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John Hunt Oley Letter, 1871

ACC 1969/02.0186



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

John Hunt Oley Letter

Summary:

Title: John Hunt Oley Letter

Span Dates: 1871

Creator: John Hunt Oley

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

Processed by: Elizabeth James, 2019

Accession Number: 1969/02.0186

Date Completed: August, 2019

Access to Collection: Open

Extent: 1 folder

Donor: Purchase

Search Terms:

Letters

Huntington, West Virginia

Biographical Notes:

General John Hunt Oley (September 24, 1830-March 11, 1888) was one of Huntington's first prominent citizens. He was born in Utica, New York. At the outset of the Civil War, Oley served with the 7th Regiment of the New York National Guard. He was one of six New Yorkers sent to Western Virginia to drill troops following a request by Francis Pierpont, governor of Reorganized or Unionist Virginia. In the fall of 1861, Oley organized the 8th (West) Virginia Infantry, which would later become the 7th West Virginia Cavalry. He was promoted to colonel in 1863, and was made a brevet brigadier general in 1865.

After the war, Oley lived in Charleston and was appointed internal revenue collector for West Virginia. In 1871, he moved to the fledgling community of Huntington, where he was employed by railroad baron Collis P. Huntington as an agent for the Central Land Company. Oley also was elected recorder and treasurer of Huntington and was instrumental in the formation of Trinity Episcopal Church. Oley was buried in Spring Hill Cemetery in Huntington. A monument marking his grave was paid for through contributions by the citizens of Huntington.

Geiger, Joe "John Hunt Oley." e-WV: The West Virginia Encyclopedia. 08 December 2015. Web. 29 August 2019.

Scope and Content:

This collection contains a letter written to George Payne of Covington, Virginia, on September 21, 1871 describing Huntington in its first year of development. Also included is a transcription and a 1977 article in the Huntington Advertiser about the letter.

Processing Notes:

This collection was already processed prior to the creation of the finding aid.

Preferred Citation:

John Hunt Oley Letter, Accession No. 1969/02.0186, 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

Container**Contents**

Box 1

Folder

Oley, John Hunt