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Ezra A. Carman Papers
1827-1934
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**Donald Mennerich
October 2005**

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Summary

Main entry:	Carman, Ezra Ayers, 1834-1909
Title:	Ezra A. Carman Papers, 1827-1934
Size:	5.5 linear feet (12 boxes)
Source:	Donated by Dr. Louis Carman, 192?
Abstract:	<p>Ezra A. Carman was a colonel in the Union Army during the Civil War, a noted historian on the Battle of Antietam and a civil servant who held several government positions in the late 19th century. Carman served as the chairman of the Antietam Battlefield Board where he extensively researched the battle. The collection contains Carman's correspondence, writings, and his extensive collection of news clippings, maps and other materials concerning the Battle of Antietam and the Civil War.</p>
Access:	Apply in the Special Collections Office for admission to the Manuscripts and Archives Division.
Preferred citation:	Ezra A. Carman Papers, Manuscripts and Archives Division, The New York Public Library.
Special formats	Maps, photographs
Alternate formats:	Antietam Battlefield Board and Chickamauga Chattanooga National Military Park Commission available on microfilm.

Related materials note

Papers of Ezra Ayers [sic] Carman. Library of Congress. LC Control Number: mm 81015081

Atlas of the battlefield of Antietam. .

Biographical note

Ezra A. Carman (1834-1909) was a colonel in the Union Army during the Civil War who later became a leading historian of the Battle of Antietam. Born in New Brunswick, New Jersey, Carman graduated from the Western Military Institute in 1857. In 1861 he enlisted in the Union Army and was given the rank of Lieutenant Colonel in the New Jersey Volunteers, 13th Regiment. After being wounded in Williamsburg, Carman was promoted to colonel. He was promoted to the rank of brigadier general at the close of the war. After his discharge from the Army, Carman went on to hold the positions of Comptroller of Jersey City, New Jersey (1872-1875) and Chief Clerk of the U.S. Department on Agriculture (1877-1885). He served on the Antietam Battlefield Board (1894-1898), where he was responsible for publishing definitive texts and maps on the Battle of Antietam. In 1905 Carman was appointed chairman of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park Commission at the insistence of its previous chairman, Henry V.N. Boynton. He held this position until his death in 1909. Carman's body was interred at Arlington National Cemetery.

Scope and content note

The Ezra A. Carman Papers document the professional and personal life of the Civil War officer, Civil War historian and civil servant. The papers date from 1834 to 1927, with the bulk of the material falling between 1880 and 1900. Included are Carman's personal correspondence; professional correspondence and documents from various government agencies; collected articles, historical documents, news clippings and maps on and from the Civil War.

Arrangement note

The Ezra Ayres Carman Papers are organized in the following series:

- I. Ezra A. Carman Correspondence and Writings, 1859-1909
- II. Letters to Louis Dale Carman, 1899-1934
- III. Carman Collection of Civil War Related Materials

Series descriptions and container list

I. Ezra A. Carman Correspondence and Writings, 1859-1909

Carman's correspondence contains both his incoming personal and professional correspondence. Included here is his correspondence as the Chairman of the Antietam Battlefield Board and Commissioner of the Chickamauga Chattanooga National Military Park Commission.

Carman's writings file includes incomplete and unsorted manuscripts about the Civil War, addresses he gave, and the notes he kept for these writing projects.

The personal press clippings and documents file contains materials related to his career in the military, including the muster-in form documenting his induction into the New Jersey volunteers.

A. Correspondence

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
1	1	1859-1874
	2	1875
	3	1876, Jan.-May
	4	1876, May-Dec.
	5	1877
	6	1878-1880
2	1	1881-1888
	2	1889-1894
	3	1895-1896
	4	1897-1898
	5	1899
3	1	1900-1901
	2	1902-1904
	3	1905 Jan
	4	1905 Feb-Mar
	5	1905 Apr-Dec
	6	1906-1909
	7	Undated and fragments
3	8	B. Writings, 1903, 1907, n.d.
3	9	C. Personal press clippings and documents, 1862-1863, 1887, 1905, n.d.
3	10	II. Letters to Louis Dale Carman, 1899-1934
		Miscellaneous correspondence, includes a document that outlines the handling of Carman's maps held by the Red Cross.

III. Carman Collection of Civil War Related Materials

A. Individuals

The collections of individuals' papers present in the Carman Papers were most likely collected by Carman for use in his Civil War research.

1. Henry Van Ness Boynton, 1880-1905

Boynton served as Major and Lieutenant Colonel in the 35th Ohio Volunteer Infantry in the Civil War, 1861-65, and commanded the regiment in the Battle of Chickamauga and at the storming of Missionary Ridge. He was brevetted Brigadier General for gallantry at Chickamauga and was awarded the Medal of Honor for Missionary Ridge, on November 25, 1863. Following the war, he was a newspaper correspondent in Washington, D.C. and was subsequently the chairman of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park. In 1898 he served as a Brigadier General of Volunteers in the Spanish-American War. He was the author of "Sherman's Historic Raid," in 1875. Boynton died on June 3, 1905 and was buried in Section 2 of Arlington National Cemetery.

Boynton was Carman's predecessor as the chairman of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Park Commission and a fellow Civil War historian. Carman likely acquired this correspondence through their association at the Commission.

a. Correspondence, 1880-1905

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------|
| 4 | 1 | 1880-1894 |
| | 2 | 1895 |
| | 3 | 1896-1900 |
| | 4 | 1901-1905 |
| | 5 | undated |

b. Writings

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 4 | 6 | Chancellorsville (32 pp. ; manuscript) |
| | | Franklin and Nashville (8 pp. ; typescript) |
| | | Sherman and Halleck (9 pp. ; typescript) |

c. Obituaries

2. Don Carlos Buell, 1864

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 4 | 8 | The letter contained in this file outlines Buell's beliefs as to why he was relieved from his command after the Battle of Perryville. Between 1862 and 1864 he waited while military commissions reviewed his actions as an officer during the war. This letter was written shortly after Buell resigned both his volunteer and regular commissions from the Army. |
|---|---|--|

3. Joseph Hooker, 1863-1864

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 4 | 9 | Materials in this folder include copies of correspondence both to and from Gen. Hooker, including correspondence with President Abraham Lincoln (May 6th, 1863 and May 13th, 1863), and notes from interviews with Gen. Hooker, on Oct. 1st and 10th, 1875, in Garden City, New York. |
|---|---|---|

See Carman's correspondence (series I. A) for letters written to him by Gen. Hooker on the following dates: 1875 Jun. 12, 1875, Sep. 26, 1876 Nov. 11 (postcard) 1876 Dec. 7 (postcard) 1877 Jan. 9 (postcard), 1877 Jan. 14, 1877 Jan; 1877 Apr. 2 (addressed to S. P. Bates), 1877 Apr. 11

B. Government and Organizational Records

1. Department of the Interior

After his tenure as Comptroller of Jersey City, Carman accepted the position of Chief Clerk of Department of Agriculture. Collected here is incoming correspondence for the Chairman, Gen. William G. LeDuc and Chief Clerk, Carman. The correspondence reflects routine requests the department would handle. Records from the Veterans Administration were probably acquired by Carman's son, Dr. Louis D. Carman, a V.A. medical examiner in the late 19th century. The documents include correspondence, primarily comprised of pension requests from members of congress on behalf of their constituents, pension certificates approving a request, and pension request cards (index cards) that were filed for reference.

a. Department of Agriculture, 1877-1885

<u>Box</u>		
5	1	1. Office of the Commisioner, 1877-1883, n.d.
		2. Office of the Chief Clerk
4	10	1877-1880
	11	1881-1885, n.d.

b. Veterans Administration, 1846-1921

<u>Box</u>		
5	2	1. Pension Certificates
		2. Correspondence
5	3	1847-1848, 1863-1879
	4	1880-1883
	5	1884-1889
	6	1890-1891
	7	1892-1893
6	1	1894
	2	1895-1896
	3	1897
	4	1898-1899
	5	1900-1901
	6	1903-1905
	7	1906-1921
	8	Undated and fragments
		3. Pension Request Cards
7	1-4	unsorted
8	1-3	unsorted

2. U.S. Department of War, 1863-1905

Note: Carman's correspondence as a member of the Antietam Battlefield Board and the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park Commission can be found in Series I.

a. Antietam Battlefield Board, 1894-1898

From 1894 to 1898 Carman served as Chairman of the Antietam Battlefield Board. The Board's charge was to chronicle the history of the battle. As seen in the Board members' correspondence, Carman collected many affidavits from people who took part in the battle. Also present in the

collection is a series of first-hand reports that outline the movements of specific divisions and batteries. One result of Carman's work with the Antietam Battlefield Board was the placement of hundreds of markers on the grounds of the Antietam Battlefield National Park which illustrate troop movement during the battle. The 1898 publication of "The Map of the Battlefield of Antietam", which both served as a guide to regiment markers found at the Antietam Battlefield National Park and as a reference for troop movements and battles that took place over the course of the two days of fighting. In 1905 the volume was republished as "The Atlas of the Battlefield of Antietam".

*Available on microfilm *ZL-222.*

Box

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| 9 | 1 | i. Correspondence |
| | 2 | 1890-1894 |
| | | 1897-1905, n.d. |
| 9 | 3 | ii. Troop position reports |
| | | Benjamin's Battery |
| | | Boyce's Battery |
| | | Colquitt's Brigade |
| | | Cook's Battery |
| | | 11th Connecticut |
| | | 23rd Georgia |
| | | McBeth's Battery |
| | | 2nd Massachusettes |
| | | 7th Massachusettes |
| | | 8th Massachusettes |
| | | 1st New York |
| | | 51st New York |
| | | 107th New York |
| | | 1st Ohio |
| | | Pennsylvania Battery |
| | | 125th Pennsylvania Voluntary |
| | | 1st Rhode Island |
| | | Ripley's Brigade |
| | | 3rd Washington |
| | 4 | Confederate troop movements |

b. Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park Comission, 1889-1907

In 1905 Carman succeeded General Henry Van Ness Boynton as the commissioner of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park Commission. Present in the collection is correspondence, mostly incoming, from various Commission members, including the Commission's founder General Kellogg. [Boynton's correspondence can be found in Series IIIA].

*Available on microfilm *ZL-222*

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 9 | 5 | Kellogg, Colonel Sanford C., 1888-1893 |
| | | Founder of the Society to Preserve the Battlefield of Chickamauga |
| | 6 | Fullerton, Joseph S., 1889-1897 |
| | 7 | Smart, J. P., 1907 (Secretary of the Chickamauga Chattanooga) |
| | 8 | Smith, Maj. Frank G., 1895-1905 |

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 9 | 9 | c. Department of the Navy. Engineering Bureau Record, 1876-1879 |
| | | The file consist of correspondence of the Commodore Commandant John |

C. Febiger on matters of the U.S. Navy Yard in Washington D.C., mainly involving personnel.

d. Office of the Adjutant General, 1862-1881

1. Correspondence

- | | | |
|---|----|---|
| 9 | 10 | 1862 Mar. 8
Letter from Captain George L. Hartsuff, by command of General Rosecrans, to General J. D. Cox, dated at Head Quarters Department of West Virginia, Wheeling, March 8, 1862, relative to the sending of an armed force with the tax collector in Kanawha County. |
| | | 1862 May 21
Letter from Colonel Augustus Moor of the 28th Ohio Regiment to Captain G. M. Bascom, dated at Head Quarters 2nd Pro. Brigade, Flat Top Tannery. |
| | | 1863 Dec. 13
Dispatch of Brig. Gen. Daniel Butterfield to Brig.-Gen. [Andrew] Humphries, dated at Headquarters, 5th Army Corps, Dec. 13, 1863 3:50 P. M. Carbon copy on official stationery. |
| | | 1863 Nov. 24
Letter from Governor A. G. Curtin of Pennsylvania to the President of the United States, dated Harrisburg, November 24, 1863 relative to recruiting. D.S. Official copy. Bears the stamp of the Provost Marshal General's office, Dec. 1, 1863. |
| | | 1864 June 16 and 20
Letters from John McAllister Schofield to Maj.-Gen. W. T. Sherman |
| | | 1864 Oct. 13
Telegram from General Sherman to General Henry W. Slocum, undated, Kingston, Ga. |
| | | 1864 Oct. 16
Telegram from Brig.-Gen. Green B. Ransom to General Slocum |
| | | 1865 June 7
Letter from Henry W. Halleck to E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War, dated Head Quarters Military Division of the James, Richmond, Va., June 7, 1865, correcting statements concerning his official conduct as published in Major -General Sherman's letters of May 9 and 26 in the "Army and Navy Gazette", May 30, 1865. Endorsed by Lt.-Gen. U. S. Grant |
| | | 1881 Sep. 3
Letter from Simon Cameron, Lincoln's Secretary of War, to General Fitz John Porter, dated Harrisburg, September 7 , 1881, relative to General Porter's services at Harrisburg at the beginning of the Civil War. Typewritten carbon. 1 p. Appended is a note in the hand of Cameron giving permission for the filing of the letter in the War Department |

2. Records and Reports

- | | | |
|---|----|--|
| 9 | 11 | Beale, James
"Statement of number of men called for by the President of the United States, Deaths in the United States Army during the War of the Rebellion" and "Percentages of loss by death in Massachusetts Regiments" by James Beale. 4 pieces. Printed. |
| | | Cobham, George A. Jr.
List of killed and wounded in the 3rd Brigade 2nd Division 20th A.C. at the Battle of Resaca GA, May 15th 1865 |
| | | Crane, Lieut.-Col.
Dated May 20, 1864, giving an account of service rendered by |

his company on the night of May 15, 1864. D.S. Stamped : War
Records Copied 1861-1865. 1864, May 20

Halleck , Henry W.

Letter to E. M. Stanton, Secretary of War, dated Head Quarters
Military Division of the James, Richmond, Va., June 7, 1865,
correcting statements concerning his official conduct as
published in Major -General Sherman's letters of May 9 and 26
in the "Army and Navy Gazette", May 30, 1865. Endorsed by Lt.-
Gen. U. S. Grant, June 15, 1865.

Enclosure: Telegraphic order from Lieut.-Gen. U. S. Grant to
Major -General Halleck , dated Fort Monroe, April 22, 1865.
Official copy ?

Meade, George G.

Consolidated Morning Report of the Army of the Potomac
commanded by Major-General George G. Meade, June 30-
July 10, July 20, and July 31, 1863. 4 pieces. Printed.

Quarters Dep't & Army of the Tennessee before Atlanta, GA

Aug 8th 1864. List of Casualties for July 20th, 21st and 22 On
1864. Official stationery. Not signed.

Ragan, Major Z. S.

A report of the operations of the 70th Indiana Volunteer infantry
from May 2, 1864 to September 22, 1864. Dated at Atlanta,
Georgia

Robinson, Colonel J. S.

Report made at "Head Quarters 3" Brig. 1" Div. 20th A. C. near
Atlanta Ga." July 24, 1864 to Captain S. E. Pittman, Asst. Adjt.
Genl. 1" Division 20" A.C. giving an account of the field
movements and operations of his command since May 1, 1864.
D.S.

Shirer, Austin T

Report of Captain Austin T. Shirer, Company G., 5th V. V. I.

Smith. A. B.

Daily Report of Brigade and Division Officers of the day, 2nd
Brigade, 1st Division, 20th Army Corps, July 22, 1864.

Williams, Major-General Alpheus S.

Report in compliance with the circular letter, Adjutant General's
Office, January 12, 1864, giving "a brief summary of the battles"
in which he was engaged and an account of his military history
since March 4, 1861. D.S. 1864, March 28

Army of the Ohio

List of Casualties in the Army of the Ohio During the Campaign
Ending in the Capture of Atlanta, Ga. Unsigned.

12

4th Regiment Pennsylvania Reserve Veteran Volunteers

Military records, consisting of lists of officers, descriptive lists
and accounts of pay and clothing of private soldiers, special
orders, Nos. 5 and 26, vouchers, and muster-out rolls, 1861-
1864. 25 pieces. 1861-1864

13

Ford, Ellery C.

Ordnance returns for Co. F, 5th Regiment, U.S. Colored
Troops. Also, correspondence 1866-1868.

e. Miscellaneous Documents

10

1

Confederate States of America

2

Principal Battlefields of the Late War

Report listing the estimated number of tablets required to mark positions of
brigades, divisions and companies. This is possibly work from the Antietam
Battlefield Board. Typescript, undated.

3

Miscellaneous Military Records

C. Articles and Addresses

Recollections of Civil War battles, officers collected by E.A. Carman. Also material on New Jersey history.

1. Battles

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
10	4	Battle of Altoona, GA
	5	Battle of Antietam (Sharpsburg), MD
	6	Battle of Atlanta, GA
	7	Battle of Bentonville, NC
	8	Battle of Chancellorsville, VA
	9	Battle of Chattanooga, TN
	10	Battle of Cheat Mountain, WV
	11	Battle of Chickamauga, GA
	12	Battle of Gettysburg, PA
	13	Battle of Glendale, VA
	14	Kanawha Valley Campaign, WV
	15	Maryland Campaign
	16	Battle of Missionary Bridge, TN
	17	Nashville Campaign, TN
	18	Battle of New Hope Church, GA
	19	Battle of Phillippi, WV
	20	Battle of Port Republic, VA
	21	Battle of Resaca, GA
	22	Battle of Shiloh, TN
	23	Battle of South Mountain, MD
	24	Vicksburgh Campaign, MS
	25	Battle of Wauhatchie (Lookout Valley), TN
	26	Misc. Civil War

2. Biographies

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
10	27	Hoge, John Blair
11	1	Piatt, Don
	2	Reynolds, Maj. Gen. Joseph J.
	3	Underwood, Adin B.
	4	Williams, Alpheus

3. New Jersey History

11 5

D. News clippings

Carman's collected news clippings on the Civil War, organized by name of battlefield or campaign.

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
11	6-8	Battle of Antietam, MD
	9	Battle of Chickamauga, GA
	10	Generals (Rosecrans, Garfield et al.)
	11	Battle of Harper's Ferry, VA
	12	Maryland Campaign
	13	McClellan, Maj. Gen. George
	14	Battle of Missionary Bridge, TN
	15	Battle of South Mountain, MD
	16	Battle of Shiloh
12	1	Spanish American War
	2-3	Miscellaneous and unsorted newsclippings

E. Maps

The majority of the maps in the Carman collection are manuscript maps that convey first hand knowledge of troop movement at Civil War battles. One of the projects that Carman oversaw was the assembling of a set of fourteen maps for publication as the "Map of the Battlefield of Antietam" (later renamed "Atlas of the Battle of Antietam"). Its likely many of the manuscript maps from Antietam in the series were collected during the process of compiling information for these volumes.

	4	Map in paper covers, 1864 Mar 20 Map used by E.A. Carman on the campaign from Chattanooga to Atlanta
	5	Antietam battlefield
X-15	1	Antietam battlefield (Oversize)
		Civil War battlefields
12	6	Manuscript maps
	7	Printed maps
X-15	2	Oversize maps

F. Ephemera

<u>Box</u>	<u>Fol</u>	
12	8	Invitations and Programs
	9	Poetry
	10	Printed matter
X-15	3	Printed matter (oversize) Two blank membership certificates in the Society of the Army of the Cumberland. One signed by W. S. Rosecrans, the other by H.V. Boynton.
		Photographs, prints and halftones
12	11	Civil War battlefields
	12	Civil War monuments
	13	Portraits
X-15	3	Portraits (oversize) Unidentified group portrait photograph of Civil War officers