

American Antiquarian Society

Manuscript Collections

Name of collection:	Location:
Buckingham, Philo B., Papers, 1862-1892	Manuscript boxes "B"

Size of collection:	N.U.C.M.C. number:
2 manuscript boxes	62-3190

RLIN id:

Sources of information on collection:

For biographical sketches of Philo B. Buckingham, see Frederick William Chapman, *The Buckingham Family*, (Hartford, Conn.: Press of Case, Lockwood and Brainard, 1872), p. 99-102; and John W. Storrs, *The Twentieth Connecticut: A Regimental History*, (Ansonia, Conn.: Press of the Naugatuck Valley Sentinel, 1886), p. 219-222.

Source of collection:

Gift of Mrs. George Albee, 1941

Collection description:

Philo B. Buckingham (1820-), son of Deacon Aurelius and Laura (Beebe) Buckingham, was born in Oxford, Conn. After receiving his education, he engaged in farming and school teaching until 1849. He married Sally C. Perkins (1823-) in 1842. In the spring of 1849, he moved to Seymour, Conn. and was employed by the Naugatuck Railroad as a station agent until July 1862. Between 1849 and 1862, he was also chairman of the board of school visitors, treasurer of a savings bank, receiver of the Bank of North America, and state senator of the 5th district of Connecticut in 1855. He was also extensively engaged in manufacturing interests.

In August 1862, he raised a company of volunteers to fight for the Union and soon after was commissioned a major of the 20th Regiment Connecticut Volunteer Infantry. During his service in the Civil War, Buckingham was an assistant inspector general and a commander of the 20th Connecticut Volunteers. He was involved in several of the Civil War's major battles and spent much of his service in Virginia, Tennessee, Georgia, and North Carolina. At the war's end, he was made a brevet colonel. After the war, Buckingham worked for the Freedmen's Aid Society for several months and from 1866 to 1881 was employed as superintendent and agent for the American Chemical Company near New Haven, Conn. In 1881, he suffered a severe "paralytic shock" and became an invalid.

No record of his death has as yet been found.

This collection of papers consists of letters, manuscript histories and addresses concerning the Civil War, an account book, and miscellaneous material. Almost all the letters were written by Buckingham to his wife during his military service in the South from September 1862 to June 1865. There are some letters written by Buckingham to his sons, particularly Frederick L. Buckingham (1846-), during the same time period. The letters provide an excellent account of Buckingham's military life and the action he saw during the Civil War.

(cont.)

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Manuscript Collections

Name of collection:

Buckingham, Philo B., Papers, 1862-1892

Collection description (continued):

The manuscript histories and addresses include: a two-volume work of three hundred thirty-six pages entitled, "Army Life in the 12th and 20th Corps: The Story of the Campaigns of the 12th Corps with the Army of the Potomac and of the 20th Corps with the Left Wing of Sherman's Army together with a Complete History of the 20th Regiment Connecticut Volunteer Infantry"; a work of two hundred ninety-two pages entitled, "Manuscript History of the 20th Regiment Connecticut Volunteer Infantry"; and two similar addresses of thirty-eight pages each entitled, "The Campaign from Chattanooga to Atlanta."

The account book records Buckingham's financial affairs from 1867 to 1868. The miscellaneous material contains: a portrait photograph of Buckingham; envelopes, 1862-1865; a painting of the Headquarters of General A. S. Williams, Commander of the 1st Division, 12th Army Corps at Tullahoma, Tenn., 1864; a letter from Buckingham to his son George B. Buckingham (1849-), 1874; two miscellaneous documents concerning George B. Buckingham, 1890; and a postcard addressed to Philo B. Buckingham, 1892.

See Contents List.

Folder 3: Miscellaneous manuscripts (photograph, drawing, etc.),
1864-1892

the
Potomac
Sherman's
20th

Volume 1: "Army Life in the 12th and 20th Corps: The Story of
Campaigns of the 12th Corps with the Army of the
and of the 20th Corps with the Left Wing of
Army together with a Complete History of the
Regiment Connecticut Volunteer Infantry" (pages 1-256)

Volume 2: Continuation of vol. 1 (pages 256-336)

Volume 3: Account Book, 1867-1868 (includes a thirty-eight page
"... reminiscences, giving the campaign of the spring &
summer of 1864 to capture Atlanta ...")