

The Grace D. Nichols Collection

Scope and Content

Randall Miles

2005

The Grace D. Nichols Collection of Civil War Letters consists of sixty-eight letters written on 113 sheets of paper, fifty-seven envelopes, four postcards, and thirteen pieces of ephemera. The letters range in date from August 18, 1864 to January 12, 1872. Two the postcards are undated, and the other two are from the early twentieth century. Most of the ephemera are undated.

The letters were all written to Miss Grace D. Nichols of Rockland, Maine, but written by seven different authors. The letters are grouped by author and arranged chronologically thereunder. The authors are arranged chronologically by the date of the earliest letter written. Thus the nine letters of Georgia F. Farnham, Miss Nichols cousin, are first in the collection as the first extant letter written by her is the earliest one in the collection, dated August 18, 1864. Miss Farnham's letters are followed by the twenty-two letters of Henry P. McCahill, another cousin, who was serving in the 182nd New York Volunteer Infantry at the time he wrote. His earliest extant letter is dated December 18, 1864. Next come the twenty-two letters of John Porcius Gage, another cousin. His earliest extant letter is dated 23 April, 1865. The letter of Henry Paine follows the last letter of Gage. Paine's sole letter in the collection is dated 15 July, 1865. Another author with only one letter in the collection is next, A. J. Prickard, with a letter dated 31 July, 1865. Next come the twelve letters by Robert Rankin. His first extant letter was written on August 01, 1865. The final author in the collection is Waldo P. Lowell. His sole letter is dated February 02, 1866.

Where possible envelopes were kept with the letters they contained, or may have contained. Fifteen unassociated envelopes are housed in the collection in two folders, arranged alphabetically by recipient and thereunder chronologically, following the last letter. The ephemera are grouped by type and housed following the unassociated envelopes, in a separate archival box, with the exception of two pieces which are definitely associated with letters. Those two are housed with their respective letters.

Three of the letters are housed in the box with the ephemera due to their size. The ephemera include a lock of hair, calling cards, postcards, song lyrics, two pocket-books of illustrations, a wedding announcement, a birthday card, and an envelope of dried flowers.

Each letter was unfolded and placed in a mylar sleeve, such that all pages may be read without removing the letter from the sleeve. Each letter, in its mylar sleeve, was then placed in an acid-free folder. The envelopes were also placed in mylar sleeves. Where a letter and an envelope were associated the mylar sleeves containing the items were placed in the same acid-free folder. Each piece of ephemera was also placed in mylar. The ephemera were placed in acid-free folders by type. The collection is in seventy-seven folders in one 1200 cubic inch and two 630 cubic inch archival boxes, for a total of 2,460 cubic inches.

Grace D. Nichols Collection of Civil War Letters

<i>Box #</i>	<i>Folder #</i>	<i>Item #</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Date</i>
GN01					
	<i>GN01</i>	Envelope			
		GNE01	Georgia F. Farnham	Grace D. Nichols	18 August 1864
		Letter			
		GNL01	Georgia F. Farnham	Grace D. Nichols	17 August 1864
	<i>GN02</i>	Envelope			
		GNE02	Georgia F. Farnham	Grace D. Nichols	2 September 1864
		Letter			
		GNL02	Georgia F. Farnham	Grace D. Nichols	1 September 1864
	<i>GN03</i>	Envelope			
		GNE03	Georgia F. Farnham	Grace D. Nichols	12 September 1864
		Letter			
		GNL03	Georgia F. Farnham	Grace D. Nichols	September 1864
	<i>GN05</i>	Letter			
		GNL05	Georgia F. Farnham	Grace D. Nichols	5 October 1864
	<i>GN06</i>	Envelope			
		GNE04	Georgia F. Farnham	Grace D. Nichols	4 August 1865
		Letter			
		GNL06	Georgia F. Farnham	Grace D. Nichols	3 August 1865
	<i>GN07</i>	Envelope			
		GNE05	Georgia F. Farnham	Grace D. Nichols	18 August 1865
		Letter			
		GNL07	Georgia F. Farnham	Grace D. Nichols	16 August 1865
	<i>GN08</i>	Envelope			
		GNE06	Georgia F. Farnham	Grace D. Nichols	6 September 1865
		Letter			
		GNL08	Georgia F. Farnham	Grace D. Nichols	6 September 1865
	<i>GN09</i>	Envelope			
		GNE07		Grace D. Nichols	20 September 1865
		Letter			
		GNL09	Georgia F. Farnham	Grace D. Nichols	16 September 1865
	<i>GN10</i>	Letter			
		GNL10	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	18 December 1864
	<i>GN11</i>	Letter			
		GNL11	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	9 January 1865
	<i>GN12</i>	Letter			
		GNL12	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	12 January [1865]

<i>Box #</i>	<i>Folder #</i>	<i>Item #</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Date</i>
GN01					
	<i>GN13</i>	Letter			
		GNL13	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	24 January 1865
	<i>GN15</i>	Envelope			
		GNE08	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	9 March 1865
		Letter			
		GNL15	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	7 March 1865
	<i>GN16</i>	Envelope			
		GNE09		Grace	[16 March] 1865
		Letter			
		GNL16	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	16 March 1865
	<i>GN17</i>	Letter			
		GNL17	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	23 March 1865
	<i>GN18</i>	Envelope			
		GNE10	Henry P. McCahill	Grace D. Nichols	29 March 1865
		Letter			
		GNL18	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	26 March [1865]
	<i>GN19</i>	Letter			
		GNL19	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	7 April 1865
	<i>GN20</i>	Letter			
		GNL20	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	13 April 1865
	<i>GN21</i>	Letter			
		GNL21	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	29 April 1865
	<i>GN22</i>	Letter			
		GNL22	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	7 May 1865
	<i>GN23</i>	Letter			
		GNL23	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	17 May 1865
	<i>GN24</i>	Envelope			
		GNE11		Grace D. Gillson	31 May [1865]
		Letter			
		GNL24	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	18 May 1865
	<i>GN25</i>	Letter			
		GNL25	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	2 June 1865
	<i>GN26</i>	Envelope			
		GNE12	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	15 June [1865]
		Letter			
		GNL26	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	13 June 1865
	<i>GN27</i>	Letter			
		GNL27	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	16 June 1865

<i>Box #</i>	<i>Folder #</i>	<i>Item #</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Date</i>
GN01					
	<i>GN28</i>	Envelope			
		GNE13		Grace D. Nichols	21 June [1865]
		Letter			
		GNL28	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	20 June 1865
	<i>GN29</i>	Envelope			
		GNE14		Grace D. Nichols	[2]7 June [1865]
		Letter			
		GNL29	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	24 June 1865
		Lock of Hair			
		GNU01			No Date
	<i>GN30</i>	Letter			
		GNL30	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	7 July 1865
		Calling Card			
		GNU02	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	[July 1865]
	<i>GN31</i>	Envelope			
		GNE15	Henry P. McCahill	Grace D. Gillson	3 August [1865]
		Letter			
		GNL31	Henry P. McCahill	Grace D. Gillson	31 July 1865
GN02					
	<i>GN32</i>	Envelope			
		GNE16		Grace D. Nichols	23 April [1865]
		Letter			
		GNL32	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	April [1865]
	<i>GN33</i>	Envelope			
		GNE17	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	8 May 1865
		Letter			
		GNL33	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	7 May 1865
	<i>GN34</i>	Envelope			
		GNE18	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	26 May [1865]
		Letter			
		GNL34	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	25 May 1865
	<i>GN35</i>	Envelope			
		GNE19	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	5 June 1865
		Letter			
		GNL35	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	4 June 1865
	<i>GN36</i>	Letter			
		GNL36	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	2 July [1865]
	<i>GN37</i>	Envelope			
		GNE20	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	8 August [1865]
		Letter			
		GNL37	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	6 August 1865

<i>Box #</i>	<i>Folder #</i>	<i>Item #</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Date</i>
GN02					
	<i>GN38</i>	Letter GNL38	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	22 October 1865
	<i>GN39</i>	Letter GNL39	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	10 November 1865
	<i>GN40</i>	Envelope GNE21 Letter GNL40	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	27 November [1865] 26 November 1865
	<i>GN41</i>	Letter GNL41	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	23 December [1865]
	<i>GN42</i>	Letter GNL42	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	15 January 1866
	<i>GN43</i>	Envelope GNE22 Letter GNL43	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	30 January [1866] 27 January 1866
	<i>GN44</i>	Envelope GNE23 Letter GNL44	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	20 February [1866] 18 February [1866]
	<i>GN45</i>	Letter GNL45	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	1 March 1866
	<i>GN46</i>	Envelope GNE24 Letter GNL46	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	13 June [1866] 10 June 1866
	<i>GN47</i>	Letter GNL47	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	1 July 1866
	<i>GN48</i>	Letter GNL48	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	26 August 1866
	<i>GN49</i>	Envelope GNE25 Letter GNL49	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	4 September [1866] [2] September [1866]
	<i>GN50</i>	Letter GNL50	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	September [1866]
	<i>GN51</i>	Letter GNL51	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	7 October 1866

<i>Box #</i>	<i>Folder #</i>	<i>Item #</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Date</i>
GN02					
	<i>GN52</i>	Envelope			
		GNE26		Grace D. Nichols	11 November [1866]
		Letter			
		GNL52	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	November 1866
	<i>GN53</i>	Envelope			
		GNE27	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	13 January [1872]
		Letter			
		GNL53	John Porcius Gage	Grace D. Nichols	12 January 1872
	<i>GN54</i>	Envelope			
		GNE28		Grace D. Nichols	No Date
		Letter			
		GNL54	Henry Paine	To Whom It May Concern	15 July 1865
	<i>GN56</i>	Envelope			
		GNE30	Robert Rankin	Grace D. Nichols	August [1865]
		Letter			
		GNL56	Robert Rankin	Grace D. Nichols	1 August 1865
	<i>GN57</i>	Envelope			
		GNE31		Grace D. Nichols	2[0] August 1865
		Letter			
		GNL57	Robert Rankin	Grace D. Nichols	[18] August 1865
	<i>GN58</i>	Envelope			
		GNE32	Robert Rankin	Grace D. Nichols	23 August 1865
		Letter			
		GNL58	Robert Rankin	Grace D. Nichols	August 1865
	<i>GN59</i>	Envelope			
		GNE33	Robert Rankin	Grace D. Nichols	3 September [1865]
		Letter			
		GNL59	Robert Rankin	Grace D. Nichols	29 August 1865
	<i>GN60</i>	Envelope			
		GNE34	Robert Rankin	Grace D. Nichols	September [1865]
		Letter			
		GNL60	Robert Rankin	Grace	8 September 1865
	<i>GN61</i>	Letter			
		GNL61	Robert Rankin	Grace D. Nichols	1 October [1865]
	<i>GN62</i>	Envelope			
		GNE35	Robert Rankin	Grace D. Nichols	16 [October] 1865
		Letter			
		GNL62	Robert Rankin	Grace D. Nichols	13 October 1865
	<i>GN63</i>	Envelope			
		GNE36	Robert Rankin	Grace D. Nichols	31 October [1865]
		Letter			
		GNL63	Robert Rankin	Grace D. Nichols	30 October 1865

<i>Box #</i>	<i>Folder #</i>	<i>Item #</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Date</i>
GN02					
	<i>GN64</i>	Envelope			
		GNE37	Robert Rankin	Grace D. Nichols	12 November [1865]
		Letter			
		GNL64	Robert Rankin	Grace	10 November [1865]
	<i>GN65</i>	Envelope			
		GNE38	Robert Rankin	Grace D. Nichols	28 November [1865]
		Letter			
		GNL65	Robert Rankin	Grace D. Nichols	26 November 1865
	<i>GN66</i>	Envelope			
		GNE39	Robert Rankin	Grace D. Nichols	9 December [1865]
		Letter			
		GNL66	Robert Rankin	Grace D. Nichols	2 December 1865
	<i>GN67</i>	Envelope			
		GNE40	Robert Rankin	Grace D. Nichols	23 January [1866]
		Letter			
		GNL67	Robert Rankin	Grace D. Nichols	14 January [1866]
	<i>GN68</i>	Letter			
		GNL68	Waldo P. Lowell		2 February 1866
	<i>GN69</i>	Envelope			
		GNE41		Grace D. Gillson	9 No Month
		GNE42		Grace D. Gillson	No Date
		GNE43		Grace D. Gillson	No Date
		GNE44		Grace D. Gillson	No Date
		GNE45		Grace D. Nichols	18 September 1865
		GNE46		Grace D. Nichols	5 November [1865]
		GNE47		Grace D. Nichols	15 May
		GNE48		Grace D. Nichols	26 No Month
	<i>GN70</i>	Envelope			
		GNE49		Grace D. Nichols	9 No Date
		GNE50		Grace D. Nichols	No Date
		GNE51		Grace D. Nichols	9 October
		GNE52		Grace D. Gillson	No Date
		GNE53		Grace D. Nichols	No Date
		GNE54		Grace D. Nichols	No Date
		GNE55		Mr. and Mrs. John J. Robbins	No Date

<i>Box #</i>	<i>Folder #</i>	<i>Item #</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>To</i>	<i>Date</i>
	GN03				
	<i>GN04</i>	Letter			
		GNL04	Georgia F. Farnham	Grace D. Nichols	22 September 1864
	<i>GN14</i>	Letter			
		GNL14	Henry P. McCahill	Grace	19 February 1865
	<i>GN55</i>	Envelope			
		GNE29	A. J. Prikard	Grace D. Nichols	2 August 1865
		Letter			
		GNL55	A. J. Prikard	Grace D. Nichols	31 July 1865
	<i>GN71</i>	Calling Card			
		GNU03	John Porcius Gage		No Date
		GNU04	A. H. Robbins		No Date
		GNU05	Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Crockett		No Date
		GNU06	Edward Merrill		No Date
	<i>GN72</i>	Miscellaneous Document			
		GNU07	XXV Club		25 December 1871
		GNU08	Singhi's Studio		Christmas 1892
	<i>GN73</i>	Envelope			
		GNE56			No Date
		Wedding Announcement			
		GNU09	Willis J. Ayer	Hattie E. Wallace	28 September 1872
	<i>GN74</i>	Miscellaneous Document			
		GNU10	Adolph Witteman	A. H. Robbins	No Date
		GNU11			No Date
	<i>GN75</i>	Postcard			
		GNU12	Berl	Grace Robbins	4 May 1915
		GNU13	Winnie	Mrs. John Robbins	6 October 1920
		GNU14	Unknown	Alice	No Date
		GNU15	Fred B.	Mother	No Date
	<i>GN76</i>	Miscellaneous Document			
		GNU16		Mother	No Date
	<i>GN77</i>	Envelope			
		GNE57	John Porcius Gage		No Date