

Crossman Family Papers

Mss 139

.75 linear feet

Biographical

Julius and Marcus Crossman were residents of Pierrepont, NY during the outbreak of the Civil War. Both men enlisted on Aug. 29, 1862 into the 142nd Regiment of the New York State Volunteer Army. At the time Julius was married to his wife Matilda and had a son of about a year old named Eddy. Both brothers were stationed all over the state of Virginia during their duty, along with other men from Pierrepont. Julius Crossman died in April 1863 in Fairfax Seminary Hospital, Virginia, of Typhoid Fever. Marcus Crossman was eventually moved to David Island Hospital in New York City where he appears to have helped with situating incoming patients. He survived the war, married and had a large family.

Beulah Crossman White was a descendent of Julius and Marcus. She was born in 1921 in Canton and attended local schools. She married Frank White in 1946 and operated a flower shop in town for many years. Beulah passed away in 2011.

Scope and Content

This collection consists of 62 original letters, most of which have typed transcripts. The letters date from 1862 through 1867. Julius, Marcus, or Matilda Crossman wrote the majority of the letters to one another. These letters discuss the state of camp life, how the soldiers are fairing, hopes for when the brothers plan on returning home, and the state of home life for Matilda. Also included are copies of documentation relating to Matilda's efforts to secure a widow's pension following her husband's death, and National Archives records on Julius and Marcus. Series 5 includes notes, information sheets, photographs and other documents relating to genealogical research on the Aldridge, Miller, Paro and Fordham families of St. Lawrence County, NY done by Beulah Crossman White.

Organization and Arrangement

The Collection is divided into 5 series as follows:

Series 1: Letters from Julius Crossman—Oct. 1862-Mar. 1863

Series 2: Letters from Marcus Crossman—Mar. 1863-Jan. 1867

Series 3: Letters from Matilda Crossman—Oct. 1862-April 1863

Series 4: Pension Documentation and Military records

Series 5: Misc. Correspondence, research notes and genealogical research material

Provenance

Frank and Beulah White, Canton, NY

Series 1--Correspondence from Julius Crossman

<i>Box</i>	<i>Folder</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Heading</i>
		1862		
1	1	Oct. 13	Camp Chase, VA	"My Dear Wife I now seat myself to let..."
	2	Oct. 15	Camp on Upton Hill, VA	"My Dear Wife how do you, and the rest..."
	3	Oct. 28	Camp Bliss, Upton Hill VA	"Beloved wife, with great pleasure your..."
	4	Nov. 7	Camp Bliss, Upton Hill, Va.	"Ever loving wife, with pleasure I will..."
	5	Nov. 13	Camp Bliss, VA	"Dear and Beloved wife, I will now take..."
	6	Dec. 8	Camp Bliss, VA	"Ever dear wife, I was very much pleased.."
	7	Dec. 16	Upton, Hill	"Here is a ring for Ancel Howard..."
	8	Dec. 21	Camp Bliss, VA	"Dear wife, as this day finds me well..."
	9	Dec. 28	Camp Bliss, VA	"Dear Wife, I was pleased as I came in..."
		1863		
	10	Jan. 4	Camp Davies, VA	"Dear Companion, I was pleased..."
	11	Jan. 18	Camp Davis, VA	"My Dear Companion, I seat myself..."
	12	Jan. 23	Camp Davis, VA	"Dear Wife, Your letter of jan 20 was..."
	13	Feb. 10	none Valentine "note" from "Bank of St. Valentine"	
	14	Feb. 15	Camp Calafornia, VA [sic]	"Dear Wife, With pleasure I will seat..."
	15	Feb. 25	Camp Holland, VA	"Beloved Wife, Glad was I to night by..."
	16	Mar. 8	Camp Holland, VA	"Good Evening Dear Wife, how does..."
	17	Mar. 10	Camp Holland, VA	"Dear Wife, With Pleasure I will now..."
	18	Mar. 18	Fairfax Seminary Hospital, VA	"Dear Wife I seat myself at this time..."
	19	Mar. 24	U.S. Military Hospital	"My dear Wife, I have got a friend to..."

Series 2—Correspondence from Marcus Crossman

<i>Box</i>	<i>Folder</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Heading</i>
		1863		
1	20	Mar. 15	Camp Near Chain Bridge, VA	"Dear Brother, As this evening finds me..."
	21	Mar. 15	Camp Near Chain Bridge, VA	"Absent and affectionate Sister, I take..."
	22	Mar. 16	Camp Near Chain Bridge, VA	"Dear Brother I am well and thought I..."
	23	Apr. 29		"Good afternoon Dear Sister, I hope you..."
	24	Jul. 20	Hampton Hospital, VA	"Well Remembered Sister, I have got so..."
	25	Aug. 1	Hampton Hospital, VA	"Dear Sister, It is with pleasure that I..."
	26	Aug. 4	Hampton Hospital, VA	"Ever Dear Sister, Your Letter of the 19 th ..."
	27	Aug. 29	Hampton Hospital, VA	"Dear Sister, Yours of the 23 rd is just..."
	28	Nov. 23	St. Johns College Hospital	"Absent Sister, Your kind favor of the..."
		1864		
1	29	Feb. 28	No. 194 Broadway, NY	"Dear Sister, As I know you will be glad..."
	30	Mar. 24	Davids Island, NY	"Dear Absent Sister, Your kind letter of..."
	31	Apr. 7	De Camp General Hospital	"Absent Sister, With pleasure I again..."
	32	May 19	De Camp General Hospital	"Kind Sister, With pleasure I now..."
	33*	June 7	DeCamp General Hospital	"Remembered Sister, Your very kind..."
	34	Jul. 18	De Camp General Hospital	"Absent Sister, Your kind note of the..."
	35	Jul. 31	De Camp U.S. General Hospital	"Dear Sister, Your kind note of the 24 th ..."
	36	Aug. 29	Camp of the 142 nd Regt. NY Vols.	"Dear Sister, I will now seat myself to..."
	37	Oct. 11	St. Johns College Hospital	"Dear Sister, Knowing that you would..."
		1865		
	38	Jan. 17	U.S.A. Gen'l Hospital	"Dear Sister, With pleasure I will now..."
	39	Feb. 27	U.S.A. National Gen'l Hospt.	"Ever Dear Sister, Your very welcome..."

<i>Box</i>	<i>Folder</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Heading</i>
				1866
1	40*	Nov. 12	Pierrepoint, NY	"Dear Sister, As you say you sometimes..."
				1867
	41	Jan. 2	Pierpont, NY [sic]	"Sister Matilda, I will now seat myself..."

Series 3—Correspondence from Matilda Crossman

<i>Box</i>	<i>Folder</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Heading</i>
				1862
1	42	Oct. 23	Hopkington [sic]	"Dear Husband and brother it is with..."
	43	Nov. 2	Hopkington	"My Dear husband I now seat myself..."
	44	Nov. 7	Hopkington	"My Dear Husband and Brother it is..."
	45	Nov 15?	none (Hopkinton)	"Beloved friends, it is with the grates..."
	46	Nov. 27	Hopkington	"My Dear Husband and Brother wonce..."
	47	Dec. 11		"Dear Brother and Husband with..."
	48	Dec. 14		"My Dear Husband it is with pleasur..."
	49	Dec. 21	Pierpont [sic]	"My Dear Compain with pleasure I seat..."
				1863
	50	Jan. 4	Pierpont	"Good afternoon Dear Husband and how..."
	51	Jan. 11	Pierpont	"Absent Husband wonce more I seat..."
	52	Jan. 14	Potsdam	"Good morning Julius once more I will..."
	53	Jan. 20	Potsdam	"My Dear Husband I will attempt to..."
	54	Jan. 27	Potsdam	"Dear Husband, I will improve a few..."
	55	Feb. 3	Potsdam	"My Much loved Husband it is with..."
	56	Feb. 12	none	"Dear Husband I will improve a few..."
	57	Feb. 18	Potsdam	"Dear Husband I will wonce more..."
	58	Feb. 24	Potsdam	"Good evining Dear Husband I was..."
	59	March 1	Potsdam	"My Dear Husband, I will attempt to write"
	60	Mar. 12	Potsdam	"My Dear Husband I will improve a few..."
	61+	Mar. 15	Potsdam	"Dear Husband As Sarah was written to..."
	62	Mar. 26	Potsdam	"My Dear Husband I now seat myself to..."
	63	March	Potsdam	envelope with Potsdam post mark

*denotes letter without transcription

+ folder 61 also contains a letter to Julius Crossman from his niece Sarah H, written on the same letter as Matilda's

Series 4--Pension documents and Military records

<i>Box</i>	<i>Folder</i>	<i>Contents</i>
1	64	Matilda Crossman military widow's pension documents
	65	Julius Crossman military records—Muster rolls
	66	Julius Crossman military records—Casualty sheet
	67	Julius Crossman military records—Inventory of effects
	68	Julius Crossman military records—Adjutant General's records
	69	Marcus Crossman military records—Muster Rolls

Series 5—Beulah White Research Files

2	70	Crossman genealogy information and research notes
	71	Miscellaneous correspondence (8 original letters, 1857-1902)
	72-74	papers, photos and documents related to Mrs. White's genealogical research on the Aldridge, Miller, Paro and Fordham families of St. Lawrence County

Series 6—Student Research Papers

2 75 *The Civil War Through the Letters of a Union Soldier* Brooke Fernandez, History
247, Dr. Liz Regosin, 10/17/2012