
**Finding Aid for the James D. Marshall Civil War correspondence collection
2015.003.w.r**

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Center for American War Letters Archives

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Leatherby Libraries

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Language of Material: English

Contributing Institution: Center for American War Letters Archives

Title: James D. Marshall Civil War correspondence

creator: Marshall, James D.

Identifier/Call Number: 2015.003.w.r

Physical Description: 0.025 Linear Feet(1 folder)

Date (inclusive): 1864-11-24-1865

Abstract: This collection contains two letters written by Corporal James D. Marshall of the Union Army to his mother and sister during the Civil War.

Leatherby Libraries, Special Collections, CAWL Archives

Storage Unit: Civil War 1

Storage Unit: 10

Content Description

This collection contains two correspondence written by Corporal James D. Marshall to his mother and sister during the Civil War. Marshall served in Company P of the 1st Regiment, Maine Heavy Artillery for the Union Army.

The first letter is dated November 18, 1864 and written near Washington, D.C. Marshall states that "there is not much fighting here now except picket firing [sic]." It is unclear if that is because the war is coming to an end or because it is almost winter. He describes many Confederate soldiers coming to terms with the notion that they are losing the war: "The Rebs are doing quite a business of deserting to our Army. There is some come over every night....Our Reg. took some Prisoners a while ago. They was all very ragged and they said they all was getting in the same way they is awful sick of the War. I don't think the war will last more than 4 years longer." Marshall also takes some time to discuss the 1864 presidential election, and some possible family tension over whom he voted for: "Perhaps you would like to know how I voted last election day...I voted for Abe Lincoln. I don't think Pa will have to say that he had rather follow me to my grave than have me vote for Abe Lincoln again this year. I don't think he need to have said it when he did be that as it may I can't help thinking of it once in a while."

The second letter is dated 1865 and was written near Petersburg, VA. Marshall describes his health as generally good despite having a poor appetite and a lame hip. He again reflects on the war coming to an end: "I suppose the folks down that way think that this war is about wound up. It does look something like it now but I am afraid that we have got to fight them one summer more before they will give up." He also informs his mother he was promoted: "I believe I never told you that I was a Corporal...to be sure it is not a very high office but it is better than a private."

He wrote a second letter on the back of this paper to his sister Eliza.

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Original donor unknown. Legacy collection from Andrew Carroll.

Preferred Citation

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Subjects and Indexing Terms

United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865.

Correspondence -- American Civil War

Presidents Election
