

CG Schmidt, Bob (1952- ), Collection, 1861  
15 .11 cubic feet (2 folders)

This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri](http://The State Historical Society of Missouri). If you would like more information, please contact us at [research@shsmo.org](mailto:research@shsmo.org).

#### INTRODUCTION

This collection contains six letters written by Private George W. Shinn, a Union soldier at Camp Fremont and Camp Lyon during the American Civil War. Shinn was born in Fulton County, Illinois, and served with Company H of the 17<sup>th</sup> Illinois Infantry. The letters were written to his father, mother, and sister while camped at Cape Girardeau and Bird's Point, Missouri. Shinn died in a St. Louis hospital from wounds received at the Battle of Fort Donelson. There is additional genealogy information and research information compiled by the donor.

A seventh letter, written by Solomon Kittrell on May 19, 1861 in Butler County, Missouri, shares his current situation as a farmer, river levels, soldiers' movements, and the transport of African Americans through the region. This added letter also included genealogy information compiled by the donor.

#### DONOR INFORMATION

This collection was donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Robert J. Schmidt on 8 February, 2017 (Accession No. CGA0015). An addition was made 29 March, 2017 (Accession No. CGA0015.1)

#### BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Robert J. "Bob" Schmidt is a Civil War historian, collector, and published author. Bob graduated from Southeast Missouri State University in 1974 with a degree in Secondary Education. His wife, Jane, is a graduate of Missouri State University, formerly Southwest Missouri State. Their daughter, Maggie, also graduated from Southeast Missouri State and is an educator in Farmington, Missouri. Schmidt retired from the Missouri Department of Social Services in 2003 and resides, with his wife, on the family farm in French Village, Missouri.

Bob Schmidt began his studies and writings on the Civil War, emphasizing southeast Missouri, in 1995. The State Historical Society of Missouri reference collection contains many books authored by Schmidt, including one of his favorites, *The Military Destruction of Slavery in Southeast Missouri, 1861-1864 & the Rise of the USCT*. A second favorite of the author, *Civil War Mysteries Solved: The Murder of William Pickles and the Prairie du Rocher Raid* examines the mystery surrounding the deaths of William Pickles of St. Genevieve County, Missouri, in August 1861, and of John Highley two and one half years later at Prairie du Rocher, Illinois.

#### FOLDER LIST

f. 1	Letters, 1861
f. 2	Genealogy and research

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