

Massillon Museum Archives

Location: Archives shelves, MSS: Civil War Papers:




Folder “Merwin – Civil War Papers”

Letters: 1861 Nov. 26 - 1865 Jun. 20. 168 items.

Letters during the American Civil War from David P. and George W. Merwin to their parents in Massillon, Ohio, and two received letters. Letters describe a total of 42 battles, including Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Vicksburg, Atlanta, and Savannah. News of Massillon men who fought is also mentioned.

Corporal David and George Merwin both served as in Co. I, 76th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

4 Merwin brothers served in the Civil War.

Photograph	Name	Birth	Age as of Nov 1861	Regiment	Death	Age at death
	William Mason Merwin	May 23, 1831	30	Co. D. 71 st Regiment Indiana Volunteer Cavalry	January 4, 1873	41
	Joseph Kistner Merwin	February 12, 1833	28	Second Lieutenant, Company, E 61st Regiment, Ohio Infantry	May 7, 1929	96
	George Washington Merwin	September 23, 1839	22	Co. I, 76 th Reg, O.V.I.	March 17, 1919	79
	David Pemberton Merwin	December 11, 1842	18	Corporal in Co. I, 76th Regt., Ohio Volunteer Infantry	December 30, 1916	74

Genealogy of the John Plank Merwin family, from the records of Charles Olin Merwin.
Copies of his records are in the 'Clipping Files' (Merwin family, MassMu Archives, as of 2007).

John Plank Merwin, b. 3-25-1808, d. 10-8-1873 (age 65), came to Ohio in 1839.
m. August 1830

Mary Ann Freese, b. 10-28-1809, d. 11-7-1881 (age 72), both are buried Massillon, OH.

John and Mary Merwin had 8 children:

- (1) **William Mason**, b. Norristown, PA
m. 9-26-1852
Lucy Ann Rockwell, b. 11-11-1833, d. 10-28-1884
8 children

The chain to the donor Fred Merwin is through their son Edward Carter (see Merwin genealogy below). William M. enlisted in Co. D, 71st Reg, Indiana Volunteer Cavalry. Served in Co. D 71st Reg., captured with his regiment at Richmond KY, 8-28-1862 and at Muldroes Hill Ky, Jan 1863, after which he was detailed as a clerk in one of the military offices in Indianapolis where he served the rest of his time. He was clerk of the Indiana House of Representatives for one term. He was an accountant. He froze to death in an Indiana Blizzard in 1871. He is buried in Cloverdale, Indiana.

- (2) **Joseph Kistner**, b. Montgomery County, PA
m. 8-25-1858
Emma Misselman, b. 1-9-1836, d. 1-30-1925
3 children

Joseph K. came to Ohio with his parents in 1839. In civilian life he was a printer, learning his trade in 1848 in Massillon



- (3) **Hannah Foalk**, b. 8-3-1835, d. young, buried
Conshohocken, PA.

- (4) **Mary Elizabeth**, b. 6-6-1837, d. age 2 years, Massillon, OH

- (5) **George Washington**, b. New Lisbon, OH.
m. 12-24-1861
Ellen Willison, b. 1844, d. 1-17-1923
2 children.

George W. enlisted in Co. I, 76th Reg, O.V.I. Seriously wounded at the battle of Arkansas Post 1-1-1863. George, his wife and a daughter are all buried in Massillon, Lot 6, Sect 12.



- (6) **David Pemberton**
single, died in Massillon, buried in Massillon.



- (7) **Cynthia Ann**, b. 3-15-1852, d. 7-21-1946 (age 94).
single, buried in Massillon Cemetery, Lot #6, Sect. 6



- (8) **Charles Olin**, b. 10-12-1852, d. Dec 1937
m. 6-22-1875
Alice Kline 8-11-1955 –
one daughter

Charles O. Merwin compiled a complete record of the early genealogy of the Merwin family. The privilege of copying those records was granted in 1957, 20 years after his death. He is buried in Massillon.



Merwin Genealogy - abbreviated version

A document found in the clipping file (Merwin Family clipping file, MassMu Archives, as of Sept. 2007), bears no name of who compiled the document or where the information is from (Probably some of the information is from the genealogy compiled by Charles Olin Merwin). This document starts with the first generation born in America. There is information in the clipping file on earlier generations.

1st Generation

Phillip Mervine, born in Philadelphia Co., PA, 1702, and died in Roxborough County PA, 1789.

2nd Generation

William Mervine, son of Phillip Mervine, lived in Robeson Township, Berks Co., PA. Was married to Christiana Jones of Amity Township, Berks, Co. She was a descendent of Jonas Neilson, a Swede who came to America in 1644. John Mervine, a brother of William Mervine, was a soldier in the Revolutionary War and his son was a midshipman in the War of 1812 and had charge of the Gulf Squadron on the breaking out of the Civil War in 1861.

3rd Generation

Nicholas Mervine, son of William Mervine, was born July 6th, 1782, and was baptized Nov. 10th, 1783, in St. Michel's Protestant Episcopal Church in Douglasville, Berks, Co., PA. Was married to Mary DePlank Aug. 2nd, 1803

4th Generation

John Plank Merwin, son of Nicholas Mervine, was born in Chester Co., PA, March 25, 1808. Was baptized in St. Mary's P.E. Church in Chester Co., PA, and in 1828 was a member of St. Thomas P.E. Church in Morgantown, Berks Co., PA, Dr. Live Bull, pastor. Married Mary Ann Freese, August 1830. Both are buried Massillon, OH. 8 children

5th Generation

William Mason Merwin, son of John P. Merwin, was born in Mountgomery Co., PA, May 23, 1831. Was married to Lucy Rockwell in 1852 by D. B. Wyandt, Esq., at Milton, Ohio, in 1852. Died Jan 4th, 1873, in Gasport, Owen, Ind., and buried in Cloverdale, Ind.

6th Generation

Edward Carter Merwin, son of William M. Merwin, was born November 1, 1864, in Cloverdale, Ind. Was married to Grace Dangler in St. Timothy's P.E. Church, Massillon, OH, December 15, 1887, by the Rev. Edwin Kemp.

7th Generation

Fred Dangler Merwin, son of Edward C. Merwin, born Oct. 15th, 1888, in Massillon, OH. Married Marie McLain October 15, 1913. Fred Merwin donated the Civil War letters to the Massillon Museum.