Resources for Civil War History
at
The Minnesota Historical Society

By
Hampton Smith
Reference Associate
Minnesota Historical Society
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Civil War Research at the Minnesota Historical Society

Perhaps no other event in American history continues to capture the interest of researchers, both amateur and professional, like the Civil War. From the detailed analysis of the everyday life of soldiers and civilians one finds in reenactment groups to wide-ranging studies of the motivations that drove so many men to enlist, undertaken by students and professors, new analysis and interpretations of the “Middle Period” abound.

Because the Minnesota Historical Society had its beginnings more than a decade before the war, its collections benefited from the generosity of history conscious veterans. Many personal accounts in the form of letters, diaries and reminiscences found their way into the Society’s collections. In more recent years, the official records of State government, particularly the records of the Governor and Adjutant General have added importance materials. Over the years, these unpublished sources were supplemented with an extensive collection of published primary and secondary sources, many dating from the years immediately following the war. The latter include regimental histories, published diaries, official sources and reminiscences. The end result of this process is that today the Minnesota Historical Society houses a diverse and surprisingly rich source of information on the American Civil War.

Unfortunately the very diversity of these materials and the ad hoc manner of their acquisition over the last century, creates difficulties in finding and using them. This guide is an attempt to provide researchers with a start on how and where to find information and to point out particular strengths and weaknesses of our collections.

A Note on Military Organization:

Both published and unpublished sources often refer to a variety of military units such as “regiments”, “brigades” and “companies”. For the uninitiated these terms can be confusing, so what follows is a modest attempt to explain the organizational system of the U.S and Confederate Armies.

The pattern of army organization during the Civil War followed a system developed after the Mexican War. The basic infantry unit was the Regiment. Each of which was made up of ten companies identified by the letters “A” through “K” omitting the letter “J” which could be confused with “I”. A Company could number up to 100 men each, although this was rarely the case, and was commanded by a Captain assisted by two Lieutenants. Typically, a regiment would include from 400 to 800 men depending on casualties, sickness and success at recruiting and was commanded by a Colonel with a Major serving as executive officer.

According to the system of the day, the individual states, through their Adjutant Generals, were responsible for raising these regiments and to some extent equipping them. After receiving some basic training and drill instruction, these units would be mustered into Federal service where they were designated by their state names and numbered by seniority. So the First Minnesota Infantry was the first infantry regiment raised by the state of Minnesota.
In the early years of the War, prominent citizens took on the expense of recruiting companies and were rewarded for their efforts by being elected captain of the group. The states then assembled companies into regiments appointing officers to command them. This system led to considerable political string pulling and both sides had many “political” officers with little formal training. Some of these men proved adept at soldiering but the majority were more interested in furthering their careers than actually fighting (a man could get killed after all) and caused many headaches for commanding officers North and South.

Regiments in turn were grouped together in larger units known as Brigades. Typically a brigade in the union army would include four regiments and act under the command of a Brigadier General. The regiments forming a brigade often came from different states, and regiments could be shifted from one brigade to another as needed. Indeed, it was not unusual for one regiment to serve as part of several brigades during the course of its career. Brigades were typically known by the name of their commanding General. Some particularly distinguished brigades earned notable names such as the Iron Brigade and the Irish Brigade.

Brigades in turn, were organized into Divisions usually made up of four brigades. Divisions were commanded by a Brigadier or Major General and were known by the name of their commander.

Corps or “Grand Divisions” as they were sometimes known, included several types of units. Three or more Divisions of Infantry along with Several Batteries of Artillery might make up a corps. Within some Union armies the corps were designated by roman numerals but might also be referred to by the name of the Major General commanding.

Two or more corps along with unattached units of artillery and cavalry would make up an Army. On both sides Armies were known by geographic names, typically those of rivers like the Army of the Potomac or the Army of the Cumberland. Some had regional designations like the Army of Northern Virginia.

The basic field or “Light” Artillery unit was the Battery. A “typical” battery would contain four to six guns commanded by a Captain. Each battery was divided into two-gun sections under the command of a lieutenant. Each gun was under the command of a sergeant. Twenty five to thirty men were required to man and service a gun. In addition from 45 to 98 horses served to pull the battery’s guns and their caseons into battle.
There were also **Heavy Artillery** units, also known as foot artillery or siege artillery. Originally intended to man fortifications and operate siege artillery, these units were organized into companies and regiments along the same lines as the infantry. Sometimes, as in the Army of the Potomac, they were pressed into duty as infantry.

**Cavalry** were also organized into regiments of from 10 to 12 companies referred to as troops. As the war progressed Cavalry formations began to operate in divisions and later in corps augmented with artillery.

In both Cavalry and Infantry some units were designated as **Battalions**. These were essentially groups of companies too few to make up a regiment. In some cases, like the First Minnesota Veteran Volunteers, a battalion was essentially a reorganized regiment that had suffered so much attrition that it could no longer act as a larger unit. Under the recruitment system of that time, the states preferred to form new regiments rather than furnish replacement troops for the “old” ones.
Section I: Published Sources

Since the beginning of the Civil War, much has appeared in print regarding the conflict and its affect on American society. Fortunately for the modern researcher, the Minnesota Historical Society was already an active collecting institution in 1861. As a result, many published sources that have long since gone out of print are to be found in the Society’s collections. These include a variety of works from published official records to personal narratives and histories of specific battles and campaigns.

However, collecting policies here, as elsewhere, have varied over time. While one can find a good representation of 19th and early 20th Century publications, there are some noticeable gaps in MHS holdings particularly during the years prior to the Civil War Centennial and the 1970’s and 1980’s. There was also a deliberate shift in policy away from being an all-purpose history collection to focusing on Minnesota and the Upper Midwest region. Even with unlimited budget and space, the Society could not have collected the enormous body of materials published on the American Civil War. Still, the collection has some very notable strengths, particularly regimental histories and published personal narratives, which complement and enhance its other resources.

Published primary sources - These include official records of Federal and local governments, military and naval reports, letters, diaries and personal narratives.

Among the official records several series stand out as particularly important. The first of these is the three volume work, Minnesota in the Civil and Indian War (READING ROOM E515 .M66 1890). At the request of several veterans organizations, the Minnesota State Legislature created a board of commissioner in the year 1889 to “..take charge of and cause to be prepared and published an official historical narrative of the services of each regiment, battalion, battery and independent company of Minnesota troops while in the service of the United States in the Civil War of 1861-1865, and in the Indian War of 1862”.

Originally, a two volume work was produced. The first volume included a narrative history of each unit followed by a copy of that unit’s muster roll. Volume two contained official letters, telegrams, and reports relating to the various Minnesota units and the state’s participation in the conflict. In the 1930’s an index to the muster rolls was produced as part of a W.P.A. project at the Minnesota Historical Society. All three volumes have recently been republished by Higginson Book Company. Minnesota in the Civil and Indian Wars remains a vital primary source for anyone doing research on the State’s involvement in the war. Volume one contains the only narrative history for some units, particularly the smaller battalions and batteries while the second volume includes copies of orders and reports of unit actions as well as important communications between the War Department and state officials.

Many other states published similar series and our collections include quite a few for both Union and Confederate states. The following list of official histories and rosters may prove helpful.

Arkansas

Connecticut
Connecticut Adjutant-General’s Office. Annual Reports  
Catalogue of Connecticut Volunteer Organizations...  
Record of Service of Connecticut Men...

Georgia
Georgia in the War  
Roster of the Confederate Soldiers of Georgia, 1861-1865.

Illinois
Illinois in the War for the Union  
Report of the Adjutant General of State of Illinois  
(includes rosters - no index)

Iowa
Roster and Record of Iowa Soldiers in the War of the Rebellion

Indiana
Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Indiana...

Kentucky
Kentucky Adjutant-General’s Office. Annual Reports, 1861-1866.  
The Union Regiments of Kentucky  
Confederate Kentucky Volunteers...

Maine
Maine Adjutant-General. Annual Reports, 1861-1866.  
Maine in the War for the Union

Maryland
History and Roster of Maryland Volunteers (Union)  
Index to the Maryland Line in the Confederate Army

Massachusetts
Massachusetts Adjutant General’s Office. Annual Reports  
Massachusetts Soldiers Sailors and Marines in the Civil War  
Massachusetts Soldiers Sailors and Marines in the Civil War Index  
Massachusetts in the Army and Navy During the War, 1861-1865  
(includes “Mass. Women in the Civil War” Vol. 2, p.586)

Michigan
Alphabetical General Index to..... Names of Michigan Soldiers
and Sailors
Record of Service of Michigan Volunteers in the Civil War
Michigan Adjutant Generals Dept., Annual Reports

New Hampshire
New Hampshire in the Great Rebellion.
Revised Register of Soldiers and Sailors of New Hampshire...

New York
New York in the War of the Rebellion

North Carolina
Roster of North Carolina Troops in the War Between the States

Ohio
Official Roster of Soldiers of the State of Ohio in the War...
Index to the Roster of Ohio Soldiers: 1861-1866.

Pennsylvania
History of Pennsylvania Volunteers, 1861-1865

Rhode Island
Rhode Island Adjutant-General’s Office. Annual Reports
Names of officers, soldiers and seamen....

South Carolina
South Carolina Troops in the Confederate Service

Tennessee
Index to Questionnaires of Civil War Veterans.

Vermont
Revised Roster of Vermont Volunteers
Vermont in the Great Rebellion

Wisconsin
Wisconsin in the War of the Rebellion...
Wisconsin Volunteers, War of the Rebellion, 1861-1865

State Adjutant General Reports. The Adjutant General of each state was the official responsible for recruiting and maintaining state militias and the regiments sent off to Federal service with each call for volunteers. Such reports typically include returns of expenditures on equipment and muster rolls of units recruited during a given year. The most useful records for Minnesota are the reports for the years 1862-1866. The last of these, 1866, includes “final” muster rolls for all Minnesota units and it too is indexed in volume III of
Minnesota in the Civil and Indian Wars. In addition to records for Minnesota, our holdings include Adjutant General reports for a number of other states. See the list above for details.

By far the most widely used and important published source for Civil War history is The War of the Rebellion: a Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies, (E491 .U5) also known by shortened titles such as, Official Records, Rebellion Records or the O.R. This and its companion series, Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies, (E591 .U5) represent the largest collection of primary documents on the conduct of the war.

Official Records - Armies includes 127 books organized in three series. Series I spans 111 books which include 53 “Volumes” many of which are subdivided into “Parts”. This series focuses on military operations and is organized chronologically by “theater” and campaign. Orders and reports for a given action are arranged so as to provide a history of a given battle. Documents from the Union side are presented first, followed by those from Confederate sources. Series II contains orders, reports and returns regarding political prisoners and prisoners-of-war. The contents of Series III is made up primarily of Union correspondence regarding army organization and logistics. This series also contains correspondence between Union and Confederate officials. Series IV includes “miscellaneous” Confederate records such as, Acts of the Confederate Congress, General and Special Orders of the Confederate Army and correspondence relating to conscription and blockade runners. A copy of Series One with the general index is located in the Reading Room.

Although there is a separate General Index volume to the O.R., it is awkward and difficult to use. Anyone undertaking extensive research in the Official Records should consult A Users’ Guide to the Official Records of the American Civil War by Alan C. and Barbara A. Aimone (E491.U5 A34 1993). This short work provides an excellent overview to the creation of the O.R., its organization and limitations. It also includes some useful appendices correlating events to volumes of the Records and other sources.

General Histories: Among MHS collections are a number of standard histories of the Civil War. One of the earliest, and most widely used sources is the four volume work, Battles and Leaders of the Civil War (Reading Room E470. B33). First published in 1883, this series includes detailed histories, including maps and illustrations, of major battles and campaigns, many of which were written by principal participants. More recent studies include two well known standards, Shelby Foote’s The Civil War, a narrative, (E468.F7) and James McPherson’s widely acclaimed one volume history, Battle Cry of Freedom (Reading Room E470. M17 1988).

Biographies: There are many biographies of major figures in the Civil War from Lincoln to Lee. These include a number of older standards such as The Personal Memoirs of U. S. Grant (E672 .G76), and Douglas Southall Freeman’s classic, R. E. Lee (E467.1 L4 F83). Most of these tend to be older works, however, and more recent biographies are not represented in the collections.

Personal Narratives, Letters and Diaries: A PALS “keyword” search using the terms “Civil War personal narratives” will yield over 500 titles. Many of these sources were
published in the decades immediately following the war and they range from apologia of
generals and politicians to frank accounts of individual experiences of private soldiers and
civilians. Some of these are quite unusual and a significant number of them are by and about
women. Here are a few examples:

Livermore, Mary Ashton Rice, My Story of the War: A woman’s narrative of four years
personal experience as nurse in the Union Army, and the relief work at home ...  
(E621.L79)

Edmonds, S. Emma E., Nurse and Spy in the Union Army. (E608.E24)


West, John C., A Texan in Search of a Fight. Being a diary and letters of a private soldier in
Hood’s Texas Brigade.  (E605. W51)

Longstreet, James E., From Manassas to Appomattox. (E470 .L85 1903)

Letters of a Confederate Soldier: correspondence of Robert D. Jameson and his wife
Camilla. (E605 .J3)

Jefferson Davis: Constitutionalist. His Letters, Papers and Speeches (10 volumes!).
(E467.1 D26 D26)

(E537.5 15th H)

And last, but not least, my personal favorite, Velazquez, Madame Loreta Janita, The Woman
in Battle. In which the author claims to have disguised herself as a man then
served as an officer in the Confederate army and after being wounded and discovered,
acting as a spy in the North. This book looks and reads like melodrama and its veracity is
debatable (apparently no one has been able to prove or disprove her claims) but even if only
half-true, it’s interesting and a great example of the “personal exploits” genre published after
the war.

Another useful source for collected personal accounts are the published papers of the
Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States or M.O.L.L.U.S.. This organization
was made up of former officers in the Union Army and modeled itself after the Society of
Cincinnati, an organization of Revolutionary War officers. Various state chapters published
reports of their annual meetings which included biographical information, obituaries, and
published versions of addresses given by members. These often took the form of personal
accounts of actions or campaigns in which the individual served. Sometimes these
presentations were collected and published as a separate series such as, Glimpses of the
Nation’s Struggle (E464 .M63), by the Minnesota chapter of MOLLUS.

In addition to the Minnesota Chapter, our holdings include MOLLUS records for:
California, the District of Columbia, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Maine, Michigan Missouri,
Nebraska, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Rhode Island, Wisconsin and Vermont.
Regimental Histories  - Histories of individual units and individual accounts associated with particular regiments have found their way into print since the close of the Civil War and new regimental histories continue to be published today. The Minnesota Historical Society has a rich and varied collection of regimental histories, particularly those published in the 19th and early 20th Centuries. These include examples from most northern states as well as a few Confederate units. No attempt is made to list them all here. However, by searching PALS using a keyword or subject term search including the name of the state, branch of service (infantry, cavalry, artillery) one can find quite a few listings. In the case of Minnesota such searches may be further limited by unit designation (i.e. First or 1st Minnesota artillery) and by format.

Another useful source for published regimental histories is Regimental Publications & Personal Narratives of the Civil War: A Checklist by Charles E. Dornbusch. Although published in 1961 and therefore dated, it contains useful listings of earlier unit histories and cross references to articles, particularly MOLLUS publications, relating to particular units. A copy of the Checklist is available in the Weyerhaeuser Reading Room. Its catalog number is: E468.1 .D7.

A general source that researchers will find useful, particularly in documenting Union regiments is: Regimental Losses in the American Civil War by William F. Fox (E491 .F79). This work provides useful statistical information for most of the regiments in Federal service as well as U.S Colored Troops and some Confederate states as well.

The following is a listing from our holdings of published Regimental Histories and other sources relating to Minnesota units. For a more detailed listing, including citations of journal articles, see Stephen Osman’s excellent bibliography: Minnesota in the Civil War, 1861-1866: a bibliography of published sources. (Z1242 .O76 1994)

First Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry


Imholte, John Quinn. The First Volunteers: history of the First Minnesota Volunteer Regiment.  (E515.5 1st .I44)


Moe, Richard. *The Last Full Measure: the life and death of the First Minnesota Volunteers.* (E515.5 1st M64 1993)


Taylor, Matthew F. *History of the First Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, 1861-1864.* (E515.5 1st M).


**Second Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry**

Bircher, William. *A Drummer-Boy’s Diary: Comprising four years service with the Second Regiment Minnesota Veteran Volunteers, 1861-1865.* (E515.5 2nd B57 1889)


Bishop, Judson Wade. *The Story of a Regiment, being a narrative of the service of the Second Regiment Minnesota Veteran Volunteer Infantry, 1861-1865.* (E515.5 2nd .B)


Donahower, J. C. “Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge” (E475.94 .D76 1898)

Johnson, Richard W. “Remarks made by General R. W. Johnson at the 32nd Reunion of the Second Minnesota Volunteers.” (E515.5 2nd .J64 1895)

**Official Records Concerning the Second Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry** (E515.5 2nd O33, 1887).


**Third Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry**

History of the Third Regiment of Infantry Minnesota Volunteers (E515.5 3rd)

Lombard, C. W. *History of the Third Regiment of Infantry, Minnesota Volunteers, with the record of the original regiment.* (E515.5 3rd L) (Microfiche 762)

Fourth Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry


Brown, Alonzo L. History of the Fourth Regiment of Minnesota Infantry Volunteers During the Great Rebellion, 1861-1865. (E515.5 4th B76)

Young, Eric. The letters of Eric (Wedmark) Young, 1858-1866. (E184.S23 Y68 1992)

Fifth Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry


Sixth Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry


Hill, Alfred James. History of Company E, of the Sixth Minnesota Regiment of Volunteer Infantry. (E5115.5 6th H)

Patten, Floyd J. 1862 “Good Company H!” : incidents in campaigns of the Sioux Outbreak in 1862. (E83.86 .P386 1962)

Sixth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry Scrapbook. (E515.5 6th S 59)

Seventh Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry


Lehmann, Louis. The Legend of Frederick Lehmann: primarily an account of his brief Military career in the Seventh Minnesota Infantry Regiment during the Sioux Indian Uprising of 1862. (E83.86 .L44 1990)

Risvold, Floyd E. “Indians and Rebels” (HE 6191 .T7 G64 1963)

Tenth Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry

Ahsenmacher, Henry. The Civil War Diary of a Minnesota Volunteer. (E601. A 47 A3 1990)


Smith, John. *Tales of the Tenth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteers, 1862 - 1863, by Two Soldiers.* (E515.5 10th S65 1996)

**Cavalry**

Sayner, Donald B. *The Orders of Colonel Samuel McPhail, 1863, Minnesota Mounted Rangers.* (E83.863 .M3 S38)

**Sharpshooters**

Stevens, Charles A. *Berdan's United States Sharpshooters in the Army of the Potomac.* (E470.2 S84)

Wright A. *History of the First Company of Sharpshooters of Minnesota* (E492.7 .W94)

**Campaign and Battle Histories:** The library’s collections include many studies of particular battles or campaigns. They can be located using a Subject Term search or Keyword search of PALS by entering the name of a battle or campaign. Like other aspects of our collections, most of these are older works and the holdings are far from complete. In recent years we have tried to collect newer histories of battles in which Minnesota units took part, particularly if the author made use of our collections in researching the work. An example would be Peter Cozzens’ study of the battle of Chicamauga, *This Terrible Sound* (E475.81 .C78 1992), in which the author used several of our collections relating to the Second Minnesota Infantry.

**Specialized studies:** The scope of the Society’s collections reflects the wide range of studies of various aspects of the Civil War including political and social history as well as military topics. For example, there is Annie Heloise Abel’s three volume work on Indians in the Civil War (E540.I3 A2) and *Melting Pot Soldiers: the Union’s Ethnic Regiments* by William L. Burton (E540.F6 B87 1988) as well as, *American Jewry and the Civil War* by Bertram W. Korn (E540.J5K7).

The role of African American soldiers has been a particular focus of investigation in recent years and there are a number of sources at MHS relating to this topic particularly: *Black Soldiers - Black Sailors - Black Ink: research guide on African-Americans in U.S. military history, 1526-1900.* By Thomas Truxtun Moebs. (UB418.A47 M64 1994); *Forged in Battle: the Civil War alliance of Black soldiers and white officers,* by Joseph T. Glatthaar (E540.N3 G53 1990) and *Tabular analysis of the records of U.S. colored troops and their predecessor units in the National Archives* by Joseph B. Ross (U.S. DOCS. GS 4.7:33).
Part II: Unpublished Sources

Manuscript Holdings: These include unpublished letters, diaries and personal reminiscences of individuals. Also cataloged with the manuscripts are official U.S. Army and War Department records published on microfilm by the National Archives.

Like the library collection, the manuscripts deal primarily with Minnesotans and Minnesota organizations, however these holdings also include a significant body of materials donated by veterans who served in regiments from other states and later moved to Minnesota. Many of these collections can be accessed through PALS using the library’s Research Information System. However, a number of older and smaller manuscript collections have not been recataloged, so we recommend that researchers examine the Manuscripts card catalog as well. One can search both catalogs by collection name, unit name (e.g. 10th or Tenth Minnesota Infantry) or broader topics such as “New York Infantry”. Most of these collections are cross-referenced by campaign as well. Another helpful source is the Lemons Collection, (EB.C582) a small, but detailed card file created by a volunteer researcher in the 1960’s. It provides an analysis of the contents of our Civil War collections, current to that time, with cross references by subject, battle and campaign. While this is a helpful source, researchers should be aware that some collections have been recataloged since then and many papers added to our collections since 1963.

Minnesota Holdings:

What follows is a selected listing of manuscript collections pertaining to Minnesotans, Minnesota organizations and events in Minnesota relating to the Civil War.

General

These are records of U.S. War Department activities primarily in Minnesota. Most deal with military posts in the state, most notably Fort Snelling, and much of the content is related to the Dakota Conflict and raising troops for Federal service.

M515 - U.S. War Dept. Adjutant General’s Office. Compiled Records Showing the Service of Militia Units in Volunteer Union Organizations: Minnesota

Compiled service histories of Minnesota Units providing information on stations, movements, activities, unit composition, strength and losses. These abstracts were made from official muster rolls and returns.
M166 - U.S. War Dept. Adjutant General's Office. Letter Received Main Office, 1866 - 1916. Roll 483: 1866 747H - 5I.
Primarily involves file 5I relating to the Dakota Conflict. Includes copies of Lincoln's orders concerning Dakota Indians held at Mankato and rolls of Minnesota State Militia not called into Federal Service.

Relating to Minnesota and surrounding territories and states. Periodic reports of officers commanding forts and other posts. These would include locations such as Fort Snelling as well as lesser outposts on the frontier. This series also includes reports from troops stationed at Mankato. Much of the information relates to the Dakota Conflict.

M203 Alexander Ramsey Papers
The personal and political papers of Minnesota’s governor at the outbreak of the Civil War, this collection includes many items related to it. The First Minnesota Infantry is particularly well documented. Correspondence and Military Appointment Files seem to be most relevant series.

Files include details such as date of construction, origin of name, units stationed at location and dates of postings, construction details - sometimes including drawings and photos, plus history, geology and plant life of surrounding area.

M582 Dakota Conflict of 1862 manuscript collections.
A microfilm compilation of small collections of letters, reminiscences, reports and diaries relating to the Dakota Conflict and its aftermath. Sources include soldiers and civilians as well as both Indian and white participants.

P939 - Biographies and Reminiscences.
This series of small collections are primarily reminiscences and miscellaneous biographical information mostly dating from after the war. Many of them are indexed in PALS under subject headings and unit name.

Detailed requests and expenditures for supplies used by U.S. troops stationed on the Minnesota and Dakota Territory Frontier during the Dakota Conflict and the Civil War. Also includes expenditures at Fort Snelling.

Artillery
Like most Minnesota troops, these units saw duty primarily in the Western “theater” of the war. The First and Second Batteries served under Grant and Sherman while the Third Battery took part in campaigns against the Dakota. The Regiment of Heavy Artillery was
raised late in the war and saw limited service as occupation troops in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

**First Battery of Light Artillery:**

**P57 Emil Munch Papers, 1832 - 1887.**
Correspondence and other papers relating to Munch’s Civil War service as captain of the First Battery until severely wounded at the battle of Shiloh. Later served as Major in the First Regiment of Heavy Artillery, 1865.

**P450 James Christie and Family Papers.** (See also M539)
Letters of William and Thomas Christie who served with the battery throughout the war. Articulate observations on the war and detailed descriptions of combat. Collection also includes letters to William and Thomas from their sister, Sarah Jane Christie, and their father, James.

**P1257 Muster Rolls and historical data, 1864-1906.**
Muster Rolls, announcements of reunions, a historical sketch of the unit and a map of the battle of Shiloh showing battery’s locations.

**P1465 Joseph M. Allen letters, 1862-1863.**
Describe battery’s battles and movements, especially the Battle of Corinth (Oct., 9th 1862) where he was wounded. Other letters describe his illness and death from dysentery.

**P1903 Company Morning Reports and Records, 1861 Dec.- 1865 June.**
A volume of daily and monthly rosters and narrative accounts including battery’s participation in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Vicksburg, the Atlanta Campaign, and Sherman’s march to the sea.

**P 36 Reuben Farnum letters, 1864-1865.**
Letters from Farnum to his wife, Roxanna, describing his service with the First Battery including the Atlanta Campaigns and Sherman's march through Georgia and the Carolinas.

**Alpha - Albion Otis Gross Papers, 1863-1865.**
Letters and Journal of private Gross from the Vicksburg campaign through the end of the war. Detailed descriptions of Army life, the conduct of the troops, conditions in the South and Gross’ perspective on the conduct of the war.

**Second Battery of Light Artillery:**

**A-S537w William Henry Shaw Diary, 1864**
Documents battery’s operations in Chattanooga area during 1864.

**A.-F623 Francis Schuyler Flint and Family Papers**
Letters of Flint to Jennie Russell describing life and campaigns with Second Battery from March 1862 to June 1865. Include information on his capture at Murfreesboro, Tennessee and his subsequent imprisonment in Virginia. Portions of letters have been edited.
**P2146 Lyman Warren Ayer Papers, 1862 - 1961**
Includes four letters from Ayer to his wife and family from Nashville and Chattanooga describing his life in the army, his opinions about the war, life in the South, missionary work among Southern Blacks and his efforts to obtain a commission.

**Third Battery Light Artillery:**

**P1630 John Q. Wilson Papers, 1860 - 1866, 1913.**
Diary relating details of Third Battery’s service in the Dakota’s.

**P1513 John Jones and family papers, 1823-1937.**
Primarily letters relating to Jones’ service on the Minnesota frontier, particularly his command of the artillery at Fort Ridgely during the Dakota Conflict of 1862 and later in Sibley’s expedition into Dakota Territory.

**First Regiment Heavy Artillery:**

**P1678 George T. Bartlett Papers, 1834, 1863-1865.**
Letters to family describing life at Fort Snelling and the movement of the regiment to the South. Two letters written by others describe Bartlett’s illness and subsequent death at a military hospital in Chattanooga.

**P621 Luther L. Baxter and Family Papers, 1853-1950.**
Records kept by Baxter as officer in 4th Minnesota Infantry and later in the First Regiment of Heavy Artillery.
Cavalry
Most of these units were created in reaction to the Dakota Conflict and were used almost exclusively in campaigns against the Indians or patrolling the frontier.

First Regiment of Mounted Rangers
M582: Griswold  Biographical data of Franklin C. Griswold, 1860-1921.
Letters from Griswold to family members describing his move to Minnesota and later service in the 1st Regiment of Mounted Rangers and 2nd Regiment Minnesota Cavalry.

M582: Oscar Taylor Military Papers, 1859-1863.
Taylor’s commissions in Minnesota State Militia and later in the Mounted Rangers. Includes muster-out roll for the Mounted Rangers and an undated diagram of Sauk Centre military post.

A-R813 Paul H. Rosendahl Diaries.
Three diaries kept during Sibley’s expedition.

P1519 Thomas Rice Stewart Memoirs.
Memoirs of Stewart’s experiences during the Dakota War and Sibley’s expedition.

Copies of orders, requisitions and reports.

Copies of orders, requisitions and reports.

Second Regiment Minnesota Cavalry
A-R495 Ebenezer O. Rice Diary, 1864.
Account of experiences with 2nd Minnesota Cavalry during Sully’s campaign against the Dakota Indians.

P2115 David N. Jenkins Papers, 1864, 1904-1913.
Journal kept by corporal Jenkins, Co. D, 2nd Minnesota Cavalry. Detailed descriptions of Sully’s expedition.

P56 Minnesota Cavalry. 2nd Regiment. Co. A. Muster-out Roll.
Type-written list of officers and enlisted men mustered out of service on April 2, 1866. Includes supplemental listing of deserters and men discharged for disability.

J92.S867 Stoddard, J. S., A map showing route traveled by the Indian expedition which left Ft. Ridgely June 6, 1864.
Manuscript map of Sully expedition.
Brackett's Battalion


M438 Charles A. Bennett Diary, 1865.
Diary kept by member of Brackett’s Battalion while on duty in southern Minnesota, Iowa and Dakota Territory.


FE 515.6 .N378 Mortimer Neely. Abstract of the history of Captain A. B. Brackett’s 3rd Company...

P1568 Alfred B. Brackett Papers, 1861 - 1868.
Reports, orders, newsletters, commissions, etc. relating to Alfred Brackett and Brackett’s Battalion.

Hatch’s Battalion

P1437 Edwin Hatch and family papers, 1805-1939.
Includes Hatch’s diaries documenting his command of the battalion and its service on the Minnesota frontier.

M582 John H. Mackenzie biographical information.
Reminiscences of a man who served as a scout for Hatch’s Battalion.

Infantry

Minnesota sent eleven regiments, one battalion and two independent companies of sharpshooters into Federal service. The First Regiment gained the most notoriety for its exploits in the Army of the Potomac, however other Minnesota Regiments, all serving in “the West” also earned a high reputation. For example the Second Regiment was well respected for its actions at the battles of Mill Springs and Chicamauga. The Fourth Regiment took part in the Siege of Vicksburg and the Battle of Nashville. The Ninth Regiment earned fame for a heroic rear-guard action after the Union defeat at Brice’s Crossroads. Typically these units were sent first to frontier posts in Minnesota before going South. With the exception of the First Regiment, First Battalion and the First and Second Companies of Sharpshooters, all served the Western theater.

First Battalion Veteran Volunteers

(Note: This unit was formed primarily of veterans who reenlisted from the disbanded First Minnesota Regiment, so there is some overlap in sources)
P1801 Thomas H. Kelly Papers, 1865-1866
Correspondence and military forms related to Kelly’s service as 1st Lieutenant in Co. F, First Battalion.

M165 Daniel Bond Reminiscences
Reminiscences based on diaries of 1st Regiment and 1st Battalion veteran.

CA1864 Nov.15 James C. Farwell Letter.
Report to the Adjutant General of Minnesota on the participation of the 1st Battalion in the battle of Hatcher’s Run, during the Petersburg campaign.

First Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry

P615 Minnesota Infantry. First Regiment. Papers, 1861-1864.
A collection of lists, reports, correspondence and other papers relating to the regiment.

P1290 Marion Abbott diary and genealogical data.
Field diary of corporal in Company “F”, First Minnesota Infantry, documents period from June - August, 1861 including the Battle of Bull Run.

A.B655 Samuel Bloomer Papers.
Letters and diaries of member of “B” Co. 1st Minnesota. Particularly good description of the regiment’s experience at Antietam.

P939 William Coville, Biographical Sketches.
Biographical information on one of the regiment’s commanding officers.

P939 George E. Collins Letter, June 6, 1861.

Detailed letter of company officer in 1st Minnesota. Include information on the regiment’s activities, politics and campaigns.

P513 Jerome Farnsworth and Family Papers, 1861-1902.
Letters of a private in Co. “G”, May 1861 - July 1863. Died of wounds received at Gettysburg.

P1933 First Minnesota Infantry Letters
Photocopies and typed transcriptions of letters from four soldiers of the First Minnesota. Contents include information on camp life and the battles of Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg, and Gettysburg.

P1677 Willis A. Gorman & Family Papers, 1847-1899
Collection includes correspondence relating to Gorman’s tenure as commander of the First Minnesota.
P1577 Hamlin, Philip Rice and Jacob Leslie Hamlin Papers, 1861-1865.
Letters of Philip Hamlin, corporal, sergeant and first sergeant in Co. “F” of the First Minnesota Infantry. Cover the time from his enlistment in 1861 to a few days before his death in action at the battle of Gettysburg.

P955 Christopher B. Heffelfinger Papers.
Officer in “D” Co. of the 1st Minnesota. Letters include a lengthy description of the units action at Bull Run.

Papers of St. Paul writer and editor of the Civil War period. Includes a manuscript history of the 1st Minnesota Regiment.

Diary of quartermaster, Co. “F”, March 1862 - July 1862. Much detail on regiments activities during this period.

Sketch map of portions of the Bull Run battlefield showing locations of the 1st Minnesota during the battle.

Includes information on Lochren’s service with the First Minnesota as well as a unit history.

P1799 Marty, Adam Correspondence (1861-1863)
Seven letters from Marty, a Corporal in Co. “B” of the First Minnesota, giving his perspective on the war, his officers and describing actions at Ball’s Bluff and Harper’s Ferry.

A.M391 Marvin (Matthew) Papers, 1861-1895.
Letters and diaries of member of Co. “K”. Also includes postwar correspondence documenting Marvin's attempts to obtain pensions for other veterans of the First Minnesota.

A.-M845 Morris (Robert Laster) and Searles (Jasper Newton) Papers, 1861-1865.
25 letters of Jasper N. Searles to his family in Hastings, detailing life in the First Minnesota, particularly 1861-1862. (Morris was in the 11th Minnesota).

A.-M958 Muller Family Papers.
Include a letter from Louis Miller, a German immigrant serving in the First Minnesota, 1861.

Diaries of member of Company “G”.

A.N411e Neill, Edward Duffield. Papers
Correspondence of Neill a Presbyterian minister who served as chaplain of the First Minnesota, 1861-1862 and later worked as a personal secretary to Presidents Lincoln and Johnson, 1864-1865.
A.R495e Rice (Edmund and Family) Papers, 1845-1966.
Collection includes letters of William Acker, Captain of Co. “C” of the First Minnesota and later a Captain in the 16th U.S. Colored Infantry, recounting dissatisfaction with commanding officers as well as regiment’s campaigns. Final letters from his comrades describing Acker’s death at the battle of Shiloh.

J474.R878h Rowe, H.S. Topographical Map of the Fredricksburg battlefield.

P231 Shepard, Myron Diaries and Certificates, 1862-1864.
Certificates of Service and three volumes of diaries of a private in Co. B of the First Minnesota.

P1746 DeWitt Smith Papers, 1861-1864
Letters and documents relating to service of the Captain of “D” Co., First Minnesota Infantry.

P597 Joseph G. Trevor Diary, 1862.
Diary records movements of Co. “E”, First Minnesota Infantry during the Peninsular and Maryland Campaigns, May - December, 1862.

P1889 Abraham Edward Welch and family papers, 1830-1879.
Documents and other materials on Welch’s career as 1st Lieutenant in Co. “F”, First Minnesota Infantry, including his wounding and capture at the Battle of Bull Run. Welch later was transferred to the Fourth Minnesota and promoted to Major.

P1921 Alexander Wilkin and Family Papers. 1819-1864.
Correspondence of Wilkin, who served as Captain of Co. “A”, First Minnesota Infantry from April 29, 1861 to September 18, 1861, when he was promoted to Major and transferred to the Second Minnesota.

FE515.5 1st W. Wright, James A. “The Story of Co. F, First Regiment.” Typescript company history by a member of the company who served as corporal, sergeant and first sergeant.

Second Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry

P1669 Beatty, John Reed, Papers, 1858 - 1924.
Letters of Lieutenant, later Captain Beatty of Co. “H”, Second Minnesota Infantry. The letters document not only the campaigns of the regiment, but also Beatty’s views of the war, “copperheads”, and slavery as well as his relationship with his wife.

Correspondence and papers documenting Bishop’s service as a captain of Co. “A” and later as Colonel of the Second Minnesota Infantry.

M561 Donahower, Jeremiah C. papers.
Papers relating to Donahower’s experiences as Captain of Co. “E”, Second Minnesota Infantry, including an extensive, unpublished narrative of the Regiment’s experiences in the Civil War.

P1567 Dresbach, Michael Roush (1836 - 1918), Letters, 1864-1865.
Letters of private Dresbach, Co. ”C”, Second Minnesota Infantry, many of which describe Sherman’s campaigns in Georgia and the Carolina’s.

Alpha Rhoda J. Emery and family papers, 1840 - 1993.
Collection includes a manuscript history of the career of James George as Colonel of the Second Minnesota Infantry.  George was Rhoda Emery’s grandfather.

A.H351 Haskins (William Riley) papers, 1863-1927.
Collection mostly documents Haskins’ experience as a prisoner of war following his capture at Chicamauga.  Reminiscences include details of prison life, especially Andersonville.

P737 Lanpher, Rollin A. Papers, 1862 - 1865

P1452 Ebenezer Mattocks and Family Papers, 1830-1911, 1945.
Includes letters of Mattocks, a hospital steward with the Second Minnesota, describing army medical care, illnesses and hospital duties.


P1505 Norton, Sewall P., Diary and related papers, undated and 1865.
Diary and other papers of private, later sergeant in Co. ”K”, Second Minnesota Infantry.  Diary covers Sherman’s march through the Carolinas.  Norton was a tent-mate of T. H. Pendergast, see below (A.P397).

A.P363r Pease (Roger M. S. and Family) Papers, 1859-1876.
Includes three letters of Minott Harry Pease a private in “D” Co., Second Minnesota Infantry, describing the regiment’s involvement in the Battle of Mill Springs.

A.P397 Pendergast (William Wirt ) and family. Papers, 1816-1956.
Collection includes letters and journal of Timothy Harrison Pendergast, Co. “K”, Second Minnesota Infantry. Particularly good descriptions of Sherman’s campaign in Georgia and the Carolinas.

A.R324a Reed (Axel Hayford) Papers, 1861-1865.
Four diaries of Sergeant, later Second Lieutenant, Reed of Co. “K” Second Minnesota Infantry.  They include detailed descriptions of the regiment’s activities as well as Reed’s impressions of the war, slavery and army life.
A.R522 Richardson (Mrs. Georgia Mounts) Papers, 1862 - 1936.
Collection includes letters from John W. Mounts, Co. “D”, Second Minnesota Infantry.

M104 Charles Shedd and family Papers, 1857-1933.

Copies of official letters from regimental commanders, Horatio Van Cleve and James George. Covers training and deployment on the Minnesota frontier through Mill Springs Campaign and subsequent operations in Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama.

P1921 Alexander Wilkin and Family Papers, 1819 - 1864.
Wilkin, a veteran of the Mexican War, was first commissioned in the First Minnesota Infantry (see above). In Sept., 1861 he was promoted Major and transferred to the Second Minnesota Infantry. His correspondence covers the period, Sept. 1861 - Aug. 1862 and includes descriptions of campaigns in Kentucky (particularly Mill Springs), Tennessee and Alabama. Wilkin was transferred to Sherman’s staff and was killed in action in 1864.

Third Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry

P1330 James M. Bowler and Family Papers, 1838 - 1916
Most of Bowler’s Civil War letters document his experiences as Chaplain to Company “F” of the Third Minnesota Infantry, where he took part in most of that unit’s actions in the South and on the Minnesota frontier. In 1865 Bowler was transferred to the 113th U.S. Colored Infantry and promoted to the rank of Major.

P1905 Brookins Family letters, 1861 - 1865.
Collection includes letters of George W. Brookins, “I” Co., Third Minnesota Infantry. The letters describe the surrender of the regiment at Murfreesboro, its participation in the battle of Wood Lake in the Dakota Conflict and the siege of Vicksburg.

M582 Dakota Conflict of 1862 Manuscripts Collections.
Short narratives and reminiscences of survivors of the Dakota Conflict including some members of the Third Minnesota Infantry.

Records include quarterly returns of Co. “B” Third Minnesota Infantry made by Sergeant, later Second Lieutenant, Durand, also a letter describing the Dakota Indian’s attack on Fort Ridgely.

Collected letter and diaries, (including originals, typescripts and photocopies) of private, later Captain Fisk of “B” Co., Third Minnesota Infantry. Major topic of the papers is Fisk’s detached duty escorting wagon trains into the Dakotas and Montana.

Includes letters of Philander Folsom a Sergeant and later, Lieutenant in Co. “K”, Third Minnesota Infantry, 1862 - 1864.

A.H165 Hale (William Dinsmore and Family) Papers, 1819-1913.
Microfilm of the Civil War letters of Sergeant and later Master Sergeant Hale of Co. “E”, Third Minnesota Infantry. Hale was later transferred to the 4th U.S. Colored Artillery and promoted to Major. Collection includes information on Murfreesboro surrender and U.S. Colored troops.

Includes Civil War correspondence of this prominent Swedish immigrant who served in the Third Minnesota Infantry, first as Captain of Co. “D” and later as Colonel of the regiment (April 27, 1864).

A.P485a Peterson (Andrew) Papers. 1861 - 1864, 1879.
Papers of Corporal, later Sergeant in “B” Co., Third Minnesota Infantry. Includes a book of manuscript scores of bugle calls kept by Peterson.

M273 Roos, Carl and Family, Papers.
Microfilm includes diary and letters of Swedish immigrant who served in Co. “D”, Third Minnesota Infantry, until his discharge for disability in December, 1863.

Research correspondence of Trenerry documenting the life of Henry Clay Lester. Includes information on Lester’s career as Colonel commanding the Third Minnesota Infantry, particularly his surrender of the regiment at Murfreesboro, TN.

P1889 Abraham E. Welch and family papers, 1830 -1879.
Collection encompasses Welch’s letters to family members from the time of his appointment as commander of the Third Minnesota Infantry, Sept. 3, 1862 through the siege and fall of Vicksburg. (see entry above for Welch’s career with the 1st Minnesota)

Fourth Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry

P914 Aldrich, Levi Burrel (1834-1896), Papers, 1853-1896.
Extensive diaries of farmer and carpenter who served as a sergeant in Co. “I” Fourth Minnesota Infantry from July 1, 1862 until his transfer to the Pioneer Corps, December 18, 1862. Volumes 9 and 10 of the diaries document his time with the regiment.

P1929 Peter Daniel Anderson Papers, 1828 - 1906.
Letters of a Swedish immigrant with published translation, documenting his service in Co. “A” Fourth Minnesota Infantry during Sherman’s Atlanta Campaign and March to the Sea.

**P621 Baxter, Luther Loren and Family Papers, 1853-1950.**
Baxter served as Captain of Co. “A” Fourth Minnesota Infantry from October 4, 1861 to April 18, 1862. Collection includes correspondence, reports, muster rolls and quarterly returns for his company.

**FE475.27 Fix, Calvin R. (compiler)**
Typed copies of letters written by men of the Fourth Minnesota Infantry to family members describing the regiment’s entry into Vicksburg.
P2116 Knud Helling letters and photographs.
Civil War letters of Norwegian immigrant (written in Norwegian) who served as a private, sergeant and finally, Second Lieutenant in Co. “H” Fourth Minnesota Infantry from 1862 - 1865.

Includes letters and diary of Bellfield “Bell” Hoffman, Co. “H”, Fourth Minnesota Infantry from 1862 until his death at Vicksburg in May of 1863.

BG4+M643 4th Minnesota Infantry, 4th Regt., Company K papers, 1862-1866.
Final record of Co. K, listing all the members of the company including name, age at enlistment, dates of enlistment and discharge, home address and occupation.

FE515.5 Randall, Sewall G., Diary Jan.1 - Oct. 5, 1864.
Diary kept by private, later corporal, Co. “I”, Fourth Minnesota Infantry, who died from wounds received at the battle of Altoona, GA on October 5, 1864.

Three volumes of diaries kept by Reeves, a corporal in Co. “F”, Fourth Minnesota Infantry, from November 16, 1861 - July 17, 1865. The collection also includes information on the battle of Altoona Pass.

A.R595 Risedorph (John E.) Papers, 1862 - 1911.

FE515.5 Sly, George Eliot.

A.S728 Southworth, (Newton and Family) Papers, 1852-1917.
Collection includes letters of Eli Southworth, Co. “A” Fourth Minnesota Infantry, from September, 1861 - November, 1862. Also letters of other family members, notably mother and sister, documenting civilian activities and attitudes toward the war.

P1889 Abraham E. Welch and Family Papers, 1830 -1879.
Welch's last months were spent a Major in the Fourth regiment. (see above)
Fifth Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry

Letters from William Arkins, Lieutenant in Co. “A” Fifth Minnesota Infantry, and his brother, John, a Sergeant in Co. “A”, to their brother Thomas. Also two diaries kept by William Arkins 1862-1863.

P1380 Biographical Record of Members of Co. E., Fifth Minnesota Infantry.
One volume containing background information on the 115 men who served in this company including: physical description, birthplace, occupation and, in some cases, service data such as engagements fought in, etc. Some entries also include post war occupations, residences, death dates.

Papers and diaries mostly documenting Curtis’ career before the Civil War. However, later diary entries cover his service as a 2nd Lieutenant in “K” Co. Fifth Minnesota Infantry, particularly the regiment’s participation in the battle of Holly Springs, Mississippi. Curtis died of dysentery July 24, 1862.

A.G367 Gere, William B. and Thomas P. Papers, 1847 - 1911.
Reports and correspondence of Lt. Colonel William B. Gere Fifth Minnesota Infantry. Journals of Thomas P. Gere, Adjutant of the Fifth Minnesota Infantry and Second Brigade, First Division, 16th Corps. Thomas received the Congressional Medal of Honor for valor at the battle of Nashville.

Collection includes Herrick’s correspondence with his wife, Anna, while he served as chaplain to the Fifth Minnesota Infantry. Series includes some of Anna’s letters as well. Herrick’s letters describe Army life and morals. His later letters include information on the Freedman’s Bureau and early Reconstruction in Alabama.

A.H875 Hubbard (Lucius Frederick and Family) Papers, 1842 - 1875, 1956.
Letters of Colonel Hubbard, who commanded the Fifth Minnesota Infantry from August 1862 - September 1865. Written to his aunt, Mary Hubbard, these letters include vivid descriptions of the regiments actions as well as commentary on army life and politics.

Papers include reminiscences of Leonard’s service as surgeon attached to the Fifth Minnesota Infantry as well as a book of Morning Reports of the regiments sick and wounded from September 1863 - September 1865.
Sixth Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry

P1663 Adams, George R. Papers, 1862 - 1864.
Photocopies of letters and diaries of Adams, a sergeant in Co. “D”, Sixth Minnesota Infantry. Most of the papers deal with the regiment’s experiences in Helena, Arkansas, particularly the many losses from illness (Adams himself eventually died to Typhoid). There are also observations on Black troops stationed in and near Helena, their relations with local civilians and other U.S. troops.

A.C337g Case (George E. and Family) Papers, 1902-1927.
Collection includes an account of the “Moscow Expedition” made by Co. “D”, Sixth Minnesota Infantry, in 1863 from Fort Snelling to the Crow Creek agency on the Missouri River.

A.-E29h Eggleston (Hubert N.) Papers, 1862-1888.
Diary of a Corporal in Co. “F”, Sixth Minnesota Infantry mostly covering the period October - December, 1862 and particularly describes guarding Dakota Indian prisoners after the Battle of Wood Lake.

Correspondence, muster rolls, quartermaster records and other papers relating to Co. “F”, Sixth Minnesota Infantry.

Papers and diaries, Oct. 1862 - July 1865 of a private in Co. “I”, Sixth Minnesota Infantry. Three volumes of diaries document most of the regiment’s service, especially its activities in Alabama near the end of the war.

P437 Pond Family Papers.
Papers of two brothers who were early missionaries among the Dakota Indians of Minnesota. This collection includes numerous Civil War letters from Allen L. Goodrich, a private in Co. “D”, Sixth Minnesota Infantry.

P869 Snyder, Henry J. Papers.
A small collection of letters from a corporal in Co. “D”, Sixth Minnesota Infantry, to his wife. The letters describe the campaign against the Dakota Indians, the regiment’s transfer to Helena, Arkansas where the Minnesotans were hit hard by disease.

P958 Watson, Charles Herbert. Papers, 1862 - 1865.
Extensive collection of letters from Watson, a private in Co. “F”, Sixth Minnesota Infantry. Of particular interest are descriptions of the hanging of Dakota prisoners at Mankato in December, 1862; conditions at Helena, Arkansas and illness among the troops stationed there and Watson’s recounting of the regiment’s participation in campaigns in Louisiana and Alabama.

Diary of a private in Co. “K”, Sixth Minnesota Infantry, describing Sibley’s expedition against the Sioux, Minnesota frontier forts and the encampment of Sioux prisoners at Fort Snelling.

**Seventh Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry**

A small collection of Morning Reports kept by regimental surgeons, 1864-1865.

Diary of a German immigrant who served as a sergeant in Company “H”, Seventh Minnesota Infantry. Most entries cover the period of Sibley’s Expedition.

Collection includes letters of Carter, written while serving as a Lieutenant and later Captain of Company “K”, Seventh Minnesota Infantry.

P452 George C. Clapp and family Papers, 1858 - 1971.
Collection includes letters of George C. Clapp, a corporal and later, sergeant, in Company “K”, Seventh Minnesota Infantry. These letters include detailed descriptions of army life in general as well as Sibley Expedition against the Dakota.

Letters of Loren Warren Collins, Second Lieutenant Company “F”, Seventh Minnesota Infantry. This correspondence covers the Mankato executions, Sibley Expedition and campaigns in the South.

Transcribed diary documenting Danielson’s service as a private in Co. G.

Detailed and articulate accounts written by Edwards, chaplain to the 7th Minnesota. They include observations on civilian life in the South, Army morals as well as battles and reflections on the brutality of the war and reconstruction. The journals include more than 100 sketches by the author, illustrating his commentary.

Collection includes numerous letters of Wyman Folsom, a private in “C” Company, Seventh Minnesota Infantry. His correspondence documents life in the regiment and its activities in the Dakota Conflict and the South.
P1577 Hamlin, Philip Rice and Jacob Leslie Hamlin, 1861-1865.
Letters of Jacob L. Hamlin, a Private in Co. “G” Seventh Minnesota Infantry, from 1862-1864. His correspondence includes descriptions of missionary activity among condemned Dakota prisoners and the mass executions at Mankato. His letters from the South contain information about relations between white soldiers and black civilians, campaigns of the Seventh Regiment and life in the South.

Alpha Kelley, Duren F. Papers
Letters, journals and related papers of Kelley, who served as a corporal in Co. “A” Seventh Minnesota Infantry and was later transferred for promotion in the U.S. Colored Infantry.

Collection includes unpublished journal of Marshall, who commanded the 7th Minnesota Infantry from November 1863 - March 1865. He later served as Governor of Minnesota, 1866 - 1870.

P1452 Ebenezer Brewer Mattocks and Family Papers.
Correspondence and diaries of Mattock, who served as a hospital orderly and Assistant Surgeon in the Seventh Minnesota Infantry.

Correspondence, orders, muster rolls, reports and related records.

P1662 Henry L. Mills and Family Papers, 1851 - 1894.
Reminiscences of Mills, a German immigrant who served as a corporal and sergeant in company “H”, Seventh Minnesota Infantry.


Microfilm edition of the diary of Corporal, later Sergeant, Ramer of Company “B” Seventh Minnesota Infantry. Majority of diary entries concern the regiment’s activities during the Dakota War and Sibley’s Expedition.

Eighth Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry

Eleven letters of Capt. Aldrich of Company “F”, Eighth Minnesota Infantry. Includes information on the regiment’s activities during the Dakota Conflict as well as campaigns in Tennessee and North Carolina.

A-C174 Campbell (George T. and Family) Papers, 1857 - c.1890.
Collection includes reminiscences of Campbell, a private in Co. “C”, Eighth Minnesota Infantry.
P2048 Thomas Chetham Letters, 1862 - 1863.
Four transcribed letters from a private in Co. “A”, Eighth Minnesota Infantry, discussing the regiment’s activities and Chetham’s concern for his family’s welfare.

P1761 Colwell, Gardner B. Diary and Certificate, 1864 - 1865.
Photocopy of the diary of a private in Co. “F”, Eighth Minnesota Infantry. Most entries deal with service on the frontier.

Four letters of Hair (or Hare), a member of Co. “D”, Eighth Minnesota Infantry, while stationed at the frontier fort at Pomme de Terre.

P1771 William and Herbert Paist papers. 1849 - 1932.

Ninth Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry

P1447 Aiton, John Felix and Family. Papers, 1835 - 1888, 1898.
Collection includes correspondence between John Aiton and his wife, Mary while he served as a private in Co. “D”, Ninth Minnesota Infantry. Letters describe activities of the regiment as well as John Aiton’s work as a hospital attendant in Memphis. Letters from Mary Aiton describe family life and economic condition.

P1672 Pehr (Peter) Carlson and Family Papers, 1862 - 1904.
Letters and diary of a Swedish immigrant who served as a private in Co. “H”, Ninth Minnesota Infantry. Letters, 1862 - 1865 were written in Swedish but the diary, Jan. - Aug., 1865 has an accompanying translation.

P1289 Kerr, Aaron Hervey. Papers, 1864 - 1889.
Includes transcription of Kerr’s diary kept while he served as chaplain to the Ninth Minnesota Infantry.

BG4-M643 9th Minnesota Infantry. 9th Regiment. Papers, 1862 - 1865.

Microfilm copy of letters and orders of the Ninth Minnesota Infantry. Most deal with logistics and personnel matters.

+125 Minnesota Infantry. 9th Regiment, Co. D. Membership Roster, 1862 - 1865.
A commemorative roster of all the members of this company. It details names of officers and enlisted men and provides some biographical information.

Tenth Regiment Minnesota Volunteer Infantry

A.C314 Carrell (Samuel Dickerson and Family) Papers, 1847 - 1896.
Include letters and diary of Austin D. Carrell, a corporal in Co. “C”, Tenth Minnesota Infantry. Diary deals mainly with the Dakota Conflict. Carrell was killed at the battle of Nashville.

**P1240 Chambers, Alexander and Family. Papers, 1827 - 1942.**
Collection includes letters of Frank Chambers, a private in Co. “A”, Tenth Minnesota Infantry.

**P1749 Leo, John B., Letters, 1863 - 1865, 1884.**
Letters of Irish immigrant who enlisted in Co. “H” Tenth Minnesota Infantry.

**Alpha McConnell, Henry August.**
Photocopies of letters from first sergeant, Co. “D”, Tenth Minnesota Infantry.

**P1481 Pickett, Eli K. Correspondence, 1861 - 1865.**
Letters of second lieutenant in Co. “I”, Tenth Minnesota Infantry, written to his wife, Philena and his children. Letters detail Eli’s service on the Minnesota frontier as well as the regiment’s campaigns in the South. The collection also includes letters from Philena describing life at home.

**Eleventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry**

**P1659 Jonas Holland Howe and Family Papers, 1864 - 1865, 1935, 1939-1940.**
Includes typescript copies of letters from Howe, First Sergeant, Co. “F”, Eleventh Minnesota Infantry, written while on duty in Tennessee.

**A.-M854 Morris (Robert Lester) and Searles, (Jester Newton) Papers.**
Includes partial diary and notes of Morris, assistant surgeon, Eleventh Minnesota Infantry.

**M55 Needham (Edward Z.) 1861-1865**
P1773 Mary E. Richards and Family Papers.  
Includes letters from Mary and family members describing life in Minnesota during the 1860's as well as letters from Mary's husband, Amasa Richards, describing his service in Tennessee with the Eleventh Minnesota Infantry.

A.-S562 Shumway (John P.) Papers, 1853-1865.  
Collection includes letters of Shumway to his wife describing his life and duties while serving in Co. "F", Eleventh Minnesota Infantry.  Most of the letters concern the regiment's activities while stationed in and around Nashville, TN.

Diaries of a commissary sergeant of the Eleventh Minnesota Infantry, documenting experiences at Ft. Snelling and at Nashville, Mitchelsville and Gallatin, TN.

**First and Second Companies, Minnesota Sharpshooters**
These were two, independent companies raised as part of the Federal regiment known as Berban's United States Sharpshooters.  The First Company served as Co. A of the Second Regiment of United States Sharpshooters while the Second Company of Minnesota Sharpshooters became Co. L of the First Regiment of United States Sharpshooters.  The latter was detached from the First Regt. of Sharpshooters and added as an additional company, again Co. L, of the First Minnesota Infantry and participated in many of that unit’s actions, particularly Antietam.

**First Company of Minnesota Sharpshooters.**

A.-E92 Evans (Owen) papers.  
Three letters from Evans, an officer in the First Company of Minnesota Sharpshooters, to his daughter in Anoka.  The letters were written between March and May of 1862.

BG4.U5872nd A  U.S. Sharpshooters, 2nd Regt., Company A, Papers, 1861-1865  
Orders, lists of officers and noncommissioned officers, morning reports and registers for the company.

**Second Company of Minnesota Sharpshooters.**

P1331 Chaney, Josiah B. and Family. Papers.  
Within this collection are a set of letters from Chaney to his wife, Melissa, written while he was serving with the Second Company of Minnesota Sharpshooters.  These detailed letters, written February - October, 1862, describe camp life, army moral, and some combat, particularly the company’s involvement in the battle of Fair Oaks and the Seven Days battles.

This collection contains Dickey’s letters to family members written while serving with Second Company of Minnesota Sharpshooters. The correspondence describes camp life and the company’s battles particularly Antietam, where Dickey was wounded.

A.D989 G. Merill Dwelle and Family Papers.
Includes letters of Dwelle written while serving in the Second Company of Minnesota Sharpshooters. Written between December 1861 and February 1863, the letters describe the company’s formation, training and campaigns from the Peninsula Campaign through Antietam.

Collections from other states: Following the war many Union veterans settled in Minnesota and some of their papers, including Civil War letters and diaries, eventually found their way into the collections of the Minnesota Historical Society. The following is a selected list from among these holdings. A more detailed search can be made by searching in PALS or the Manuscripts Card Catalog using the name of the state and the branch of service, e.g. New York Infantry.

Connecticut:


Maine:

P1262  Lewis C. Bisbee Papers (16th Maine Infantry) Includes an account of his experiences in Libby Prison, Richmond, Va.

Michigan

P949  Healy Cady Akeley papers, 1858-1912. (2nd Michigan Cavalry)

P197  Hiram L. Mason papers, [undated] and 1863-1906 (7th Michigan Infantry) Two diaries describing Mason’s career as a Captain in the 7th Michigan (October 22-December 27, 1863, and March 1-16, 1865). Also a description of the battle of Spotsylvania Court House (May 1864).
P970  Irwin Shepard Letters (17th Michigan)
Copies of 67 letters written by Shepard to his family in Chelsea, Michigan, during his Civil War service with the 17th Michigan Infantry throughout the East and South. He discusses camp life, army food and clothing, pay, officers, illnesses, Black troops, battles, marches, and President Abraham Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation (1862).

New Hampshire:

Alpha  Charles A. Cressy Papers.  (1st and 4th New Hampshire Infantry)

New York:

P488 Willoughby Babcock and Family Papers (3rd and 75th New York Infantry)
Over 200 letters as well as diaries of an officer who eventually rose to the rank of Lt. Colonel. Detailed accounts of army life, occupation of New Orleans, Bank’s campaign on Bayou Teche (1863), siege of Port Hudson. Collection also includes several volumes of his wife’s diaries providing accounts of life in occupied New Orleans and later in New York after her husband’s death.

A/m.B618 William Bird Papers (37th and 179th New York Infantry)
Microfilm of letters from a soldier in the Army of the Potomac. (1861-1865).

A/.B947n Newell Burch and Family Papers (154th New York Infantry)
Diary with transcriptions detailing Burch’s service in the Army of the Potomac including Gettysburg, his imprisonment at Belle Isle, Va. and Andersonville, Ga.

A/-C432 Ransom A. Chadwick Papers (85th New York Infantry)
Diary kept by Chadwick while in Andersonville Prison (1864).

P1859 (M 180) John Cutter Letter and Photographs  (9th and 123rd New York Infantry) Letters of New York soldier include information on army life, capture of Roanoke Island, Sherman’s March to the Sea.


A/.H522 John Newton Henry and Family Papers.  (49th New York Infantry)
Diaries and letters, 1861 - 1865.

M121 William Hutton Letters, 1859 - 1865 (123rd New York Infantry)
**P939 John J. Sherman Reminiscences** (8th New York Heavy Artillery)
Sherman recalls his experiences in the war including confinements as a prisoner of war in Salisbury, North Carolina. He includes information on treatment of prisoners, daily life and escape attempts.

**A./J67c Charles F. Johnson and Family Papers** (9th New York Infantry)
Diaries, accompanied by pen sketches, kept by Johnson during the Civil War as a member of Hawkins' Zouaves (later the Ninth New York Infantry), describing life in Camps Hatteras, Newport News, Reno, Riker, and Roanoke, and the battles of South Mountain and Antietam.

**M 72 U.S. War Department. Items relating to Philippe de Trobriand**
Selected letters and documents relating to de Trobriand, with information on his Civil War service as a colonel in the 55th New York Infantry, his subsequent military career at various posts in the West.

**Ohio**

**P1032 Judson Newell Cross papers, 1861-1907.** (7th Ohio Infantry)
Letters, orders, commissions, returns, reports, and other papers from Cross's Civil War service with the Seventh Ohio Infantry and the Invalid Corps.

**A./G481 John A. Gillis Diaries, 1861-1865, 1867-1869.** (64th Ohio Infantry)
Diaries kept by this member of Company K, 64th Ohio Infantry, during the Civil War and after his return to Bucyrus, Ohio. They have information on campaigns, life in the camps, political opinions, slavery, the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, incidents in Gillis' personal life

**P519 David Kennedy Diary** (9th Ohio Cavalry)
Two variant typed transcripts of the Civil War diary of a sergeant with the ninth company of Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, primarily recording his experiences (May-Sept.) as a prisoner in the Confederate prison camp at Andersonville, Georgia.

**Pennsylvania**

**P939 Charles A. Kempfer Reminiscence.** (1st Pennsylvania Artillery)
Collection gives descriptions and anecdotes of camp life and battles (1861-1862) during his Civil War service in Pennsylvania and Virginia with the First Pennsylvania Artillery. These pages are apparently a fragment of a longer reminiscence.

**P1442 Alexander Ramsey Nininger Papers, 1852, 1859-1897.** (84th Penn. Infantry)
Correspondence, military papers, and miscellany documenting Nininger's education at the Churchill Military Academy in Sing Sing, N.Y. (1859-1861); his Civil War service in the 84th Pennsylvania Volunteers (1862-1863) and as provost marshall's and adjutant general's assistant in Minnesota (1863-1864)
and in the South (1864-1866); various post-war military assignments (1867-1870); and miscellany from his civilian life (1872-1897), including public service appointments in Minnesota and Alabama.

**P601  George B. Smith Reminiscences, 1862-1865. (53rd Penn. Infantry)**

Diary of Smith's Civil War service with the 53rd Pennsylvania Infantry, describing battles, soldiers' life, problems with substitutes and bounty jumpers and notes on regimental casualties.

**Vermont**

**P14 William Danforth Papers, 1863, 1897, 1923.**

Biographical data (1897, 1923) and Civil War letters (1863) of Danforth, a railroad engineer and farmer who settled in Red Wing (Minn.) in 1870. The letters, written to his wife and son in Vermont, describe Danforth's service with the Vermont Infantry, 16th Regiment, including camp life, his duties as company captain, the influx of wounded following the battle of Chancellorsville, and participation in the battle of Gettysburg.

**A./M171 John H. Macomber Papers.** (1st Vermont Heavy Artillery)

Letters to his wife by Macomber as an officer in the First Vermont Heavy Artillery, while in the field and from Libby Prison, Richmond, Virginia; correspondence with other military men about their Civil War experiences (1901-1913); diaries (some originals, some transcripts) kept by Macomber and other officers (1863-1865).
Part III: State Archives Holdings

The archives of the State of Minnesota, the records created by agencies and branches of state government, form a substantial component of the Historical Society’s holdings and offer an important resource for research on Civil War history. Although Minnesota’s state government was relatively small and new, its records provide significant source material on how troops were recruited and supported. They also document the Dakota Uprising, which in itself was a bloody war within a war. Counterpoint to all of these dramatic events is the record of the more commonplace daily development and growth of a burgeoning frontier state.

Archives records are arranged by branch of government or state agency and are accessed through the archives inventory notebooks found in the Weyerhaeuser Reference Room. These records are also listed in the PALS on-line catalog, accessible through the Society’s web page.

Adjutant General Records:

By an act of Congress dated May 8, 1792, the federal government required all states to appoint an adjutant general to oversee and administer each state’s militia. In 1858, the new state of Minnesota legally created this office to be appointed by the governor to serve a seven year term to act as the inspector general of the state’s militia. The records of the Adjutant General document the creation of Minnesota’s Civil War units and include information on the men who served in them.

The records series within this group which have the most relevance to the Civil War include:

Civil War Allotment Rolls: Records of payments made from soldiers pay to other individuals such as spouses, parents or creditors. This series is very incomplete and generally difficult to use.

Final Records of Personnel: Compiled service information for men serving in Minnesota units. This includes age at enlistment, date mustered in, rank or promotion, wounds, death etc. This data appeared in published form in the 1866 Annual Report of the Adjutant General.

Muster Rolls: Original and later muster rolls of Minnesota regiments. Many are in fragile condition and most are incomplete.

Pension Records: This series is made up of ledger books showing who received pensions and to whom they were paid. This includes veterans from other states who later settled in Minnesota. There is a separate set of indexes for this series.

Reports and Records of various regiments: These include morning reports and hospital reports for Minnesota units. The First and Second Regiments of Infantry are the best documented, although these records are incomplete. Some related records are cataloged in the Manuscripts collections, see above.
Correspondence, Orders and Official Communications, Monthly Returns of Regiments. A grouping of miscellaneous official communications between the Adjutant General, Minnesota Regiments and the U.S. War Department.

A note on the Adjutant Generals Records. This records group is currently in poor shape. Some of the materials are damaged and many are poorly organized. Our processing and cataloging staff are working to unravel many of these problems but given the size and complexity of the job this could take years.

Governor's Records:

This records group documents the actions of the executive branch of state government and thus, includes information on a wide range of activities affecting Minnesota’s involvement in the war against the Confederacy and the Dakota conflict as well. Some of the relevant series include:

Executive Journals, 1858 - 1915.
These include copies of official acts, appointments, pardons, messages to the legislature as well as communications to and from the national government. Especially interesting, are letters and telegrams to the War Department, Secretary of War and Adjutant General of the United States relating to Minnesota’s role in the war effort. The series also includes letters from the governor to officers commanding Minnesota regiments and reports from those units to the governor.

Governor's Records, 1858-1865.
This series includes the majority of the official records of the governors office. These include letters received, appointments, accounts and reports. The series is arranged by term and then by record type and subject.

There is a wealth of information here on the State’s role in the war, including issues such as: the appointment of officers to posts in Minnesota Regiments, support for families of soldiers, procurement of equipment and supplies, the Dakota Conflict, conditions affecting Minnesotans in Confederate prison camps, reports of sick and wounded from Minnesota regiments, correspondence with federal military and civilian officials. Non military topics are also included in this series. Such issues as financing railroads and encouraging immigration also find their way into the Governor’s Records.
To locate the inventory for this series, check the State Archives Notebooks under Governors. The following men served in that office during the Civil War: Alexander Ramsey, 1860-1863, Henry A. Swift, 1863-1864 and Stephen Miller, 1864-1865.

**Part IV: Photographs**

The Historical Society’s holdings include a number of images directly related to the Civil War. Many of these are copies of original prints made by Eastern studios such as Brady. Others, however, are from local photographers, most notably Whitney’s Gallery.

Like other images in our collections, these can be located through our card catalog, found in the Weyerhaeuser Reference Room. Most are listed under the heading “History, Civil War” with sub-headings such as “Operations”, “Regiments” and “Veterans”. These can be requested as individual photographs or as groups of folders. The catalog numbers for the groupings are:

- **History, Civil War, Operations** E425.11/r,p,m,h
- **History, Civil War, Regiments** E425.12/r,p,m,h
- **History, Civil War, Veterans** E 425.3/r,p,m,h

The lower-case letters following the / denote the size of the print. An “r” is a 4x5, a “p” 8x10 and “m” and “h” represent over-sized items.

An important set of Civil War era photographs is the Whitney Collection (Reserve Album 37). This is a collection of studio portraits in the style known as “carte de visite”. These were small portraits, usually 4 x 2 ½ inches, that were very popular in mid-19th Century America as calling cards and souvenirs. This collection includes images of many Minnesota soldiers made at the Whitney Gallery in St. Paul and its inventory is arranged by regiment, company and name of individual. Duplicates of these images are also found in the portrait collection and can be located via the portrait catalog under the name of the individual.

The portrait catalog also includes images of prominent figures from the war such as, U. S. Grant, W. T. Sherman, President Lincoln and Philip Sheridan. Photos of important Minnesotans of that era, (Ramsey, Sibley, Donnelly, etc.) also can be found there.

Other images relating to the Civil War as well as graphic depictions of the Dakota Conflict, can be found in the Society’s Fine Arts Collection. Some of these, most notably the paintings of Minnesota Regiments found in the State Capitol, can be purchased as poster reproductions. Others are available as copy photographic prints, slides or color transparencies. Contact the Copy Center staff for details.

The following is a selected listing of some of the MHS Civil War photographs along with their location numbers.

- **Andersonville Prison, Stockade and Hospital** E425.11/p32
Andersonville Prison, Pen E425.11/p28
Steamer Chattanooga unloading at Kelly’s landing E425.11/p24
Cemetery Gate, Gettysburg, July 1863 E425.11/p16
General Gorman and Staff, Edwards Ferry, MD E425.11/p2
Camp of the 1st Minnesota, Edwards Ferry, MD E425.11/p1
Officers of the 1st Minnesota, Ft. Snelling, 1861 E425.12/p23
2nd Minnesota Infantry, Ft Snelling, 1862 E425.12/p22
Co. “E”, 8th Minnesota E425.12/p21
Lincoln and McClellan at Antietam E425.12/p10
Four members of Co. ”F”, 3rd Minnesota E425.12/p8
Band of the 2nd Minnesota, 1864 E425.12/p6
Unidentified Confederate Soldier E425.12/p5
Black Civil War Soldier, unknown E425.12/p3
Part of Co. “E”, 8th Minnesota, 1862 E425.12/p1
6th Minnesota at Camp Buford, Helena, Ark. E425.11/r15
Sick and Wounded at Savage Sta., Va. 6/29/1862 E425.11/r16
Members of 1st Minnesota after Battle of Fair Oaks, E425.11/r13
1st Minnesota at Camp Stone, MD 8/16/1861 E425.11/r1
Slave Quarters, Helena Ark E425.11/r38
Where Sumner’s Corps Charged at Antietam E425.11/r23
U.S.S. Minnesota, 1861 E425.11/r44
Officers of 1st Minnesota at Camp Stone, MD E425.11/r5
Unidentified Regiment on Parade, Winter Camp E425.11/m1
Site of Pickets Charge (1883 Photo) E425.11/m2
2nd Minnesota at Chicamauga “Battle of Kelly’s Field” E425.11/m7
(painting)
**Part V: Newspapers**

Newspapers are an important source of information on Minnesota communities during the Civil War. They not only include news of the War itself but also reflect people’s reactions to what was happening. In addition the papers often contain information on local economic activity, news of individual soldiers, and local opinion.

The following is a list of seventy-five Minnesota newspapers published during the years of the Civil War and Dakota Conflict. They are listed here by the place of publication, and title. Note that not all the holdings are complete, and many of the papers were published weekly not daily.

**Albert Lea**

*Freeborn County Standard*  
Sept. 29, 1860 - Dec. 30, 1929

**Anoka**

*Star*  
Oct. 3, 1863 - April 1, 1865

**Austin**

*Minnesota Courier*  
March 26, 1862 - January 6, 1864

**Belle Plaine**

*Enquirer*  
March 18, 1858 - Oct. 5, 1861

*Scott County Journal*  
Nov. 28, 1861 - Aug. 28, 1862

**Carver**

*Valley Transcript*  
Feb. 5, 1862 - July 23, 1862

**Chaska**

*Valley Herald*  
Sept. 11, 1862 - Nov.25, 1875

**Chatfield**

*Democrat*  
Sept. 11, 1857 - May15, 1902

*Republican*  
Oct. 25, 1856 - Oct. 15, 1861

**Faribault**

*Central Republican*  
Jan. 23, 1858 - May 18, 1870
Northern Statesman and Western Farmer  Nov. 12, 1861 - Mar. 18, 1862.

Glencoe

Register  Aug.15, 1857 - July 12, 1862
Register and Soldiers Budget  Jan. 10, 1863 - April 17, 1863.

Hastings

Conserver  May 7, 1863 - Nov. 13, 1866
Democrat  Dec. 3, 1859 - April 27, 1861
Independent  Jul. 25, 1857 - Nov. 8, 1866
Minnesota Conserver  Jan.8, 1863 - April 30, 1863.

Henderson

Democrat  April 3, 1856 - May 4, 1861
Monitor  Nov. 26, 1864 - May 3, 1865

Hokah

Chief (Miscellaneous titles)  Aug. 19, 1857 - Nov. 18, 1862

Lake City

Journal (weekly)  Jan. 3, 1861 - Aug. 31, 1861
Times  Dec. 7, 1861 - Dec. 12, 1863

Mankato

Independent  July 1857 - July 11, 1863
Record  July 5, 1859 - Oct. 25, 1879
Union  July 17, 1863 - Oct. 24, 1879

Mantorville

Express  July 16, 1857 - Jan 31, 1946

Minneapolis


Monticello

Courier  May 2, 1863 - July 25, 1863
Northern Statesman  April 9, 1864 - May 6, 1871
North-Western Union  Nov. 30, 1861 - Jan. 10, 1863
Wright County Republican  June 30, 1859 - Nov. 23, 1861

New Ulm

Pionier  Jan. 1, 1858 - Aug. 16, 1862
Post  Feb. 5, 1864 - May 12, 1933

Northfield

Telegraph  Mar. 13, 1861 - Mar. 19, 1862

Owatonna

Plaindealer  Oct. 1, 1863 - Jul. 19, 1866
Union Express  Dec. 30, 1862

Preston

Republican  Nov. 2, 1861 - June 30, 1865

Red Wing

Goodhue County Republican  Sept. 2, 1859 - Jul. 29, 1880
Goodhue Volunteer  Feb. 19, 1862 - Aug. 31, 1864

Rochester

City Post  Nov. 12, 1859 - Sept. 3, 1863
Post (weekly)  Nov. 12, 1859 - Aug. 2, 1862
Republican  Mar. 5, 1862 - Aug. 24, 1864

St. Anthony

Falls Evening News  Sept. 28, 1857 - May 18, 1861

St. Anthony Falls

Minnesota State News  Jan. 7, 1859 - Dec. 4, 1863

St. Cloud

Democrat  Aug. 5, 1858 - Sep. 6, 1866
Minnesota Union  Jan. 13, 1861 - May 1, 1863
Times (weekly)  Apr. 9, 1864 - Nov. 5, 1864
Union Feb. 25 - Mar. 31, 1864.

St. Paul

Journal Jan. 1, 1862 - Oct. 31, 1862
Minnesota Staats Zeitung (weekly) Jul. 24, 1858 - Aug. 30, 1877
Minnesota Folksblatt May 14, 1864 - Dec. 26, 1872
Pioneer and Democrat Sept. 2, 1859 - Nov. 10, 1865
Pioneer Press Apr. 28, 1849 - present
Press (daily) Jan. 1, 1861 - Dec. 31, 1862, May 2, 1863 - Apr. 10, 1875
Press (weekly) Aug. 22, 1861-Apr. 8, 1875
Union Nov. 3, 1862 - Feb. 28, 1863

St. Peter

Minnesota Statesman Jun.11, 1858 - Nov. 15, 1861
Tribune Feb. 8, 1860 - Jan. 21, 1920

Shakopee

Argus Dec. 14, 1861 - Dec. 20, 1866
Scott County Argus Nov. 30, 1861 - Dec. 7, 1861
Scott County Democrat Apr. 9, 1859 - Aug. 24, 1861

Stillwater

Messenger Sept. 22, 1857 - Feb. 22, 1928

Taylors Falls

Reporter Feb. 23, 1860 - Jul 31, 1862
Sep. 10, 1864 - Sep. 29, 1871
St. Croix Monitor Aug. 9, 1862 - Dec. 6, 1862

Wabasha

County Herald (semi-weekly) Jan. 1 - Aug. 6, 1862
Wabasha County Herald Jan. 30, 1861 - May 10, 1866

Waseca

Home Views Jan. 13, 1860 - Sep. 26, 1861

Wasioja
Northwestern Freewill Baptist May - Nov., 1862
Rural Minnesotan Feb. 28, 1861 - Aug 29, 1861

Winnebago City

Whig of ’76 Dec. 23, 1863

Winona

Democrat Sep. 24, 1864 - Nov. 14, 1868
Republican (daily) Jul. 19, 1860 - Jul 2, 1862
Aug. 11, 1862 - Jun 29, 1872
Republican (weekly) Nov. 20, 1855 - Dec. 17, 1862
State July 11, 1861

Also note the Federal Writers Project microfilm, (M529). As mentioned above in the Manuscripts section, this collection includes transcriptions of articles from local newspapers. It is particularly helpful because it is arranged chronologically by subject. Rolls 117 and 118 pertain specifically to the Civil War.

All of these newspapers are available for use in the Hubbs Microfilm Room in the Research Library. Duplicates of the films can be purchased through our Copy Center and most of them are also available through interlibrary loan.

Finally, this guide would not be complete without mention of the many three dimensional objects available in our Museum Collections Department. Searches on the PALS catalog will turn up many of these items with some basic description of them. For example, if one searches for the name William Watts Folwell, not only will a listing of his personal papers appear (see above under Manuscripts, New York) but also descriptions of his service uniform and field equipment that are also part of our collections.

Patrons wishing to view objects from the Museum Collections should contact the department at: (612)296-8071. The staff there, particularly curator Adam Scher, can also provide information on items not found in the on-line catalog.

It is our hope that this guide will prove a useful resource to patrons interested in Civil War history. But no guide is as helpful as personal contact. So, if you have further questions please do not hesitate to consult the Reference Staff. Should you have in depth questions regarding our Civil War collections you can contact our specialist, Hampton Smith, at (612) 297-7435 or via email at: hamp.smith@mnhs.org.