

MERIWETHER, JOHN SAMUEL, 1830-1879.

John Samuel Meriwether papers, 1862-1864

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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Meriwether, John Samuel, 1830-1879.
Title: John Samuel Meriwether papers, 1862-1864
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 253
Extent: .25 linear ft. (1 box)
Abstract: Typescript copies of the papers of Alabama soldier and physician John Samuel Meriwether, who served in the 38th Alabama Infantry Regiment, 40th Alabama Infantry Regiment, and as head surgeon of the Confederate Hospital at Eufaula, Alabama during the Civil War.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on Access

Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

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

Source

Gift, unknown.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], John Samuel Meriwether papers, Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Collection Description

Biographical Note

John Samuel Meriwether (born January 28, 1830 at Springfield, Alabama - died May 26, 1879 at Eutaw, Alabama) was a doctor who practiced medicine in Alabama and served as a medical officer during the Civil War. He was one of twelve children of Dr. Willis Meriwether (August

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12, 1798 - December 25, 1867) and Judith Pollard Chiles Meriwether (December 7, 1807 - May 18, 1852) who were married on November 1, 1823.

John Samuel Meriwether was educated on the undergraduate level at the University of Alabama and received his medical degree from Charleston (S.C.) Medical College in 1853. Meriwether enlisted in the Confederate Army in the spring of 1862, serving in the 38th Alabama Infantry Regiment, (Col. Ketchum's) and 40th Alabama Infantry Regiment, and serving as the Surgeon in charge of the Confederate Hospital at Eufaula, Alabama with the rank of major.

On November 8, 1860, Meriwether married Alice Coleman (1839- 1919), who was the daughter of James Cobb Coleman and his second wife, Juliet Bestor Coleman. James Cobb Coleman and his first wife, Martha Ann Anderson Coleman, had one son and one daughter; he and Juliet Bestor Coleman had one daughter, Alice, and five sons.

Alice Coleman and John Samuel Meriwether had six children: Juliet Meriwether Pitts (August 12, 1861- October 22, 1944); Judith Lida Meriwether Ward (July 7, 1864 - May 9, 1950); Mary Hale Meriwether de Graffenreid (February 15, 1867 - August ?, 1930); John Bestor Meriwether (July 3, 1870 - April 7, 1939); Alice Coleman Meriwether Dunlap (May 20, 1873 - January 8, 1957); and Willis James Meriwether (May 20, 1877 - July 4, 1947). John Samuel Meriwether, Alice Coleman Meriwether, and five of their children are buried at Eutaw, Alabama.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of typescript copies of the papers of John Samuel Meriwether from 1862-1864. The correspondence is between Meriwether and his wife, Alice while he was serving in the 38th Alabama Infantry Regiment (Colonel Ketchum's) and 40th Alabama Infantry Regiment, and while serving as the Surgeon in charge of the Confederate Hospital at Eufaula, Alabama. Notes regarding the papers were prepared by Emory History Professor Bell Wiley. The collection also includes a term paper (1979) about Meriwether's letters and photocopies of Meriwether family genealogical information.

Other information may be found in: Meriwether Nelson Heath. *The Meriwethers and Their Connections*. Columbia, Mo.: The ArtCraft Press, 1964; and in Glass, Mary Morgan, ed. *A Goodly Heritage: Memories of Greene County*. Eutaw, Ala.: Greene County Historical Society, 1977.

Arrangement Note

Arranged in chronological order.

Container List

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Letters, 1862 (49 items)
1	2	Letters, 1863 (30 items)
1	3	Letters, 1864 (9 items)
1	4	Letters, n.d., Alice Coleman Meriwether to John Samuel Meriwether (8 items)
1	5	Letters, n.d., John Samuel Meriwether to Alice Coleman Meriwether (4 items)
1	6	Notes made by history professor Bell I. Wiley at the time copies were given to Special Collections (1 item)
1	7	Judith Ward Sullivan's term paper, April 1979: introductory narrative, 2pp; family tree 1p.; 2 typed and edited Meriwether letters, 4pp.; author's notes and professor's comments, 1p.
1	8	Correspondence about Meriwether letters and related material 3 letters; "Grassdale and its People," by Mary Morgan Glass; photocopy of transcript; 1970, July 10 for Greene Co. (Ala.) Historical Society; Photocopied excerpts from Meriwether, Nelson Heath, <i>The Meriwethers and Their Connections</i> , Columbia, Mo.: The Artcraft Press, 1964.
