

**Guide to the Joseph R. Clark Letter
MS 0393**

**The Mariners' Museum Library
at
Christopher Newport University**

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DESCRIPTIVE SUMMARY

Repository: The Mariners' Museum Library

Title: Joseph R. Clark Letter

Catalog number: MS 0393

Physical Characteristics: 1 folder

Language(s): English

Creator(s): Joseph R. Clark

SCOPE AND CONTENT

This collection consists of a correspondence between Joseph R. Clark and Rogers Clark regarding Company C of the 27th Connecticut Volunteers. Included in the collection is the original envelope of the correspondent with an engraving of the *Monitor* on the front and the original letter of the correspondent written on *Monitor* letterhead.

The letter, dated 26th December 1862, is addressed to Uncle Rogers (Rogers Clark) and is written on behalf of John G. Clark by Joseph R. Clark who, at the time of the letter, is camped near Falmouth, Virginia. Joseph reports that John has fallen ill after a march from Camp Tuttle into a battle "All for nothing". Joseph believes John has remained ill due to the poor diet the soldiers must endure and remarks how many of the soldiers have also become sick due to the strain of battle and lack of decent nutrition. Though the winter had already set upon them, the soldiers started to build log huts for the rest of the season, hoping that a solid shelter would help protect them from the elements. At the end of his letter, Joseph Clark tells Rogers Clark that [Joseph], Alman E. Clark and James Beard (who could potentially be James W. Baird according to the Regimental History list of Volunteers) have all played a part in John Clark's recovery and requests that in addition to prayers for safe return that Rogers send "Good Black Tea, Crushed sugar and Bat Ess Peppermint".

ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Accession Number

n/a

Accession Date

5 July 2007

Restrictions

The collection is open to all researchers but all documents must be handled with extreme care.

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Preferred Citation

Joseph R. Clark Letter, MS0393, The Mariners' Museum Library

Note to Users

Due to the fragile and rare nature of the collection, researchers are requested to handle the materials with caution and in accordance with prescribed archival practices. When using these materials, please preserve the original order of the collection.

BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL SKETCH

The article from August 1989 issue of *The Gun Report* entitled "The Sword of Lieutenant Charles B. Brooks" by Robert M. Lawrence is principally about Lt. Brook's involvement in Company C of the 27th Connecticut Volunteers and includes information of the battles Company C encountered in 1862 and 1863. None of the soldiers mentioned in the letter are specifically mentioned in this article.

The 27th Connecticut Volunteers Regimental History relates the formation, early battles and includes a list of soldiers who participated in the regiment, to include Company C. The regiment was formed in October 1862. Joseph and John's stay at Camp Tuttle in November of 1862 is expanded upon as well as the battle mentioned in the letter. A list is given at the end of the chapters in which all the soldiers in descending order by rank are given and include all Privates mentioned in the letter, though a difference in name spelling imply that the James Beard mentioned in Joseph's letter may actually be James Baird or perhaps William Beard.

Private John G. Clark died December 30th, 1862, in General Hospital, Washington of disease.

Source: 27th Connecticut Volunteers: A Regimental History, Chapter IX

<http://www.quinnipiac.edu/other/ABL/etext/ct27th-web/chp9.html>

SERIES DESCRIPTION

This collection is organized into a single series

FILE GUIDE**BOX 1**

Folder 1 Envelope, Letter with *Monitor* letterhead

MATERIALS REMOVED

No materials have been removed from this collection

SOURCES CONSULTED

27th Connecticut Volunteers: A Regimental History, Chapter I-III, IX

<http://www.quinnipiac.edu/other/ABL/etext/ct27th-web/chp9.html>

Lawrence, Robert M. *The Sword of Lieutenant Charles B. Brooks*. The Gun Report, August 1989

SUBJECTS

Clark, Alman E. (Almond)

United States-History-Civil War, 1861-1865

United States. Army. Connecticut Infantry Regiment. 27th (1862-1863). Company C

Clark, John G., d. 1862

Clark, Joseph R.

Clark, Rogers

United States. Army-History-Civil War, 1861-1865-Military life