These are letters written to Elizabeth C. Coleman and her parents during the Civil War, by relatives and friends in the 6th Missouri Infantry. Included are letters from Otterville and Rolla, Missouri, and Vicksburg, Mississippi, 1862-1863; one from Washington, D.C., in 1865; and two from Pilot Knob, Missouri, in 1865. The letters contain camp news and information on mutual friends. The letters from Pilot Knob concern postwar employment.

There are nine letters in this collection; seven original letters and scanned copies of two others. They were written by soldiers in the 6th Missouri Infantry, a volunteer unit organized at St. Louis during the summer of 1861, and addressed to Elizabeth C. “Lizzie” Coleman, a Missouri resident, and her parents. The authors were Coleman’s brother and her uncle, and a penpal serving with them in the Union army.

Thomas M. Coleman was Elizabeth’s brother. His letters, written from the 6th Missouri’s Camp Lemain [Lamine] near Otterville in Pettis County, Missouri, in January 1862, included comments on winter weather, officers, and the men in his mess. He also wrote from Vicksburg, Mississippi on 10 March 1863, and from Washington, D.C. on 25 May 1865, where the 6th Missouri had gone to participate in the Grand Review. Coleman wrote that Missourians among the crowd showered the regiment with bouquets. Mark Anthony, a native of Tennessee, served in Company D of the 6th Missouri Infantry. He wrote Elizabeth Coleman from Rolla in Phelps County, Missouri, on 21 May 1862 after having escorted army supply trains to Batesville, Arkansas. Anthony did not know Lizzie Coleman, but hoped to strike up a correspondence with her on the recommendation of his comrade, Martin Claybaugh. His introductory letter contains autobiographical details and patriotic sentiments. Martin L. Claybaugh, also of Company D of the 6th Missouri, addressed Lizzie Coleman as “niece.” His letters, from Vicksburg (1 April 1863) and Pilot Knob in Iron County, Missouri (5 March and 18 June 1865), include camp news, patriotic expressions, news of mutual friends, and speculation about employment as a collier at the iron furnace in Pilot Knob. Claybaugh was still serving in the 6th Missouri when his first letter from Pilot Knob was written, but it was only a few weeks until the regiment was mustered out at Little Rock, Arkansas. By the time he wrote Lizzie Coleman on 18 June 1865, Claybaugh was employed at Pilot Knob.

r689  10 November 1997    The Historical Shop    Purchase
r692  7 January 1998     The Historical Shop    Purchase
r741  13 December 1999    The Historical Shop    Purchase
r785  29 May 2001        S. Colleen Holland    Gift
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These are letters written to Elizabeth C. Coleman and her parents during the Civil War, by relatives and friends in the 6th Missouri Infantry. Included are letters from Otterville and Rolla, Missouri, and Vicksburg, Mississippi, 1862-1863; one from Washington, D.C., in 1865; and two from Pilot Knob, Missouri, in 1865. The letters contain camp news and information on mutual friends. The letters from Pilot Knob concern postwar employment.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>From</th>
<th>To</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>06 Jan 1862</td>
<td>Thomas Coleman, Camp “Lemain” [Pettis County, Mo.]</td>
<td>parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Jan 1862</td>
<td>Thomas Coleman, Camp “Lemain” [Pettis County, Mo.]</td>
<td>Elizabeth C. Coleman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Jan 1862</td>
<td>Thomas Coleman, Camp near Otterville, Mo.</td>
<td>Elizabeth C. Coleman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 May 1862</td>
<td>Mark Anthony, Rolla, Missouri</td>
<td>Elizabeth Coleman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 Mar 1863</td>
<td>Thomas Coleman, Vicksburg, Mississippi (scanned copy, with typescript)</td>
<td>Elizabeth Coleman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>01 Apr 1863</td>
<td>Martin Claybaugh, Vicksburg, Mississippi (scanned copy, with typescript)</td>
<td>Elizabeth Coleman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>05 Mar 1865</td>
<td>M. L. Claybaugh, Pilot Knob, Missouri</td>
<td>Thomas and Lizzie Coleman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 May 1865</td>
<td>Thomas Coleman, camp near Washington, D.C.</td>
<td>Elizabeth Coleman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 June 1865</td>
<td>Martin L. Claybaugh, Pilot Knob, Missouri</td>
<td>Lizzie Coleman</td>
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