

AMERICAN ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY
MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

NAME OF COLLECTION:

Weld, Seth Lothrop, Papers, 1845-1879

LOCATION(S):

Mss. boxes "W"

SIZE OF COLLECTION:

one manuscript box

SOURCES OF INFORMATION ON COLLECTION:

Sturbridge, Massachusetts Vital Records; *History of Providence County*, ed. by Richard M. Bayles, W.W. Preston & Co., NY, 1891

SOURCE OF COLLECTION:

Gift of Jonathan Rickard, 1998

COLLECTION DESCRIPTION:

Seth Lothrop Weld (1803-1881), son of Penuel and Anna (Eaton) Weld, was born in Sturbridge, Mass., on 31 July 1803. He relocated from Massachusetts to Woonsocket, R.I., where he married Abby Short Smith (1808-1878). Seth Lothrop Weld died on 9 February 1881, and was buried in Union Cemetery, North Smithfield, R.I.

George Henry Weld (1843-1902), the son of Lysander Lewis (Seth's brother) and Betsey (Scarborough) Weld, was born in Brooklyn, Conn., on 9 February 1843. He married, on 26 December 1865, Emily Ann Wilson (1844-), at Harpers Ferry, Va. George Henry Weld died at Altamont, N.C., on 24 September 1902.

This collection, which covers the period 1845 to 1879, consists mainly of Civil War letters from George Henry Weld, a private in the 34th Massachusetts, to his uncle Seth Lothrop Weld. These letters describe his experiences as a common soldier in the Civil War. Although he did not participate in these battles, he discusses Fredericksburg (19 December 1862), and Gettysburg and Vicksburg (26 June 1863). Weld's letters also debate the pros and cons of black soldiers (13 February and 6 March 1863). One letter, dated 3 May 1879, comments on the lynching of a black man.

The collection also includes a letter, dated 8 October 1861, from Mary Smith (-) of Sempronius, N.Y., in which she ponders the Civil War. Another letter, dated Washington, D.C., 4 February [1878] and addressed to "Uncle and Aunt Weld" is signed by Jennie E. Davis(?). In it she describes living in

Washington and meeting President and Mrs. Hayes, and the death of her daughter, Ella, among other news.

The collection also contains a will of Seth L. Weld dated 23 March 1845.

American Antiquarian Society
MANUSCRIPTS DEPARTMENT

SETH LOTHROP WELD FAMILY PAPERS, 1845-1879
CONTENTS LIST

Folder	CONTENTS	# OF ITEMS
	George Henry Weld, Letters, 1862-1866; 1879	
1	1862-1863	7 letters
2	1864	3 letters
3	1865	5 letters
4	1866; 1879	2 letters
5	Miscellaneous letters, 1861; [1878]	2 letters
6	Will, 1845 March 23	