

Guide to the Charles M. Trask Papers, 1862-1864

Administrative Information

Title and Dates:

Charles M. Trask Papers, 1862-1864

Repository:

New Hampshire Historical Society
30 Park Street
Concord, NH 03301
603-228-6688
nhhistory.org

Collection Number:

2025.058

Author of Finding Aid:

Jay Lewis

Creator:

Trask, Charles M., 1836-1891

Language:

The materials in this collection are in English.

Extent:

1 box ; 0.21 linear feet

Abstract:

Charles M. Trask was born in Brookfield, VT, on November 30, 1836, to William and Sarah Mitchell (Clark) Trask. Prior to the Civil War, he resided in Stewartstown, NH, where he was a medical student. On January 6, 1861, Trask mustered into Company D of the 5th New Hampshire Infantry. The collection consists primarily of his Civil War–era correspondence, which documents military engagements, commanding officers, and troop movements, as well as medical practice and disease among soldiers. During the period covered by the letters, the 5th New Hampshire Infantry participated in major engagements including Fair Oaks, Malvern Hill, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, and Deep Bottom. The collection also includes later research materials related to the 5th New Hampshire Infantry, soldiers referenced in Trask’s correspondence, and the work of Civil War surgeons.

Access and Use

Acquisition Information and Provenance:

The Charles M. Trask Papers were a gift of Hugh and Elizabeth Dubrulle in 2025.

Processing Information:

This collection was processed by Jay Lewis in December 2025. The finding aid was written by Jay Lewis in December 2025. This finding aid follows the standards set-forth by *Describing Archives: A Content Standard*.

Access Restrictions:

Available for research.

Location:

The collection is housed at the New Hampshire Historical Society in Concord, New Hampshire.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements:

The materials in this collection are paper based and have no special technical requirements for use.

Copyright/Conditions Governing Use:

For permission to reproduce or publish materials from this collection, please contact the New Hampshire Historical Society. Users are responsible for following all copyright and intellectual property laws.

Preferred Citation:

Item title, Charles M. Trask Papers, 2025.058. New Hampshire Historical Society, Concord, NH.
Date accessed.

Collection Overview

Biographical Information:

Charles M. Trask was born in Brookfield, VT, on November 30, 1836, to William and Sarah Mitchell (Clark) Trask. Trask started studying medicine in 1857, under a young doctor named Oscar Worthley who lived in Stewartstown, NH, and he later attended lectures at the University of Vermont, from which he received a medical degree in June 1861. On January 6, 1861, he mustered into Company D of the New Hampshire 5th Infantry as a private. During Trask's service, the New Hampshire 5th Infantry were engaged in the battles of Fair Oaks, Malvern Hill, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, and Deep Bottom. Trask was promoted to Hospital Steward on February 2, 1863, and later to Assistant Surgeon on June 1, 1863. He was discharged from service on December 27, 1864. Following the war, Trask resided in White River Junction, VT. He married Lewellen Morrison in 1866; she died in 1869. In 1882, he married Susie Stimpson. Trask died in White River Junction, VT, on June 27, 1891.

Collection Scope and Content Note:

The Charles M. Trask Papers, 1862-1864, consist of the Civil War letters of Assistant Surgeon Charles M. Trask during his time with the New Hampshire 5th Infantry Regiment. The letters in the collection cover battles, generals, and troop movements, as well as medical and disease content. During the period of these letters (February 23, 1862 to December 4, 1864), the 5th Infantry were engaged in the battles of Fair Oaks, Malvern Hill, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Cold Harbor, Petersburg, and Deep Bottom. The collection also includes later research materials related to the 5th New Hampshire Infantry, soldiers referenced in Trask's correspondence, and the work of Civil War surgeons. There are two letters by unidentified writers.

Arrangement:

The materials in this collection are organized chronologically.

Contents List**Box 1**

Folder 1	Correspondence, 1862 February-April
Folder 2	Correspondence, 1862 August-December
Folder 3	Correspondence, 1863 March-September
Folder 4	Correspondence, 1863 October-December
Folder 5	Correspondence, 1864 January-June
Folder 6	Correspondence, 1864 July-December
Folder 7	Miscellaneous correspondence, undated
Folder 8	Correspondence transcriptions, 1862 February-April
Folder 9	Correspondence transcriptions, 1862 August-December
Folder 10	Correspondence transcriptions, 1863 March-September
Folder 11	Correspondence transcriptions, 1863 October-December
Folder 12	Correspondence transcriptions, 1864 January-June
Folder 13	Correspondence transcriptions, 1864 July-December
Folder 14	Charles M. Trask Papers information
Folder 15	New Hampshire 5 th Regiment research
Folder 16	"The Civil War Army Surgeon and His Work"
Folder 17	Point Lookout research
Folder 18	Soldiers mentioned in Charles Trask Civil War letters

Subject Terms**People:**

Blake, Benjamin Y., 1824-
Bucknam, John Wingate, 1833-1870
Butler, Benjamin F. (Benjamin Franklin), 1818-1893
Child, William, 1834-
Crafts, Welcome A., 1835-1891
Cross, Edward E., 1832-1863
Cross, Richard E., -1894

Foster, John G. (John Gray), 1823-1874
Graham, William A.
Hammond, William A. (William Alexander), 1828-1900
Hancock, Winfield Scott, 1824-1886
Harriman, Walter, 1817-1884
Heard, William Andrew, 1827-1901
Hilliard, Henry S., 1837-1905
Hincks, Edward Ward, 1830-1894
Howard, Oliver O. (Oliver Otis), 1830-1909
Jackson, Milton S., -1892
Johnson, Daniel, 1844-
Knight, Edwin Augustus, 1843-1910
Knight, Luther M., 1810-1887
Liscomb, Charles F., 1842-1864
Marston, Gilman, 1811-1890
McClellan, George B. (George Brinton), 1826-1885
Merrow, James M., 1835-1870
Mooar, Jacob Washington, 1831-1905
Newman, Thomas, -1862
Smith, Norman
Trask, Charles M., 1836-1891
Trask, Hyde Clark, 1830-1912
Trask, Sarah Mitchell, 1805-1884
Trask, William, 1801-1877
Trask, William Richardson, 1834-1915
Worthley, Oscar, 1831-1890

Organizations:

United States. Army. New Hampshire Infantry Regiment, 2nd (1861-1864)
United States. Army. New Hampshire Infantry Regiment, 5th (1861-1865)
United States. Army. New Hampshire Infantry Regiment, 10th (1862-1865)
United States. Army. New Hampshire Infantry Regiment, 11th (1862-1865)
United States. Army. New Hampshire Infantry Regiment, 13th (1862-1865)
United States. Army. New Hampshire Infantry Regiment, 14th (1862-1865)

Subjects:

Correspondence
Military life
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Hospitals
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Medical care
United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Personal narratives
War wounds

Locations:

Alexandria, VA
Boston, MA
Concord, NH
Falmouth, VA

Fredericksburg, VA
Gettysburg, PA
Harpers Ferry, WV
Henrico County, VA
Mechanicsville, VA
New York, NY
Petersburg, VA
Philadelphia, PA
Point Lookout, MD
Sharpsburg, MD
Spotsylvania County, VA
Stewartstown, NH

Occupations:

Physicians
Soldiers
Surgeons