

Civil War Records at the Maine State Archives



Heather
Moran

Head of
Archives
Services



WHO WE ARE:

Bureau Under the Secretary of State

- Archives Services and Records Management divisions
- State records: Permanent and Non-Permanent material
- 100 million pages and counting...

WHAT WE HOLD

- Executive
 - Governor's Office
 - Executive Council
- Legislative
 - Enacted Laws of Maine
 - Legislative Graveyard
 - Committee Files
- Judicial
- Other State Agencies



TIMELINE OF MAINE HISTORY

- European exploration
 - Baxter Rare Maps
- Colonization / Revolution
 - Early statehood
 - Land Office surveys
- Expansion (1800-1861)
 - Wabanaki documents
 - African-American history in Maine
 - County Atlases
- Civil War & Reconstruction
- Industrialization & Immigration
 - Alien Registrations 1940
 - Vital Records, Census
 - Trademarks
- Native American policy
 - Indian Affairs & Land Claims
- Emergence of Modern America
 - Suffrage
 - World War I – Present Day



Civil War Collection

One of the most comprehensive collections, including:

More than 3000 photographs online

180,000 + pieces of correspondence

14,700 pages of muster rolls

PRELUDE TO WAR

An Act of Defiance in 51 Feet

To the Legislature of the State of Maine.

THE undersigned, Females of the State of Maine, being deeply grieved at the passage of a resolve, at the late Session of Congress, by the House of Representatives, whereby it was declared:—"That no petition, memorial, resolution, or other paper, praying the Abolition of Slavery in the District of Columbia, or any State or Territory in the United States, in which it now exists, shall be received by this House, or entertained in any way whatever;" and believing said resolve to be an infringement of the Constitution of the United States, and an abridgment of the freedom of speech, and of the right of petition, pray your honorable body to request our Representatives in Congress, to use their utmost influence to have the same rescinded.

We also pray that your petitioners may be heard before a committee of your honorable body, by counsel.

NAMES.

Sally Wilson
 Louisa Mayfield
 Mary Adams
 Mrs M. Hill
 Ann Merrill
 Eliza Bond
 Eliza Gilford
 Elizabeth Burbank

NAMES.

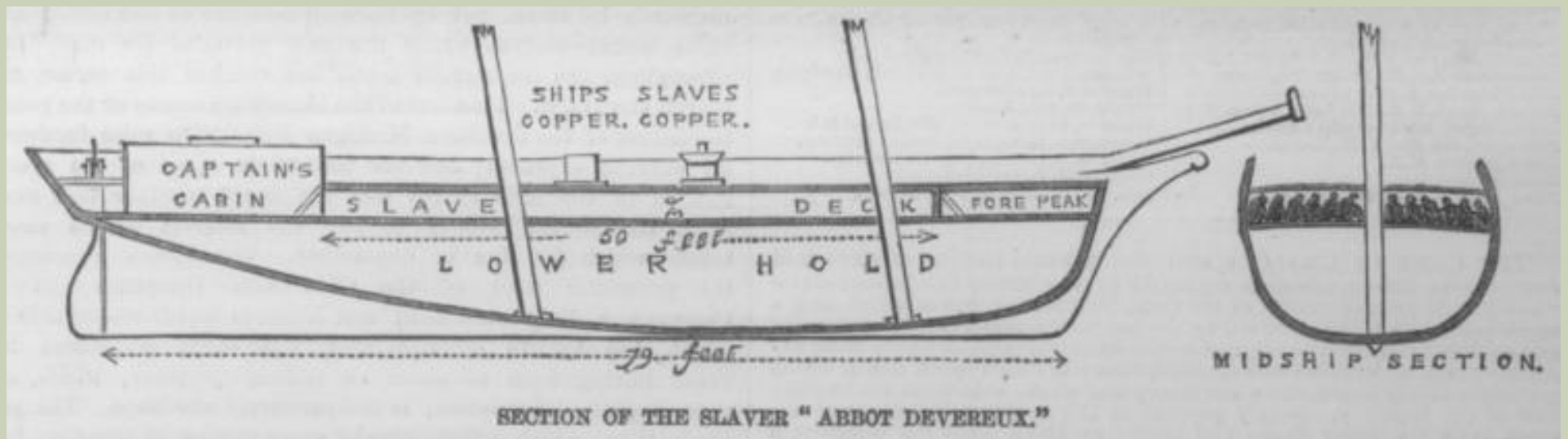
Sarah M. Plummer
 Minerva MacDougal
 Eliza J. Griffin
 Elizabeth Davis
 Mrs H. Silsbee
 Miriam Giles
 Fermana D. Reed
 Elizabeth H. Hayward
 Mrs Elizabeth Bartlett
 Sarah M. Varney

[A collection of numerous handwritten signatures, organized in columns, representing the petitioners mentioned in the document. The signatures are written in various cursive styles and include names such as Sarah M. Plummer, Elizabeth Davis, and many others.]

THE “JULIA AREY”



FREDERICK DRINKWATER



MONEY FLOW = MAINE DEPENDENCY



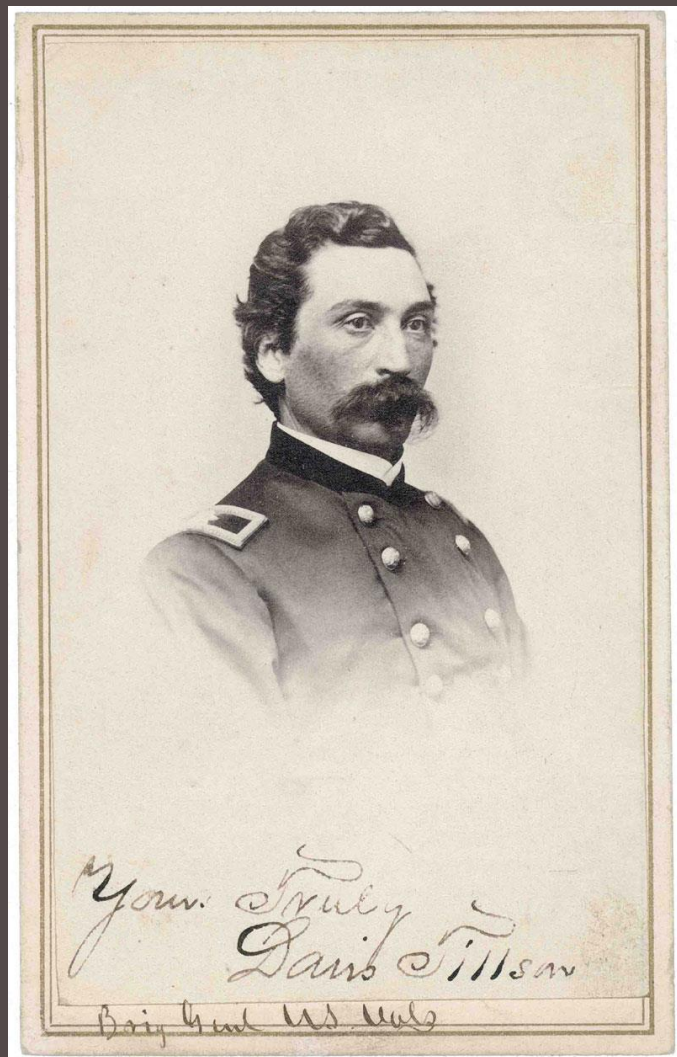
The Civil War wasn't universally supported in Maine, largely because much of the state's shipping industry depended on southern ports.



November
1860

LINCOLN &
HAMLIN
WIN THE
VOTE

“UNPREPARED FOR CONFLICT”



December 1860

Davis Tillson of
Rockland files his
final annual report
as Adjutant General

“...THE UNION
HERETOFORE EXISTING
BETWEEN THIS STATE
AND THE OTHER STATES
OF NORTH AMERICA IS
DISSOLVED...”

South Carolina
Secedes

December 20,
1860

PRESIDENT LINCOLN ISSUES THE CALL

- 75000 troops to restore the union
- Maine = 10 regiments
 - 10 companies
 - 100 soldiers each
- 2nd Maine was the first regiment to leave Maine for the war
- The 1st Maine Infantry Regiment had been delayed by measles



John
Hodsdon
Steps Up

“TOTALLY UNFIT FOR SERVICE IN THE FIELD”



"...[YOUR REPORT] WHICH IN ADDITION TO ITS VALUE FOR PRESENT REFERENCE, MAY IN FUTURE BE OF MATERIAL IMPORTANCE TO THE SOLDIERS IN SECURING THEIR RIGHTS AND DUES FROM THE GOVERNMENT."

"[I] SHALL NOTIFY YOU ... OF THE DEFICIENCY AND WITHHOLD ANY COMMISSIONS AND PROMOTIONS IN YOUR COMMAND, UNTIL THE RETURN IS RECEIVED."

Carrot

&

Stick

"TWISTING, SPOOLING, SPINNING,
DOFFING, AND QUILLING"

WANTED!

120 Girls & Boys!

Owing to the inability of the Mills, to supply the Government with

TENT CLOTH,

(So much needed by our Soldiers now in the field,) as fast as wanted, the
Managers of

THE BATES MILLS,

Have been induced to run their Machinery Extra Time, in order to supply in
part, the wants of the Government, therefore the above number of hands can
obtain employment at the Bates Mills, to do the following work, viz.

Twisting, Spooling, Spinning, Doffing and Quilling. They will be required
to work 9 hours per day.

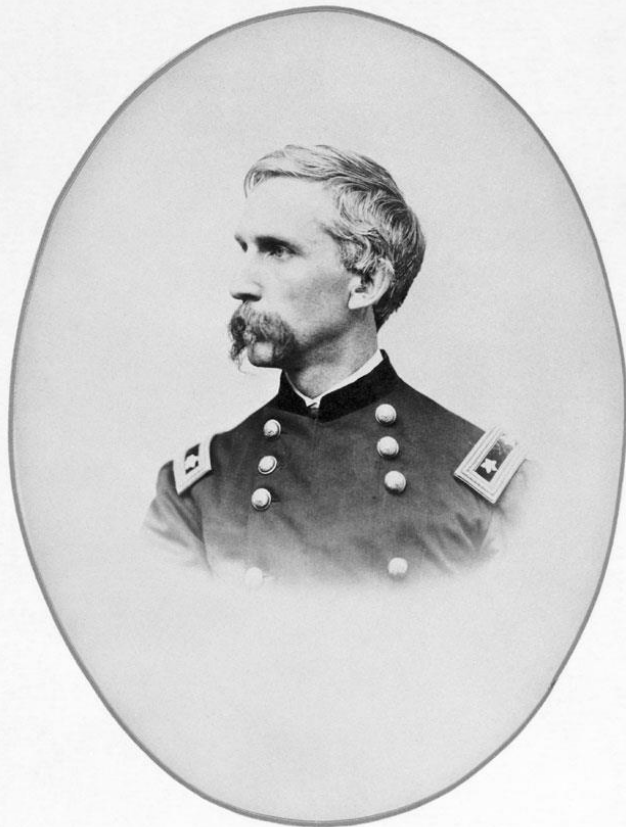
D. M. AYER, Agent.

Lewiston, October 16, 1861.

THE TURNING POINT

July 1863

“FIX BAYONETS”



"After two hours fighting ... our loss had been so great and the remaining men were so much exhausted & having fired all the cartridges we could gather from the scattered boxes of the fallen around us, friend & foe, I saw no way left but to take the offensive & accordingly we charged on the enemy – trying "cold steel" on them"

Head Quarters 20th Maine Vols.
Field near Gettysburg, Pa.
July 6th 1863

Sir,

In compliance with orders from Brigade H. D. D. I have the honor to submit the following Report of the part taken by the 20th Regt. Maine Vols, in the action of July 2^d and 3^d near Gettysburg, Pa.

On reaching the field at about 4 P.M. July 2^d, Col. Vincent commanding the Brigade, placing me on the left of the Brigade and consequently on the extreme left of our entire line of battle, instructed me that the enemy were expected shortly to make a desperate attempt to turn our left flank, and that the position assigned to me must be held at every hazard.

I established my line on the crest of a small spur of a rocky and wooded hill, and sent out at once a company of skirmishers on my left to guard against surprise on that unprotected flank.

These dispositions were scarcely made when the attack commenced, and the right of the Regt. found itself at once hotly engaged. Almost at the same moment, from a high rock which gave me a

force rapidly at the field. Ten on the officers, I taking that over the time making brought the times by ex- terially, and which can time direction for mo- ed their rashed their however over, a

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than ones re, and ceys bought
officers tied small out
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ordered, and le they ord' rightly
the the crest, the
times New cut lized toghts. ward
re- te a shout, with three round
and ex- vance and per- ord of that
which eeling to ll or carried is under
rapid early a t and s in first
for of half their l head.
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w mountain and possessor
these the enemys
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THE HOMEFRONT

List of Soldiers who have died in 2^d Me Cav. Regt. Vols.
from the Arrival of the Regt in New Orleans La to the 8th
day of November 1864.

No.	Names.	Rank	Company	Date of Death	Place of Burial	Remarks & Diseases
1	Keagar Geo. A	P.	C	May ^{1st}	New Orleans	Dysentery
2	Louche A. C.	"	F	" 20	Greenville	do
3	Woodbury Arad.	"	C	" 14	New Orleans	do
4	Neal Isaac	"	H	" 30	Thibodaux	Febris Typhoides.
5	Whitmore Joseph	"	A	June 2	"	Convalescent from fever died of over-eating
6	Leameon Frank R.	S.	H	" 10	"	do do do
7	Coombs Isaac	P.	H.	" 11	"	Febris Typhoides
8	Edwards J. W.	"	A	" 16	"	do do
9	Pottle Theo C.	"	C	" 18	"	do do
10	Brooks D. N.	"	B.	" 19	"	Shot by our pickets, by mistake
11	Woods George G.	"	H	" 20	"	Tuberculosis.
12	Smith Cyrus	"	A	" 21	"	Febris Typhoides.
13	Brand J. H.	Band	H	" 26	"	do do
14	Hyes Abel H.	P.	F	May 26	"	Endocarditis
15	Dean Jacob	"	D	July 3	"	Dysentery
16	Hutchinson John	"	C	" 4	"	Rubeola
17	Gibbs Charles	"	H	" 4	"	Febris Typhoides
18	Kennedy James D.	"	M	" 4	"	Diarrhoea Chronica
19	Hammond Alonzo	"	F	" 5	"	Febris Typhoides
20	Young John	"	H	" 5	"	" Typhomalarialis
21	Wallace J. S.	"	B	" 7	"	" Remittens
22	Hendall Theo. D.	"	D	" 7	"	" Typhoides
23	Brand C. C.	Band	H	" 9	"	" "
24	Siphers Nathan S.	P.	F	" 10	"	" Remittens & Rubeola
25	Bennett G. F.	"	C	" 12	"	Diarrhoea Chron.
26	Young Edwin A.	"	H	" 12	"	Febris Remittens
27	Trask David C.	"	M	" 12	"	" Typhomalarialis.

- In November, Mary Bowen writes to Maine Adjutant General John Hodsdon wanting more information regarding her son's death, and what disease that killed him.

- More than 4,500 Maine soldiers died of disease; another 2,800 died of wounds

THE DREADED DRAFT

By October of 1863, Civil War had raged for two and a half years – longer than anyone had anticipated.

In August, President Abraham Lincoln called for 300,000 more volunteers for the Union army. Maine was expected to provide about 9,000 of that number. Maine Adjutant General John Hodsdon knew that reaching the quota would be difficult.



**IN AT THE
FIRST...**

**Lewis
Mudgett**

**2nd Maine
Infantry,
80th USCT,
86th USCT**

THE COST OF WAR

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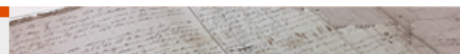
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Open to Collaborate Notice



Our institution is committed to the development of new modes of collaboration, engagement, and partnership with Indigenous peoples for the care and stewardship of past and future heritage collections.

For more more information about this notice, please [read more at Local Contexts](#)

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1st Battalion, Light Artillery and descriptive rolls, 1st 2nd and 3rd Batteries 31-43	5th Infantry, descriptive rolls, Companies G-K and Recruits page 1661-1977	11th Infantry, enlistment rolls, Band and Companies A-E page 2993-3000	17th Infantry and monthly returns Oct 1863-Aug 1864 page 4797-4807	28th Infantry and enlistment rolls page 5877-5893
1st Battalion, Light Artillery and descriptive rolls 4th-7th Batteries page 44-64	5th Infantry, muster and descriptive rolls of Recruits page 1688-1701	11th Infantry, muster and descriptive rolls of Recruits page 3074-3085	17th Infantry and monthly returns Sep 1864-May 1865 page 4808-4817	28th Infantry and enlistment rolls page 5894-5910
1st Battalion, Light Artillery and muster-in page 97-109	5th Infantry, muster and descriptive rolls of Veterans page 1702-1719	11th Infantry, muster and descriptive rolls of Veterans page 3086-3101	17th Infantry and muster-in rolls of Officers (cont) page 4775-4786	28th Infantry and miscellaneous returns page 5935-5942
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**WHAT QUESTIONS DO
YOU HAVE?**

Heather Moran is the Head of Archives Services at the Maine State Archives. She has been a knowledge caretaker for almost 20 years.

Former president of the Association of Maine Archives & Museums, Heather is the co-chair of the NEA Teaching with Primary Sources Roundtable.

In her dwindling spare time, she is a nomad and trail sprite, usually found wandering where the wild things are.

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