

Collection #  
M 0794  
OMB 0094

## EDWARD JESUP WOOD PAPERS, 1859–1870

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Processed by

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

[www.indianahistory.org](http://www.indianahistory.org)

### COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION:	1 document case, 1 oversize box
COLLECTION DATES:	1859–1870
PROVENANCE:	Daniel Wood, Woolwich, ME, 8 August 2002
RESTRICTIONS:	None

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**ALTERNATE FORMATS:**

**RELATED HOLDINGS:**

**ACCESSION NUMBER:** 2002.0695

**NOTES:**

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Edward Jesup Wood (1834–1873) was born in Florida. His father was a steamboat captain from Connecticut and his mother was from a wealthy west Florida family. Wood’s father died when Edward was six and he and his brother went to live with their paternal grandmother in Connecticut. Wood’s mother stayed in Florida and he apparently never saw her again.

He remained in Connecticut until he left to attend Dartmouth College. After graduating from Dartmouth in 1853, he moved to Toledo, Ohio, where he designed the Michigan, Southern & Northern Indiana Railroad between Toledo, Ohio and Goshen, Indiana. He moved to Goshen 1857. Wood remained in Goshen when the railroad was completed in 1857 and began practicing law in the office of Joseph H. Mather. After Mather’s death in 1859, he opened his own practice with E. N. Metcalf, Judge of the Common Pleas.

Wood married Jane Williams (1835–1892) of Syracuse, New York, in 1859 and they had two children. From 1859–61 he also served as the county surveyor. In November 1861 he enlisted in the 48<sup>th</sup> Indiana Regiment, serving first as a captain in Company “I” (which he raised) and later as colonel (July 1863), focusing on the administrative aspects of the regiment.

After the war, Wood returned to Elkhart County where he continued to practice law and be active in Republican Party politics. In 1865 Wood was elected Circuit and Common Pleas Court Clerk, and was appointed a Judge of Common Pleas for the 17<sup>th</sup> Judicial District in 1870. He died in Jackson, Michigan, in 1873.

**Source:**

Runnels, Moses T. *A Bi[o]graphical Sketch of Edward Jesup Wood from Memorial Sketches and History of the Class of 1853, Dartmouth College*. General Collection: E506.5 48th .R8.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The collection contains 89 letters written by Edward Jesup Wood while serving in the 48<sup>th</sup> Indiana Regiment to his wife in Syracuse, New York, January 1862–February 1865; selected records from the 48<sup>th</sup> retained by Wood, 1862–65; and Wood’s commissions and appointments, 1859-70.

In his letters to his wife, Wood describes training and recruiting at Camp Ellis near Goshen, Indiana, and his role as

provost for the town of Paducah, Kentucky. The letters continue with Wood and the 48<sup>th</sup> entering into Mississippi and Tennessee. Other areas covered include Wood's time recovering from an illness in a hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, February–April 1863, and a detailed account of the siege of Vicksburg, May–July 1863. He also describes the regiment's actions at battles at Corinth Mississippi (October 1862) and near Jackson, Mississippi (May 1863). Wood also relays his financial problems with the expenses involved in his position in the army compared with his pay, which was not adequate and not always received on time. Wood later talks of his being provost marshal in Regina, Mississippi, his time of inactivity in Huntsville, Alabama (January–June 1864), and the regiment's movement into Georgia.

The collection also contains some quartermaster related records for the 48<sup>th</sup> Indiana. Included are regimental ordnance records, 1862–65, such as returns and vouchers. There is also a muster roll for the regiment in 1862 and records of deceased soldier's clothing, 1861–62. Additional materials comprise Wood's military commissions and discharge, 1861–65, and appointments as Elkhart County Surveyor, 1859, Elkhart Circuit Court Clerk, 1865, and court of Common Pleas Judge, 1870.

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Wood's Commissions and Appointments, 1859–70

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Ordnance Returns, 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter, 1864	OMB 0094, Folder 5

## 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://157.91.92.2/>
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 0794).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.