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Robert P. York Collection of P. G. T. Beauregard Papers4079511

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Description is written in: English.

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Book and Manuscript Library

Butler Library, 6th Floor
Columbia University, Mail Code 1127
535 W. 114th St.
New York, NY 10027

Business Number: (212) 854-5153

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rbml@libraries.cul.columbia.edu

URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Rare Book and Manuscript Library
Creator:	Beauregard, G. T (Gustave Toutant), 1818-1893
Creator:	York, Robert P
Title:	Robert P. York Collection of P. G. T. Beauregard Papers
ID:	4079511
ID:	MS#0092
Date [inclusive]:	1860-1865
Physical Description:	1 linear feet 2 manuscript boxes
Language of the Material:	English .
Abstract:	A group of documents belonging to Confederate General P. G. T. Beauregard, which were captured by Lieutenant Colonel Robert P. York of the 75th New York Volunteers in the spring of 1865. The collection also contains letters and documents by and about York.

Preferred Citation

Identification of specific item; Date (if known); Robert P. York Collection of P. G. T. Beauregard Papers; Box and Folder; Rare Book and Manuscript Library, Columbia University Libraries.

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Biographical notes

Robert P. York (1835-1887) was an officer in the Union Army who led the 75th New York Volunteer Infantry during the last months of the American Civil War. York joined the 75th New York upon his promotion to lieutenant colonel in December of 1864. He entered service as a first lieutenant, and was promoted to captain in the 114th New York Volunteers in 1862. He then served as a mustering officer in the 19th Army Corps, Army of the Shenandoah. He was wounded at Winchester, Virginia on September 19, 1864.

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Biographical / Historical

In January 1865, the 75th New York Volunteers were ordered to Savannah, Georgia, with York in command. Their orders were to hold the city conquered by General Sherman while his army continued its progress through the South. After the Confederacy was defeated, the regiment remained in Savannah for most of the summer, carrying out law enforcement and judicial activities. Lt. Colonel York was assigned the duties of district provost marshal and was responsible for hearing all civil suits in the district of Savannah. His headquarters was located at the Planters Bank.

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Biographical / Historical

On May 14, 1865, Jefferson Davis, Alexander Stevens, Joseph Wheeler, and C. C. Clay were captured by General James H. Wilson. Lt. Colonel York escorted the prisoners and a large stash of gold and silver bullion, Confederate government documents, and correspondence with which they had been apprehended from Augusta, Georgia to Savannah. The cash and other valuables were transferred to the United States government, but it is likely that York was permitted to keep some of the correspondence.

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Biographical / Historical

York was born in the village of DeRuyter, New York on September 6, 1835, to Denison and Loriania Thompson York. He married Cynthia E. Frink in 1857; they had one child, Lilla, in 1867. York served as village clerk from 1859 through 1861. After the Civil War, he returned to DeRuyter, where he opened a dry goods and clothing business in 1876 and served as village treasurer in 1880. He remained in DeRuyter until his death on February 20, 1887.

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Biographical / Historical

Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard (1818-1893) was a military officer who became the first brigadier general in the Confederate States Army during the American Civil War. He was born on a sugar plantation outside of New Orleans, Louisiana, to a French Creole family, and educated at the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York. He served as an engineer in the Mexican-American War, where he proved to be a skilled military leader.

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Biographical / Historical

During the Civil War, Beauregard was responsible for a series of early Confederate victories in the harbor of Charleston, South Carolina, as well as the first Battle of Bull Run (1861) and at Petersburg (1864), both in Virginia. His armies were defeated by Union forces at Shiloh, Tennessee (1862); Corinth, Mississippi (1862); and Bentonville, North Carolina (1865). He and General Joseph E. Johnston surrendered to Union General William T. Sherman outside of Durham, North Carolina on April 26, 1865.

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Biographical / Historical

After the war, Beauregard led a pair of railroad companies and promoted the Louisiana State Lottery. He was active in the Reform Party, a group of conservative New Orleans businessmen who opposed federal taxation and sought to unseat the Radical Republicans in the Louisiana legislature. He also continued a long-standing personal feud with Jefferson Davis in various national publications. He died in New Orleans in 1893.

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Scope and Contents

Letters, official orders, documents, clippings, stereographs, and memorabilia associated with the career of Confederate General Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard (1818-1893), including

many autograph letters and signatures of Confederate leaders. Most of these papers were captured in the spring of 1865 and remained in the keeping of Lieutenant Colonel Robert P. York (1835-1887) of the 75th New York Volunteers, and, since his death, of his direct descendants.

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Scope and Contents

The collection also contains letters and documents by and about Robert P. York during his service in the Union Army. These materials primarily date from January through August 1865. York spent these months in Savannah, Georgia, in command of the 75th New York Volunteers, who held the city in the last months of the American Civil War and then carried out law enforcement and judicial duties. York served as provost marshal of the Savannah district in the summer of 1865 and was responsible for hearing all civil suits in the district of Savannah.

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Arrangement

This collection is arranged in two series. Selected materials cataloged; remainder arranged.

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Administrative Information

Publication Statement

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URL: <http://www.columbia.edu/cu/lweb/indiv/rbml/index.html>

Restrictions on Access

This collection is located on-site.

Restrictions on Access

This collection has no restrictions.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Source of acquisition--Whitford, Dr. R.C. Method of acquisition--Purchase; Date of acquisition--1954. Accession number--M-54.

Ownership and Custodial History

The papers were captured in 1865 by Col. R. P. York, 75th New York Volunteers, and passed on to his descendants.

Processing Information

Cataloged Christina Hilton Fenn 09/--/89.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

Reproductions may be made for research purposes. The RBML maintains ownership of the physical material only. Copyright remains with the creator and his/her heirs. The responsibility to secure copyright permission rests with the patron.

Processing Information

Materials were intellectually arranged into two series at the same time the finding aid was converted to EAD. Biographical notes were also added. Nothing in the collection was physically rearranged.

Processing Information

This collection was formerly called the G. T. Beauregard papers. The title was changed in May 2020 to better comply with DACS rules, and to emphasize the extent to which the collection is also composed of York's papers.

Accruals

Materials may have been added to the collection since this finding aid was prepared. Contact rbml@columbia.edu for more information.

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Related Materials

Separated Materials

All books and runs of newspapers have been removed for cataloging.

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Controlled Access Headings

- United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
- Confederate States of America -- History
- Stereographs
- Orders (military records)
- Armies -- Officers
- Soldiers -- United States
- Georgia -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865
- Savannah (Ga.) -- History
- United States. Army. New York Infantry Regiment, 75th (1861-1865)

Collection Inventory

Series I: Cataloged correspondence

Title/Description	Instances
Annable, Captain T. H.	box 1
Balch, George T.	box 1
Barker, Captain George	box 1
Beauregard, Richard Toutant	box 1
Benedict, Judge M.	box 1
Binger, Assistant Adjutant General W. H.	box 1
Bragg, Braxton	box 1

Breck, Samuel	box 1
Brown, Jack	box 1
Cohen, Henriette	box 1
Cooley, Sam A.	box 1
Dannenfelser, Margaret	box 1
A Daughter of Charleston	box 1
Dillon, David R.	box 1
Doty, L. L., Chief of Bureau	box 1
Emory, William H.	box 1
Ewell, Richard Stoddart	box 1
Fitts, James	box 1
French, E. B.	box 1
Gillmore, Quincy Adams	box 1
Gilmore, James R.	box 1
Good, Colonel T. H.	box 1
Gozse, Lieutenant Frank	box 1
Hampton, Wade	box 1
Hayes, J. E.	box 1
Heiss, W. H.	box 1
Hodge, A. M.	box 1
Hoffman, William	box 1
Hood, John Bell	box 1
Howard, Dr. J. G.	box 1
Hubbard, Lieutenant N. H.	box 1
Hutchins, C/B.	box 1
Johnston, Joseph Eggleston	box 1
Ketchum, William Scott	box 1
Lee, Robert Edward	box 1
Littlefield, General M. S.	box 1
Lovell, Mansfield	box 1
McLaws, L.	box 1
Moses, R. J.	box 1

Neafie, Alfred	box 1
Obear, George S. & E. J. Johnston	box 1
Oliver, Daniel	box 1
Pellet, E. P.	box 1
Rattin, George	box 1
Roberts, Herman	box 1
St. John, J. M.	box 1
Seward, William Henry Jr.	box 1
Sherwood, W. H.	box 1
Shorter, John Gill	box 1
Slidell, John	box 1
Slocum, Henry Warner	box 1
Smith, Gustavus Woodson	box 1
Smith, L.	box 1
Soule, Pierre	box 1
Spicer, E.	box 1
Sturgeon, Captain Sheldon	box 1
Thompson, Lieutenant Colonel Benjamin W.	box 1
Townsend, E. D.	box 1
Vincent, Thomas M.	box 1
Walker, Duncan S.	box 1
Washburn, Mrs. W. P.	box 1
Wetter, A. C. T.	box 1
Wilkinson, Robert F. (Major)	box 1
Wilson, Joseph Z.	box 1
Woodford, Lieutenant Colonel Stewart L.	box 1
Yift, W. O.	box 1
York, Robert P.	box 1

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Series II: Arranged documents and other materials

Title/Description	Instances
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Ainsworth, F. L.	box 2
Beauregard, P. G. T.	box 2
Benedict, M.	box 2
Blunt, Ellen Key (of Maryland)	box 2
Broadside: Rules and Regulations	box 2
Court Cases from Provost Court of Savannah, Ga.	box 2
Department of the Gulf Headquarters	box 2
Department of the South Headquarters	box 2
District of Savannah, Ga., Headquarters	box 2
Ettleson, B.	box 2
First Division Headquarters	box 2
Fordham, E. H.	box 2
French, E. B.	box 2
Georgia Volunteers	box 2
Grover, G.	box 2
Hersch, Hermann	box 2
King, John B.	box 2
List of furniture remaining in house of Dr. Howard	box 2
Map of New York City	box 2
Mathew, David	box 2
McGinness, John R.	box 2
Meagher, Daniel	box 2
Merritt, Robert B.	box 2
New York, Northern Division, Headquarters	box 2
New York Volunteers	box 2
Nineteenth Army Corps, Louisiana, Headquarters	box 2
O'Brien, William D.	box 2
Pellet, E. P.	box 2
Provost Judge, Office of	box 2
Rife, Joseph B.	box 2
Ripley, James W.	box 2
Rousseau, Mary A.	box 2

Savannah, Ga.	box 2
Smith, Elisha B.	box 2
Smith, Gustavus Woodson	box 2
Smith, James E.	box 2
Spencer, Thomas S.	box 2
Stone, A. N.	box 2
Walker, Levi P.	box 2
War Department, Adjutant General's Office	box 2
Whitcomb, James L.	box 2
York, Robert P.	box 2
Miscellaneous	box 2
<u>Physical Description</u> : 4 folders	
Stereographs	box 2
Newspaper Clippings	box 2
<u>Physical Description</u> : 18 folders	

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