L. Guy Woollard papers

Title: L. Guy Woollard papers
Collection No: MSS.37
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” from Mississippi. They include a war-time diary, wills, petition to incorporate Senatobia, commission as Probate Clerk, news clippings and correspondence.

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Language: English
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**Biographical information**

Leander Guy Woollard was born on October 22, 1834, in Tuscumbia, Alabama, the son of Seth Woolard (1797-1870) and Susan Mitchell Woolard. Leander married Lorena/Lowena Futrell who died while he was a prisoner-of-war. He 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. He married his second wife, Mary Elizabeth Boyce (1847-1929), near Senatobia, and they had four sons: George Davis (1872-1909), Drury Boyce (1866-1955), L. Guy, Jr.(1870-1906), 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.

**Scope and contents**

The collection contains various 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, some of which concern family members.

**Subject terms**

Senatobia (Miss.)
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Prisoners and prisons.
Woollard, Leander Guy, 1834-1874.
Inventory

Folder

3. Woollard prisoner of war diary, 1863 June 25-1865 June 8. Pages 17-18 (November 13-December 19, 1863) and pages 29-32 (September 29-December 31, 1864) are missing. Page 36 finishes on April 3, 1865. The final, and unnumbered, page has one entry headed Fort Delaware, June 8, 1865.
5. “Prayer” at Johnson’s Island, 1864 March. Includes transcript.
6. 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?.
7. L. Guy Woollard will, unsigned, 187?.
8. Corrie Boyce Prior will, 1929 April 8. Cornelia Prior was the sister of Mary Elizabeth Woollard.
9. Notice of candidacy for Probate Clerk of DeSoto County, Mississippi, 1865 September; Commission of Woollard as Probate Clerk, 1865 October 20.
10. “A Sacred Memorial—Mary Elizabeth Woollard”; card.
11. Petition by Woollard and others to Governor Ames to incorporate Senatobia, Mississippi. Approved 1869 April 14.
13. Clipping: Short sketch of Captain L. Guy Woollard.
14. Letter: Drury G. Boyce, Panola County, Miss., to Mira P. Boyce, Laurens County, S.C., 1845 February 14. Drury Graydon and Mira (Myra) Phebe Boyce were the parents of Mary Elizabeth Woollard. Drury died in 1877 and Mira died the following year.
17. Letter: Jim Hall, Orange County, Va., to Rowena Woollard, 1863 August. Hall was probably a sergeant in Woollard’s unit and informed Mrs. Woollard of her husband’s capture and imprisonment on Johnsons Island.
21. Part of school composition by Elizabeth Boyce, undated; envelope.
22  L.G. Woollard “political memorandum” book. Contains 1854 newspaper clippings and handwritten notes on calculating interest from 1850.
23  L.G. Woollard family chart.
24  Linen marking pencil (patent 1859-1866), case (patent 1867), tweezers.