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## Guide to the Cody Family Papers, 1859-1912

### Collection number: MSS #013

Fresno City & County Historical Society  
Archives  
Fresno, California

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#### Descriptive Summary

**Title:** Cody Family Papers,

**Date (inclusive):** 1859-1912

**Collection number:** MSS #013

**Origination:** Cody, Philander, 1840-1924

**Extent:** 5 inches

**Repository:** Fresno City and County Historical Society

Fresno, California

**Language:** English

#### Acquisition

Gift of Eleanor Wright, Accession # 75.14

#### Access

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#### Preferred Citation

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## **Biography**

Philander Cody was born on June 9, 1840 in Westport, Ohio, the son of Darius and Sarah Cody. Cody married Cora Vaughn on July 10, 1859, after meeting in Wisconsin. In 1862, Cody joined the 12 th Wisconsin Battery. He remained with the unit until the end of the Civil War. During that time, the 12 th Wisconsin was mostly utilized as a garrison unit but he was involved in two significant battles, Vicksburg and Chattanooga. During the garrisoning, the artillery unit moved throughout the South roughly following the victories of Sherman and involving itself in some lesser skirmishes. Cody was listed as wounded in battle on January 14, 1865, but remained in the service until June 26, 1865. His unit took part in the Grand Review of troops in Washington D.C.

After the war, Philander and Cora moved to Tecumseh, Nebraska, making their way to California in the fall of 1890, and settling in Parlier where the family maintained a farm. Philander Cody died on December 8, 1924, in Sanger, California.

## **Scope and Content**

The Philander Cody Papers consist primarily of correspondence written by Philander to his wife, Cora, while he served in the 12 th Wisconsin during the Civil War. Other material includes legal records, printed material, photographs, and genealogical material.

**Correspondence (1862-1923)**

**Additional Note**

Series is arranged alphabetically by recipient and includes approximately 100 letters (and transcripts) written by Cody to his wife during the Civil War. Subjects include daily military life, descriptions of comrades and commanders, and Cody's involvement in the Vicksburg campaign. Other correspondence includes information sent to and from family members relating to family reunions, illnesses, and vacations. Correspondents include Darius Cody, Burt Cody (son of Philander and Cora), and Nellie Vaughn, sister of Cora.

**Genealogy, 1859, undated**

**Scope and Content Note**

Includes the marriage license of Philander and Sarah Cody dated July 10, 1859, and an undated handwritten list of family marriages and births.

**Poems, undated**

**Scope and Content Note**

Written by Cora Cody

**Printed Materials**

**Scope and Content Note**

Newspaper clippings relating to the Cody Family. Also included is a ribbon worn by Philander Cody during a meeting of the Grand Army of the Republic, Heckathorne Post No. 47.

**Photographs**

**Scope and Content Note**

Assorted images of the family and their farm.

**Correspondence**

Box 1, file 1	<b>Burt Cody 1923 Dec</b>
file 2	<b>n.d.</b>
file 3	<b>Cora Cody 1862 Mar 16-Apr-23</b>
file 4	<b>1862 May 8-Jun 22</b>
file 5	<b>1862 Jul 12-Sep 2</b>
file 6	<b>1862 Sep 3-Oct 26</b>
file 7	<b>1862 Nov 14-Dec 29</b>
file 8	<b>1863 Jan 21-Jun 5</b>
file 9	<b>1863 Aug 2-Oct 15</b>
file 10	<b>1863 Oct 19-Nov 27</b>
file 11	<b>1863-1864</b>
file 12	<b>1864 March, May</b>
file 13	<b>1864 July</b>
file 14	<b>1864 June, July</b>
file 15	<b>1864 July</b>
file 16	<b>1864 July, Nov</b>
file 17	<b>1865 Jan., May</b>
file 18	<b>Nellie Cody 1866-1914</b>
file 19	<b>1870</b>
file 20	<b>Philander Cody from Chapman 1883</b>
file 21	<b>Truman Cody From Barland 1908</b>
file 22	<b>unknown 1866</b>
file 23	<b>Sympathy Cards</b>
file 24	<b>Envelopes 1862-1865</b>

**Genealogy**

Box 1, file 25

**Cody, Vaughn 1859**

**Poems**

Box 1, file 26

**General**

**Printed Material**

Box 1, file 27-28    **General**

**Separation Sheets**

Box 1, file 29

**General**

**Transcripts**

Box 1, file 30

**Cody Civil War Correspondence**

**Photographs**

Box 1, file 31-43    **General**