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L. Guy Woollard papers

Title: L. Guy Woollard papers
Collection No: MSS.37
Creator: Woollard family
Extent: 0.25 cubic feet
Inclusive Dates: 1845-1961 (Bulk dates: 1861-1874)

Abstract: The collection contains items relating to L. Guy Woollard and the Civil War unit, the "Senatobia Invincibles". They include a war-time diary, wills, petition to incorporate Senatobia, commission as Probate Clerk, news clippings and correspondence.

Provenance: Purchased from Mrs. J.E. Burkholder, February 1970.
Processed by: Gerald Chaudron, March 2014.
Access: Open to all researchers.
Language: English
Preferred Citation: L. Guy Woollard papers, Department of Preservation and Special Collections, University Libraries, University of Memphis.

Publication date: March 2014

Biographical information

Leander Guy Woollard (1834-1874) was a lawyer when he joined the “Senatobia Invincibles”. Organized at Senatobia, Mississippi, in February 1861, the unit became Company I of the 9th Mississippi Infantry, which served in Florida and eastern Tennessee before returning to Mississippi in 1862. Woollard was made 1st lieutenant in May 1862 of a reorganized company and, when Company B, 42nd Mississippi Regiment was organized later that month, he was made captain. The company was sent to Virginia to join Robert E. Lee’s army. In the Battle of Gettysburg in July 1863, he and about thirty of his men were captured and imprisoned on Johnson's Island, Lake Erie, until removed on March 21, 1865, to Point Lookout, Maryland, where he was paroled on April 1. Sent to Fort Delaware in late April, Woollard finally returned home on July 1 but his health had been severely impaired by his imprisonment

Instead of resuming his law practice he became probate clerk of DeSoto County, Mississippi, in October, 1865. In 1867 he married his second wife, Mary Elizabeth Boyce (1847-1929), near Senatobia, and they had four sons: George D., Boyce, L. Guy, Jr., and Douglas Downs (1874-1957). In 1872, with the hope of recovering his health, he moved with his family to Iuka Springs, Mississippi. Returning to Senatobia, he died on September 15, 1874, aged 39.

Scope and contents

The collection contains items relating to J. Guy Woollard and the Civil War unit, the “Senatobia Invincibles”. They include a war-time diary, wills, petition to incorporate Senatobia, commission as Probate Clerk, news clippings and correspondence.

Subject terms

SUBJECTS:

Confederate States of America. Army. Mississippi Infantry Regiment, 9th.
Confederate States of America. Army. Mississippi Infantry Regiment, 42nd.
Senatobia (Miss.)
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Prisoners and prisons.

NAMES:

Woollard, Leander Guy, 1834-1874.

Inventory

Folder

- 1 Woollard journal of "Senatobia Invincibles", 1861 March 23-1863 March 1, 51pp.
- 2 Woollard journal of "Senatobia Invincibles", 1861 March 23-1863 March 1 (transcript), 29 pp.
- 3 Woollard prison diary, 1863 June 25-1865 June 8. [Original had 37 pp. but pp.17-18, 29-32 are missing.]
- 4 Woollard prison diary, 1863 June 25-1865 June 8 (handwritten copy), 41 pp.
- 5 "Prayer" at Johnson's Island, 1864 March.
- 6 "Prayer" at Johnson's Island, 1864 March (transcript), 1 p.
- 7 Hand-written list of "Senatobia Invincibles" killed, wounded and missing; news clipping of the death of the last member of the "Senatobia Invincibles", Samuel P. Rowell, 1924?.
- 8 L. Guy Woollard will, unsigned, 187?.
- 9 Corrie Boyce Prior will, 1929 April 8.
- 10 Notice of candidacy for Probate Clerk of DeSoto County, Mississippi, 1865 September; Commission of Woollard as Probate Clerk, 1865 October 20.
- 11 "A Sacred Memorial—Mary Elizabeth Woollard"; card.
- 12 Petition by Woollard and others to Governor Ames to incorporate Senatobia, Mississippi. Approved 1869 April 14.
- 13 Fee agreement between M.E. Woollard, C.B. Prior, D.M. Boyce and lawyer George C. Hazelton, Washington, D.C. for losses sustained in Civil War, 1902 March 25.
- 14 Clipping: Short sketch of Captain L. Guy Woollard.
- 15 Letter: Drury G. Boyce, Panola County, Miss., to Mira Boyce, Laurens County, S.C., 1845 February 14.
- 16 Letter: Mira Boyce, Laurens County, S.C., to Drury G. Boyce, Como, Panola County, Miss., 1845 March 6.

- 17 Letter: P.H. Brewster, Laurens, S.C., to Mrs. Elizabeth L. Downs, 1847 September 5.
- 18 Letter: Jim Hall, Orange County, Va., to Rowena, 1863 August.
- 19 Letter: J.T. Steel to L.G. Woollard, 1865 May 8.
- 20 Letter: Elizabeth Woollard, Senatobia, to L.G. Woollard, Iuka Springs, 1873 December 18.
- 21 Letter: Elizabeth Woollard, Iuka Springs, to L.G. Woollard, Pyburns Bluff, Hardin County, Tenn., 1874 July 4.
- 22 Part of school composition of Elizabeth Boyce, undated; envelope.
- 23 L.G. Woollard "political memorandum" book. Contains 1854 newspaper clippings and handwritten notes on calculating interest from 1850.
- 24 L.G. Woollard family chart.
- 25 Linen marking pencil (patent 1859-1866), case (patent 1867), tweezers.
- 26 Battlefields of the Civil War with descriptive notes, National Geographic Magazine, Atlas plate 14: April 1961.
- 27 W.T. Watson, Watson's Accountant, A Treatise on Practical Book-keeping, Memphis, Tenn.: S.C. Toof & Co., 1892. Belonged to George D. Woollard.
- 28 Photocopies of originals from folders 1, 3, 5.

Appendix

Contents of Woollard journal, part 1:

Election of officers (pp. 5-7).

1861 August. Fort Pickens, Florida (pp. 9-10).

Train he rode nearly destroyed near Chattanooga when Tennessee Unionists burn bridge (p. 18).

1862 February. Unit leaves Florida for Cumberland Gap and Clinch Mountain area (pp. 23-24).

1862. References to consolidations and organizational reforms of his regiment (pp. 32-35).

1862 May. Woollard finds civilians around Grenada, Mississippi, very unsympathetic to soldiers.

They "extorted the last cent they could get for what they had to sell...some even refused to give away water." (p. 34). The civilians in Oxford, Mississippi, are much nicer.

1862 June. Woollard ordered to Richmond, Virginia (p. 36).

Unit guards Union prisoners at Belle Island, Richmond, for a short time (p. 38).

1862 November 24-25. Woollard's unit involved in preventing Union army from crossing the river at Fredericksburg. On November 25 return to Richmond (pp. 39-45).

1862 December. Woollard states he will remember Richmond not for its merits, but for its crimes (pp. 46-47).

1863 February. Unit near Newburn and Goldsboro, North Carolina (pp. 49-51).