

Guide to
Reuel Williams Waters, 1st Battalion, Maine Light
Artillery, 6th Maine Battery



Gettysburg College, Musselman Library
Special Collections & College Archives
Processed by Chelsea Bucklin '10
December 2011

MS - 100: Reuel Williams Waters, 1st Battalion, Maine Light Artillery, 6th Maine Battery

(1 box, .27 cubic feet)

Inclusive Dates: 1862-1903

Bulk Dates: 1862-1865

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Provenance: Purchased from Charles Apfelbaum 2009

Biography:

Reuel Williams Waters of Augusta, Maine, was born October 31st, 1842, the fifth of six children to Cornelius Waters (1795-1880) and Abigail Irish (1806 – 1873). Waters had four sisters, Rebecca Irish Waters (1831 – 1882), Mary Louisa Waters (1833 – unknown), Abigail Cordelia Waters (1837 – 1877), Anna Gardner Waters (1851 – unknown), and one brother, James Cornelius Waters (1840 – 1870). Waters enlisted in the 6th Maine Light Artillery on November 11, 1862 at the age of 20, and was mustered out on June 17, 1865. The 6th Maine, also known as McGilvery's Battery, were engaged at 2nd Bull Run, the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, Opequan, Fisher's Hill, Cedar Creek, and Gettysburg. Waters married Emily A. Bently (October 6th, 1844 – unknown) with whom he had one child, Herbert Bentley Waters (September 12th, 1870 – unknown).

Series Description

The Reuel W. Waters Collection is divided into six Series. **Series I:** Biographical Information; **Series II:** Correspondence; **Series III:** Diary Manuscript; **Series IV:** Family Correspondence; **Series V:** Newspaper Clippings; and **Series VI:** Family Genealogy.

Scope and Content Notes:

This collection consists of three letters and a twenty-two page diary penned by Reuel Williams Waters. The diary manuscript is a 22 page quarto, titled "Diary from August 29th 1863 [corrected in pencil to 62] (Time of Enlistment into the U.S. Service) to January 1st 1864. Per Reuel Williams Waters." The letters are written by Waters to his sisters. Additionally, a photograph of Reuel Waters, several newspaper clippings concerning members of Waters' family and reunions of the 6th Maine Battery, letters penned by Waters' mother and sister-in-law after the war, and notes concerning Waters and Bentley (Waters' wife Emily Bentley) family genealogy are included in this collection. A transcription produced by the processor is included with each letter as well as the diary manuscript.

Box 1

Series I – Biographical Information

1-1 Biographical Information, Finding Aid, and Reuel Waters photograph

Series II – Correspondence

1-2 Correspondence from Reuel Waters to his sister Annie, February 6, 1865

1-3 Correspondence from Reuel Waters to his sister Abbie, February 15, 1865

1-4 Correspondence from Reuel Waters to his sisters R. and A., March 15, 1865

Series III – Diary Manuscript

1-5 Diary Manuscript

Series IV – Family Correspondence

1-6 Correspondence from Lizzie (Bentley) to sister Emily (Bentley) Waters, September 17, 1867

1-7 Correspondence from Abigail (Irish) Waters to her son Reuel Waters, May 26, 1869

Series V – Newspaper Clippings

1-8 Newspaper clippings concerning family and the 6th Maine Battery

Series VI – Family Genealogy

1-9 Bentley Family Genealogy

1-10 Miscellaneous family notes and information