

WORCESTER HISTORICAL MUSEUM

30 Elm Street
Worcester, Massachusetts

ARCHIVES 2013.04

Staples Family
Collection

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Collection Information

Abstract : Collection contains materials relating to the death of Samuel Frederick Staples who was killed at the Battle of Little Bighorn in 1876. Reports on his burial and letters from colleagues in the 7th Calvary are included in the collection. Also included in the collection are genealogy notes pertaining to the Staples, Lovett and Smith Families

Finding Aid : Finding Aid in print form is available in the Repository.

Preferred Citation : Worcester Historical Museum, Worcester, Massachusetts.

Provenance : Museum Purchase (2013)

MARC Access : Collection is cataloged in MARC under the following subject headings

Historical/Biographical Notes

Samuel Elias Staples was born in Medway Village, May 19, 1822. The son of John and Mary Ann (Heath) Staples, and was one of the direct descendants of Abraham Staples one of the first founders of the town of Mendon, MA. In 1852 he moved to Worcester and entered the employ of T. & O. K. Earke, lumber dealers. He was a member of the Common Council in 1860 and of the school board from 1869 – 1871. His most important accomplishments were the founding of the Worcester County Musical Association and the Worcester Society of Antiquity. He married in 1844, Lucinda (Lovett). She died in 1883. They had four children. Samuel E. Staples died April 4, 1902.

One son, Samuel Frederick Staples was born in 1849 in East Dougals, Massachusetts. His occupation prior to joining the 7th Calvary In January 1872 was a painter. He was a Corporal in Company I, 7th Calvary under Lt. Colonel George Armstrong Custer's command during the Battle of Little Bighorn June 25 and 26, 1876. He died June 25, 1876.

Scope and Content

Collection contains materials relating to the death of Samuel Frederick Staples who was killed at the Battle of Little Bighorn in 1876. Reports on his burial and letters from colleagues in the 7th Calvary are included in the collection. Also included in the collection are genealogy notes pertaining to the Staples, Lovett and Smith Families.

Series Descriptions

Series 1: Samuel F. Staples

Series 2: Staples Family Genealogy

Series 3: Smith Family Genealogy

Series 4: Samuel Elias Staples Books

Staples Family Collection
2013.04
Series 1, Samuel F. Staples

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	1	2013.04.1.1a	Letter to Samuel E. Staples from War Department (April 18, 1878) regarding his inquiry into his son's (Samuel F. Staples) death at Little Big Horn in June of 1876. Included is a report of burials by P.H. Sheridan.
1	1	2013.04.1.1b	Report relative to burial of enlisted men killed in the Custer massacre by P.H. Sheridan
1	1	2013.04.1.2	Letter to Headquarters Military Division of the Missouri from P. H. Sheridan (April 8, 1878). Letter details his visit to Little Big Horn looking for, burying and commenting on the condition of the men from the 7 th Calvary buried on the battlefield.
1	1	2013.04.1.3	Letter to Samuel E. Staples from Mark E. Lee, Co. I, 7 th Calvary (November 29, 1876). Letter expresses condolences on the loss of his son. He was ill at the time of the battle.
1	1	2013.04.1.4	Certificate of promotion to Corporal for Samuel F. Staples (March 10, 1876)
1	1	2013.04.1.5	Letter to Samuel E. Staples from William Heyn, 1 st Sergeant Company A, 7 th Calvary. Expressing condolences on the loss of his son. (July 20, 1876). He was wounded in an earlier battle.
1	1	2013.04.1.6	To Samuel E. Staples from William E Curtis July 13, 1876. Letter discussions the difficulties of finding his son's body.

Staples Family Collection
2013.04
Series 2, Staples Family Genealogy

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	2	2013.04.2.1	Unidentified hand colored, miniature portrait.
1	2	2013.04.2.2	Letter to Samuel E. Staples from C.A. Staples (October 25, 1876) regarding genealogy.
1	2	2013.04.2.3	Letter to Samuel E. Staples from ? Holton (February 1, 1877) regarding genealogy.
1	2	2013.04.2.4	Letter to Samuel E. Staples from Parsons Holton (November 18, 1875) regarding genealogy.
1	2	2013.04.2.5	Scrap of paper with genealogy notes
1	2	2013.04.2.6a-c	Family record sheets
1	2	2013.04.2.7	Scrap of paper with genealogy notes
1	2	2013.04.2.8	Letter to Samuel E. Staples from Lovett (January 23, 1853)
1	2	2013.04.2.9	Eight sheets of paper detailing the various genealogy lines of Samuel Elias Staples.
1	2	2013.04.2.10	Smith Lineage
1	3	2013.04.2.11	Deed, Douglas Manufacturing Company to Samuel Lovett (September 30, 1840)
1	3	2013.04.2.12	Family Tree – John Staples of Weymouth
1	3	2013.04.2.13a-c	Scraps of paper with genealogy notes
1	3	2013.04.2.14	Committee of Biography form from Worcester Society of Antiquity
1	3	2013.04.2.15	Order of services for Sergeant Abraham Staples monument – Mendon (October 31, 1877)
1	3	2013.04.2.16	To Samuel E. from C.A. Staples (no date)

Series 2, Staples Family Genealogy

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	3	2013.04.2.17	In Memory of Mary Ann Staples
1	3	2013.04.2.18	Genealogy notes on Elijah Staples
1	3	2013.04.2.19	Unidentified letter
1	3	2013.04.2.20	Three pieces of paper with misc notes
1	4	2013.04.2.21	Piece of paper with Lovett genealogy
1	4	2013.04.2.22	Brief biography written by Samuel E. Staples
1	4	2013.04.2.23	Letter to Samuel E. from C.A. Staples regarding family genealogy (September 12, 1877)
1	4	2013.04.2.24	Paper with genealogy notes
1	4	2013.04.2.25	Letter to "Deer Friends" from Mary Staples (April 11, 1852)
1	4	2013.04.2.26	Genealogy notes of Richard Staples
1	4	2013.04.2.27	Genealogy notes on Peter Stowell
1	4	2013.04.2.28	Misc genealogy notes
1	4	2013.04.2.29	Letter to unidentified
1	4	2013.04.2.30	Transcription of Daniel Lovett's gravestone
1	4	2013.04.2.31	Newspaper articles

Staples Family Collection
2013.04
Series3, Smith Family Genealogy

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1	5	2013.04.3.1	In Memoriam of William Addison Smith
1	5	2013.04.3.2	Family Tree – John Smith (1636)
1	5	2013.04.3.3	Deed for plot at Pine Grove Cemetery, Leicester
1	5	2013.04.3.4	Book – Reunion of the Descendants of William Smith
1	5	2013.04.3.5	Book – The Home of the Smith Family

Staples Family Collection
2013.04
Series 4, Samuel Elias Staples Books

<u>Box #</u>	<u>Folder #</u>	<u>Accession #</u>	<u>Description</u>
1		2013.04.4.1	Album
1		2013.04.4.2	The Thursday Lecture
1		2013.04.4.3	The Ancient Psalmody and Hymnology of New England.