

## **Knapp Family Correspondence MSS Collection #129**

### **Scope & Content**

The Knapp Family Correspondence consists of over 100 items including letters, envelopes, photographs, and postcards. Many letters are from Orlando Knapp to his sister Charlotte. There are also some from Thomas Edmonds and Mary Olmsted to Charlotte.

### **Dates**

1859-2017

### **Availability**

The collection is open for research.

### **Biographical**

Charlotte Knapp was born in Westport, New York, in 1831 and later moved with her family to Pierrepont, New York. She married Thomas Edmonds, of Angola, Indiana, and returned with her husband to Pierrepont where she gave birth to four children. In 1862 her husband enlisted in the 12<sup>th</sup> Indiana Volunteers with her brother Orlando. In 1863 Charlotte lost all her children to diphtheria. During the war she corresponded often with her brother Orlando, and with Thomas until he died. In 1870 she married again, this time to a farmer named Richard Bell. They had two children while she was in her early forties. Then in 1875 she died and was buried in a cemetery west of Pierrepont.

Born in Pierrepont, New York, in 1839, Orlando Knapp moved to Indiana, sometime around 1859, where he met and married Armina Cordelia Edmonds. They had two children before she died in 1862. At this point Orlando enlisted in the 12<sup>th</sup> Regiment Indiana Volunteer Infantry. While away from home he wrote to his sister, Charlotte, who lived in Pierrepont. After the war Orlando became a traveling salesman, eventually settling in Howard City, Michigan. In the mid 1870's he ran a grocery store with his son James. He died in Howard City in 1917.

### **Extent**

1 box, .42 linear feet

### **Language of the Materials**

English

### **Arrangement**

Box 1

- Series 1. Correspondence
- Series 2. Photographs
- Series 3. Critical works

### **Provenance**

This collection was purchased from Mr. & Mrs. Ira Bullis, Canton NY in 2000.

### **Processing Information**

- Processed by the St. Lawrence University Libraries Special Collections staff.

- All transcriptions were done by Janet M. Bullis and James D. Carl. Transcripts contain annotations [in brackets] that may help the reader put information in the letters in context. For more information, see St. Lawrence County Historical Association *Quarterly* article, Summer 1996, contained in the collection, or a longer research paper *Letters to Charlotte: The Civil War Correspondence of Orlando James Knapp*, By Janet Bullis and James Carl.

### Repository Details

Part of the St. Lawrence University Libraries manuscript collection.

### Contact:

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### Collection Organization

**Series 1** consists of letters written mostly from Orlando to his sister, Charlotte. There are also empty envelopes and a few postcards.

**Series 2** contains photographs of Charlotte and copies of photographs of Orlando.

**Series 3** includes critical works completed by Janet Bullis and James Carl, mainly *The St. Lawrence County Historical Association Quarterly* issue that contains the article titled “Letters to Charlotte: The Civil War Correspondent of Orlando James Knapp.”

### Related Collections

Call Number	Title
Mss. Coll. No. 002	Beach Papers
Mss. Coll. No. 006	Pryce Lewis Collection
Mss. Coll. No. 056	Goodrich Papers
Mss. Coll. No. 064	Conkey - Bannister - Page Family Papers
Mss. Coll. No. 066	George O. Newbury Letters
Mss. Coll. No. 082	William H. Carr Diary
Mss. Coll. No. 083	William H. Davies Collection
Mss. Coll. No. 084	Orson Leroy Reynolds Collection
Mss. Coll. No. 085	Civil War Diary
Mss. Coll. No. 093	Wetherell Family Papers
Mss. Coll. No. 095	Robert Gilmore Papers
Mss. Coll. No. 125	Graves Family Correspondence
Mss. Coll. No. 126	Sunderland Family Correspondence
Mss. Coll. No. 133	16 <sup>th</sup> New York Infantry Regiment Records
Mss. Coll. No. 137	George S. Parsons Correspondence

Mss. Coll. No. 138	Columbus Huntly Correspondence
Mss. Coll. No. 139	Crossman Family Papers
Mss. Coll. No. 174	Henry D. Payne Memoir
Mss. Coll. No. 191	Lewis Murray Civil War Memoir