

# JESSEE, GEORGE M.

## George M. Jessee papers, 1864-1876

Emory University  
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### Descriptive Summary

**Creator:** Jessee, George M.  
**Title:** George M. Jessee papers, 1864-1876  
**Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 370  
**Extent:** 1 microfilm reel (MF)  
**Abstract:** Microfilm copy of the papers of Lieutenant Colonel George M. Jessee who was commanding officer of the 6th Kentucky Cavalry Battalion.  
**Language:** Materials entirely in English.

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### Administrative Information

#### Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted access.

#### Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

#### Source

Loaned for microfilming, 1961.

#### Citation

[after identification of item(s)], George M. Jessee papers, Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

#### Processing

Processed by EK, April 1961.

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### Collection Description

#### Biographical Note

Lieutenant Colonel George M. Jessee was commanding officer of the 6th Kentucky Cavalry Battalion. Early in 1865, he was sent to Kentucky by the Commander of the Department of

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Western Virginia and East Tennessee, whose headquarters were at Wytheville, Virginia, with orders to bring to Virginia all the Confederate soldiers whom he could persuade to come out and help the war effort. While he was engaged in this work, Lee and Johnston surrendered. Apparently Colonel Jessee was later accused of unauthorized absence from his command during this critical period.

### **Scope and Content Note**

The collection consists of a microfilm copy of the papers of Lieutenant Colonel George M. Jessee from 1864-1876. The eight items in the collection concern Jessee's attempt to prove he was not guilty of any dereliction of duty and that his presence in Kentucky was by order of his superiors. The first is a "Circular" dated April 30, 1864, Head Quarters Department East Tennessee Abingdon, Virginia, signed by J. N. Galleher, AAG, by command of Major General S. B. Buckner; it concerns an attempt to save as large a hay crop as possible by restricting the grazing of meadows by public animals. The second item is a draft of a speech made about mid March 1865, in Kentucky, by Col. Jessee to Confederate soldiers urging them to rejoin their commands in Virginia. The third item, dated April 11, 1865, from Major General John C. Palmer in Emmence, Kentucky, concerns the surrender of Jessee's command. The next three letters, dated between May 19, 1869 and July 2, 1869 are from Edward O. Guerrant, J. Stoddard Johnston, and H. L. Giltner to Col. Jessee. These three men were former Confederate officers. (Verbatim copies of the Giltner and Guerrant letters, transcribed on a single sheet of paper, are also included.) The final item is dated January 22, 1876, Louisville, Kentucky and is a letter from Emma Stealey to Colonel Jessee inquiring about a young soldier who was with him during the war.

