OSWALD, PETER, 1864-1865.  
Peter Oswald correspondence, 1864-1865

Emory University  
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Oswald, Peter, 1864-1865.  
Title: Peter Oswald correspondence, 1864-1865  
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 478  
Extent: .25 linear feet (1 box)  
Abstract: Photocopies of the correspondence of Union soldier Peter Oswald of Lehigh County, Pennsylvania during the Civil War.  
Language: Materials entirely in English and German.

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 photocopying, 1967.

Citation  
[after identification of item(s)], Peter Oswald correspondence, Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Processing  
Processed by MRD, 1967

Collection Description

Biographical Note  
Peter Oswald, son of John Oswald of Slatington, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, was a private in Co. H, 209th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment. Peter was of German extraction and his father

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was probably born in Germany. The 209th Regiment was organized in September 1864, went
to the City Point (Virginia) area for guard and garrison duty for several weeks and in November
moved to Petersburg and remained there until April 1865, when it joined in the pursuit of
Lee. After Lee's surrender, the regiment returned to City Point and from there, in late April, it
proceeded to the vicinity of Washington where it was mustered out in May, 1865. Peter was hurt
in early December 1864 while carrying a log and had to go to the hospital, first at City Point and
then in Washington (Harewood Hospital). He did not get out until the latter part of March, in
time to take part in the breakthrough near Petersburg and the pursuit of Lee to Appomattox.

**Scope and Content Note**
The collection consists of photocopies of the correspondence of Peter Oswald from September
11, 1864 - May 2, 1865. Fifteen letters are by Peter Oswald, the others by relatives and friends
of Peter, mainly his father and his brother, Jeremiah. Two are from comrades in his regiment,
written to him while he was in the hospital. Some of John Oswald's letters are in German, as is
one by Lewis Fink, a comrade of Peter's. Occasionally Peter uses a German term and all of his
writing shows his German background.

**Arrangement Note**
Arranged in chronological order.
## Container List

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box</th>
<th>Folder</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Correspondence: Oswald, Peter, September 11, 1864-May 2, 1865 [photocopies]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>