

Information Sheet

R **Coleman, Elizabeth C.**
619 **Coleman family correspondence, 1862-1865.**
 One folder.

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 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.

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