



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

SC-11848b: Colonel Marcus M. Spiegel Collection, 1861-1865.

W. Slocum to Caroline Spiegel, 1864 June 12.

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American Jewish Archives website.

Morganza L.A.

June 12th 1864

Mrs

Ms. M. Sperry,

I wrote you a few days ago and gave you some information that I would have some further facts to communicate - Just 9 days after the death of the Col. I followed down the advance of our Army and found the grave when the Col was buried. I had him taken up with a view of sending his remains home to his friends. I went back five miles up the river to where the fleet lay to procure a coffin in which I encased. Prior to leaving the grave I made

arrangements with an officer
of the 2^d Ills to remain there
with the remains of Col's
Sperdy and Mudd, and
if the boats got down before
I did, he should see that
the remains were placed in
the coffins, and put in
care of the officer to accom-
pany them to their respective
friends. The boats left about
the time I reached the lan-
ding. I could not keep up
with them in going down.
On my way I met Mr
Bitter of our Regiment on
his way up. He informed
me that the boat did not
stop long enough to
get the Col in the Coffin and
get him on board. I then
went back and procured
an ambulance and sent

for the Coffin, and remains
with a determination to
transport it overland if
possible to the Mississippi River
Nearly one day was consumed
in doing what no doubt
decomposition had taken
place. The weather was very
warm and sultry. The officer
left in charge thought it
impossible to transport his
remains seventy five miles
in an ordinary board Coffin
overland. I am informed
by him (the officer) that the
body was placed back in
the grave and marked
I spent three days in getting
to the place where he was
buried. I would have made
any sacrifice, if his remains
could have been sent to you
Our Army was in a retreat

and closely followed by the
Enemy who sought us for
nine days, and followed us
to the river. Since writing
you I have heard from Joseph
He was wounded in the Arm
and is now with our Woun-
ded at Chaneyville La.
He is able to be out and
walking around - His
partner is with him they
are well cared for by our
Surgeons, and Citizens.

The young man recruited
by the Col. is with the Regimen-
ent, and is well. The Rebels
took every thing belonging
to officers & me. I understand
that they took the Col's sword
with all his clothing.

I think Joseph will be

4 changed in a few days
They are all parallel.

I shall be very glad to see
him. Any further infor-
mation I can obtain

I will write you

Your most respect
W. S. Brown



Morganza, L.A.

June 12th 1864

Mrs. M. M. Spiegel,

I wrote you a few days ago and gave you some intimation that I would have some further facts to communicate. Just 9 days after the death of the Col I followed down the advance of our Army and found the ground where the Col was buried. I had him taken up with a view of sending his remains home to his friends. I went back five miles up the river to where the fleet lay to procure a coffin in which I succeeded. Prior to leaving the ground I made arrangements with an officer of the 2nd Ills [Illinois] to remain there with the remains of Cols Spiegel and Mudd. And if the boats got down before I did, he should see that the remains were placed in the coffins and put in care of the officer to accompany them to their respective friends. The boats left about the time I reached there landing. I could not keep up with them in going down. On my way I met Mr. Bixler of our Regiment on his way up. He informed me that the boat did not stop long enough to get the Col in the coffin and get him on board. I then went back and procured an ambulance and sent for the coffin and remains with the determination to transport it overland if possible to the Mississippi River. Nearly one day was consumed in doing what was done. Decomposition had taken place. The weather was very warm and sultry. The officer left in

charge thought it impossible to transport his remains seventy five miles in an ordinary board coffin overland. I am informed by him (the officer) that the Col was placed back in the grave and marked. I spent three days in getting to the place where he was buried. I would have made any sacrifice if his remains could have been sent to you. Our army was in a retreat and closely followed by the enemy who fought us for 9 days and followed us to the river. Since writing you I have heard from Joseph. He was wounded in the Arm and is now with our wounded at Cheneyville, LA. He is able to be out and walking around. His partner is with him. They are well cared for by our surgeons and citizens. The young man recruited by the Col is with the Regiment and is well. The Rebels took everything belonging to officers and me. I understand that they took Col's sword with all his clothing.

I think Joseph will be exchanged in a few days. They are all parolled. I shall be very glad to see him. Any further information I can obtain I will write you.

Yours with respect

W. Slocum