

Collection #
M 0827

**MARTIN AKEMAN COLLECTION,
1857–1993 (BULK 1857–65)**

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 manuscript box, 2 OVA folders, 1 photograph folder, 1 artifact

COLLECTION DATES: 1857–1993 (Bulk 1857–65)

PROVENANCE: Donated by Mary M. England, Bloomington, IN, 10 December 2001. Items given to donor by a descendant, Florence Belle Kirkpatrick Erbaugh, Delphi, IN.

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2002.0056

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Martin Akeman was born 5 January 1832 in Ohio. He married his wife Hester in 1857 and they had two children, Charles and Catherine.

On 23 December 1863, when he was 31, he enlisted as a sergeant and was mustered into I Company, 131st Indiana Regiment (13th Cavalry). This regiment was organized during the fall and winter of 1863–64, and was the last cavalry organization formed in Indiana. It was mustered in April 1864, left the state, and marched to Nashville where it was given infantry arms and accouterments. Upon arrival in Nashville they were ordered to Huntsville, Alabama on 31 May for garrison duty. There it engaged in several skirmishes with bands of cavalry and on 1 October held their ground against General Buford's entire command. Half of the companies, including Company I, were sent to Louisville to secure new mounts and equipments for the regiment. They were then sent to Paducah to assist in repelling an attack by General Forrest. Having accomplished that, they went back to Louisville and marched to LaVergne, Tennessee to watch Hood's movements. They were cut off and retired to Murfreesboro where they participated in the battles of Overall's creek, Wilkinson's pike and twelve skirmishes.

Sixty-five men were either killed or wounded during their time in Murfreesboro. Martin Akemen was one of the wounded and died of his wounds 19 December 1864. He is buried in Eden Chapel Cemetery, in Hancock County, Indiana.

Sources:

American Civil War Research Database. Duxbury, MA: Historical Data Systems, Inc., 2005 [cited 19 January 2005]. Available from World Wide Web: (<http://civilwardata.com/>)

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Collection consists of correspondence between Martin Akeman and his wife Hester while he was a soldier. There is also correspondence to Akeman before the war and Hester's correspondence after the war. There is a photograph of Akeman, and drawings of both him and his wife. There is a book titled *Union Spelling Book*, genealogical notes, and a school bell used by Ethel Akeman.

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Correspondence to Martin Akeman, 1857–63

Correspondence from Martin Akeman to his wife
Hester, 12 Apr. 1864–8 Jan. 1865

Correspondence, Hester Akeman, 1857–1903

Family tree of Martin Akeman, n.d.

Gift Receipt from Division of Museums & Memorials,
lists items donated by Florence Kirkpatrick Erbaugh, 9
Dec. 1993

*Hancock County, Indiana Tombstone Inscriptions:
One Hundred Years, 1833–1933* (photocopies), n.d.

History of Florence Belle Kirkpatrick Erbaugh
(handwritten), 16 Nov. 1993

Union Spelling Book, n.d.

Martin Akeman in uniform, n.d.

[Portrait of Martin Akeman, drawing, n.d.]

[Portrait of Hester Akeman, drawing, n.d.]

School bell of Ethel Akeman, n.d.

CONTAINER

Box 1, Folder 1

Box 1, Folder 2

Box 1, Folder 3

Box 1, Folder 4

Box 1, Folder 5

Box 1, Folder 6

Box 1, Folder 7

Box 1, Folder 8

Visual Collections:
Photographs, Folder 1

Visual Collections:
OVA Graphics, Folder 1

Visual Collections:
OVA Graphics, Folder 2

Artifacts: R 2244

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog:
<http://opac.indianahistory.org/>
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, M 0827).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.