



Christian Johann Bürki Papers (R1416)

Collection Number: R1416

Collection Title: Christian Johann Bürki Papers

Dates: 1861-1886

Creator: Bürki, Christian Johann

Abstract: The papers of Christian Johann Bürki contain materials related to his service during the Civil War. Born in Bern, Switzerland, Bürki moved to the United States prior to the Civil War and enlisted at St. Louis in the Missouri Volunteer Infantry, 15th Regiment, known as the 'Swiss Rifles,' where he rose to the rank of captain.

Collection Size: 0.1 cubic foot
(4 folders)

Language: Collection materials are in English and German.

Repository: The State Historical Society of Missouri

Restrictions on Access: Collection is open for research, but is stored offsite. This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center - Rolla](#). If you would like more information, please contact us at rolla@shsmo.org. Collections may be viewed at any research center.

Restrictions on Use: The Donor has given and assigned to the State Historical Society of Missouri all rights of copyright, which the Donor has in the Materials and in such of the Donor's works as may be found among any collections of Materials received by the University from others.

Preferred Citation: [Specific item; box number; folder number] *Christian Johann Bürki Papers* (R1416); The State Historical Society of Missouri Research Center-Rolla [after first mention may be abbreviated to SHSMO-Rolla].

Donor Information: The papers were donated to the State Historical Society of Missouri by Freddie Daum on December 27, 2014 (Accession No. RA1613). An addition was made on August 8, 2017 by Freddie Daum (Accession No. RA1642).

Processed by: Processed by Kathleen Seale, April 13, 2018

Historical Note:

Christian Johann Bürki was born on December 9, 1836, in Bern, Switzerland. He worked as a carpenter in Burgdorf, before moving to the United States and settling in St. Louis, Missouri, prior to the outbreak of the Civil War. He enlisted in the Union Army in August of 1861, and served in the Missouri Volunteer Infantry, 15th Regiment where he rose to the rank of captain. He was injured in the battle at Mission Ridge in 1863, and was honorably discharged in December 1865. In many of his military records, his name is listed as John Burki. Bürki returned to Switzerland after the war and resumed his work as a carpenter. On April 24, 1869, he married Bertha Elise Dick from Grossaffoltern, Switzerland, and together they had two children. He died in Bern on April 15, 1873.

Arrangement:

The collection has been arranged into the following 2 series:

Military Papers
Photographs

Scope and Content Note:**Military Papers**

This series contains materials related to Johann/John Bürki's service during the Civil War. The papers include a poem written in Swiss about his service during the war and his happy homecoming upon his return to Switzerland. There is also his muster roll that documents his time serving with the Missouri Volunteer Infantry, 15th Regiment, and a pension certificate awarded to his widow, Elise Bürki in 1886.

Photographs

This series consists of images of two cartes-de-vistes of Johann/John Bürki in his Union uniform taken while in St. Louis, Missouri, and after his return to Switzerland.

Container List:

f. 1-3	Military Papers
f. 1	Poem, 1866
f. 2	Muster rolls, 1865
f. 3	Pension certificate, 1886
f. 4	Photographs
f. 4	Johann/John Bürki, 1860s

Index:

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Bürki, Christian Johann, 1836-1873	1-4	Yes
Bürki, Elise	3	
Missouri -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865	1-4	

Index Term	Folder	Image
St. Louis (Mo.)	2	
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