
ARIZONA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

949 East Second Street
Tucson, AZ 85719

Library and Archives
(520) 617-1157 Fax: (520) 628-5695 azhist@azstarnet.com

MS 563
MORTON, CHARLES, 1846-1914
Papers, 1870-1963

DESCRIPTION

Personal and official correspondence between Morton, Emmet Crawford, Charles Gatewood and others from 1870-1909. Telegrams sent from the field 1883-1885, one manuscript entitled *Historical Sketch of the Third U. S. Cavalry* (38 p.) written by Morton in 1894 and a copy of a speech given by Morton in 1897 entitled *A Boy at Shiloh*. Also includes biographical information concerning Morton and Crawford, and information concerning a monument which Morton had placed on Crawford's grave.

1 Box, .5 linear ft.

ACQUISITION

Donated by Jane Rae Morton, 1958-1963.

ACCESS

There are no restrictions on access to this collection.

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Requests for permission to publish material from this collection should be addressed to the Arizona Historical Society, Tucson, Archives Department.

PROCESSING

The collection was processed by Riva Dean in September 1998.

ARRANGEMENT

One box (.5 linear ft.) arranged by type of material.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

Charles Morton, army officer, was born in Ohio in 1846. He served with the 25th Missouri Infantry in the Civil War. From 1869-1899, he served with the 3rd Cavalry throughout the West, including posts at Ft. Union, New Mexico, Camp Verde, Fort Thomas, Fort Grant and Fort Apache, Arizona. He was promoted to captain at Fort Apache in 1883 and in 1885 moved with his regiment to Texas where he remained during the Geronimo campaign, except that in April 1886, he was detached to return to Arizona to accompany the remains of Capt. Emmet Crawford, 3rd Cavalry, who had been killed by Mexican irregulars in Sonora, to Nebraska. He became major of the 4th Cavalry, September 23, 1898, Lt. Col. of the 11th Cavalry in 1903. He became Brigadier General in 1907 and retired in 1910.

Emmet Crawford (1844-1886), army officer, was born in Philadelphia and served in the Civil War. He was commissioned in November 1864. In 1867, he was appointed second lieutenant of the 39th Infantry, and served in Texas before transferring to the 3rd Cavalry for duty in Arizona. In 1872, the regiment was sent to Nebraska for Sioux operations. In May 1882, he returned to Arizona and engaged in scouting operations. In September 1882, he was named military commander at San Carlos Apache Reservation and was assigned to enlist and train Apache scouts. On May 1, 1882, Crawford accompanied Crook on the pivotal expedition into the Sierra Madre in which they brought back nearly four hundred prisoners. As provost marshal at San Carlos, his job was to keep peace on the reservation. He was transferred to Texas, but returned to Arizona in 1885 when the Geronimo outbreak occurred, and led expeditions into Mexico. In January 1886, Crawford's camp was attacked by Mexican irregulars and Crawford was killed.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection provides insight into the military presence and Apache wars in Arizona in the 1880s. The bulk of the correspondence was received by Morton from Emmet Crawford from 1882-1885 is descriptive of conditions at San Carlos. In addition, Crawford writes from scouting expeditions of efforts to bring the Chiricahuas onto the San Carlos reservation. The correspondence and telegrams describe scouting expeditions which Crawford undertook for Crook in searching for Geronimo. He describes scouting expeditions into Sonora.

One letter from Crawford in 1879, written from Camp Robinson, Nebraska, describes returning from Ft. Yuma and the conditions there. The manuscripts in the collection give a history of the 3rd Cavalry from the Civil War to 1894. The collection also includes correspondence after Crawford's death concerning Morton's efforts to bring his remains back to Nebraska and erect a monument there. Later, in 1908, Morton had Crawford's remains transferred to Arlington National Cemetery. The "Quartermaster Papers" include supply orders for Fort Thomas, Camp Verde, Camp Rawlins, Arizona, Territory, as well as Forts in Nebraska where the 3rd Cavalry was stationed.

Box and Folder Listing

Box 1

Folder 1: General Morton Military Biographical Materials

f.2	Newspaper Articles Regarding Morton	1886/1910/1949
f.3	Newspaper Articles Regarding Crawford	N.D.
f.4	Speech by Charles Morton to New York Commandery of Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States	1897
f.5	Manuscript: "Historical Sketch of the Third United States Cavalry" by Captain Charles Morton	
f.6-13	Morton Correspondence	1875 – 1910
f.14	Correspondence	Undated
f.15-17	Telegrams	1883 – 1885
f.18-22	Quartermaster Papers	1870 – 1892
f.23	Letter (copy) from William A. Morton (Brother of Charles) to John N. Morton from Sidney Barracks, Nebraska	1873
f.24	Military Leave requests, Military Court orders & Adjutant General Directives.	1885 – 1909
f.25	Printed Materials	
	Leavenworth School Class Standing Listing	1886
	Newsletter: "The Retired Men's News"	1931
	Obituary notice for Charles Eldredge Morton and Huldah A. Morton	1906
	Annual Report of Brigadier General George Crook	1884
	Report of the Governor of Arizona to Secretary of the Interior	1883
	Pamphlet: "Estimated Effective Strength of the Union and Confederate Armies, and their Respective Losses During The War of the Rebellion." By Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States	1911
	Banquet Program for General Morton	1908
f.26	Travel Distance Logs	No Date
f.27	MISC Items – Expense Ledger, Notes on Return of Battle Flags	No Dates