

Information Sheet

R **Matthews, John Wesley.**
39 **Letters, 1862-1863.**
 Two items.

This collection is available at The State Historical Society of Missouri. If you would like more information, please contact us at shsresearch@umsystem.edu.

These are photocopies of two letters from John W. Matthews to his family relating his experiences in the 32nd Regiment, Missouri Volunteers. The letters contain descriptions of provost duty in St. Louis, and the condition of the regiment after the surrender of Vicksburg. There is also a poem describing the Vicksburg campaign.

John Wesley Matthews lived near Dixon in Pulaski County, Missouri. His military record indicated his profession was farming. In August 1862, at the age of 36, Matthews enlisted in the Union army. He was mustered into service at Benton Barracks in St. Louis, and was assigned to Company H, 32nd Regiment, Missouri Volunteers, in October 1862. The regiment remained in St. Louis as provost guards until the end of the year, when they were assigned to the Department of the Tennessee and the forces operating against Vicksburg, Mississippi. Matthews was garrisoned with his unit in Alabama during the winter of 1863-1864, where he was taken sick. His service record, a copy of which may be found in the Information Folder, lists Matthews as having died of disease at Woodville, Alabama, in April 1864.

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17 October 1980

Mary Lee Shomaker

Loaned for photocopying

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