

**SHERMAN (WILLIAM T.) LETTERS**  
(Ms. 1688)  
Inventory

Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections  
Special Collections, Hill Memorial Library  
Louisiana State University Libraries  
Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University

Reformatted 2003  
Revised 2011

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**SUMMARY**

<b>Size.</b>	12 items
<b>Geographic locations.</b>	Vicksburg, Jackson, Mississippi; Galveston, Texas
<b>Inclusive dates.</b>	1863-1905
<b>Bulk dates.</b>	N/A
<b>Language.</b>	English.
<b>Summary.</b>	Letters from General William T. Sherman to W. D. Sanger, a colonel of the Union Army and later a farmer, regarding the war and the post-war period.
<b>Organization.</b>	Arranged chronologically
<b>Restrictions on access.</b>	Original letters housed in the vault are restricted. Use photocopies or digital scans.
<b>Related collections.</b>	David French Boyd Papers. William T. Sherman Letters, Mss. 890, 893, 3362 William T. Sherman Letters Mss. 2378 William T. Sherman Letters, Mss. 3044 William T. Sherman Letters, Mss. 3253
<b>Copyright.</b>	Copyright of the original materials is retained by descendants of the creators in accordance with U.S. copyright law.
<b>Citation.</b>	William T. Sherman Letters Mss. 1688, Louisiana and Lower Mississippi Valley Collections, LSU Libraries, Baton Rouge, La.
<b>Stack locations.</b>	Misc:S; Vault MRDF 12

**BIOGRAPHICAL/HISTORICAL NOTE**

William T. Sherman was a Union Army general during the Civil War. Major W. D. Sanger was an inspector general on Sherman's personal staff in the 15th Army Corps. Sanger was a farmer in Illinois after the war.

**SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

Civil War letters from General William T. Sherman, Headquarters, 15<sup>th</sup> Army Corps near Vicksburg, to Major W.D. Sanger relate to Sherman's recommendation of Sanger for the position of Inspector General. They comment on strategy used during the Siege of Vicksburg; mention efforts to defeat General Joseph E. Johnston at Jackson, Mississippi; condemn Northern pacifist sentiments and the "copperheads"; and mention names and personal qualities of young Federal officers outperforming older, more established men (1863). A broadsheet from Headquarters 15<sup>th</sup> Army Corps, Department of the Tennessee, Camp on Black River, Mississippi, to the officers and soldiers of the 15<sup>th</sup> Army Corps provides an account of the military events before and after the Siege of Vicksburg, Nov. 1862-July 1863 (July 27, 1863).

Reconstruction era letters from Sherman at Headquarters, Military Division of the Mississippi, St. Louis, Missouri, outline William T. and Mrs. Ellen E. Sherman's desire to provide for Sherman's favorite Civil War horse, Old Sam, in his old age; and recommend Sanger to General Winfield Scott Hancock in New Orleans, Louisiana. Two letters (1905) from "Anna," apparently the wife of Sanger, to a relative, H. A. Sanger, relate personal information and offer to send H. A. Sanger her husband's letters from General Sherman (1866-1877).

**CROSS REFERENCES**

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Description of relevant documents</b>
Butler, Benjamin F. (Benjamin Franklin), 1818-1893.	1863	Mentioned in letter from Sherman discussing military abilities, September 16;
Cleveland, Grover, 1837-1908.	1905	Letter denouncing ex-president Cleveland's veto of pension bill, October 15;
Copperhead movement.	1863	Letters condemning northern sentiment favorable to Copperheads and advocating that Copperheads be deprived of voting rights, July 29, September 16;
Frémont, John Charles, 1813-1890.	1863	Mentioned in letter from Sherman discussing military abilities, September 16;
Grant, Ulysses S. (Ulysses Simpson), 1822-1885.	1863	Letter criticizing northerners who opposed the war and who denounced Grant as a drunkard, July 29;
Hunter, David, 1802-1886.	1863	Mentioned in letter from Sherman discussing military abilities, September 16;
Johnston, Joseph E. (Joseph Eggleston), 1807-1891.	1863	Letters stating ignorance of Johnston's strategy and concern as to his movements, June 8; stating Federal advance against Johnston at Jackson, July 29;
McClellan, George Brinton, 1826-1885.	1863	Mentioned in letter from Sherman discussing military abilities, September 16;
Railroads--Mississippi--Vicksburg.	1863	Letter stating the destruction of Southern railroads and resulting weakness of the Confederacy, June 8;
Steele, Frederick, 1819-1868.	1863	Letter mentioning Steele's command of a division at Little Rock and the necessity for a decisive battle at Shreveport or Natchitoches, but stating that the army must await high water before undertaking such a battle, September 16;
Vicksburg (Miss.)--History--Siege, 1863.	1863	Letter commenting upon terrain, strategy used, and divisions participating in siege, June 8; letter relating departure of corps officers at the termination of the siege expressing the opinion that the war would soon end, July 29;

**CONTAINER LIST**

<b><u>Stack</u></b> <b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Folders</u></b>	<b><u>Contents (with dates)</u></b>
Misc:S	1	Photocopies of letters (1863-1905)
Vault MRDF	CD 12	Digital scans of letters
Vault 1	--	<b>RESTRICTED</b> Original letters