George Allen Foster Civil War Collection

Michael J. Spinelli, Jr. Center for University Archives and Special Collections, Plymouth State University, Plymouth, NH

Local Identifier: SA004
Repository Identifier: NhPIS
Country Identifier: US

Date of Creation: 1858-1961

Extent: 2 boxes

Creators: Foster, George Allen

Scope and Content: This collection consists of newspapers, newspaper clippings, pamphlets, pictures, and note cards related to the Civil War collected by Foster while writing Sunday in Centreville and The Road to the Whitehouse. Also included in the collection are the textual and biographical note cards and text outlines for Sunday in Centreville, which was originally titled July Blood Bath and The Road to the Whitehouse. Also included in the collection is an essay Foster wrote while taking a class at Plymouth State College in 1956, entitled “The Education of Civil War Leaders.”

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Language and Scripts of the Material: English

Administrative/Biographical History

George Allen Foster (1907-1970) was born in Plymouth, New Hampshire. He studied music at Dartmouth College and Eastman School and, after graduation, served as the Director of the Works Projects Administration (WPA) Federal Music Project. Foster then obtained a job in New Orleans, where he served as Manager of the New Orleans Symphony Orchestra. In 1954 he returned to Plymouth and served as the music instructor at the high school. He retired five years later and began dedicating his time to writing books for young adults. He was very active in Democratic Party politics in Plymouth and the surrounding area.

Library of Congress Subject Headings
Foster, George Allen
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865

Immediate Source of Acquisition: The collection was acquired by Plymouth State College from the estate of the author after his death in 1970.

Notes
Preferred citation: George Allen Foster Civil War Collection. Michael J. Spinelli, Jr. Center for University Archives and Special Collections, Lamson Library and Learning Commons, Plymouth State University.

Related Collections:

Collection processed and finding aid written by Daniel W. Ness.
Finding Aid

Physical Description:
38 newspapers (primary documents, 1858-1888)
7 newspapers (secondary documents, 1949-1961)
15 photographs
4 lithographs
16 brochures and pamphlets
4 scrapbooks
3 magazines
1 book
5 manuscripts
bibliographic note cards

Organization

Civil War Newspapers Collection

- *New York Tribune*- November 6, 1858.
- *The Independent Democrat*- November 21, 1861. (Foster- division handwritten at Top).
- *The Chicago Tribune*- August 13, 1863.
- *Dollar Weekly Mirror*- March 12, 1864.
- *Dollar Weekly Mirror*- March 26, 1864. (Stamped “E S Foster” at the top)
- *Dollar Weekly Mirror*- April 2, 1864.
- *Dollar Weekly Mirror*- April 9, 1864.
- *Dollar Weekly Mirror*- April 16, 1864.
- *Dollar Weekly Mirror*- April 23, 1864.
- *Dollar Weekly Mirror*- April 30, 1864.
- *Dollar Weekly Mirror*- May 7, 1864.
- *Dollar Weekly Mirror*- May 14, 1864.
- *Dollar Weekly Mirror*- May 21, 1864.
- *Dollar Weekly Mirror*- June, 4 1864.
- *Dollar Weekly Mirror*- June 18, 1864.
- *Dollar Weekly Mirror*- July 2, 1864.
- *Dollar Weekly Mirror*- July 9, 1864.
- *Dollar Weekly Mirror*- July 16, 1864.
• Dollar Weekly Mirror- July 23, 1864.
• Dollar Weekly Mirror- July 30, 1864.
• Dollar Weekly Mirror- August 6, 1864.
• Dollar Weekly Mirror- August 17, 1864.
• Dollar Weekly Mirror- September 3, 1864.
• Dollar Weekly Mirror- September 17, 1864.
• The New Hampshire Patriot And Gazette- November 2, 1864. (unidentified Handwriting SW_____).
• The New York Herald- April 15, 1865. (Lincoln Assassination).
• The New York Herald- April 15, 1865. (Purchased at Fords Theater August 5, 1939).
• Boston Herald- June 20, 1872.
• Boston Morning Journal- November 11, 1872 (Boston Fire).
• The Boston Daily Globe- June 18, 1875.
• The Boston Morning Journal- September 20, 1881.
• The Morning Oregonian- June 7, 1888.

Secondary Newspaper Sources

• New York Times. “Civil War and Reconstruction,” A current affairs publication
• Manchester, NH, Newspaper clipping. September 7, 1961. “State’s Role in Civil War To Be Told” (Handwriting at top: Our pictures are among the 200 chosen From 7,000, please keep this).

Photographs

• Photograph- George A. Foster- Double sided picture of camps.
• Photograph- George A, Foster- Double sided picture: Army Officers and African American soldier and civilian.
• Photograph- G.A.F- Double sided picture: Army soldiers seated and camps.
• Photograph- G.A.F- Double sided picture: Soldiers and civilians and camps
• Photograph- G.A.F- Double sided picture: Soldiers seated around camp.
• Photograph- G.A.F- Double sided picture: Soldiers at camp.
• Photograph- Snodgrass House Chickamauga Battlefield, Georgia.
• Photograph- Confederate Battebay- Lookout Mtn. Chattanooga, Tennessee.
• Photograph- Lookout Mountain- Chattanooga, Tenn.
• Photograph- Garrity’s Battery Lookout Mtn.
• Photograph Bell Tower, Richmond, Virginia.
• Photograph- Jefferson Davis (1808-1889), The Perry Pictures.
• Lithograph- John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892), The Perry Pictures (1909) By Eugene A. Perry.

Brochures and Pamphlets

• *The White Mountain Scrap Book*- Early stories and legends of the “Crystal Hills” (1939)
• “Street Cries of an Old Southern City” By Harriet Kershaw Leiding. Charleston, S.C (1927)
• “Blockade- run mail from New Orleans” By Leonard V. Huber. Civil War Postal History (1862-1864). From George Foster.
• Petersburg: National Battlefield Virginia. (Brochure).
• The “General” made famous by Andrews’ Raiders (Now on Exhibition at Union Depot-Chattanooga, Tennessee)
• Pamphlet- “Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania County Battlefields Memorial National Military Park, Virginia” January 1940.
• Pamphlet- “Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park”
• Pamphlet- “Petersburg National Military Park, Virginia,” (February, 1941).
• Pamphlet- “The Virginia Capitol, Richmond, Virginia”
• Pamphlet- “The Virginia Battlefields Tour, From Manassas to Appomattox,” U.S Dept. of

- Pamphlet- “History of Christ Church (Episcopal), Alexandria, Virginia.” (George Washington’s Pew No. 60, Robert E. Lee’s Pew No. 46.
- Pamphlet- “Footpaths in Historic Richmond,” (1944).

Books and Magazines

- Book- War Songs: For Anniversaries and Gatherings of Soldiers, The Choruses of all the Songs are arranged for men’s voices. (Boston: Oliver Ditson Company).
- Scrap Book- Volume 2, Complete with Index. Collection of newspaper articles.
- Scrap Book- Scrap Book, Complete with Index.
- Scrap Book- Without index.
- Scrap Book- Without index.
- Magazine- Francis Bannerman Sons- 75th Anniversary Complete Military Goods Catalogue

Manuscripts

- The Road to the White House- First and second drafts.

Bibliographic Note Cards:

- Nichols, Roy F. *Franklin Pierce.* (Philadelphia, 1931).
- Prince, Frederick O. *Life and Public Services of Winfield Scott Hancock.* (Boston: Lee and Shepard, 1880).
• Sunday at Centreville and July Blood Bath: Bull Run 1861- First and second drafts

Bibliographic Note Cards:

- McClellan, George B. *McClellan’s Own Story*. (New York: Charles L. Webster, 1887).
- Trobriand, Regis de. *Four Years with the Army of the Potomac*. (Boston: Ticknor and Company, 1889).

**Access Terms**

- Bell Tower, Richmond, VA
- Blockade Runners
- Camp life
- Chickamauga Battlefield, GA
- Dartmouth
- Davis, Jefferson
- *The Education of Civil War Leaders*
- Ford’s Theatre
- Fort Sumter, SC
- Fredericksburg Battlefield, VA
- Gun/Military Catalogue
- Johnston, General Joseph E.
- Lee, Robert E.
Lincoln, Abraham
Lookout Mountain, Chattanooga, TN
Newspapers

*New York Tribune*- November 6, 1858
*The Independent Democrat*- November 21, 1861
*Harper’s Weekly*- February 2, 1861
*The New Hampshire Statesman*- May 13, 1863 and May 15, 1863
*The Chicago Tribune*- August 13, 1863
*Dollar Weekly Mirror*- March 12, 1864- September 17, 1864
*The Daily Laborer*- March 22, 1864
*The New Hampshire Patriot and Gazette*- November 2, 1864
*The New York Herald*- April 15, 1865
*Boston Herald*- June 20, 1872
*The Boston Morning Journal*- November 11, 1862 and September 20, 1881
*The Boston Daily Globe*- June 18, 1875
*The Morning Oregonian*- June 7, 1888

Newspapers - Secondary Civil War Newspapers

Petersburg Battlefield, VA
Richmond, VA
*The Road to the White House*

Scrapbooks
Sherman, William Tecumseh
Spotsylvania Battlefield, VA
Stowe, Harriet Beecher
“Street Cries of an Old Southern City”
*Sunday in Centreville*

Union Dept, Chattanooga, TN
Vicksburg Battlefield, MS
Virginia Battlefield Tour
War Songs
White Mountains
Whittier, John Greenleaf