

**A0017**

**David Allan, Jr., Letters, 1862-1865**

1 box (27 folders)

Finding aid by Jaime Bourassa, November 2012

**REPOSITORY**

Missouri History Museum

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**DONOR INFORMATION**

The original collection of letters comprising the dates December 2, 1863, to August 10, 1864, was donated by Charles A. Hamilton on April 13, 1968. Additional photocopies were donated by D.O. Cardwell on October 3, 1986.

**BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

David Allan, Jr. (1842-1917) was mustered into service in the 29th Missouri Infantry (Union) at St. Louis in September 1862. He rose from the rank of private to captain, and was mustered out at Washington, D.C., in June 1865. He died December 21, 1917, at the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers in Danville, Illinois.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The David Allan, Jr., Letters include letters written by Allan from Cape Girardeau and Patterson, Missouri, dated October to December 1862, which briefly describe conditions in southeast Missouri; letters written from Woodville, Alabama, dated January to March 1864; letters written from near Atlanta, dated July to August 1864, including brief accounts of the battles of Atlanta and Ezra Chapel; and account of the Grand Review in Washington, D.C. The collection also includes one letter from J. S. Brown, Louisiana, Missouri, to James Allan, August 2, 1864.

- 1862 Oct 23-Dec 20 Photocopies of 22 letters from David Allan, Jr., to his mother, brother James, and sister Anna while in military service with the 29<sup>th</sup> Missouri Infantry (Union) at Cape Girardeau, Mo.; Paterson, Mo.; Helena, Ark.; and aboard the steamboat *John Warner*. (57 pages)
- 1863 Dec 2 Contemporary copy of letter [in David Allan, Jr.'s hand] from John G. Robinson, San Rafael, Cal., to David Allan, giving his nephew advice for his military life, and expressing his own desire to serve. Includes note on last page by Allan expressing admiration for his uncle. (4 pages)
- 1864 Jan 27 Letter from David Allan, Head Quarters 29th Mo. Vols., Woodville, Ala., to James Allan. Describes his camp and the countryside. (3 pages, envelope)
- 1864 Jan 30 Letter from David Allan, Head Quarters 29th Mo. I., Woodville, Ala., to Mrs. M. A. Allan, Saint Louis, Mo. Mentions his good health and the fine weather. (3 pages, envelope)
- 1864 Jan 31 Letter from David Allan, Head Quarters 29th Mo. Vols. Inf., Woodville, Ala., to James Allan, Saint Louis, Mo. Mentions his wish to set up a Glee Club to cultivate the musical talent within his camp. (3 pages, envelope)
- 1864 Feb 4 Letter from David Allan, Head Quarters 29th Mo. Vols., Woodville, Ala., to James Allan, Saint Louis, Mo. Mentions the drilling and singing that takes place at camp. (3 pages)
- 1864 Feb 8 Letter from David Allan, Head Quarters 29 M. V. I., Woodville, Ala., to Alex Allan, Saint Louis, Mo. Describes the countryside, and mentions the death of Governor Gamble. (1 item, envelope)
- 1864 Feb 10 Letter from David Allan, Head Quarters 29<sup>th</sup> M. V. I., Woodville, Ala., to James Allan, Saint Louis, Mo. Describes his new tent. (2 pages, envelope)
- 1864 Feb 14 Letter from David Allan, Jr., Head Quarters 29<sup>th</sup> M. V. I., Woodville, Ala., to James Allan, Saint Louis, Mo. Comments on his new tent, and describes the local people as "pale as milk scared with water." States his preference for Northern girls. (3 pages, envelope)
- 1864 Feb 15 Letter from David Allan, Jr., Hd. Qrs. 29<sup>th</sup> Mo. Vols., Woodville, Ala., to Miss Anna Allan, Saint Louis, Mo. Gives his sister advice on her studies. (3 pages, envelope)

- 1864 Feb 24 Letter from David Allan, Jr., Head Quarters 29<sup>th</sup> M. V. I., Woodville, Ala., to Mrs. M. A. Allan, Saint Louis, Mo. Mentions that he has been paid by the paymaster for the first time. (2 pages, envelope)
- 1864 Feb 29 Letter from David Allan, Jr., Head Quarters 29<sup>th</sup> M. V. I., Woodville, Ala., to James Allan, Saint Louis, Mo. Comments on the coming spring, and mentions a poem he and his brother used to read. (3 pages, envelope)
- 1864 Mar 2 Letter from David Allan, Jr., Head Quarters 29<sup>th</sup> M. V. I., Woodville, Ala., to James Allan, Saint Louis, Mo. Comments on the requirements for a regimental flag. (3 pages, envelope)
- 1864 Mar 6 Letter from David Allan, Jr., Head Quarters 29<sup>th</sup> Mo. Vols. Inf., Woodville, Ala., to James Allan, Saint Louis, Mo. Discusses regimental affairs and a book he is reading. Also gives his views on abolition, which are contrary to the views of others in his camp. (4 pages, envelope)
- 1864 Mar 10 Note from David Allan, Jr., Head Quarters 29<sup>th</sup> M. V. I., Woodville, Ala., to James Allan, St. Louis, Mo. States that he is going to Huntsville, and he will write again when he returns. (1 item, envelope)
- 1864 Mar 16 Letter from David Allan, Jr., Head Quarters 29<sup>th</sup> Regt. M. V. I., Woodville, Ala., to James Allan, Saint Louis, Mo. Describes his visit to Huntsville. (3 pages, envelope)
- 1864 Mar 20 Letter from David Allan, Jr., Head Quarters 29<sup>th</sup> M. V. I., Woodville, Ala., to James Allan, Saint Louis, Mo. Mentions a recent scouting mission. (3 pages, envelope)
- 1864 May 3 Letter from Dave [David Allan, Jr.], Head Quarters 29<sup>th</sup> Mo. Vols. Inf., nr. Stevenson, Ala., to James Allan, St. Louis, Mo. Describes his regiment's movements through Alabama. (1 item)
- 1864 May 20 Letter from David Allan, Jr., Head Quarters 29<sup>th</sup> M. V. I., near Kingston, Ga., to Mrs. M. A. Allan, St. Louis, Mo. Mentions his regiment's fortune in only having three men wounded. (1 page, envelope)
- 1864 July 17 Letter from Dave [David Allan, Jr.], Adjutants Office 29<sup>th</sup> Mo. Inf., in the field, to James Allan, Saint Louis, Mo. Mentions a recent thunderstorm in which fifteen men in his division were

- killed or wounded by lightning. (3 pages, envelope)
- 1864 July 25 Letter from David Allan, Jr., Adjutants Office 29<sup>th</sup> Mo. Infty., near Atlanta, Ga., to Mr. James Allan, Saint Louis, Mo. Discusses the Atlanta Campaign, calling it “the greatest campaign the world has ever seen.” (6 pages, envelope)
- 1864 July 30 Letter from David Allan, Jr., Adjutants Office 29<sup>th</sup> Mo. Inf., near Atlanta, Ga., to Mrs. M. A. Allan, Saint Louis, Mo. Describes skirmishes during the Atlanta Campaign. Also mentions casualties. (4 pages, envelope)
- 1864 Aug 2 Letter from David Allan, Jr., Head Quarters 29<sup>th</sup> Mo. Vols., near Atlanta, Ga., to Mr. James Allan, Saint Louis, Mo. Discusses his love of the country and desire to be a farmer when the war ends. (3 pages, envelope)
- 1864 Aug 2 Letter from J. S. Brown, Louisiana, Mo., to Mr. Jas. [James] Allan, St. Louis, Mo. Mentions a Fourth of July party he attended. (3 pages, envelope)
- 1864 Aug 6 Letter from David Allan, Jr., Head Quarters 29<sup>th</sup> Mo. Vols. Inf., near Atlanta, Georgia, to Mr. James Allan, Saint Louis, Mo. Discusses his diet and corrects several mistakes from his brother’s previous letter. (3 pages, envelope)
- 1864 Aug 10 Letter from Dave [David Allan, Jr.], Head Quarters 29<sup>th</sup> Regt. M. V. I., near Atlanta, Georgia, to Mr. James Allan, Saint Louis, Mo. Comments on the need for more men from the North to enlist to ensure a speedy end to the war. Also states his dislike for copperheads. (4 pages, envelope)
- 1864 Aug 15-1865 June 11 Photocopies of 19 letters from David Allan, Jr. to his mother, father, brother James, and sister Anna while in military service with the 29<sup>th</sup> Missouri Infantry (Union) at Atlanta, Ga.; Crab Tree Creek, Fayetteville, and Raleigh, N. C.; Petersburg, Alexandria, and Manchester, Va.; and Brightwood Park, D. C. Also includes photocopies of letter signed W.H. Gray, near Atlanta, Georgia, to Annie Allan, August 15, 1864, and letter signed 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant Willie H. Gray, near Atlanta, Georgia, to [David Allan, Jr.?], August 15, 1864. (60 pages)