

ArMs 1990.006
0.8 cubic foot, 2 document boxes
A0601 and A0602
7.2.D

Morgan-Parry Family Papers
1861-1909

Brooklyn Historical Society
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Abstract

The Morgan-Parry Family Papers is comprised of one cubic foot of materials that contain the official military correspondence of Henry C. Morgan while stationed as a recruiting officer in Pottsville, PA, first as a 1st Lt. in the 12th Infantry and later as Captain in the 30th Infantry. Morgan was in charge of supplies and recruiting and the materials include invoices of recruiting property and equipment, Rejections, Receipts, Special Orders and Circulars, etc.

There is also a series of personal correspondence of Henry C. Morgan and his wife, Augusta Parry Morgan.

Provenance

The Morgan-Parry Family Collection was donated to the Brooklyn Historical Society by Mrs. Elizabeth Stookey in 1990, and subsequently accessioned as ArMs 1978.114.

Biographical Note

The Morgan-Parry Family Papers include the Official and Personal papers of Henry C. Morgan and his wife Augusta Parry.

Henry C. Morgan was the son of N.D. Morgan of Brooklyn. N.D. Morgan was the President of the North America Life Insurance Company in New York.

Henry C. Morgan is also the nephew of Edwin Denison Morgan who served as Governor of New York (1859-1862), and was a United States Senator (1863-1869). During the Civil War, Edwin D. Morgan served as major general of Volunteers in the Union Army (1861-1863).¹

Prior to his military service, young Henry C. Morgan had been employed for three years as a clerk in the Manhattan Life Insurance Company. A letter from his employer dated May 14th 1861 describes him as, "a young man of good education an excellent penman, quick and correct at figures, and may be especially recommended for his moral habits and attainments".²

Henry C. Morgan was enlisted as a 1st Lt. in the 12th Infantry of the U.S. Army as a Recruiting Officer on October of 1861. He was stationed briefly in Albany and then in May of 1862 moved to recruiting service at Pottsville, Pennsylvania where he remained through 1867. It is while in Pottsville that Henry meets his future wife, Augusta Parry. Henry C. Morgan's commissions in the U.S. Army are as follows:

- Major by Brevet on August 1, 1864, "for gallant services at the Battle of the Wilderness".
- Major by Brevet on July 2, 1863, "for gallant and meritorious services at the battle of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania".
- Captain in the 30th Regiment of Infantry June 16, 1863.³

¹ <http://www.gpoaccess.gov/serialset/cdocuments/hd108-222> Retrieved April 12, 2008.

² See folder 12

³ See folder 10

In 1867 he was promoted to Captain and served in the 30th Infantry. He was in charge of supplies and recruiting, and later in 1868 Morgan was made a member of the military order of the Loyal Legion of the United States.

Henry C. Morgan was wounded in the Battle of the Wilderness, Virginia, May 4, 1864. In a letter written to his father dated May 10, 1864 Morgan recounts how he was wounded by a musket ball in the left knee, necessitating it's amputation above the knee. He asks his father to contact Miss Parry, then his fiancé, to inform her of his situation.

The next year, on April 19th, 1865 he married Miss Augusta "Gussie" Parry, the daughter of Edward Owen Parry.

The Morgan's had three daughters: Mary, Ruth, and Kate Morgan.

The collection also contains a contract for the construction of two adjoining houses at 446 and 448 Clinton Street from December 1870. Henry C. Morgan and Augusta Parry Morgan were to reside at the 446 Clinton street home, and Henry's brother, William G. Morgan and Elizabeth C. Morgan were to reside at the home at 448 Clinton.⁴ Later, the family resided in Colchester, Connecticut.

In 1875, Henry C. Morgan made several inquiries into the manufacturing of, and then secured a patent for, a toy pistol called the "Centennial Toy Pistol".

He died in 1890(?).

Scope and Content

This collection is arranged into two series.

Series 1: Henry C. Morgan Official Documents contains the official documents and correspondence of Henry C. Morgan relating to his work as a 1st Lt. in the 12th infantry of the U.S. Army, and later as Captain in the 30th Regiment of the Infantry. Topics covered include recruitment policy, supplies and orders, desertions, promotions, etc.

Series 2: Morgan-Parry Family Correspondence chronicles the history of two (or more) generations of the Morgan-Parry family through the personal correspondence and letters of Henry C. Morgan, Augusta P. Morgan, Edward O. Parry, Mary Morgan, etc.

System of Arrangement

This collection consists of two document boxes containing twenty-nine folders. Original order was maintained, and materials were arranged chronologically and thematically into the following categories: Series 1: Henry C. Morgan Official Documents, and Series 2: Morgan-Parry Family Correspondence.

In processing, metal fasteners were removed, papers unfolded, and some letters were housed in mylar to protect their integrity. In general the collection is in good condition.

⁴ See "Morgan Genealogy" in the accession folder created by donor, Lee Stookey in 1990.

Conditions of Access and Use

Brooklyn Historical Society archives and manuscripts must be examined on site. Appointments to examine archives and manuscript materials must be made in advance. Please contact the Brooklyn Historical Society to learn of any additional conditions of access and use.

Preferred Citation

Morgan-Parry Family Papers, 1861-1909, ArMs 1990.006, Brooklyn Historical Society.

Language of Materials

All materials in English.

Related Material

The Brooklyn Historical Society holds many archival collections with material related to the Civil War. For a subject guide to these collections please contact the Archivist. For bibliographical information on published works in the Othmer Library please visit BobCat, New York University's online catalog, at <http://www.bobcat.nyu.edu/>.

Below is a selective list of collections which relate to this collection:

Brooklyn Historical Society Archives and Manuscripts

- 1977.006 Frank J. Bramhall Civil War History Collection. This collection contains materials relating to Brooklyn's military and public contributions to the Union cause during the United States Civil War that were compiled in preparation for publication of a work documenting these efforts. Includes information on military units, individual servicemen, home-front activities, and other war-related events. (See finding aid). NYKI590-940-0494. A0069
- 1977.200 Civil War Collection. The collection includes various materials related to the Civil War; including records of prisoners at Andersonville Prison Hospital and a copy of a report on the Battle of Fair Oaks, Va. by Col. Stephen A. Dodge of the 87th Regiment, New York Volunteers. NYKI590-940-0022. A0171
- 1974.109a John Vliet Papers, 14th Regt Civil War, 1863. Includes 48 letters to his employer describing military life and wartime events. NYKI590-940-749 (Published in the Journal of Long Island History). 6.4.A
- 1980.010 Underhill, Daniel Isaac, Papers, 1860s. Collection of typescripts of letters written by a Civil War soldier to his family on Long Island. NYKI590-940-0835. A0405

Separated Material

According to accession documents a wallet marked H.C. Morgan, 447 Clinton was transferred to the Museum department.

The accession folder also mentions a few photographs which are apparently no longer housed with the collection. They include: a photo of Lieut. Col. Henry C. Morgan, three unidentified photos of young girls, a photo of a couple at Ocean Grove, NJ.

There is no mention as to where or when these photographs were moved.

Access Points

Personal Names

Morgan, Henry C. (Churchill)
Morgan, N.D. (Nathan Denison), 1818-1895
Morgan, Edwin D. (Edwin Denison), 1811-1883
Morgan, Augusta Parry, Mrs.
Parry, Edward O. (Owen)

Topics

United States History Civil War, 1861-1865
United States History Civil War, 1861-1865 Desertions
United States History Civil War, 1861-1865 Equipment and supplies
United States. Army. Subsistence Dept.
United States. Army. Infantry, 12th.
United States. Army. Infantry, 30th.

Geographic Terms

Brooklyn (N.Y.)--Streets—Clinton Street

Form/Genre

Correspondence
Circular Letters
Receipts (financial records)

Container List

Series 1: Henry C. Morgan Official Documents

<u>Box</u>	<u>Folder Title</u>	<u>Dates</u>
1	1 Invoices	1861-1866
	2 Rejections	1861-1862
	3 Receipts	1861-1868
	4 Special Orders and Circulars	1861-1868
	5 Financial Monthly Statements	1862-1864
	6 Vouchers	1862-1863
	7 Returns of Ordnance	1863-1867

	8	Transfers of Ordnance Stores	1863-1864
	9	Certificates of Losses	1864-1868
	10	Commissions	1865-1867
	11	Certificate of Membership of the Loyal Legion	1868
	12	Miscellaneous	1861-1871
	13	Correspondence	1861-1863
	14	Correspondence: Letterbook	1862-1867
	15	Correspondence	1864-1866
2	16	Correspondence: Letterbook	1867
	17	Correspondence	1867-1868

Series 2: Morgan-Parry Family Correspondence

	18	Correspondence: Private	1860-1902
	19	Correspondence re: manufacturing of toy pistols	1874-1875
	20	Correspondence re: purchase of horse	1864
	21	Correspondence with Augusta P. Morgan	1860-1909
	22	Correspondence with Edward O. Parry	1863-1878
	23	Correspondence with misc. family members	1846-1907
	24	Morgan Family Misc.: Construction Contracts	1871
	25	Morgan Family Misc. re: Mary C. Morgan	1880-1906
	26	Misc. Wills of Henry C. and Augusta P. Morgan	1873, 1875
	27	Misc. Notebook	N.D. (1873?)
	28	Misc.	
	29	Misc. Photographs (photocopies)	ca. 1860