JAMES LEEPER
PAPERS, 1855–1912; BULK 1861–1865

Collection Information

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Cataloging Information

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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

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 manuscript box

COLLECTION Inclusive, 1855–1912, bulk 1861–65
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

James Leeper of Charlestown, Clark County, Indiana, enlisted in the 49th Indiana Regiment in October 1861, and was commissioned a captain in Company B. In November 1861, he was promoted to major, and subsequently lieutenant colonel in October 1864. When the regiment reenlisted in Texas in 1864, Leeper remained with the veterans as colonel.


SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection is primarily concerned with Leeper's correspondence and military documents while serving as an officer in the 49th Indiana Regiment. Among the items are letters from Leeper to friends and family in Indiana and Kentucky from Vicksburg, Mississippi; Louisiana; Texas; Kentucky; and Indiana. Information includes accounts of the siege of Vicksburg, camp life, political views, the local conditions of the areas they occupy, and an account of a potential insurrection among black troops over the whipping of two of their number. Other materials comprise reports, orders, and other military documents regarding invoices for stores, and a report on the loss of men at Champions Hill, Mississippi. The collection also contains the Infantry Field Order Binder for the 49th Indiana from August 1864 to June 1865, made up of 73 orders regarding the daily operations of the regiment including troop assignments, leaves, muster orders, desertions, and discharges.

Non-military materials in the collection include several letters to Leeper from Liberty Hargus in Cannelton, Perry County, Indiana, and Henry County, Kentucky regarding political beliefs, 1856–1861; Leeper's personal account ledger, July–October 1855; and a document admitting Leeper to the Grand Temple of Honor, Ohio Falls Temple Number 3, Jeffersonville.

Other items in the collection includes correspondence, stock certificates, and printed materials for the Paracamph Manufacturing Company of Louisville, Kentucky, producers of a general household medicine remedy, 1905–1912.
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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://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 0728).
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