

# The Adoniram J. Hamlin Collection

## Scope and Content

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The Adoniram J. Hamlin Collection consists of eight letters and one poem, photocopied onto eighteen sheets of paper. Four of the letters are two pages long, two are three pages, and two are four pages. The poem is two pages long.

The letters are all addressed to “Dear Wife” and signed “A. J. Hamlin.” In the body of several of the letters Hamlin addresses his wife as Belle. From the descriptions of the regimental activities in the letters it was determined that A. J. Hamlin was Adoniram J. Hamlin of Bainbridge, NY, who served in Co.H of the 114<sup>th</sup> Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry. Adoniram Hamlin was also known as Adoniram J. Hamlin,<sup>1</sup> and Adeniron I. Hamlin.<sup>2</sup> Three of the letters were written while Hamlin was in Louisiana. He specifically mentions the second Battle of Sabine Pass, where 47 Confederate soldiers repulsed an attack by 19 Union vessels and 5,000 Union troops.<sup>3</sup> The last three letters were written from Mower Hospital at Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia, PA. The letters are arranged in chronological order and range in date from September 27, 1862 to January 30, 1865. They are followed by the poem, which was written sometime after the Battle of Fisher’s Hill, September 21-22, 1864.

The poem was not written by Hamlin, but may have been included in one of his letters to his wife. The by-line of the poem attributes it to “C. A. Savage, Co.K, 6<sup>th</sup> Ind. Vol.,” but it is likely that it was written Carlos A. Savage, Co.K, 8<sup>th</sup> Indian Volunteer Infantry. The poem is about the Battle of Fisher’s Hill and the 8<sup>th</sup> Indiana was at that battle, while the 6<sup>th</sup> Indiana was not. Also there is no one with the last name of Savage listed in the 6<sup>th</sup> Indiana.<sup>4</sup>

Each photocopied letter was place in an acid-free folder. The Collection is in nine folders in one 315 cubic inch archival box.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/soldiers.htm>, viewed 08Sep05.

<sup>2</sup> [http://library.morrisville.edu/local\\_history/sites/114th/muster\\_h.html](http://library.morrisville.edu/local_history/sites/114th/muster_h.html), viewed 08Sep05.

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.wtblock.com/wtblockjr/battleof.htm>, viewed 09Sep05.

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/soldiers.htm>, viewed 09Sep05.

# *The Adoniram J. Hamlin Collection*

<i>Box #</i>	<i>Folder #</i>	<i>Item #</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Date</i>
AH01					
	AH01				
		<i>Letter</i>			
		AHL001	Adoniram J. Hamlin	Wife [Belle Hamlin]	27 September 1862
	AH02				
		<i>Letter</i>			
		AHL002	Adoniram J. Hamlin	Wife [Belle Hamlin]	26 April 1863
	AH03				
		<i>Letter</i>			
		AHL003	Adoniram J. Hamlin	Wife [Belle Hamlin]	20 September 1863
	AH04				
		<i>Letter</i>			
		AHL004	Adoniram J. Hamlin	Wife [Belle Hamlin]	23 September 1863
	AH05				
		<i>Letter</i>			
		AHL005	Adoniram J. Hamlin	Wife [Belle Hamlin]	10 December 1863
	AH06				
		<i>Letter</i>			
		AHL006	Adoniram J. Hamlin	Wife [Belle Hamlin]	29 December 1864
	AH07				
		<i>Letter</i>			
		AHL007	Adoniram J. Hamlin	Wife [Belle Hamlin]	18 January 1865
	AH08				
		<i>Letter</i>			
		AHL008	Adoniram J. Hamlin	Wife [Belle Hamlin]	30 January 1865
	AH09				
		<i>Essay/Poetry</i>			
		AHB001	C[arlos] A. Savage		[No Date]