



State Library of Massachusetts - Special Collections Department

Ms. Coll. 1

Colonel Alfred S. Hartwell Papers, 1862-2003, bulk 1862-1866: Guide

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Creator: Hartwell, Alfred S., 1836-1912

Call Number: Ms. Coll. 1

Extent: 1 box and 1 oversized folder (1.5 linear feet)

Preferred Citation Style: *Folder Title*, Colonel Alfred S. Hartwell Papers. State Library of Massachusetts Special Collections.

Provenance: Transfer from Massachusetts State Archives, March 1981.

About This Finding Aid: Description based on DACS.

Processed by: Finding aid prepared by Marc Widershien, December 28, 1984. Updated by Abigail Cramer and Kate Boutin, March, 2012; and by Beth Carroll-Horrocks, May 2013 and Dec. 2020.

Abstract: These papers document Hartwell's investigation of abuse in the recruitment of Black soldiers in the south during the American Civil War.

SCOPE AND CONTENT

The Hartwell papers include correspondence by Hartwell investigating allegations of abuse in the recruitment of African-American soldiers, affidavits and statements that he gathered (from African-American soldiers and others with knowledge of the situation), and other evidence (muster rolls of African-American soldiers credited to Vermont and New York, for example) relevant to the investigation. The collection also includes mementos of Hartwell's service in the 44th, 54th and 55th Regiments of the Massachusetts Infantry, including numerous photographs of

soldiers (among them Robert Gould Shaw), general and special orders pertaining to freed slaves, and a record of donations to the military from Ladies Aid Societies in Massachusetts.

The twentieth-century material in folders 12 and 13 contain materials that supplement the original collection. They were acquired at the U.S. Army Military History Institute in Carlisle, Pennsylvania and the Department of Manuscripts and University Archives of the Cornell University Library; in 1992 they were sent to the State Library of Massachusetts by Katherine Dhalle, a researcher from New Hartford, New York. Materials in folder 12 also include information provided by Sharon MacDonald in 2003.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Alfred Stedman Hartwell was born in Dedham, Massachusetts, on June 11, 1836. Civil War records describe him as having been a law student; he graduated from Harvard University in 1858. From May 8, 1861 to August 17, 1861, he served as a corporal in the 3rd Missouri Infantry. He was commissioned a 1st lieutenant on August 22, 1862, and was mustered into Company F, 44th Regiment, Massachusetts Infantry on September 12, 1862; he resigned from that regiment and was discharged for promotion on March 31, 1863. Hartwell was next commissioned a captain in the 54th Regiment, Massachusetts Infantry and was discharged on May 14, 1863, for promotion in the 55th Massachusetts Infantry. On November 3, 1863, he was commissioned a lieutenant colonel in that regiment. He was wounded at Honey Hill, South Carolina on November 30, 1864, brevetted as a brigadier-general on December 30, 1864, and mustered out on April 30, 1866. Because of his experience with Black regiments, he spearheaded an investigation into abuses in the recruiting of Black soldiers in the south. From 1865 to 1866, Hartwell led the investigation into these alleged abuses. Brevet Brigadier-General M.S. Littlefield was the subject of many accusations that indicated that he enrolled disabled Black recruits, known deserters, and others into the 21st Regiment, U.S. Colored Troops and had failed to pay bounties due to the men. As a result of Hartwell's efforts, Littlefield was court-martialed. Hartwell later served as the Representative from Natick in the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 1867 and as Attorney General and Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Hawaii. He died in Honolulu on August 30, 1912.

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Arrangement

Materials in this collection are arranged in one series by material type (i.e., correspondence, affidavits, etc.).

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research during the Special Collections Department's regular hours.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Copyright restrictions may apply. Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be discussed with Special Collections staff.

Languages and Scripts

The collection is entirely in English.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Massachusetts Archives, March 1981. "Ladies Aide Societies Donations" transferred August, 2007. (Note: this folder was returned to the State Archives in 2007.)

Related Materials

The following collections may also be of interest:

- Burrill File (Ms. Coll. 88): Folder for Rome, Pvt. George R. (Civil War soldier of 55th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry)

Container List

Folder #	Folder Title	Date
1-A	Correspondence: Hartwell (general)	May 1864 -August 1865
1-B	Correspondence: Hartwell (general)	1865-1866; undated
1-C	Correspondence: Governor John A. Andrew to President Lincoln, contemporary copy	1864
2	Letter Book, outgoing Hartwell Correspondence (volume)	1865-1866
3	Record of Incoming Correspondence (volume)	1865-1866

4-A	Affidavits, statements	1864
4-B	Affidavits, statements	February-June 1865
5-A	Affidavits, statements	July-November 1865
5-B	Affidavits, statements	1866; undated
6	Hartwell Orders and Proclamations	May-October 1865
7-A	Muster Rolls	
7-B	Muster rolls	
8-A	Ordnance and Ordnance Stores, Returns and Invoices, Receipts and Abstracts of Receipts, 55 th Massachusetts Infantry	1863-1865
8-B	Ordnance and Ordnance Stores, Returns and Invoices, Receipts and Abstracts of Receipts, 55 th Massachusetts Infantry	"
8-C	Ordnance and Ordnance Stores, Returns and Invoices, Receipts and Abstracts of Receipts, 55 th Massachusetts Infantry	"
9	[Ladies Aide Societies Donations. Folder returned to the Massachusetts State Archives, 2007.]	1862-1865
10-A	Photographs, #1-22; see inventory below*	ca. 1862-1865
10-B	Photographs, #23-44; see inventory below*	ca. 1862-1865
11	Miscellaneous (including published Roster of Massachusetts 44 th Regiment, 1903)	1903; undated
12	Identification of various photographs (Katherine Dhalle, 1992; Sharon MacDonald, 2003)	1992, 2003
13	Additional Information re: Charles F. Smith (Katherine Dhalle)	1992

****Appendix A: Inventory of photographs in Folder 10, parts A and B.***

Please note: many of the names and notes are very difficult to decipher. The State Library welcomes suggestions for corrections to any of the annotations. (Write to special.collections [at] state.ma.us)

Photograph 1

Title: "Segt Jackson"

Annotation on back: Segt Jackson, 55' Regt

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Notes: negative available, #10 on reverse

Photograph 2

Title: "Joe"

Annotation on back: "Joe", Headquarters Camp Meigs, Readville Mass, Oct 1862

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Notes: negative available

Photograph 3

Title: Sergeant Andrew Jackson Smith

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Notes: negative available, on envelope-color Sergeant Andrew Jackson Smith/identified by Sharon MacDonald, see folder #12

Photograph 4

Title: Unidentified soldier

Type of photograph: tintype

Notes: negative available

Photograph 5

Title: Unidentified soldier

Type of photograph: tintype

Notes: tintype, negative available

Photograph 6

Title: Robert G. Shaw

Annotation on front: Always dearest mother your affectionate son Robert G. Shaw

Type of photograph: albumen print

Notes: oval photograph mounted on paper; label on front written in ink on lined paper and glued to mount

Photograph 7

Title: "Robt G Shaw"

Annotation on back: Robt G Shaw, Col 54th Mass

Photographer: Whipple, 96 Washington Street, Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Photograph 8

Title: Unidentified soldier

Annotation on back: [name illeg (John Brant?)] Syracuse

Photographer: Silsbee, Case & Co., Photographic Artists, 299 1/2 Washington Street, Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Photograph 9

Title: "Edw M Endicott"

Annotation on back: Regards of Edw M Endicott

Photographer: T. R. Burnham, Photographer, 247 Washington Street, Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Notes: Corners trimmed

Photograph 10

Title: Henry D. Sullivan

Annotation on back: Henry D. Sullivan, Capt Co D 44th Regt

Photographer: J. W. Black, 173 Washington St, Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Photograph 11

Title: Edward W. Kinsley

Annotation on back: Edward W. Kinsley, Boston

Photographer: F. L. Lay's Photographic Atelier, 31 Winter St., Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Photograph 12

Title: [Line Officers, Forty-fourth Regiment 1863]

Type of photograph: albumen print?

Notes: Rectangular photograph (2 7/8" x 4 5/8") mounted on cardboard; group photograph of men standing, sitting and reclining. Same group as #13.

Photograph 13

Title: Line Officers, forty-fourth Regiment 1863

Annotation on front: Line Officers, Forty-fourth Regiment 1863. 1. Lt. Kendrick B, 2. Lt. Hedge, 3. Lt. Howe, 4. Field, 5. illegible [Reed?], 6. Capt. Kendall, 7. Lt. Newell, 8. Capt. Storrow, 9. Capt. Reynolds, 10. Capt. Smith, 11. Lt. Taylor, 12. Lt. Hooper, 13.

Type of photograph: photographic reproduction of image above

Notes: Rectangular photograph (2 7/8" x 4 5/8") printed on cardboard. Same group as item #12 but a slightly different pose. Front of card has a numbered list of names of officers; some names are illegible. Figures in photograph are numbered.

Photograph 14

Title: "Dr. Brown" (Willam S. Brown?)

Annotation on back: Dr. Brown, 55th

Photographer: J. W. Black 173 Washington St., Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Photograph 15

Title: "Dwight Collins"

Annotation on back: Dwight Collins [illeg]

Photographer: Warren, 100 Merrimack St., Lowell

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Photograph 16

Title: William Nutt

Annotation on front: William Nutt

Annotation on back: Major 55 Mass, W Nutt

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Notes: photograph is damaged, from water? Same officer as # 32

Photograph 17

Title: "Geo. Lombard"

Annotation on back: Phot [illeg], Capt. Geo. Lombard, C 44th Regt

Photographer: J. W. Black 173 Washington St., Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Photograph 18

Title: George T. Garrison

Annotation on back: George T. Garrison, 1st Lieut. Co. "I", 55th Mass. Vols, Orangeburg, S.C.,
July 19th, 1865

Photographer: C. Seaver Jr, Photographer, 27 Tremont Row, Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Notes: partial date stamp on back

Photograph 19

Title: "Thomas F Ellsworth"

Annotation on back: Lt Thomas F (?) Ellsworth, 55th, June 1, 1864

Photographer: Marshall & Co., Studio Building, Cor. Tremont & Bromfield Sts., Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Photograph 20

Title: [Frank?] Goodwin

Annotation on back: BOV Capt. Goodwin, 55th Mass

Photographer: Warren, Post Office Square, Cambridgeport, Mass.

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Photograph 21

Title: "G F McKay"

Annotation on back: G F McKay, Lt & Adj 55th, Mass

Photographer: Horton, 5 Summer St. Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Notes: Probably George Frederick McKay

Photograph 22

Title: John M. Rice

Annotation on back: John M. Rice, Cambridge, July 22, 1862

Photographer: Warren, Lanson's Block, Cambridgeport, Mass.

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Photograph 23

Title: "Thos F. Collier"

Annotation on back: Truly yours, Thos F. Collier (?), June 1865, Washington University, Class '66

Photographer: Hoelke & Benecke, S. E. Cor. 4th and Market Sts., St Louis (printed on front of card)

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Notes: Quote in Greek on back of photograph

Photograph 24

Title: "S C Davis"

Annotation on back: S C Davis, S. Louis

Photographer: C. Cole's, 82 Washington St., Roxbury, Mass.

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Notes: On back of card: Additional Copies from the plate from which this picture was taken can be had if desired

Photograph 25

Title: "W. Gannett"

Annotation on front: [illeg]

Annotation on back: 4. this., [illeg] 11th [illeg], W. Gannett(?), Saturday Sure, Lt 55 Mass.

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Notes: Possibly Lt. Wyly Ganett

Photograph 26

Title: Mr Parker

Annotation on back: Mr Parker of Roxbury

Photographer: Marshall, Photographer, 145 Tremont Street, Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Photograph 27

Title: "Geo. M. Woodward"

Annotation on back: Respectfully Geo. M. Woodward, Capt. 55th Mass vol

Photographer: Claffin's, Photographic Gallery, 229 Main Street, Worcester, Mass.

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Photograph 28

Title: "Thos F Ellsworth"

Annotation on back: Yours truly, Thos F Ellsworth, Capt Co H, 55 M. V., Dec 1-1864

Photographer: H. C Foster, Photographer, Morris Island, S. C.

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Photograph 29

Title: L. C. Alden

Annotation on back: Lt. L. C. Alden, Oct 25 - 63

Photographer: F. W. Black, 173 Washington Street, Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Notes: Possibly Lt. Leonard C. Alden, though this soldier died in early Oct. 1863 at Hilton Head.

Lower left portion of picture damaged

Photograph 30

Title: "R. H. Weld"

Annotation on back: R. H. Weld, 1st Lieut Co. K, 44th Regt

Photographer: F. W. Black, 173 Washington Street, Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Notes: Probably Richard Harding Weld

Photograph 31

Title: Carl Berlin

Annotation on back: Carl Berlin

Photographer: Henry Ulke, 278 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington D. C., 1866

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Photograph 32

Title: William Nutt

Annotation on back: Your obedient servant, William Nutt, Major 55th Mass. V.

Photographer: H. C. Foster, Photographer, Morris Island, S. C.

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Notes: Lower left portion of picture damaged. Same officer as # 16

Photograph 33

Title: W. F. Perkins

Annotation on back: W. F. Perkins, 2 Sergt, Co. F, promoted to 2nd Lieut 2nd Mass

Photographer: Whipple, 96 Washington Street, Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Photograph 34

Title: "P L Jackson"

Annotation on back: P L Jackson [illeg], 2 Lt 2d Mass Cavl

Photographer: Whipple, 96 Washington Street, Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Photograph 35

Title: G Williams Dowhurst[?]

Annotation on back: Jas. Reid 1 Co, 49 Broad St N.Y., Mr McQueen, Very Respy, G Williams
Dowhurst[?]

Photographer: Cooley & Becket, Photographers, Savannah, Ga., Hilton Head, S. C., Beaufort, S.
C., Sam. A. Cooley, Issac Becket

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Notes: Last name difficult to decipher

Photograph 36

Title: "James Lowell"

Annotation on back: James Lowell, [illeg]

Photographer: Whipple, 96 Washington Street, Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Notes: There is a 2 cent stamp affixed to the back. Also notation from photographer - These
negatives are preserved for years with great care. Photographs can be made from them
like this, or enlarged to Cabinet or Life-Size, finished like Oil Paintings or in t

Photograph 37

Title: "Rev C H Leary" [?]

Annotation on back: Rev C H Leary [?]

Photographer: Photographed by Black, 173 Washington Street, Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Notes: Last name difficult to decipher

Photograph 38

Title: "Henry L Patten"

Annotation on back: Henry L Patten for [illeg]

Photographer: A. Lonrel, 46 School Street, Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Notes: Photographer signed the back of the photograph

Photograph 39

Title: Barker B Kent Jr.

Annotation on back: Barker B Kent Jr.

Photographer: S Kingman, 28 1-2 Winter Street, Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Notes: Some water damage, imprint of where stamp was affixed to back of card.

Photograph 40

Title: [illeg]

Annotation on back: [illeg] Oct 10th /64

Photographer: Carte de Visite, Brown & Sholten, Artists, 82 North Fourth Street, St. Louis, Mo.

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Photograph 41

Title: Phil Van Rennslaer

Annotation on back: Phil Van Rennslaer, NY

Photographer: A. Lonrel, 46 School Street, Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Notes: Rennsalaer? Printed signature of photographer on back of photograph

Photograph 42

Title: "Wm Dwight Crane"

Annotation on front: Capt. Wm Dwight Crane

Photographer: Warren, Post Office Square, Cambridgeport, Mass.

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Photograph 43

Title: Edward L. Jones

Annotation on back: Edward L. Jones, Captain Co. D, 54th Regt. Mass Vol Infy, Morris Island
S.C, January 27, 1864

Photographer: Whipple, 96 Washington Street, Boston

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Photograph 44

Title: "J Hamilton"

Annotation on back: With regards of J Hamilton, Regular Arty

Photographer: Manchester Bros., Photographers, 73 Westminister St., Providence, R. I.

Type of photograph: carte de visite

Notes: Partial copy on back of card of notation - [missing]nal Copies from the plate from which
[missing]