

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

Box	Folder	Content
1	1	Correspondence: Oswald, Peter, September 11, 1864-May 2, 1865 [photocopies]
