MARTIN AKEMAN COLLECTION, 1857–1993 (BULK 1857–65)

Collection Information

Biographical Sketch

Scope and Content Note

Series Contents

Cataloging Information

Processed by

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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

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 manuscript box, 2 OVA folders, 1 photograph folder, 1 artifact

COLLECTION DATES: 1857–1993 (Bulk 1857–65)

PROVENANCE: Donated by Mary M. England, Bloomington, IN, 10 December 2001. Items given to donor by a descendant, Florence Belle Kirkpatrick Erbaugh, Delphi, IN.

RESTRICTIONS: None
Martin Akeman was born 5 January 1832 in Ohio. He married his wife Hester in 1857 and they had two children, Charles and Catherine.

On 23 December 1863, when he was 31, he enlisted as a sergeant and was mustered into I Company, 131st Indiana Regiment (13th Cavalry). This regiment was organized during the fall and winter of 1863–64, and was the last cavalry organization formed in Indiana. It was mustered in April 1864, left the state, and marched to Nashville where it was given infantry arms and accouterments. Upon arrival in Nashville they were ordered to Huntsville, Alabama on 31 May for garrison duty. There it engaged in several skirmishes with bands of cavalry and on 1 October held their ground against General Buford’s entire command. Half of the companies, including Company I, were sent to Louisville to secure new mounts and equipments for the regiment. They were then sent to Paducah to assist in repelling an attack by General Forrest. Having accomplished that, they went back to Louisville and marched to LaVergne, Tennessee to watch Hood’s movements. They were cut off and retired to Murfreesboro where they participated in the battles of Overall’s creek, Wilkinson’s pike and twelve skirmishes.

Sixty-five men were either killed or wounded during their time in Murfreesboro. Martin Akeman was one of the wounded and died of his wounds 19 December 1864. He is buried in Eden Chapel Cemetery, in Hancock County, Indiana.

Sources:

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Collection consists of correspondence between Martin Akeman and his wife Hester while he was a soldier. There is also correspondence to Akeman before the war and Hester’s correspondence after the war. There is a photograph of Akeman, and drawings of both him and his wife. There is a book titled *Union Spelling Book*, genealogical notes, and a school bell used by Ethel Akeman.

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Correspondence to Martin Akeman, 1857–63
Box 1, Folder 1

Correspondence from Martin Akeman to his wife Hester, 12 Apr. 1864–8 Jan. 1865
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Correspondence, Hester Akeman, 1857–1903
Box 1, Folder 3

Family tree of Martin Akeman, n.d.
Box 1, Folder 4

Gift Receipt from Division of Museums & Memorials, lists items donated by Florence Kirkpatrick Erbaugh, 9 Dec. 1993
Box 1, Folder 5

Hancock County, Indiana Tombstone Inscriptions: One Hundred Years, 1833–1933 (photocopies), n.d.
Box 1, Folder 6

History of Florence Belle Kirkpatrick Erbaugh (handwritten), 16 Nov. 1993
Box 1, Folder 7

Union Spelling Book, n.d.
Box 1, Folder 8

Martin Akeman in uniform, n.d.
Visual Collections: Photographs, Folder 1

[Portrait of Martin Akeman, drawing, n.d.]
Visual Collections: OVA Graphics, Folder 1

[Portrait of Hester Akeman, drawing, n.d.]
Visual Collections: OVA Graphics, Folder 2

School bell of Ethel Akeman, n.d.
Artifacts: 2002.0056

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 0827).

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