

# Guide to the Thönges Family Papers

MS 489



July 2008

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## Collection Overview

**REPOSITORY:** Manuscripts and Archives  
Yale University Library  
P.O. Box 208240  
New Haven, CT 06520-8240  
(203) 432-1735  
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<http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/>

**CALL NUMBER:** MS 489

**CREATOR:** Thönges family

**TITLE:** Thönges family papers

**DATES:** 1862-1903

**BULK DATES:** 1862-1880

**PHYSICAL DESCRIPTION:** 0.25 linear feet (1 box)

**LANGUAGE:** German

**SUMMARY:** The papers consist almost entirely of correspondence between Heinrich Thönges in Steinfurth, Germany and his children in the United States. Included are descriptions of life during the Civil War and addresses to commemorate the Battle of Antietam.

**ONLINE FINDING AID:** To cite or bookmark this finding aid, please use the following link: <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0489>

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## Requesting Instructions

To request items from this collection for use in the Manuscripts and Archives reading room, please use the request links in the HTML version of this finding aid, available at <https://hdl.handle.net/10079/fa/mssa.ms.0489>.

To order reproductions from this collection, please go to [http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr\\_copy\\_order.html](http://www.library.yale.edu/mssa/ifr_copy_order.html). The information you will need to submit an order includes: the collection call number, collection title, series or accession number, box number, and folder number or name.

Key to the container abbreviations used in the PDF finding aid:

b.      box

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## Administrative Information

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### Immediate Source of Acquisition

Gift of Robert C. Meyer.

## Conditions Governing Access

The materials are open for research.

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## Conditions Governing Use

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## Preferred Citation

Thönges Family Papers (MS 489). Manuscripts and Archives, Yale University Library.

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## Scope and Contents

The collection consists, except for a few items, of letters of various members of the Thönges Family. The most representative is Heinrich Thönges, the father, who writes from Steinfurth, Germany to his children resident in the United states. The rest of the mterial consists of letters from the various children and brothers of Heinrich.

The letters from Heinrich contain advice consistent with his Protestant ethic, while the children's letters have fleeting glimpses of life during the U. S. Civil War in which they participated.

The collection is entirely in Geman except for the letter of Chester K. Knight (1863 Nov 29) and the reply thereto from Conrad Thönges (1864 Jan 24).

## Collection Contents

### Original accession

b.1	Thönges, Peter ALS to Conrad Thönges, Louisville, KY	1862 October 8
b.1	Thönges, Louis ALS to Conrad Thönges, Cincinatti, OH	1862 October 25
b.1	Philippi, Louis ALS to Contad Thönges, Crawford Co., IL	1863 March 1
b.1	Thönges, Heinrich ALS to Contad Thönges, Steinfurth, Germany	1863 March 8
b.1	Thönges, Heinrich ALS to Contad Thönges, Steinfurth, Germany	1863 March 22
b.1	Thönges, Peter ALS to unknown, Winchester, TN	1863 August 10
b.1	Knight, Chester K. ALS to Conrad Thönges, Bridgeport, AL	1863 November 29
b.1	Thönges, Conrad ALS to Chester K. Knight, New York City	1864 January 24
b.1	Thönges, Heinrich ALS to Conrad Thönges, Steinfurth, Germany	1864 April 10
b.1	Thönges, Philip ALS to Conrad Thönges, Steinfurth, Germany	1864 May 10
b.1	Thönges, Heinrich ALS to Conrad Thönges, Steinfurth, Germany	1864 October 9
b.1	Thönges, Heinrich ALS to Conrad Thönges, Steinfurth, Germany	1865 October 8
b.1	Thönges, Heinrich ALS to Conrad Thönges, Steinfurth, Germany	1866 June 17
b.1	Thönges, Heinrich ALS to Conrad Thönges, Steinfurth, Germany	1866 November 20
b.1	Thönges, Heinrich ALS to Conrad Thönges, Steinfurth, Germany	1867 July 1
b.1	Thönges, Heinrich ALS to Conrad Thönges, Steinfurth, Germany	1869 February 20
b.1	Two leaves of notes unknown person, New York City	1870 February 20
b.1	Thönges, Eberhard ALS to Louis Thönges, Steinfurth, Germany	1870 December 26
b.1	Thönges, Heinrich ALS to Conrad Thönges, Steinfurth, Germany	1871 March 5
b.1	Thönges, Heinrich ALS to Conrad Thönges, Steinfurth, Germany	1871 July 1
b.1	Hessenblicher, Wilhelm ALS to Conrad Thönges, Ternton, NJ	1871 July 23
b.1	Philippi, Lewis ALS to Conrad Thönges, Majority Point, IL	1872 February 4
b.1	Thönges, Heinrich ALS to Conrad Thönges, Steinfurth, Germany	1873 June 29
b.1	Thönges, Ludwig ALS to unknown person, San Francisco,CA	1875 October 27
b.1	Thönges, Heinrich ALS to Conrad Thönges, Steinfurth, Germany	1876 February 21

b.1	Thönges, Heinrich ALS to Conrad Thönges, Steinfurth, Germany	1876 July 12
b.1	Thönges, Heinrich ALS to Conrad Thönges, Steinfurth, Germany	1878 September 20
b.1	Thönges, Conrad ALS to unknown person, New York City	1880 July 31
b.1	Draft of an address to commemorate the battle of Antietam	1882 September 17
b.1	Thönges, Heinrich ALS to Conrad Thönges, Steinfurth, Germany	1889 March 17
b.1	Thönges, Heinrich ALS to Conrad Thönges, Steinfurth, Germany	1889 October 18
b.1	Antietam. An unsigned address to "Kamareden, Freunde and vershrte Damen."	1891 September 17
b.1	Thönges, Heinrich ALS to Conrad Thönges, Steinfurth, Germany	1903 April 1
b.1	Thönges, Heinrich ALS to unknown person	undated
b.1	Schulte, Eduard: poem entitled "Arm und Reich"	undated
b.1	Fragment of draft of letter. Unsigned, New York	undated
b.1	Two drafts of an address to "Friends of the athletic Society and Comrades"	undated

## **Selected Search Terms**

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

### **Subjects**

Antietam, Battle of, Md., 1862  
Families  
Germans -- United States

### **Geographic Names**

Europe  
Germany  
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865

### **Families**

Thönges family