New Jersey State Archives Collection Guide

Record Group: Col. Henry Hartford (1937-1919)
Series: Papers, 1861-1929
Accession #: 1993.046
Series #: PHART001
Guide Date: 2/1994 (JK)
Volume: 1 c.f. [1 box, 1 volume, and 12 oversized folders]

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Biographical Note

Born 8 February 1837 in Coleraine, County Londonderry, Ireland, Henry Hartford was the eldest child of William and Martha (Leslie) Hartford. He attended private schools in Ireland, and at the age of 18 decided to follow his brother William to the United States. After Henry's arrival in New York City in 1855, the Hartford brothers were employed as clerks in a grocery store. By the 1860s, their widowed mother and twin sisters Elizabeth and Susan joined them.

At the outbreak of the Civil War, both Henry and William Hartford joined the Union forces--Henry enlisting in Company K of the First Regiment, New Jersey Militia, for three-months' service. In July 1861, the First Militia was reorganized as the 8th New Jersey Volunteer Regiment. Hartford became first sergeant of Company F on 31 August 1861, and was promoted to second lieutenant on 10 December the following year. On 3 October 1863, he was promoted to first lieutenant and transferred to Company E.

Hartford was made captain of Company C on 11 June 1864, and in December of the same year he rose to the rank of major and was made regimental commander of the 8th New Jersey, replacing Col. John Ramsey. After distinguishing himself in battle at Petersburg, Virginia, he was made brevet lieutenant colonel on 2 April 1865, and later lieutenant colonel. During the course of the war, the 8th Regiment saw action at Yorktown, Williamsburg and Fredericksburg in 1862, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg in 1863, and Petersburg in 1864 and 1865. Hartford was seriously wounded five times. He was mustered out in October 1865 following the mustering out of his troops and the inventorying of military stores.

After the Civil War, Col. Hartford initially found employment in New York City--first in the city assessor's office and then at Sprague & McKillets Mercantile Agency. In 1867, he and his brother William moved westward to Leavenworth, Kansas, where together they engaged in a commission business until 1872. In 1873, the Hartford brothers, their mother, and sister Elizabeth (Hartford) Cooter all removed to Medora Township, Reno County, settling on adjacent homesteads. Here Col. Hartford began the "Hillsview Stock Farm," a successful cattle ranch from which he eventually expanded his land holdings to one thousand acres. Col. Hartford also served in several public offices, including sheriff of Reno County during 1874-75, township clerk, and as a member of the school board. He did not become a citizen of the United States, however, until September 1877.

In 1879, Col. Hartford married Alice Elizabeth Thomas, with whom he raised a family of five children. In 1906, Col. and Mrs. Hartford retired from the ranch to a home in the city of Hutchinson. Hartford died 4 October 1919.

Bibliography

Ploughe, Sheridan. *History of Reno County, Kansas: Its People, Industries and Institutions*. (Indianapolis, IN: B. F. Bowen & Co., 1917).

Robertson, James I., ed. *The Civil War Letters of Robert McAllister*. (New Brunswick, NJ: Rutgers University Press, 1965).

Stryker, William S. *Record of Officers and Men of New Jersey in the Civil War, 1861-1865*. (Trenton, NJ: John L. Murphy, 1876).

Trudeau, Noah Andre. *The Last Citadel: Petersburg, Virginia, June 1864-April 1865*. (Baton Rouge, LA: Louisiana State University Press, 1991).

Content Note

This collection was donated to the Archives in 1993 by Henry Hartford's grandson, John Hartford, of Newton, KS. It includes miscellaneous military and personal papers from or related to Col. Hartford's Civil War service. The papers have been organized into the following five groups:

8th Regiment records - These make up the bulk of the Hartford papers, and include such items as muster rolls, descriptive lists, inventories of ordnance stores, receipts for clothing and camp equipage, and monthly reports from hospitals notifying company commanders that certain men remained under care. Several of the documents provide personal details about individual soldiers. One such item is the descriptive book for Company E (#1 below), which records the age, place of birth, occupation, and service record for each man in the company. Much of the information included in this volume cannot be found in the Archives' official records for the 8th Regiment. Unfortunately, several pages of the book are missing and many others were obscured by its subsequent use as a scrapbook for newsclippings. Also of special note is an operations report from Hartford to Major J. P. Finkelmeier giving details of activities near Petersburg and Appomattox in March-April 1865.

6th Regiment records - The second group consists of various documents relating to the 6th Regiment, including muster rolls and pay and hospital records dating from 1864-1865. It is not clear whether Henry Hartford had official responsibility at some time for the 6th Regiment.

3rd Corps records - This group includes two circular notices only.

Confederate documents - The first of the two items in this group is a blank $500 Confederate certificate. The second item is a morning report of Captain S. W. Jones, Company C, 46th North Carolina Infantry, made in February-March 1865. Considering the dates, this document may have been confiscated or taken as a souvenir by Hartford or one of his men during the final days of the siege of Petersburg, about April 2nd.

Post-war material - This group consists of personal papers mostly relating to pension and arrears-of-pay claims, and Hartford's involvement in the Grand Army of the Republic. Also included here are photocopies of three letters of recommendation, dated 1865-1868, from Gens. Robert McAllister and Gershom Mott (Hartford's brigade and division commanders, respectively) and New Jersey Governor Marcus Ward.

NOTE: The Hartford donation also includes a large number of "carte-de-visites" collected by Col. Henry Hartford--mostly of officers of the 8th Regiment. For preservation purposes and improved access, these photographs have been placed in the series *Department of Defense / Adjutant General's Office (Civil War) / Photographs of Soldiers*. A list is attached to this guide for the convenience of researchers.

Contents

8th Regiment records, 1861-1865

1. Descriptive book, Company E, August 1861 - June 1864 [1 vol., oversized].
2. Monthly returns of captains, 1862-1864:
    a. Capt. Edwin G. Nichols, Company G, September-October 1863 [2 items, oversized].
    b. Hartford and predecessors (including Capt. Thomas Stevenson and Lt. Augustus Bock), Company E,

October 1862 - April 1864 [10 items, oversized].

3. Muster rolls, Company E, 1862-1863:
    a. 2nd Lt. John B. Donald, 31 October 1862 [1 item, oversized].
    b. Capt. Thomas Stevenson, near Falmouth, VA, 10 April 1863 [1 item, oversized].
    c. Capt. Thomas Stevenson, near Falmouth, VA, 10 April 1863 [1 item, oversized; incomplete roll?].
    d. Capt. Thomas Stevenson, near Falmouth, VA, 30 April 1863 [1 item, oversized].
    e. Lt. Augustus Bock, near Bealton, VA, 31 August 1863 [1 item, oversized].
    f. Lt. Henry Hartford, 31 December 1863 [1 item, oversized].

4. Hospital records, 1862-1865:
    a. Descriptive list, Thomas Startin, Company E, Hammond General Hospital, Point Lookout, MD, 29 December 1862 [1 item].
    b. Notice of H. [W. Ducachet?] re: Hartford entering hospital, Seminary Hospital, Georgetown, DC, 22 April 1863 [1 item].
    c. Mower U.S. General Hospital re: Pvts. Edward S. Sharley and John Shultz, Company E, Philadelphia, PA, 23 January 1864 [2 items].
    d. Report re: Pvt. Patrick Harrington, Company E, U.S. Army General Hospital, Annapolis, MD, 4 February 1864 [1 item].
    e. Report re: Pvt. Wesley Vanderhoof, Company E, Tilton General Hospital, Wilmington, DE, 2 May 1864 [1 item].
    f. Report re: Pvt. Mack D. Safford, Ricord U.S. Army General Hospital, Washington, DC, 31 March 1865 [1 item].
    g. Report re: Pvts. George Fisher and Jacob Breivogel, Post Hospital, City Point, VA, 31 March 1865 [2 items].
    h. Report re: Pvt. John Schaustien, Company E, Judiciary Square U.S. Army General Hospital, Washington, DC, 31 March 1865 [1 item].
    i. Reports re: Corp. J. C. Barkman, Company F; Pvt. George A. Bickell, Company G; Pvt. George Fisher, Company A; Pvt. August Godeke, Company F; Pvt. James Kelly, Company C; Pvt. Frank McCreary, Company I; Pvt. Patrick Murphy, Company A; and Pvt. Ward Price, Company E, "Ward" U.S. Army General Hospital, Newark, NJ, 31 March 1865 [10 items].
    j. Request for descriptive list for Sgt. Edward Cobb, Jarvis U.S. Army General Hospital, Baltimore, MD, 14 May 1865 [1 item].
    k. Reports re: Pvts. Jacob Luithle, Company E; Mack D. Safford, Company K; Henry J. Ward, Company B, Lincoln U.S. General Hospital, Washington, DC, May and 11 June 1865 [2 items].
    l. Reports re: Corp. Henry Fox and Pvt. Henry Seibick, Company G; Pvts. William Grossman and Baltas Cochle, Company D; and Pvts. Christopher Stumpf, Company K, "Ward" U.S. General Hospital, Newark, NJ, 31 May 1865 [3 items].
    m. Pvt. A. Daisenburger, Company K, U.S. General Hospital, Fortress Monroe, VA, 31 May 1865 [1 item].

5. Clothing, camp and garrison equipage records, 1863-1865:
    a. Signed blank forms, no date [2 items].
    b. Acknowledgement of receipt of camp equipage, Company G, 1863 [1 item; includes signatures of men].
    c. Miscellaneous, Company G, September 1863 [6 items].
    d. Acknowledgements of receipt of clothing, Company G, September 1863 and no date [2 items, oversized; include signatures of men].
    e. Miscellaneous, Company G, October 1863 [3 items].
    f. Miscellaneous, Company E, November 1863 [4 items].
    g. Acknowledgements of receipt of clothing, Company E, 1st Quarter, 1865 [1 item, oversized, fragmented; includes signatures of men].
    h. Miscellaneous, Company E, February-March 1864 [4 items].
    i. Capt. Thomas S. Munro to Commanding Officer, 8th Battalion, re: amount of clothing drawn by men of 8th Regiment, Headquarters, 3rd Division, 26 April 1865 [1 item].

6. Volunteer descriptive lists and accounts of pay and clothing, Company E, 1863-1864:
    a. Pvt. Charles A. King, 5 April 1863 [1 item, oversized].
    b. Pvt. Israel Masker, 14 April 1864 [1 item, oversized].

7. Records relating to disciplinary actions, 1863-1865:
    a. List of men from Company K who participated in [mutiny?], no date [1 item].
    b. Col. John Ramsey to S. Williams, Assistant Adjutant General, recommending dismissal of 2nd Lt. Andrew J. Manderville, Company D, for actions at Gettysburg, Camp near Bealton, VA, 9 August 1863 [1 item].
    c. Col. John Ramsey to Maj. [Hears?], Pres., Court of Administration, re: suspension of privileges of George D. Randal for neglect of duty, Camp near Brandy Station, VA, 16 December 1863 [1 item].
    d. General Order No. 2, Col. John Ramsey, ordering Hartford to participate in court martial, Camp near Brandy Station, VA, 24 February 1864 [1 item].
    e. Henry A. Scheetz, Capt. and Provost Marshal, to Commanding Officer, 8th New Jersey Volunteers, re: arrest of Joseph Wingartner, Washington, DC, 1 June 1864 [1 item].
    f. Charge and specification preferred against Pvt. Gustavus Hasselbogen, Company I, near Yellow House, VA, 2 January 1865 [1 item].
    g. Hartford to Asst. Adj. Gen. J. P. Finkelmeier, 3rd Brigade, requesting court martial of Rufus Keisler and John D. Burgh, Headquarters, 8th New Jersey Volunteers, 15 June 1865 [1 item].

8. Ordnance records, 1863-1865:
    a. 2nd Lt. John B. Donald, 31 October 1862 [1 item, oversized].
    b. Capt. Thomas Stevenson, near Falmouth, VA, 10 April 1863 [1 item, oversized].
    c. Capt. Thomas Stevenson, near Falmouth, VA, 10 April 1863 [1 item, oversized; incomplete roll?].
    d. Capt. Thomas Stevenson, near Falmouth, VA, 30 April 1863 [1 item, oversized].
    e. Lt. Augustus Bock, near Bealton, VA, 31 August 1863 [1 item, oversized].

9. Transportation accounts, 1863-1865:
    a. Account for: Corp. John Tobin, Company D; Pvt. Patrick McAvay, Company E; Pvt. George Eager, Company E; Pvt. August Meyer, Company A; and Pvt. David Fraser, Company A, Annapolis, MD, no date [1 item].
    b. Account for Pvt. Thomas Marchbank, Company A, New York, NY, 16 October 1863 [1 item].
    c. Account for James Hogan, Company B, Philadelphia, PA, 3 June 1865 [1 item].

10. Muster-in rolls, 1863 and 1865:
    a. 1st Lts. Henry Hartford and Martin I. Manning, 16 October 1863 [1 item, oversized].
    b. Major Henry Hartford, 5 January 1865 [1 item, oversized].

11. Extract from Special Order No. 219 granting Hartford ten-day leave of absence, Headquarters, 3rd Army Corps, 29 December 1863 [1 item].

12. Muster-out roll of Capt. Henry Hartford, 5 January 1864 [1 item, oversized].

13. Descriptive lists of deserters, Company E, 1864:
    a. Pvt. Israel Masker, 9 February 1864 [1 item, oversized].
    b. Pvt. Patrick Harrington, 21 April 1864 and hospital report, Newark U.S. Army General Hospital, Newark, NJ, 15 April 1864 [2 items, affixed, oversized].

14. Miscellaneous correspondence, 1864-1865:
    a. Cover letter of Asst. Adj. Gen. Samuel Breck enclosing papers [not attached], Washington, DC, 18 May 1864 [1 item].
    b. Col. John Ramsey to Adj. Gen. R. F. Stockton and Gov. Joel Parker recommending promotion of 2nd Lts. Charles H. Archer and Daniel M. Ford, and James Demarest, Camp near Fort Stevenson, VA, and Camp near Petersburg, VA, 25 October and 6 November 1864 [3 items].
    c. Col. John Ramsey to Capt. Munro re: brigade cutting timber, near Petersburg, VA, 11 November 1864 [1 item].

d. Hartford to Lt. Col. Samuel Beck, Assistant Adjutant General, requesting blank discharges, Headquarters, 8th New Jersey Volunteers, 14 July 1865 [1 item].

e. Gen. G. Mott to Hartford re: Hartford's promotion to rank of lieutenant colonel, Bordentown, NJ, 10 August 1865 [1 item].

15. [Muster roll?], 8th Regiment, Companies A-I, ca. September-October 1864 [1 item].

16. Operations report, Hartford to J. P. Finkelmeier, Assistant Adjutant General, re: activities near Petersburg during March-April, 14 April 1865 [1 item].

6th Regiment records, 1864-1865

17. Muster and descriptive rolls, 1864:
    a. Field and staff, Lt. Col. P. R. Gilkyson, Petersburg, VA, 28 August 1864 [1 item, oversized].
    b. Recruits and veteran volunteers, 1st Lt. L. E. Ayres, Company C, near Petersburg, VA, 28 August 1864 [1 item, oversized].
    c. Recruits and veteran volunteers, Capt. Thomas F. Fields, Company H, no date [1 item, oversized].
    d. Recruits and veteran volunteers, 1st Lt. Joseph T. Note, Co. I, near Petersburg, VA, 28 August 1864 [1 item, oversized].
    e. Recruits and veteran volunteers, Capt. Joseph R. West, Company K, near Petersburg, VA, 28 August 1864 [1 item, oversized].

18. Muster roll, Lt. Joseph C. Lee, Company B, Fort Crawford near Petersburg, VA, 31 August 1864 [1 item, oversized].

19. Pay records, 1865:
    a. Pvt. John Austin, Company K, Pay Department, March 1865 [1 item].
    b. Pvt. Michael Wright, Company H, Pay Department, Trenton, NJ, 28 March 1865 [2 items].

20. Hospital records, 1865:
    a. Roll of men, De Camp General Hospital (Pvt. William Groves, Company D, only), David's Island, New York Harbor, 31 March 1865 [1 item].
    b. Reports re: Pvts. John Nugent, Company B, and Michael Wright, Company H, 6th Regiment, "Ward" U.S. Army General Hospital, Newark, NJ, 31 March - 31 May 1865 [4 items].

3rd Corps records, 1864-1865

21. Treasurer's report for 1864, G. Mott, 5 May 1864 [1 item].

22. Circular letter from Capt. K. G. Lay re: return of deserters, Headquarters, Provisional Corps, 10 July 1865 [1 item].

Confederate records, 1865 and no date

23. Blank $500 Confederate certificate, no date [1 item].

24. Morning report of Capt. S. W. Jones, Company C, 46th Regiment, North Carolina Infantry, 1 February - 29 March 1865 [1 item, oversized, fragmented].Post-war material, 1865-1929

25. Letters of recommendation, 1865-1868:
    a. Gen. Robert McAllister "To all whom it may concern" recommending Hartford for a government position, Belvidere, NJ, 29 August 1865 [1 item, photocopies].
    b. Gen. G. Mott recommending Hartford, Bordentown, NJ, 17 January 1868 [1 item, photocopies].
    c. Gov. Marcus L. Ward to Hon. M. Kelly of New York recommending Hartford, Trenton, NJ, 22 January 1868 [1 item, photocopies].

26. Certificate of Joseph A. Moore, Post Adjutant, granting Hartford leave of absence, Headquarters, Sedgwick Post No. 11, Grand Army of the Republic, Manhattan District, 13 April 1868 [1 item, fragmented].

27. Business card, Hartford & Bro., Leavenworth, KS, ca. 1867-1872.

28. Dennis Cahill to Hartford re: Hartford's invalid pension claim, Soldiers' Home, Newark, NJ, April 1879 - January 1880 [7 items].

29. Correspondence relating to arrears-of-pay case (George E. Lemon, Second Auditor's Office, and others), Washington, DC, August 1888 - June 1892 [10 items].

30. Pension material (from Department of the Interior and Treasury Department), Washington, DC, July 1902 - 1918 [6 items].

31. Benjamin Murphy, Chief of Police, to Hartford re: official record of regiment and reunion, Jersey City, NJ, 3 December 1903 [1 item].

32. Appointment of Hartford as Aide-de-Camp, Grand Army of the Republic, Kansas City, MO, 15 May 1908 [1 item, photocopies].

33. "At Gettysburg: 'My Most Vivid Recollection' by Missouri and Kansas Surviving Participants," *The Kansas City Star*, Sunday, 29 June 1913 [1 item, photocopies; includes account by Hartford].

34. U.S. Department of the Interior and others to Mrs. Alice Hartford re: widow's pension, December 1919 - October 1929 [12 items].

Created July 2004

If you have any questions about the information in this collection guide, please contact njarchives@sos.state.nj.us