTES:	

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

John H. Rerick (1830–1911) was born in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, and received a medical degree from the University of Michigan in 1853. He practiced in LaGrange, Lagrange County, Indiana, and was instrumental in the formation of the 44th Indiana Regiment at the outbreak of the Civil War. Rerick was commissioned Assistant Surgeon in the regiment in December 1861. Rerick was promoted to Surgeon in August 1863 and served with the regiment at the battles of Shiloh, Stones River, Missionary Ridge and Chickamauga.

After he was mustered out in September 1865, Rerick returned to LaGrange and in 1867 purchased the LaGrange Standard. Rerick and his family operated the paper until October 1928 except for the years 1869–1872. He was also elected Clerk of the Lagrange Circuit Court in 1868. Rerick married Marinanett Deaver in May 1856, and together they had three children.

Sources:

www.biblioserver.com/19centurydocs/index.php?m=word accessed 9 November 2010.

Ancestry Library Edition accessed 10 November 2010.

Miller, John W. *Indiana Newspaper Bibliography*. Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1982.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The majority of this collection is comprised of the letters written by John H. Rerick to his wife, Marinanett, while serving as a surgeon in the 44th Indiana letter during the Civil War, 1861–1865. The bulk of Rerick's correspondence to his wife is from the years 1861 and 1865. Most of the letters from 1861 were written from Camp Allen in Fort Wayne (September–November) describing his arrival and preference for the regimental surgeon, and his desire to be part of the medical as well as describing patients in the hospital. Later letters come from Indianapolis, Evansville, and Camp Reed in Henderson, Kentucky. These contain information about daily routines, the caring for the sick, and the first indications of battle, and being part of a search party in Henderson, Kentucky. He also writes on Christmas Day including a description of dinner. In his 1862 letters he writes from the battlefield at Shiloh, Corinth Mississippi, and various locations in Tennessee and Kentucky. He tells of the treating casualties, and engagements and activities of the 44th. Letters written in 1865 are from the brigade hospital in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and speak of more general topics including his disappointment of not being sent home for his illness.

In his 1863 diary he writes of an illness and being granted a leave and the fighting at the Battle of Chickamauga. Entries from the 1864 diary contain the regiment's movements and the loaning and borrowing of money.

Other materials from Rerick's Civil War duty include orders, reports and official correspondence. Included are sick reports, an order exonerating Rerick being AWOL, July 1863; receipts for hospital stores; rosters; and an order naming Rerick recruiting officer in LaGrange, Indiana, January 1864.

The majority of the Rerick family correspondence consists of letters from their sons while studying at the University of Michigan, 1878–1880. The collection also contains John Rerick's medical writings on such topics as Scarlet Fever and Asphyxia. There is also a photocopy of a genealogical chart compiled by Rerick in 1870. Also included are photographs of many members of the 44th Indiana and other Civil War soldiers as well as a large number of family photographs, 1860s–1890s., and buttons presumably from his uniform.

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Letters, 1864

Letters, January–March, 1865

Letters, April–June, 1865

Letters, July–August, 1865

Letters, September–October, 1865

Original Field and Staff, 44th Indiana, 1865

Morning Sick Report, 44th Indiana, February n.d.

Rerick Genealogy, 1870 (photocopy)

Civil War Letter Fragments, n.d.

Family Letters, 1878–1880

Family Letters, 1889–1902

Papers, 1866–1928; n.d.

Medical Writings, n.d.

CONTAINER

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Box 1, Folder 3

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Box 2, Folder 5

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Battle Field of Atlanta, 22 July 1863 (3)	Photographs: 4 X 5 Acetate Negatives 1-3
Civil War Soldiers Portraits, ca. 1865	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 1
Family Photo Album #1, 1860s–1890s, 1 of 3	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 2
Family Photo Album #1, 1860s–1890s, 2 of 3	Photographs: Box 1 Folder 3
Family Photo Album #1, 1860s–1890s, 3 of 3	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 4
Family Photo Album #2, 1870s–1890s, 1 of 3	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 5
Family Photo Album #2, 1870s–1890s, 2 of 3	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 6
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Family Photo Album #3, 1860s–1880s, Non Rerick	Photographs: Box 1, Folder 8
Uniform Buttons, ca. 1861	ART: 2015.0181

