

Collection #
M 1022
OM 0507

**SAMUEL ZENT
PAPERS, 1861-1895**

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Processed by

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October, 2011; February, 2016

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 2 manuscript boxes; 3 oversize folders; 1 folder photographs; 1 artifact

COLLECTION DATES: 1861–1895

PROVENANCE: Don P. Zent, Kokomo, Indiana, July 2011; January, 2015

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2011.0185; 2015.0009

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Samuel Zent (1835–1897) was born in Pennsylvania and moved with his parents to Ohio where he was an apprentice tinsmith. He later married Sarah Price and moved first to Huntington County, Indiana and later to Allen County, Indiana, where he was a metal worker for a railroad. In June 1861 he enlisted in the 13th Indiana Regiment as a corporal in Company F, rose through the ranks to lieutenant colonel, commanded the regiment at Fort Fisher and was mustered out in April 1865. After the war he returned to Indiana and lived in Roanoke, Huntington County and Perry, Noble County. Zent was an adventurer and was part of the Gordon party which went to the Black Hills looking for gold before being turned back by the military in 1875-76 but returned one year later to prospect. He then returned to Indiana but his suffering from rheumatism prompted him to move to Oklahoma for climate where he opened a tinsmith shop. Zent returned to Indiana once more in the 1890s where he died reportedly feeding his chickens.

Sources:

Ancestry, Library Edition, accessed 5 October 2011. http://search.ancestrylibrary.com/cgi-bin/sse.dll?gl=ROOT_CATEGORY&rank=1&new=1&so=1&MSAV=0&msT=1&gss=ms_f-2_s&gsfn=Samuel+&gsln=Zent&mswpn_ftp=Indiana%2C+USA&mswpn=17&mswpn_PInfo=5-%7C0%7C1652393%7C0%7C2%7C3247%7C17%7C0%7C0%7C0%7C&msbdy=1839&uidh=vu4

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The majority of Zent's papers consist of personal accounts and official quartermaster records from his time with the 13th Indiana Regiment during the Civil War, 1861–1864. Included are three detailed daily account books written by Zent of his and the regiment's experiences and apparently recorded shortly after the war. There is also three of Zent's diaries from June, 1864-August, 1865. The majority of the remainder of the items are his personal copies of the official quartermaster records, 1861–1865. Included are clothing returns, quarterly returns, invoices, abstracts, special orders, general orders, statement of charges, muster rolls, pay rolls, and statement of loses. There also are some military correspondence, pension related correspondence and some photographs of Samuel Zent and his family including one of his tinsmith shop in Oklahoma from 1895.

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Zent Family Photographs, 1860s–1890s, n.d.

Photographs:
Box 1, Folder 1

Soldiers' Handbook, 1885-1887

Box 2, Folder 10

Reunion Badge, 13th Indiana Infantry [Artifact]

Box 2, Folder 11

