

# MANSON, JOSEPH.

## Joseph Manson letters, 1864-1866

Emory University  
Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library  
Atlanta, GA 30322  
404-727-6887  
rose.library@emory.edu

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### Descriptive Summary

**Creator:** Manson, Joseph.  
**Title:** Joseph Manson letters, 1864-1866  
**Call Number:** Manuscript Collection No. 387  
**Extent:** 1 microfilm reel (MF)  
**Abstract:** Microfilm copy of letters from teacher, homesteader, and Union soldier Joseph Manson to his wife, while he served in the 27th Iowa Infantry Regiment and the 12th Iowa Infantry Regiment during the Civil War.  
**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 reproduction, 1961.

#### Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Joseph Manson letters, Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

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### Collection Description

#### Biographical Note

Joseph Manson, teacher, homesteader, and Union soldier, was living in Canada when he decided to go to the United States, homestead, and participate in the Civil War. He secured legal admittance to enter the army by accepting three hundred dollars (\$300.00) from a wealthy family to go in place of their son. Manson began his service about January 1, 1864. He was a member of

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the 27th Iowa Infantry Regiment until July 17, 1865 when he became a member of the 12th Iowa Infantry Regiment.

Joseph Manson and his wife, Martha, whom he had married, apparently in 1848, were the parents of a son, James J. Manson, and a younger daughter, Jannetta [?], whose nickname was "Birdie."

**Scope and Content Note**

The collection consists of a microfilm copy of 132 letters written by Joseph Manson mainly to his wife but a few were addressed to his son James, his brother William, other members of his family and to his friends from 1864-1866. The letters were written while he was serving in the United States Army mainly in Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee, Missouri, and Alabama. He expresses concern for his family, and discusses daily life and the places he has been, his bout with malaria, Native Americans at Camp McClellan (Iowa), and Abraham Lincoln, whom he idolized.

**Arrangement Note**

Not filmed in chronological order.

**Finding Aid Note**

A list of the letters in the order in which they appear on the film is available.

