

Guide to the Aaron A. Clark Papers, 1757, 1862-1898, 2002

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:

Aaron A. Clark Papers, 1757, 1862-1898, 2002

Repository:

New Hampshire Historical Society
30 Park Street
Concord, NH 03301
603-228-6688
<https://www.nhhistory.org/>

Collection Number:

2019.050, 2023.058

Author of Finding Aid:

Aisilyn Guivens; updated by Korrena Cowing

Creator:

Clark, Aaron A., 1832-1923

Language:

The materials in this collection are in English.

Extent:

1 box, 2 volumes, and 2 oversized folders ; 0.33 linear feet

Abstract:

Aaron Augustus Clark was born in Topsfield, MA, on October 19, 1832. He moved to Wilton, NH, in 1850. Clark enlisted as part of the 16th regiment of the New Hampshire Volunteers in October of 1862, where he assisted with recruitment and later was appointed captain of Company C. Clark served as captain until the company mustered out on August 20, 1863. These papers primarily consist of his company records compiled during and after the Civil War.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:

The Aaron A. Clark Papers were a gift of the family of Richard H. Keilig Sr. in 2019. Accession 2023.058 was the gift of James H. Berry on June 1, 2023.

Processing Information:

This collection was processed by Aisilyn Guivens in October 2019 and new materials added by Korrena Cowing in May 2024. The finding aid was written by Aisilyn Guivens in October 2019 and updated by Korrena Cowing in May 2024. This finding aid follows the standards set forth by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

Access Restrictions:

Available for research.

Location:

The collection is housed at the New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord, New Hampshire.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:

The materials in this collection are paper based and have no special technical requirements for use.

Copyright/Conditions Governing Use:

For permission to reproduce or publish materials from this collection, please contact the New Hampshire Historical Society. Users are responsible for following all copyright and intellectual property laws.

Preferred Citation:

Item title, Aaron A. Clark Papers, 2019.050. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH.
Date accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information:

Aaron Augustus Clark was born in Topsfield, MA, on October 19, 1832 to William Clark and Patricia (Perkins) Clark. He moved to Wilton, NH, in 1850. On March 1, 1855 he married Abby Perham, born May 25, 1835 at Lyndeborough, daughter of Joseph and Abigail (Melendy) Perham. Their children were Edwin A. (1857-1864), Fred W. (1858-1942), Nellie L. (1861-1920), Harry Herbert (1866-1944), Harriet Belle (1868-1944), Abby Frances (1870-1938), and Lizzie Mabel (1874-1942).

In October of 1862, Clark enlisted as part of Company C of the 16th regiment of New Hampshire Volunteers to serve during the Civil War. He aided with recruitment and was later commissioned captain of Company C. Clark served as the captain until the company mustered out on August 20, 1863. He returned to Wilton, to live his remaining years as a farmer, annually meeting with

his men years after their service ended. Abby died on August 1, 1888 at Wilton. Clark died there on November 1, 1923 at the age of 91.

Collection Scope and Content Note:

The Aaron A. Clark Papers consist of three hard bound volumes, two paper bound volumes, and approximately 90 loose pages. The first hard bound volume is titled “Company Clothing” for Company C, 1862-1863, and includes the accounts of pay for each soldier along with officer signatures of approval. The second volume is named “Company Descriptive Book” for Company C, 1862-1863. This book contains a list of officers, soldiers, and deaths, and includes physical descriptions, recruitment dates, and ages of each man in Company C. The third hard bound volume is titled “The Trial of the Honorable Admiral John Byng at a Court Martial As taken by Mr. Charles Fearn, Judge-Advocate of his Majesty’s Fleet” and is dated 1757. A loose letter from Robert H. Keilig Sr., dated 2002, was found inside this book. The two paper bound volumes are titled “Life, Scenes, in Camp Thomas (Chickamauga-Chattanooga National) Military Park,” dated 1898, and “First Regiment 1898 New Hampshire,” dated 1898. Both volumes include photographs of soldiers across the United States. Photographs of companies, camps and individuals are included. Also included is a folder of loose photographs of Aaron A. Clark and John M. Stanyan.

The loose papers consist of reports, inventories, accounts of pay, rosters, records of deceased soldiers, discharge papers, general orders, invoices, and enlistment papers. There are several blank forms. Also included are the bylaws and rules of the Wilton Light Infantry, a recruiting station record, a newspaper article of the reunion of Company C, and certificates of disability for discharge. Notable items in this collection are the appointment of Captain Aaron A. Clark as captain of the Wilton Light Infantry, signed by Governor Frederick Smyth, 1866; a reprint of the *New York Herald* dated April 15, 1865 detailing the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln; eight muster rolls; one muster out roll; and nine monthly returns from 1862-1863. This collection is primarily made of military records, with minimal correspondence and provides insight to military life during the Civil War.

Arrangement:

The materials in this collection are organized alphabetically by subject.

Contents List

Box 1

- Folder 1 Aaron A. Clark, 1866
- Folder 2 Clothing, 1862-1863
- Folder 3 Correspondence, 1862-1867
- Folder 4 Deceased soldiers, 1863
- Folder 5 Descriptive lists, 1862-1863
- Folder 6 Discharge papers, 1862-1863
- Folder 7 Enlistment papers, 1862
- Folder 8 General orders, 1863-1867
- Folder 9 Inventory, 1862-1863
- Folder 10 Invoices, 1862-1863

Folder 11 Miscellaneous, undated
 Folder 12 Muster rolls, 1862-1863
 Folder 13 Photograph book: First Regiment, New Hampshire, 1898
 Folder 14 Photograph book: Life, Scenes, in Camp Thomas, 1898
 Folder 15 Photographs, 1861-1891, undated
 Folder 16 Return reports, 1862-1867
 Folder 17 Richard H. Keilig Sr., 2002
 Folder 18 Rosters, 1862-1863
 Folder 19 *The Trial of the Honorable Admiral John Byng at a Court Martial As taken by
 Mr. Charles Fearne, Judge-Advocate of his Majesty's Fleet, 1757*

Volume 1 Company Clothing, Company C, 1862-1863

Volume 2 Company Descriptive Book, Company C, 1862-1863

Separated Materials:

Due to their size, the following materials were removed to Oversized Manuscript Box "C":

Captain Clark's Company, 1862 October
 Commission of Aaron A. Clark as Captain of the Wilton Light Infantry, 1866 September
 Descriptive Lists and Account of Pay and Clothing, 1862-1863
 Inventory and Inspection Reports
 Muster-In Roll of Captain Aaron A. Clark Company, in the 16th Regiment of New
 Hampshire Volunteers, commanded by Colonel James Pike, 1862 October 18
 The New York Herald "Assassination of President Lincoln" front page, 1865 April 15
 No. 52 Statement Exhibiting the Allowance of Clothing to each Soldier, 1862 November
 Quarterly Return of Clothing, Camp and Garrison Equipage Received and Issued at Fort
 Hudson, LA, 1863 September
 Quarterly Return of Deceased Soldiers
 Recruitment, 1862
 Returns of Captain Aaron A. Clark, 1862-1863
 Return of Ordnance and Ordnance Stores Received, Issued and Remaining on Hand in
 Company C, 16th Regiment of New Hampshire Volunteers, 1862-1863

Due to their size, the following materials were removed to Drawer 57:

Muster Out Roll of Captain Aaron A. Clark, Company C, 16th Regiment New Hampshire
 Volunteers, 1863 August
 Muster Rolls of Captain Aaron A. Clark, Company C, 16th Regiment New Hampshire
 Volunteers, 1862-1863

Subject Terms

People:

Clark, Aaron A., 1832-1923
 Clark, Abby, 1835-1888
 Howard, Edwin B., 1839-1863
 Keilig, Richard H., Sr., 1921-2013
 Lincoln, Abraham, 1809-1865

Lund, Noah, circa 1841-1863
Pike, James, 1818-1895
Ripley, James W. (James Wolfe), 1794-1870
Saunders, Lyman L., circa 1844-1863
Smith, Nathaniel, circa 1818-1863
Smyth, Frederick, 1819-1899
Stanyan, John Minot, 1828-1905

Organizations:

New Hampshire. National Guard. Regiment, 1st
New York herald
United States. Army
United States. Army. New Hampshire Infantry Regiment, 16th (1862-1863)
Wilton (NH) Light Infantry

Subjects:

Diseases
Invoices
Lincoln, Abraham, 1809-1865--Assassination
Military camps
Military hospitals
Newspapers
Photographs
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865

Locations:

Baton Rouge, LA
Concord, NH
Fort Hudson, LA
Fort Mansfield, LA
New Orleans, LA
Wilton, NH

Occupations:

Armed Forces--Officers
Farmers
Hotelkeepers
Soldiers