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MS 973**GODFREY, EDWARD SETTLE, 1843-1932
GODFREY PAPERS, 1896-1898****DESCRIPTION**

The Godfrey papers consists of 32 letters from Edward Settle Godfrey to his son, Edward (Ted) Settle Godfrey, Jr. while Ted was at West Point. The first three folders contain letters written from Fort Apache and the last from Fort Duchesne, Utah. The letters are written from 1896-1898. The letters from father to son give advice on the moral code and discipline required of an officer, military life at Fort Apache, gossip concerning the fort's officers and confrontations with the Zuni Indians. The father coaches his son on the values of good study habits but the letters reveal that the son eventually loses his appointment. In the letters from Fort Apache, Major Godfrey reports on the poor morale at Fort Apache and he criticizes the competence of his commanding officers.

1 Box, .25 linear feet

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Edward Settle Godfrey was born in Ohio in 1843. He enlisted in 1861 and then went to West Point and after graduation was commissioned a second lieutenant in 1867 stationed at Fort Harker, Kansas. He made first lieutenant after one year. He served in the southeast between 1871-73 and then went out to the upper Plains in 1874. He was with Benteen at the Little Big Horn and wrote "Custer's Last Battle" which appeared in *Century* magazine in January 1892. In 1890 Godfrey took part in the battles of Wounded Knee and Drexel Mission, South Dakota. In 1897, he was in Arizona and New Mexico and later served in Cuba and the Philippines. He was promoted to Brigadier General and retired in 1907. When he died at Cookstown, New Jersey, he was believed to be one of the last two survivors of the Little Big Horn fight. His diary and papers are at the Library of Congress.

Edward Settle Godfrey, Jr. (1878-1960) attended the U. S. Military Academy from 1896-1897 and received a medical degree from the University of Virginia in 1900. He practiced medicine in Bisbee from 1903-1908 and then moved to Phoenix where he was Superintendent Of Public Health in Phoenix from 1908-1912 and Superintendent of Public Health for Arizona from 1912-1915. He moved to New York in 1915 where he served as New York Health Commissioner 1936-47. He died in 1960.

ACCESS

There are no restrictions on this collection.

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PROCESSING

The collection was processed around 1980; the finding aid was completed by Riva Dean, Library/Archives Co-Manager in May 1997.

INVENTORY

- Folder 1: Letters from Fort Apache, March -May 1896
- Folder 2: Letters from Fort Apache, September -December 1897
- Folder 3: Letters from Fort Apache , January-April 1898
- Folder 4: Letters from Fort Duchesne, Utah May-June 1898
- Folder 5: Newspapers clippings concerning medical procedures