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### 0168: George Hechler Correspondence, 1861-1865

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**George Hechler Correspondence, 1861-1865**

ACC 1976/12.0168



Special Collections Department  
James E. Morrow Library  
Marshall University  
Huntington, West Virginia  
2019

## George Hechler Correspondence, 1861-1865

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### Summary:

Title: George Hechler Correspondence

Span Dates: 1861-1865

Creator: George Hechler

Repository: Marshall University Special Collections, Morrow Library (Huntington, WV)

Processed by: Elizabeth James, 2019

Accession Number: 1976/12.0168

Date Completed: August, 2019

Access to Collection: Open

Extent: 0.25 feet, approximately 100 items

Donor: Dr. Kenneth Hechler

### Search Terms:

Civil War

Letters

George Hechler

John Hechler

Kate Hechler

### Biographical Notes:

George Hechler was born in Schwaigern, Germany, and came to America in 1854. He settled in Marietta, Ohio, and enlisted in the 36th Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment of the Union Army in Parkersburg, West Virginia, then Virginia. He fought in a number of engagements and was wounded at Antietam. His younger brother, John Hechler, fought in the same regiment and was captured at Chickamauga and died in Andersonville prison in Georgia in September 1864. Both had an older sister, Kate, to whom George is writing. After the Civil War George moved west to Missouri and settled in Dalton in Chariton County where he operated a large farm. George Hechler is the grandfather of Kenneth Hechler, West Virginia representative and secretary of state for decades.

Engagements by the 36<sup>th</sup> Ohio include:

Lewisburg	Cloyd's Mountain
Second Bull Run	Second Kernstown
South Mountain	Berryville
Antietam	Opequon
Chickamauga	Fisher's Hill
Brown's Ferry	Cedar Creek
Missionary's Ridge	Hoover's Gap

Four officers and 136 enlisted men died in battle or of wounds, and 163 of disease before being mustered out on July 27, 1865.

## Bibliography

For information about the Hechler family:

Hechler, Ken. Soldier of the Union: Private George Hechler's Civil War Service. Pictorial Histories Pub., 2011.

For information about the 36<sup>th</sup> Ohio:

Civil War Archive: <http://www.civilwararchive.com/Unreght/unohinf3.htm#36thinf>

## **Scope and Content:**

This collection is primarily composed of letters from George Hechler to his sister Kate Hechler during his service in the 36<sup>th</sup> Ohio Volunteer Infantry in the Civil War. The letters discuss George's experience in the Civil War, covering camp life at Parkersburg and Summersville, to the battlefields of Lewisburg, Antietam, Chickamauga and others. All letters include typescript transcriptions of the text in separate folders, and one letter includes a piece of printed ephemera as an enclosure.

Also included in this collection are three Civil War era envelopes kept by Kate, a single letter to Kate from Jacob Salat regarding her brother's death at Andersonville prison, discharge and promotion documents for George, one letter from John to Kate, and typescript copies of articles published by Ken Hechler in The Parkersburg News regarding the letters sent from George.

Additionally, one folder of four additional letters and envelopes from John and George to their family was found misplaced in accession 0777 of the Ken Hechler papers and added to this collection.

## **Processing Notes:**

This collection was already processed at the time the finding aid was created.

## **Preferred Citation:**

George Hechler Correspondence, Accession No. 1976/12.0168, Special Collections Department, Marshall University, Huntington, WV.

## **Access and Use:**

For more information or to use any collection, contact:

Special Collections, Morrow Library

Marshall University

One John Marshall Drive

Huntington, WV 25755

(304) 696-2343

[speccoll@marshall.edu](mailto:speccoll@marshall.edu)

**Container****Contents**

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**Box 1**

Folder	George Hechler Letters, 1861
Folder	George Hechler Letters, 1862
Folder	George Hechler Letters, 1863
Folder	George Hechler Letters, 1863
Folder	George Hechler Letters, 1864
Folder	George Hechler Letters, 1865
Folder	Enclosure from Letter of Nov. 18, 1863
Folder	Discharge and Officer Promotion to Corporal Documents
Folder	Additional letters from John and George, misplaced into Acc. 0777
Folder	John Hechler letter and transcription, 1862
Folder	Letter to Kate from Jacob Salat regarding John's death
Folder	Kate's Civil War Envelopes
Folder	Transcriptions of George Hechler Letters, 1861
Folder	Transcriptions of George Hechler Letters, 1862
Folder	Transcriptions of George Hechler Letters, 1863
Folder	Transcriptions of George Hechler Letters, 1864
Folder	Transcriptions of George Hechler Letters, 1865
Folder	Article about George Hechler's Civil War Experience