

# George F. Havens Collection (SC232)

## *Introduction*

This collection consists of diaries, correspondence, military papers, autobiography, and cloth bosom of George F. Havens. The collection also contains typed transcripts and information provided by the donor, a great-granddaughter of George F. Havens.

## *Descriptive Summary*

Creator: George F. Havens  
Title: George F. Havens Collection  
Dates: 1840s-2002 (bulk 1840s-1865)  
Size: 0.21 linear feet, 1 box  
Collection Number: SC232

## *Donor Information*

Gift, 2020, Candice Clark, great-granddaughter of George F. Havens.

## *Citation Note*

George F. Havens Collection (SC232), Missouri Valley Special Collections, Kansas City Public Library, Kansas City, Missouri.

## *Administrative Information*

Access restrictions: The diaries in this collection are fragile and need to be handled with care. Available transcripts should be used instead of handling the diaries when possible.

Additional form available: Printed transcripts of the diaries and one letter are available in the collection.

## *Biographical Sketch*

George Francis Havens was born June 26, 1837, in Wayne County, Pennsylvania, to George Havens and Anita M. Lamb. In 1854, the family initially moved west to Illinois, and then continued to Kansas City, Missouri, and later settled around Lawrence, Kansas. In 1862, Havens enlisted in the army and served in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Colorado Infantry Regiment and 2<sup>nd</sup> Colorado Cavalry Regiment. Havens was discharged in 1865 at Fort Riley, Kansas. Eventually Havens made his way to California, where he died in 1928.

## *Scope and Content Note*

This collection consists of two diaries, a loose diary page, two letters, a military discharge paper, a pension certificate, an autobiography, and a cloth bosom. The

collection also contains a typed transcript of the two diaries, by the donor. The diaries, dated 1862-1865, cover his time enlisted in the army during the Civil War. One letter from Havens' mother, dated 1858, reminisced on the Battle of Black Jack two years earlier and the killing of Gaius Jenkins by General James Henry Lee. A few items in the collection also have additional typed information included with them, added by the donor.

### ***Collection Inventory***

- f. 1            Autobiography and family group sheets, 2002, undated
- f. 2            Bosom, ca. 1840s
- f. 3            Correspondence, 1858, undated
- f. 4            Diaries, 1862-1868
- f. 5            Dairies (1862-1864) transcript, ca. 1975
- f. 6            Diary page, undated
- f. 7            Military papers, 1865, 1907

**Processed by Sarah McCumber, Special Collections Librarian/Archivist, March 2022**