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CORNERSTONE

THE NEWSLETTER OF MORRIS LIBRARY • SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY CARBONDALE

Vicksburg @ 150

By Aaron Lisec

After a series of battles and a 47-day siege the strategic river port of Vicksburg, Mississippi, surrendered to Union troops on July 4, 1863. With this strategic victory the Union controlled the Mississippi River and cut the Confederacy in two from east to west.

This Spring the Special Collections Research Center commemorated this milestone with Vicksburg @ 150, an exhibit of photographs and firsthand accounts in the Hall of Presidents and Chancellors. The photographs were taken in April 2013 at the Vicksburg National Military Park, 460 miles south of Carbondale. The accounts come from letters written by southern Illinois soldiers who fought at Vicksburg. These letters (and many more) can be viewed online at "Southern Illinois Civil War."

The Illinois Memorial at Vicksburg National Military Park was designed by William Le Baron Jenney, a Vicksburg veteran and Chicago architect known



The Illinois Memorial

as the father of the skyscraper. Dedicated in 1906, the largest state monument at Vicksburg reflects the sacrifices Illinois made to supply up to a third of the troops who fought in the campaign. The 47 granite steps represent the 47 days of the

siege, while sixty bronze tablets lining the inside walls list all 36,325 Illinois soldiers who contributed to the victory.

Hundreds of Illinois veterans took the Illinois Central up on the special rates offered for the October 1906 dedication. They camped near the military park and listened to Governor Charles S. Deneen of Illinois compare them to Greek heroes of old. And they



Illinois 81st Infantry Memorial

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page: <http://tinyurl.com/4gybkbl>

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Message from the Dean

Exciting changes coming to Morris Library will create new services and spaces for students, faculty, and community members.

As we say goodbye to several faculty and staff, we have searches underway or in the planning stages to fill every position. Adam Loos, a Clerk in Accounting, left on July 5 to attend SIUC Law School. David Schremp of the Systems Office finished on July 15th and Stephanie Graves, Humanities Librarian and Coordinator of Reference and Instructional Services, finished on July 19th. Stephanie is moving to a position at Texas A&M University Libraries. Paul Porter, Library Specialist in Interlibrary Loan, joined his wife on July 30th in Eugene, Oregon, where Arthurina has a new job at the University of Oregon. Paul will seek a position as a professional librarian. Marti Kallal, Library Operations Associate in Circulation Services and Interlibrary Loan, moved to a new faculty position as Head of Access Services at the University Of California—Santa Barbara. Phil Howze, Social Sciences Librarian, will begin serving as Interim Chair of Africana Studies at SIUC on August 8. Congratulations to all of our outstanding employees who are moving on to terrific opportunities. We are extremely proud of and will miss them.

We are excited to welcome Christina Heady as Undergraduate Instruction Librarian in Reference and Instructional Services. Christina joined us on June 4th from Coastal Carolina University in Myrtle Beach, SC. We are currently searching for Liaison Librarians in Fine Arts and Humanities, Science, and two Social Sciences positions. We hope these new faculty will join our team in the early fall of 2013. Finally, Kaari Oberg joined the Administration Office on July 2 as Library Assistant and will coordinate events.

Delyte's Café reopened at the beginning of July managed by the Student Center. It is now a Starbucks and serves Seattle's Best Coffee beverages, other beverages, baked goods, and snacks. A wider menu will be available in the fall, but everyone has been quite pleased with the offerings and service.

A public fax machine that operates by credit card has been installed behind Delyte's near the vending machine room and next to the coin-operated copy machine. We hope to add additional conveniences that will make it easier for students and other users to work productively in Morris Library.

Saluki Tech now provides walk-up account, wireless, and technical support from the north side of the Information Desk on the first floor. Their staff also troubleshoots problems arising with personal devices from the roll-up window on the northwest side of the first floor. The Information Technology walk-in help desk moved from Northwest Annex in January 2013 and cooperates with Reference and Information Services and Library Systems to provide research, information, and technology services for the entire campus. This collaboration is strengthening as time goes on. Saluki Tech will be busy this fall. The new freshman class, projected to increase by more than 15%, will each be issued a Dell Latitude 10 tablet PC with e-texts for their core classes.

Nearly all of the restrooms in Morris have been re-tiled from floor to ceiling. They are quite elegant!

Construction proceeds smoothly on the sixth and seventh floors of the building. Doors have been added on the Reference area side of the staff elevator, so that it can be used as a public elevator to take Math students to the sixth floor for classes and labs once the new floor opens in early 2014.



Anne Cooper Moore, Ph.D.



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The Library Is Seeking ...

\$196 for *ENCYCLOPEDIA OF THE MIND*, edited by HAROLD PASHLER

"This set for college and university students studying cognitive science and related fields is not intended to be a study of the biology of the brain; rather it examines the activities of the mind. Pashler (psychology, Univ. of California, San Diego) won the Troland Award from the National Academy of Sciences for his research in this area. The two- to four-page entries, contributed by a wide range of scholars from across the arts and sciences, cover "topics and perspectives from all the major contemporary disciplines concerned with the study of the mind." Each offers enough information to be useful to those starting to research a topic; the provision of cross references, print and online further-reading suggestions, a short bibliography, and a list of related topics after the articles will allow students to explore the subject in more depth. VERDICT Best for college-level readers seeking information in the fields of cognitive science, philosophy, psychology, and neuroscience." (Choice)



\$169 for *THE OXFORD HANDBOOK OF THE STATE IN THE ANCIENT NEAR EAST AND MEDITERRANEAN*, edited by

PETER FIBIGER BANG AND WALTER SCHEIDEL. The Oxford Handbook of the State in the Ancient Near East and Mediterranean offers a comprehensive survey of ancient state formation in western Eurasia and North Africa. Eighteen experts introduce readers to a wide variety of systems spanning 4,000 years, from the earliest known states in world history to the Roman Empire and its immediate successors. They seek to understand the inner workings of these states by focusing on key issues: political and military power, the impact of ideologies, the rise and fall of individual polities, and the mechanisms of cooperation, coercion, and exploitation. This shared emphasis

on critical institutions and dynamics invites comparative and cross-cultural perspectives. A detailed introductory review of contemporary approaches to the study of the state puts the rich historical case studies in context. Transcending conventional boundaries between ancient Near Eastern and Mediterranean history and between ancient and early medieval history, this volume will be of interest not only to historians but also anthropologists, archaeologists, sociologists, and political scientists. Its accessible style and up-to-date references will make it an invaluable resource for both students and scholars.



\$135 for *ERÔS IN ANCIENT*

GREECE, edited by ED SANDERS, CHIRARA THUMIGER, CHRISTOPHER CAREY, AND NICK LOWE. This edited volume brings together eighteen articles which examine the role of eros as an emotion in ancient Greek culture. Arising out of a conference held at University College London in 2009, the volume ranges from Archaic epic and lyric poetry, through tragedy and comedy, to philosophical and technical treatises and more, and includes contributions from a variety of international scholars well published in the field of ancient Greek emotions.

Taking into account all important thinking about the nature of eros from the eighth century BCE to the third century CE, and covering a very broad range of sources and theoretical approaches, both in the chronological and the generic sense, it considers the phenomenology, psychology, and physiology of eros; its associated language, metaphors, and imagery; the overlap of eros with other emotions (jealousy, madness, philia, pothos); its role in political society; and the relationship between the human emotion and Eros the god. These topics build on recent advances in the understanding of ancient Greek homo- and heterosexual customs and practices,

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visual and textual erotica, and philosophical approaches to eros as manageable appetite or passion. However, the principal aim of the volume is to apply to the study of eros the theoretical insights offered by the rapidly expanding field of emotion studies, both in ancient cultures and elsewhere in the humanities and social sciences, thus maintaining throughout the focus on eros as emotion.

Mary Hegeler Carus

By Christine M. Bleyer

The Hegeler-Carus Family papers held in the Special Collections Research Center at Morris Library reveal the life of an accomplished woman who 77 years after her death remains a role model for girls and women. This article gives an insight into the many facets of her life while highlighting some of the papers, photographs, and artifacts in the Hegeler-Carus Family Papers in SCRC. To tell the story of this pioneering woman engineer we created a traveling exhibit *Petticoats and Slide Rules: The Life of Mary Hegeler Carus*, hosted a salon for middle school girls interested in science and engineering, and held a symposium to celebrate women in engineering and science.

Mary Hegeler Carus was born January 10, 1861, in La Salle, Illinois, the daughter of German immigrants Edward

primary school she attended some form of high school in La Salle, possibly at the La Salle City High School, now the La Salle-Peru Township High School. A notebook marked "High School Department" makes it clear that she was a devoted student who took very detailed notes and was very capable at drawing.

Her trailblazing continued after high school when she attended the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, where she was the first woman to study in the College of Science with a focus on engineering. In 1882, she graduated with a bachelor's degree

Mines she had to have special letters granting permission to be in certain lectures. Mary also had to work in a lab that was separate from the men. Though she completed all of the courses for a master's degree with high marks, she was

not awarded her master's because she was a woman.

In 1888, Mary Hegeler married Paul Carus. He was the managing editor of the Open Court Publishing Company, established in 1887 by Mary's father to serve as a forum for the discussion of

philosophy and religion.

Their first child, Robert, died at birth, but they had six survive to adulthood: Edward Hegeler Carus (1890-1975), Gustave Carus (1892-1961), Paula Carus, (1894-1954), Elisabeth Carus (1896-1991), Herman Carus (1899-1993) and Alwin Carus (1901-2004). A devoted mother, Mary took a strong interest in her children's education. In letters to them she worried about the comfort of their surroundings and wanted them to enjoy life. From letters in the family papers, we see that she was well loved by her children, grandchildren and husband, and that they made an effort to keep her informed about what was going on in their lives.

Mary took on challenges that few women of her era faced. After her father died in 1910 she served as



Young Mary Hegeler



Family on Steps of Mansion in LaSalle-Peru

and Camilla Hegeler. At an early age Mary took an interest in her father's zinc factory. In dress fitting to a young girl of her time, she adjusted the temperature of the zinc smelters and helped her father in any way she could. After

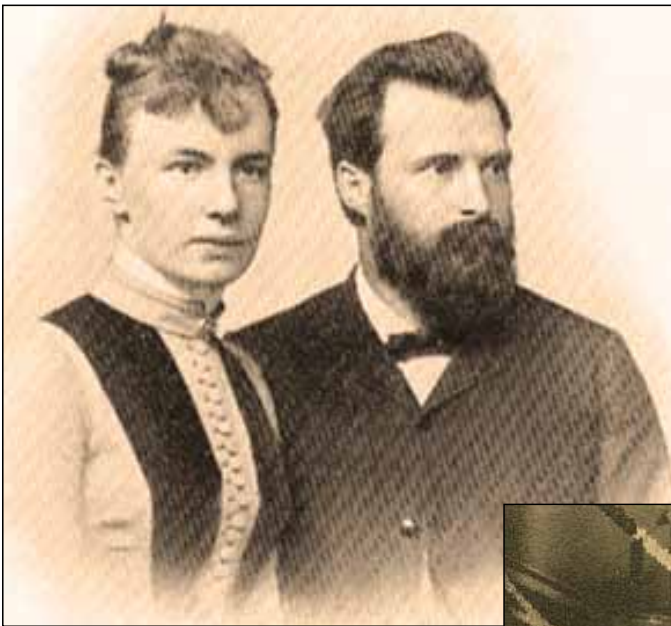
After completing her degree at the University of Michigan, Mary pursued graduate work in engineering at the School of Mines in Freiburg, Germany, where her father Edward had studied thirty years earlier. At the School of

executor of his will and replaced him as plant manager and company president. Most women of her generation turned over their business to their husbands, but Mary did not. Actively involved in managing the company, she refused to sell it to outsiders when her siblings encouraged her to do so. When Paul Carus died in 1919, Mary took over editing and managing *The Monist* and *The Open Court journals* as well as The Open Court Publishing Company. At the Open Court she funded the publication of a series of books, The Carus Mathematical Monographs, aimed at both mathematicians and the general public.

Though busy with research interests, business and family

After a brief illness Mary Hegeler Carus died June 27, 1936. Her devotion to the family business and her personal connection to those who worked for her is demonstrated by the fact that she was carried to her grave by the supervisors at the Matthiessen and Hegeler Zinc Company, who supplied a coffin of the finest zinc. At her funeral, the Reverend Paul Brauns described Mary as “a quiet woman in all her activity: quiet in her natural shrinkage from publicity or any kind of self-advertisement.... Her best and truest eulogy is that she had a vigorous intellect, sustained by lofty purposes and based upon an honest and feeling heart.” (La Salle Daily Post-Tribune, June 29, 1936.)

As Kate Carus explains in her article, “Mary Hegeler Carus, An Accidental Engineer”, Mary did not make a significant technological breakthrough and she was a competent rather than an innovative business manager. “What she did do was very quietly pursue a career that interested her without the benefit of a role model. She became the prototypical “Super Woman”, balancing the needs of career and home.” Mary was a quiet trailblazer who is a great exemplar for us to follow our interests and great loves even though a context may not yet have been created for them.



Paul and Mary Carus

and personal obligations, Mary Hegeler Carus found time for charity work. At the outset of World War I she made sure that every local soldier had a blanket. She gave money, food, and clothes to those who requested them. The letters in the family papers feature requests for items as well as expressions of gratitude. Besides caring for those less fortunate, Mary devoted her energies to promoting education, driven by her desire to see humanity develop most fully. Along with Mrs. George A. Wilson, Sr., Mary established the La Salle Industrial School to train the town's children who would not go on to college.



Mary Hegeler Carus, Alwin (long hair), Paula (bow in hair), Background - Mary Cunningham (baker) & Kate Kelly (maid), unknown man, Herman Carus, (Back of head) Edward Hegeler

\$210 for *ICONS OF THE AMERICAN COMIC BOOK: FROM CAPTAIN AMERICA TO WONDER WOMAN 2 VOLUMES*. Edited by RANDY DUNCAN AND MATTHEW J. SMITH. "Do Spider-Man's adventures consistently reaffirm a belief in the inherent goodness of humanity?" asks this reference, which highlights icons "worshipped and cursed. Obsessed the world over." The cover art on the set's first volume is of Batman while the second shows Spider-Man, together representing the two largest U.S. comic publishers, DC comics and Marvel Comics, respectively. Editors Duncan (communications, Henderson State Univ., AR) and Smith (communication, Wittenberg Univ., OH; coauthor, with Duncan, *The Power of Comics*) explore the cultural influence of comics, moving beyond the striking art, fantastic colors, and word balloons to show "far more meaning and significance within the identities of comic book heroes and characters than it would seem." One hundred substantive and entertaining profiles cover creators such as Alan Moore, Frank Miller, Chris Ware, and the ubiquitous Stan Lee. Alphabetically arranged entries on famous comic and graphic novel titles such as *Watchmen*, *The Sandman*, and *Maus* and landmark publishers such as Dark Horse Comics, Milestone Comics, and EC Comics are also included. Profiled characters like superhero team X-Men, Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles, and Archie reflect the American culture; the set also includes characters who changed fans' opinions about female gender roles—Batgirl and Wonder Woman, for example, who brought toughness as well as sexuality to the genre. While the work includes some images of people and of comic art, for a set covering such a visual medium it is quite text-heavy. **VERDICT** Despite its visual drawbacks, this material will have broad research appeal in public and academic libraries and will also be popular with those who already have an interest in comics." **LIBRARY JOURNAL**

\$ 330 for *BENEZIT DICTIONARY OF ASIAN ARTISTS: 2-VOLUMES*.

The Benezit Dictionary of Asian Artists consists of more than 4,700 entries on artists from throughout Asia, including the Middle East, from antiquity to the present. Most of the articles were selected from the 2006 edition of Benezit, with an additional 100 revised and 50 new articles on contemporary artists selected by Advisory Editor Pamela Kember of the Asia Art Archive and University of London. The artists represent a broad range of media, from traditional ink painting to performance and video art. (Benezit Dictionary of Asian Artists does not include architects and photographers who did not also work in another medium represented in the dictionary's scope.) Entries provide straightforward, concise narratives of the artists' lives and careers, and many entries include bibliographies, auction sale records, exhibition histories, and museum collection holdings. This collection also includes 39 images of artists' signatures.

\$360 for *THE OXFORD ENCYCLOPEDIA OF AMERICAN MILITARY AND DIPLOMATIC HISTORY: 2-VOLUMES*.

By CHRISTOPHER NICHOLS, AND DAVID MILNE, Edited by TIMOTHY J. LYNCH AND PAUL S. BOYER. The Oxford Encyclopedia of American Military and Diplomatic History, a two-volume set, offers both assessment and analysis of the key episodes, issues and actors in the military and diplomatic history of the United States. At a time of war, in which ongoing efforts to recalibrate American diplomacy are as imperative as they are perilous, the Oxford Encyclopedia will present itself as the first recourse for scholars wishing to deepen their understanding of the crucial features of the historical and con-

temporary foreign policy landscape and its perennially martial components.

Entries will be written by the top diplomatic and military historians and key scholars of international relations from within the American academy, supplemented, as is appropriate for an encyclopedia of diplomacy, with entries from foreign-based academics, in the United Kingdom and elsewhere.

The crucial importance of the subject is reflected in the popularity of university courses dedicated to diplomatic and military history and the enduring appeal of international relations (IR) as a political science discipline drawing on both. The Oxford Encyclopedia will be a basic reference tool across both disciplines - a potentially very significant market.



\$169 for *A COMPANION TO THE FRENCH REVOLUTION*,

Edited by PETER MCPHEE. The French Revolution is one of the great turning-points in modern history. Never before had the people of a large and populous country sought to remake their society on the basis of the principles of popular sovereignty and civic equality. The drama, success, and tragedy of their endeavor, and of the attempts to arrest or reverse it, have attracted scholarly debate for more than two centuries.

Why did the Revolution erupt in 1789? Why did it prove so difficult to stabilize the new regime? What factors caused the Revolution to take its particular course? And what were the consequences, domestic and international, of a decade of revolutionary change? Featuring contributions from an international cast of acclaimed historians, *A Companion to the French Revolution* addresses these and other critical questions as it points the way to future scholarship.

An Interview with Christina Heady

In June of 2013 Christina Heady joined the faculty of Morris Library as the Undergraduate Instruction Librarian. Recently the Cornerstone asked her a few questions so our readers would have the opportunity to meet her. When you are next in the library please take the time to visit with Christina.

What is your educational background?

I went to a magnet school for theater and vocal performance, received my Bachelor of Science from Florida State University in Secondary English Education, and finally my Master of Library and Information Science from the University of Michigan.

What library positions did you hold before coming to SIU Carbondale?

My first paid library position was as an Information Literacy Librarian in charge of Outreach at Coastal Carolina University.

What about this position attracted you?

The variety of potential projects, the support of innovation, and the warm environment during my interview were.

What do you hope to accomplish in your first year?

Putting projects aside for a moment, I would have to say that my primary goal is to meet as many people as possible to start making connections across the institution and with the community. I also look forward to revamping the current undergraduate instruction plans and producing more online instructional materials.

What are the initial activities you are working on?

I have just finished an introductory video for the library, through funding from the Friends of Morris Library. The video is now on Morris Library's YouTube page and was prominently featured on the homepage for Set Up for Success and throughout the first month of classes. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9vv1uTouvRE&feature=youtu.be> Additionally, I am currently working on a Copyright project with two colleagues, serving on the Library's Outreach



committee, converting Curriculum and Instruction 199 into an online course, updating the University College tutorials and collaborating on the development of programs related to this year's Common Reader theme.

What about southern Illinois and SIU surprised you the most?

How multifaceted it is. There is so much to discover here! The cuisine, music, nature, and the people never cease to amaze me.

2013 Friends of Morris Library Gala

On Saturday, October 12, 2013 the Friends of Morris Library will host its annual gala. This year the event will be an elegant and enjoyable evening reception. The event includes wine, delicious hors d'oeuvres catered by Mary's of Herrin, live Civil War era music, displays of Civil War artifacts, book signing, and lively talk.

The speaker is Guy R. Hasegawa, Ph.D. Dr. Hasegawa received his B.A. in zoology from the University of California, Los Angeles, and a Doctor of Pharmacy degree from the University of California, San Francisco. After completing a residency in hospital

pharmacy at the University of Illinois at Chicago, he worked as a clinical pharmacist at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor, Michigan, where he also served as Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of Michigan College of Pharmacy. Since 1988, he has worked for the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists in Bethesda, Maryland, as an editor for the American Journal of Health-System Pharmacy. His pharmacy-related publications date back to 1978.

Dr. Hasegawa's research in Civil War medicine has dealt with diverse topics, including pharmacy, medical

purveying, medical cadets, chemical weapons, and artificial limbs. He has published numerous historical articles in scholarly journals and contributed a chapter to the book *Years of Change and Suffering*, which he coedited with James M. Schmidt. His latest book *Mending Broken Soldiers: The Union and Confederate Programs to Supply Artificial Limbs*, was published by the Southern Illinois University Press.

If you would like additional information about the Gala please contact Kristine McGuire at kmcguire@lib.siu.edu or 618-453-1633.

heard Mississippi Governor James K. Vardaman, notorious defender of lynching, reject Deneen's assertion that all men were created equal.

"I used to think one Confederate was worth a dozen Yankees. I sometimes think so yet."

The Vicksburg National Military Park contains more than 1300 monuments and markers, making it one of the most decorated battlefield parks in the world. Besides the state monument, Illinois boasts two of the largest statues in the park. General Logan's sculpture was cast in 1917 and General Grant's in 1918; both were dedicated by Illinois Governor Frank O. Lowden in a ceremony held October 15, 1919. Frederick C. Hibbard, who sculpted Grant, also created the bronze eagle that sits atop the Illinois state monument.



Major General Ulysses S. Grant



Major General John A. Logan

In 1963 Illinois nearly boycotted a centennial ceremony at Vicksburg to protest discrimination against one of its delegation, State Representative Corneal Davis (1900-1995). Born and raised in Vicksburg, Davis witnessed the lynching of a boyhood friend and left



U.S.S. Cairo

Mississippi for Chicago. A World War I veteran, he served Chicago's south side in the General Assembly from 1943 to 1978 and chaired Illinois' 1963 Emancipation Proclamation Commission.

The U.S.S. Cairo was built in 1861 at a shipyard in Mound City, Illinois. One of seven ironclad gunboats designed by James B. Eads to operate on inland rivers, the Cairo saw action at the battle of Memphis in June 1862 and sank without casualties in the Yazoo River above Vicksburg in December

1862. Rediscovered in 1956, the Cairo was raised in 1964, restored, and rebuilt for display at the Vicksburg National Military Park, next to a museum that houses artifacts from the vessel and the crew who served aboard her.

Vicksburg @ 150 also highlights the letters of Edwin Loosley and Joseph Skipworth, both veterans of the campaign. Edwin Loosley (1835-1911) emigrated from England in 1851 and settled in Du Quoin. A baker by trade, he served as cook in the 81st Illinois Infantry and fought in many battles from the Vicksburg campaign through the surrender of Mobile. After the war he moved to Murphysboro where he opened a bakery

and a grocery and later served as city clerk. Edwin is buried in the Murphysboro City Cemetery at 14th and Poplar Streets.

A proficient writer, Edwin described much of the Vicksburg campaign in one long letter to his wife Anne, dated June 1, 1863,

after the Union forces had settled in for the long siege. In this letter Edwin gave a nearly day by day account of the month-long series of battles and maneuvers. Here, he describes the pivotal May 12 encounter at Raymond, Mississippi. "I fired 17 shots that time, and I am sure I made one rebel bite the dust/he was running from the

Vintage Image Corner



Sister Esther Marie kicks a ball during a speedball workshop for junior and senior high school students, July 1962. Speedball is a game that combines Jamaican football and soccer.

woods to the cabin when I went upon the bank, drew a good sight on him fired, and Mr Rebel 'dropped' / there were no other shots fired at the time so I can honestly claim the credit of laying him low / my shot was witnessed by quite a number of our boys, who popped up their heads in sight to warn me of the danger of standing on the bank in full view of the rebels, but there was such a good chance that I thought it was a sin to miss it."



Joseph Skipworth letter written on captured Confederate stationery

The climax of the June 1 letter is Edwin's description of the May 22 Union assault on the Confederate fortifications at Vicksburg. This was the first of two costly, failed attempts to break the Confederate lines, as Grant sought a quick victory. Edwin found himself in the thick of some of the most deadly fighting of the war. "I was to the left of the company and in a few minutes every one in both ranks to my right for 10 yards was hit, the last one of them, leaving me solitary and alone, and company "C." on my left suffered nearly as bad. I would not have given a counterfeit 5 cent piece on the Southern Confederacy for my life one minute, the balls were so thick. I lay there very patiently waiting for the ball to come and do its work, but it did not come though they were all around me. I

could have picked up a hat full of balls without getting up, they hit the ground under me and hit my clothes over me, and several spent balls hit me, but did no damage. / after about ½ the regiment were killed and wounded we were ordered to charge which we did."

In contrast to the British-educated Loosley, Joseph Skipworth was a product of American frontier schooling—barely literate, his letters sometimes written by friends who were hardly more literate than himself. Born in Kentucky about 1828, Joseph Skipworth had moved to Illinois by 1848, when he married Mary Ann Myers in Jackson County. The

the battles of Belmont, Missouri, and Fort Donelson, Tennessee, the Vicksburg campaign, and Sherman's March to the

Sea. Joseph was mustered out in July 1865 in Louisville, and died sometime before December 1866, when Mary Ann remarried. Both are buried in McKinney Hill Cemetery.

Though he undoubtedly saw much hard fighting in

the campaign, Joseph wrote few letters during this time. But he did sit down twelve days after the surrender to let Mary Ann know that he had survived. His letter was written on captured stationery of the Confederate Army Quartermaster's Department. "[N]ow I will let you know that we have got Vicksburg and it is a hard old place / we made them surrender for the[y] was starving / they had nothing to eat but mule meat and negroes be[a]ns and knot half enuf of that / the day before the[y] surrendered they kild seven hundred mules to feed thare army to keep from starving / that must eat very well for the mules was so poor they could not stand alone and that is what I call good eating."

You can read the rest of Edwin Loosley's June 1 letter, along with the all of his and Joseph Skipworth's Civil War correspondence, as part of our Southern Illinois Civil War digital collection. There you will find scans of more than 700 letters from our Civil War collections, offering a glimpse into how the war affected southern Illinois soldiers and their families from training camps in 1861 through to mustering out after the war ended in 1865.



Edwin Loosley



Joseph Skipworth

Skipworths had six children and farmed near Fredonia Post Office, along the border between Jackson and Williamson Counties, just north of present-day Route 13. In September 1861 Joseph enlisted as a private in Company H, 31st Illinois Infantry, commanded by Colonel John A. Logan. He fought in



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