

Guide to the Ambrose Henry Hayward Papers



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MS - 009: Ambrose Henry Hayward Papers

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Provenance: Purchased from Argosy Books Stores, Inc. of New York City, April 1968.

Biography:

Ambrose Henry Hayward (1840-1864) was a native of North Bridgewater, Massachusetts. At the start of the Civil War he was working as a needle maker in Philadelphia where he joined Company D of the 28th Pennsylvania Volunteers. Hayward enlisted on his 21st birthday, May 21, 1861, and was mustered in as a corporal on June 28. He was promoted to 2nd Sergeant on December 1, 1862 and nominated for a Medal of Honor for his actions at Antietam and Chancellorsville. Hayward reenlisted December 24, 1863 and was made 1st Sergeant on January 1, 1864. He died on June 19, 1864 in the hospital at Chattanooga, Tennessee, of a leg wound received in the Battle of Pine Knob, Georgia, on June 15, 1864.

He was survived by his parents (Ambrose and Hannah Hayward), sister (Hannah C. Hayward) and five brothers (Augustus, Melville (of the 7th NY), Albert, Julius and John Hayward), and is buried in the National Cemetery at Chattanooga in grave 231.

The 28th Pennsylvania, known as the Goldstream Regiment, participated in a number of the largest battles of the Civil War including 2nd Bull Run, Antietam, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg and Lookout Mountain. The 28th served primarily in Maryland and northern Virginia until September 1863 when it moved south to Alabama, Tennessee and finally Georgia, where it took part in Kennesaw Mountain, the Sieges of Atlanta and Savannah, and Sherman's March to the Sea. From January to April 1865 the 28th participated in the campaign of the Carolinas and was present for Johnston's surrender before marching to Washington. The company was mustered out July 18, 1865.

Scope and Content Notes:

The Ambrose Henry Hayward Collection consists primarily of correspondence from the period April 14, 1861 through August 17, 1864. The bulk of the letters were written by A.H. Hayward to his father, sister and brothers, but the collection includes 3 letters written by Melville Hayward of the 7th New York (6/22/1862, 7/10/1862, 7/23/1862), letters from Henry's commanding officers regarding his service and four letters regarding Henry's death.

Also included in the collection are several newspaper clippings about the 28th Pennsylvania, Hayward's 1862 promotion to Sergeant, and 19 envelopes addressed to Mr. Ambrose, Mr. Albert, Mr. John and Miss Hannah C. Hayward of North Bridgewater, MA and to Mr. Augustus Hayward of New York City.

All letters have transcriptions, though many are slightly inaccurate. The collection is arranged chronologically. The letters provide firsthand accounts of camp life, major battles and minor skirmishes during the Civil War as experienced by a high-spirited and patriotic Union soldier.

Box 1:

1-1 Miscellaneous - newspaper clippings (7) about Hayward and the 28th PA

1-2 Miscellaneous - envelopes (19) addressed by Hayward to family members

1-3 Miscellaneous - letter indexes (2), incomplete, original description and background sheet for the collection

1-4 April 14, 1861 - Philadelphia; Dear Brother - has been reading of Fort Sumter, expresses his patriotism and willingness to do his duty (fight), "for he who dares not come at his country's call is a coward"

1-5 May 3, 1861 - Philadelphia; Dear Father - has not enlisted but notes that brother Melville has: "it made me mad to think that he should get the start of me on the volunteer list ... I shall act as a Hayward reserve"

1-6 May, 1861 - Philadelphia; Dear Father - tells of his enlistment in the Independent Grays

1-7 June 2, 1861 - Philadelphia; Sister Cora - tells of getting fitted out for duty by friends, "I fully comprehend all the danger and hardships, and will submit willingly to my fate"

1-8 June 9, 1861 - Philadelphia; Dear Brother

1-9 June 23, 1861 - Philadelphia; Dear Sister

1-10 July 10, 1861 - Camp Coleman; Dear Brother - was mustered in as Corporal in the 28th P.V. on June 28, tells of Colonel Geary, camp life

1-11 July 23, 1861 - Camp Coleman; Dear Sister - has heard of defeat at Manassas, received rifle, will soon join General Banks at Harper's Ferry

1-12 July 31, 1861 - Sandy Hook, MD; Dear Sister - talks of journey to MD

1-13 August 8, 1861 - Harper's Ferry; Dear Brother - camp life, his first arrest as Corporal of the Guard

1-14 Thursday, 1861 - Point of Rocks, MD; Dear Brother - talks of march from Sandy Hook to Point of Rocks

1-15 August 30, 1861 - Point of Rocks; Dear Sister - 28th remains in Sandy Hook to cover retreat of General Banks' army

1-16 August 30, 1861 - near Point of Rocks; Dear Sister - is on picket line guarding frontier between the Potomac and Chesapeake Canal

1-17 September 3, 1861 - near Point of Rocks; Dear Father - is member of party sent to bring herd of cattle from Virginia

1-18 September 4, 1861 - near Point of Rocks; Dear Brother John - letter to his young brother

1-19 September 23, 1861 - near Point of Rocks; Dear Father - had small skirmish 9/22, is preparing for winter

1-20 October 2, 1861 - Point of Rocks; Dear Father - has been relieved from picket duty by 12th Indiana, is very happy in general

1-21 October 13, 1861 - Point of Rocks; Dear Sister - will soon receive blue uniform

1-22 October 13, 1861 - Point of Rocks; Dear Father - Co. D and F have been ordered to march to Nolan's Ferry

1-23 October 17, 1861 - Point of Rocks; Dear Father - has survived his first battle [Bolivar Heights, 10/16/1861]

1-24 October 18, 1861 - Point of Rocks; Dear Father - describes battle of 10/16

1-25 October 24, 1861 - Point of Rocks; Dear Father - 3 companies of 28th have been left to guard P.o.R, he is optimistic and in high spirits

1-26 November 3, 1861 - Point of Rocks; Dear Brother

1-27 November 7, 1861 - Point of Rocks; Dear Sister - camp life

1-28 November 13, 1861 - Point of Rocks; Dear Father - "I continue to grow fat"

1-29 November 26, 1861 - Point of Rocks; Dear Father - received box from home, wishes to go south but regt. must wait for blue uniforms

1-30 December 11, 1861 - Point of Rocks; Dear Father - was paid for 2 months

1-31 December 18, 1861 - Point of Rocks; Dear Father

1-32 December 22, 1861 - Point of Rocks; Dear Brother - describes Battle of Point of Rocks [12/19] and his new blue uniform

Box 2:

2-1 January 6, 1862 - Point of Rocks; Dear Sister - Regiment has just received gatling gun, Henry is in excellent spirits though sick of Point of Rocks

2-2 January 11, 1862 - Point of Rocks; Dear Father

2-3 January 16, 1862 - Point of Rocks; Dear Brother

2-4 February 20, 1862 - Point of Rocks; Dear Brother

2-5 February 23, 1862 - Dumfries, VA; Dear Brother

2-6 February 26, 1862 - Dixie; Dear Father - tells of crossing to VA [2/24-5]

2-7 March, 1862 - Lovettsville, VA; Dear Father - tells of Lovettsville [3/1]

2-8 March 9, 1862 - Leesburg, VA; Dear Brother - talks of the taking of Leesburg [3/8]

2-9 March 15, 1862 - Upperville, VA; Dear Father - mentions Ashby Cavalry

2-10 March 30, 1862 - White Plains, VA; Dear Father - account of actions and movements since Leesburg

2-11 April 12, 1862 - White Plains, VA; Dear Father

2-12 April 15, 1862 - Rectortown, VA; Dear Sister

2-13 May, 1862 - Markham, VA; Dear Brother - is sitting in front of Turner Ashby's house, is on picket duty [guarding RR] and living like a king off Ashby's land

2-14 May 27, 1862 - Williamsburgh, NY; Brother and Sister Hayward from P.I.F_(?) - mentions recent contact with Melville

2-15 June 14, 1862 - Fort De Kalb, Dist. of Columbia; Dear Father - he is in the hospital, wishes to rejoin regt.

2-16 June 22, 1862 - Baltimore, MD; Dear Sister from Melville

2-17 July 4, 1862 - Fort De Kalb; Dear Father - proposes an inscription for recently wounded Stonewall Jackson's grave stone

2-18 July 9, 1862 - 16 miles below Front Royal; To Ambrose Hayward Esq. from Edwin F. Paul 1st Sgt. Co. D 28th P.V. - he is forwarding a letter from Henry [July 4, 1862]

2-19 July 10, 1862 - Baltimore, MD; Dear Aunt Nowland from Melville

2-20 July 15, 1862 - Camp Warrenton, VA; Dear Father - he is back, morale is low, they move soon

2-21 July 22, 1862 - Camp at Little Washington, VA; Dear Father

2-22 July 23, 1862 - Baltimore, MD; Dear Father from Melville

2-23 August 2, 1862 - Camp at Little Washington, VA; Dear Brother

2-24 August 8, 1862 - Camp Culpepper, VA; Dear Brother - talks of battle in which Geary was injured and Banks lost 2500 men, contains note from Brother who has forwarded the letter to North Bridgewater

2-25 August 17, 1862 - Culpepper, VA; Dear Sister - tells of 28th's part in battle mentioned above (James City/Telegraph Hill)

2-26 September 11, 1862 - in Line of Battle, VA; Dear Father - gives brief account of scouting party "the boldest of the war"

2-27 September 12, 1862 - Camp of the 28th Regt. P.V.; Dear Father

2-28 September 15, 1862 - Headquarters; Dear Brother - mentions Gen. Butler's NC victory, has been on picket duty 4 weeks

2-29 September 18, 1862 - Camp on the Field of Battle; Dear Father - describes Antietam, "the Bloodiest Battle on record"

2-30 September 21, 1862 - Sandy Hook, MD; Dear Brother - describes "Bloody Battle of Sharpsburgh"

2-31 September 28, 1862 - Lowden Heights; Dear Brother - gives detailed account of his earlier scouting expedition behind Rebel lines

2-32 Sept/October 1862 - Lowden Heights; Dear Father - encloses newspaper clippings about the 28th

2-33 October 19, 1862 - Lowden Heights; Dear Brother (Augustus)

2-34 October 31, 1862 - Two miles from Bolivar; Dear Father

2-35 November 14, 1862 - Bolivar Heights; Dear Father

2-36 November 24, 1862 - Bolivar Heights; Dear Brother (John)

2-37 December 9, 1862 - Bolivar Heights; Dear Sister - has been promoted to 4th Sgt., Regt. is on the move

2-38 December 20, 1862 - Oquequan River; Dear Father - "I do not think the country is Safe"

2-39 December 23, 1862 - Oquequan Creek; Dear Father - almost a "complaining letter"

2-40 January 3, 1863 - Dumfries, VA; Dear Father- "Today the niggers are free. I wish Father Abraham would hurry up and free us"

2-41 January 18, 1863 - Dumfries, VA; Dear Father

2-42 March 1, 1863 - Dumfries, VA; Dear Sister - reviews actions in N. VA of March 1862, tells of camp life

2-43 March 27, 1863 - Dumfries, VA; Dear Brother J.P.H - he is now 2nd Sgt.

2-44 May 8, 1863 - Aquia Creek, VA; Sir from 2nd Lieut. James Devine - a request for furlough for Sgt. Hayward

2-45 May 9, 1863 - Aquia Creek; Dear Father - brief account of Chancellorsville losses, has been granted furlough

Box 3:

3-1 May 22, 1863 - Aquia Creek VA; Capt. C.U. Meyer from James C. Devine 1st Lieut. Co. D 28th P.V. - request for Medal of Honor for Sgt. Hayward, includes summary of his actions at Antietam and Chancellorsville

3-2 May 23, 1863 - Aquia Creek; Dear Father - has just returned from furlough during which he visited N. Bridgewater and Phila.

3-3 June 2, 1863 - Aquia Creek; Dear Sister

3-4 June 5, 1863 - Aquia Creek; Dear Father

3-5 June 16, 1863 - Fairfax Court House; Dear Father - just marched 40 miles in two days

3-6 June 21, 1863 - Leesburg, VA; Dear Sister - witnessed three men executed for desertion, wishes to go to PA

3-7 June 30, 1863 - near Hanover, PA; Dear Father

3-8 July 6, 1863 - near Littlestown, PA; Dear Father - writes briefly of Gettysburg on paper taken from dead rebel Sgt.

3-9 July 12, 1863 - Line of Battle near Williamsport; Dear Father

- 3-10** July 17, 1863 - Sandy Hook, MD; Dear Father
- 3-11** July 17, 1863 - Sandy Hook, MD; Dear Father - account of his company's actions at Gettysburg
- 3-12** July 22, 1863 - Snickersville, VA; Dear Father - written on the back of printed General Orders: transferal of Army of the Potomac from Hooker to Meade, June 28, and message of congratulations/encouragement from Meade, July 4
- 3-13** July 29, 1863 - Catlett's Station, VA; Dear Sister
- 3-14** August 5, 1863 - 5 miles below Kelley's Ford, VA; Dear Father
- 3-15** August 7, 1863 - 5 miles below Kelley's Ford; Dear Brother
- 3-16** August 12, 1863 - near Bealton: from Sgt. Major Edward O'Brien of 28th Mass Vols. - he is forwarding a photograph belonging to Sgt. Hayward and mentions a number of other papers that have come his way which he will forward
- 3-17** August 16, 1863 - Ellis Ford, VA; Dear Father
- 3-18** August 17, 1863 - Ellis Ford; Dear Sister - she has misdirected a letter to the 28th Mass.
- 3-19** August 20, 1863 - Ellis Ford; Dear Brother
- 3-20** August 24, 1863 - Ellis Ford; Dear Sister
- 3-21** August 25, 1863 - Ellis Ford; Dear Mother - encloses a bit of cotton
- 3-22** September 18, 1863 - Raccoon Ford on the Rapidan River; Dear Father
- 3-23** September 24, 1863 - Raccoon Ford; Dear Sister
- 3-24** October 10, 1863 - Duck River Bridge, TN; Dear Father
- 3-25** October 12, 1863 - Duck River Bridge, TN.; Dear Father - talks of train collision and journey to Tenn.
- 3-26** October 14, 1863 - Duck River; Dear Brother (in NY) - talks of journey to TN, withdrawal from Army of Potomac
- 3-27** October 29, 1863 - Bridgeport, AL or TN.; Dear Sister
- 3-28** November 6, 1863 - Wauhatchie, TN, near Lookout Mt.; Dear Brother

- 3-29** November 11, 1863 - near Lookout Mt., TN; Dear Brother
- 3-30** November 14, 1863 - Wauhatchie, TN; Dear Father - camp life
- 3-31** December 2, 1863 - Wauhatchie, TN; Dear Father - after Missionary Ridge, Lookout Mountain, Taylor's Ridge
- 3-32** December 10, 1863 - Wauhatchie, TN; Dear Brother
- 3-33** December 19, 1863 - Wauhatchie, TN; Dear Father - long account of Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge, Taylor's Gap, mentions reenlisting
- 3-34** January 14, 1864 - Philadelphia; Dear Father - has reenlisted, "come what will I never will be sorry for it," and is awaiting furlough so he can visit home
- 3-35** February 17, 1864 - Philadelphia; Dear Father - has just returned from furlough spent in North Bridgewater and New York, has been promoted to Orderly
- 3-36** February 19, 1864 - Philadelphia; Dear Brother
- 3-37** February 26, 1864 - Chester Barracks, PA; Dear Father
- 3-38** February 28, 1864 - Chester Barracks; Dear Father - is cooped up inside, soon to go to Nashville by rail
- 3-39** March 2, 1864 - Aboard the Cars, Gallatin, PA; Dear Father
- 3-40** March 5, 1864 - Louisville, KY.; Dear Father
- 3-41** March 7, 1864 - Zollicoffer Barracks, Nashville, TN; Dear Father
- 3-42** March 9, 1864 - Bridgeport, AL; Dear Father
- 3-43** March 29, 1864 - Bridgeport, AL; Dear Sister
- 3-44** April 14, 1864 - Bridgeport, AL; Dear Brother
- 3-45** April 15, 1864 - Bridgeport, AL; Dear Brother
- 3-46** April 17, 1864 - Bridgeport, AL; Dear Sister
- 3-47** April 21, 1864 - Bridgeport, AL; Dear Father - written on blank page of his promotion to 1st Sgt., February 11, 1864

3-48 April 25, 1864 - Bridgeport AL; to Mr. Ambrose Hayward from Pvt. William Atkinson, Co. D - Sgt. Hayward secured sick leave for Atkinson and lent him \$30 for travel expenses with instructions to repay the amount to Mr. Hayward

3-49 April 28, 1864 - Bridgeport, AL; Dear Father

3-50 April 30, 1864 - Bridgeport, AL; Dear Father - they are preparing to move

3-51 May 8, 1864 - New Marietta, GA; Dear Brother - has been fighting hard

3-52 May 14, 1864 - in line of Battle near Dalton, GA; Dear Father - many battles, more to come "do not concern yourself about me"

3-53 May 21, 1864 - Cassville, GA; Dear Father - mentions Battle of Spring Mill/Day Gap, Resacca, it is his birthday which means he's been in the army for 3 years

3-54 May 22, 1864 - near Cassville, GA; Dear Father - talk of battles, generals, honor at last for the corps., "will write as often as I can," the closing words of his last letter

3-55 June 17, 1864 - Head Quarters 28th P.V., Pine Hill, GA; Dear Sir from Acting Adjutant 1st Lieut. A.M. Lazarus - Henry was "wounded slightly in the left thigh" at the Battle of Pine Knob on June 15

3-56 July 10, 1864 - Head Quarters 28th P.V.V., Chattahoochee River near Atlanta, GA; Dear Sir from Acting Adjutant 1st Lieut. A.M. Lazarus, - notification of Henry's death, includes resolutions made by Co. D

3-57 August 3, 1864 - North Bridgewater, MA; Dear Sir from Ambrose Hayward - inquiry after Henry's grave number and effects, response is written on same sheet and respectfully returned

3-58 August 17, 1864 - Philadelphia, PA; Dear Sir (Augustus Hayward) from Wm. Roberts, Jr., Late of Co. D 28th P.V. - regarding circumstances of Henry's death: he cannot help because he was at the front, supplies names of others who were in the hospital with Henry

3-59 January 7, 1865 - Treasury Department to M. Hayward - any money due Sgt. Hayward will be forwarded to his family

In Oversize Civil War VFM:

Official document appointing Ambrose H. Hayward Sergeant of Company D, 28th PA Vols., dated February 18, 1863, the rank dates from December 1, 1862.