Descriptive Summary
Title: Jonathan B. Labrant papers
Dates: 1862-1917
Dates: bulk 1862-1864
Collection Number: mssHM 73100-73223
Creator OR Collector: Labrant, Jonathan B., 1836-1928
Extent: 123 items, also photographs and ephemera
Repository: The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens Manuscripts Department
The Huntington Library
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, California 91108
Phone: (626) 405-2203
Fax: (626) 449-5720
Email: reference@huntington.org
URL: http://www.huntington.org
Abstract: Correspondence between Jonathan B. Labrant and his wife Mary; also letters to and by other family members.
Language of Material: The records are in English.
Access
Collection is open to qualified researchers by prior application through the Reader Services Department. For more information, please go to following web site .
Publication Rights
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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Jonathan B. Labrant papers, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.
Acquisition Information
Biographical Note
Jonathan B. Labrant, Union soldier, was son of Jonathan Leibrandt and Margaret Isenbirgh Leibrandt (Labrant), German immigrants who came to America in 1832. In 1851, the family moved to Pierce Township, DeKalb County, Ill. In 1861, Jonathan B. Labrant married Mary Melissa Wilson. Their first son Charles was born in 1862, followed by Albina (1866), Wilson (1869), and twins Alvin and Calvin (1879). In February 1862, Labrant enlisted in the 58th Regiment, Co. G of Illinois Infantry, and took part in the battle of Shiloh, advance and siege of Corinth, Miss. (June-August, 1862), Meridian Campaign, (Feb.-Mar. 1864), Red River Expedition, Smith's expeditions to Tupelo and Oxford (Miss.), march through Arkansas and Missouri in pursuit of Price (Sept.-Nov. 1864), and Battle of Nashville. In 1863 the regiment was stationed at Springfield (Ill.), Cairo (Ill.) and Paducah (Ky.), guarding prisoners. He was mustered out in Chicago, in February 1865. After the war he lived in Kansas.
Arrangement
The collection is arranged chronologically. It is housed in two boxes.
Scope and Content
Correspondence between Jonathan Labrant and his wife Mary Melissa and his parents and siblings (chiefly between 1862 and 1864), miscellaneous letters addressed to the Labrants, photographs and documents. One letter is in German.
Jonathan Labrant's Civil War letters cover his service in Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas, including encounters with fugitive slaves, "black rebels," and Confederacy sympathizers, and discuss military actions, camp life - rations, inspections, drills, etc., recruiting in Illinois in 1863, and war news. His correspondence with other veterans of the 58th Regiment includes discussions of the history of the regiment and current political affairs. His wife's letters give updates on friends and family, local news, and describe challenges faced by a young mother running a household.
Personal Names
Labrant, Jonathan B., 1836-1928
Labrant, Mary Melissa Wilson, 1842-1923
Labrant (Family)

Corporate Names
United States. Army. Illinois Infantry Regiment, 58th (1862-1866)

Subjects
African Americans -- Mississippi -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
German Americans -- Illinois -- 19th century -- Correspondence
Married women -- Illinois -- Correspondence
Red River Expedition, 1864 -- Personal narratives
Soldiers -- Illinois
Soldiers -- United States -- History -- 19th century -- Correspondence
Women -- Illinois -- Correspondence -- Civil War, 1861-1865

Geographic Areas
Arkansas -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives
Illinois -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives
Louisiana -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives
Mississippi -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives
Tennessee -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Regimental histories -- Illinois -- Sources
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- -- Veterans -- Correspondence

Genre
Family papers -- United States -- 19th century
Letters (correspondence) -- United States -- 19th century
Military records -- United States -- Civil War, 1861-1865
Photographs -- United States -- 19th century

Box 1

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   Cairo, Ill.
   Descriptive roll. Printed form, filled in.
   Paducah, Ky.

Box 2

1864-1917

   Paducah, Ky.
HM 73146 Labrant, Jonathan B., 1836-1928. Letter to "Dear Brother" (1864, Jan. 13)
   Paducah, Ky.
HM 73196 Labrant, Mary Melissa Wilson, 1842-1923. Letter to Jonathan B. Labrant, 1836-1928 (1864, Jan. 16)
   Fragile.
   Cairo, Ill.
   Cairo, Ill. Fragile.
   Vicksburg, Miss.
   Vicksburg, Miss.
   Vicksburg, Miss.
(1864, Mar. 12)
Steamer "Adriatic."

HM 73198  Labrant, Mary Melissa Wilson, 1842-1923. Letter to Jonathan B. Labrant,
1836-1928 (1864, Mar. 12)
HM 73153  Labrant, Jonathan B., 1836-1928. Letter to Mary Melissa Wilson Labrant,  
1842-1923 (1864, Mar. 20)
Alexandria, La.

HM 73199  Labrant, Mary Melissa Wilson, 1842-1923. Letter to Jonathan B. Labrant,  
1836-1928 (1864, Mar. 29)
HM 73154  Labrant, Jonathan B., 1836-1928. Letter to Mary Melissa Wilson Labrant,  
1842-1923 (1864, Mar. 30)
HM 73155  Labrant, Jonathan B., 1836-1928. Letter to Mary Melissa Wilson Labrant,  
1842-1923 (1864, Apr. 6)
        Natchitoches, La.

HM 73200  Labrant, Mary Melissa Wilson, 1842-1923. Letter to Jonathan B. Labrant,  
1836-1928 (1864, Apr. 22)
HM 73201  Labrant, Mary Melissa Wilson, 1842-1923. Letter to Jonathan B. Labrant,  
1836-1928 (1864, Apr. 28)
HM 73156  Labrant, Jonathan B., 1836-1928. Letter to Mary Melissa Wilson Labrant,  
1842-1923 (1864, May 1)

HM 73202  Labrant, Mary Melissa Wilson, 1842-1923. Letter to Jonathan B. Labrant,  
1836-1928 (1864, May 8)
HM 73203  Labrant, Mary Melissa Wilson, 1842-1923. Letter to Jonathan B. Labrant,  
1836-1928 (1864, May 15)
        Fragile.

HM 73204  Labrant, Mary Melissa Wilson, 1842-1923. Letter to Jonathan B. Labrant,  
1836-1928 (1864, May 20)
HM 73157  Labrant, Jonathan B., 1836-1928. Letter to Mary Melissa Wilson Labrant,  
1842-1923 (1864, May 24)
        Steamer "Adriatic."

HM 73158  Labrant, Jonathan B., 1836-1928. Letter to Mary Melissa Wilson Labrant,  
1842-1923 (1864, June 9)
        Steamer "Adriatic."

HM 73159  Labrant, Jonathan B., 1836-1928. Letter to Mary Melissa Wilson Labrant,  
1842-1923 (1864, June 10)
HM 73205  Labrant, Mary Melissa Wilson, 1842-1923. Letter to Jonathan B. Labrant,  
1836-1928 (1864, June 11)
        Pierceville, Ill.

HM 73160  Labrant, Jonathan B., 1836-1928. Letter to Mary Melissa Wilson Labrant,  
1842-1923 (1864, June 13)
        Memphis, Tenn.

HM 73161  Labrant, Jonathan B., 1836-1928. Letter to Mary Melissa Wilson Labrant,  
1842-1923 (1864, June 20)
        Memphis, Tenn.
  LaGrange, Tenn.

  LaGrange, Tenn. Incomplete.

  LaGrange, Tenn.

  Memphis, Tenn.

HM 73206  Labrant, Mary Melissa Wilson, 1842-1923. Letter to Jonathan B. Labrant, 1836-1928 (1864, Aug. 12)
  Holly Springs, Miss.

HM 73167  Labrant, Jonathan B., 1836-1928. Letter to "Dear Brother" (1864, Aug. 16)
  Holly Springs, Miss.

HM 73100  Butler, E. F. Telegraph to [unknown addressee] (1864, Aug. 19)
  Memphis, Tenn.

HM 73219  Wilson, Albine? Letter to "Dear Brother" (1864, Aug. 21)
  Fort Pickering, Tenn.

  Fort Pickering, Tenn.

  Grey Summit, Franklin County, Mo. Fragile.

  Tipton, Mo.

HM 73209  Labrant, Mary Melissa Wilson, 1842-1923. Letter to Jonathan B. Labrant, 1836-1928 (1864, Nov. 13)
  Steamer "Mollie."
1864-1917


HM 73101  Farge, William P. Letter to Mary Melissa Wilson Labrant, 1842-1923 (1864, Dec. 15)
Nashville, Tenn.

HM 73210  Labrant, Mary Melissa Wilson, 1842-1923. Letter to Jonathan B. Labrant, 1836-1928 (1864?)
Fragile.

Chicago, Ill.

HM 73211  Labrant, Jonathan B., 1836-1928. Letter to [unknown addressee] (1871, July 8)
In German.

Buckner County, Mo.

HM 73221  [Unknown author]. Letter to "Dear Children" (1878, Apr. 25)
HM 73103  Hamblin, Dennis Letter to Jonathan B. Labrant, 1836-1928 (1885, Mar. 8-Apr. 6)
HM 73215  Ruechel, Henry. Postcard to E. S. Weeden (1887, Feb. 24)
Cataloger's note: Difficult to read.

Arthur, Knox County, Neb.

HM 73214  Lee, E. R. Letter to "Dear Brother" (1888, July 14)
HM 73104  Labrant, J. A. Letter to "Dear Bro and Sister" (1917, Jan. 28)

HM 73212 (1-5)  Labrant family. Miscellaneous letters [undated]
5 items.

HM 73222 (1-10)  Fragments [undated]
10 items.

Folder 3  Photographs