



**“My dearest Lizzie”  
(Thomas Henry Pitts correspondence)  
SCHS 1151.00  
Container 11/570**

**Creators:** Green, Maru M., ed.  
Pitts, Thomas Henry, 1832-1871.

**Description:** 0.25 linear ft.

**Scope and content:** Typewritten manuscript (417 p.) of a collection of letters (1861-1873) mostly from Thomas Henry Pitts to his fiancée and wife Nancy Elizabeth ("Lizzie") Craig, with an introductory chapter and additional commentary by Maru M. Green, as well as an appendix concerning the genealogy of the Pitts and Craig families of South Carolina and Georgia.

Typewritten transcriptions of letters of Thomas H. Pitts of Laurens County (S.C.) concern his courtship of his cousin Lizzie Craig of Lawrenceville (Ga.) and their marriage (1863); his service in the army of the Confederate States of America at the 1st Battle of Manassas (or Bull Run, July 1861), the Seven Days' Battles (1862), and elsewhere; camp life; family matters; news of battles and other events of the war; the death of his father (February 1863) and Pitts' submission of his resignation as 1st Lieutenant of Company I, 3rd S.C. Regiment, in order to manage his father's plantations and slaves; denial of his resignation; recuperation from wounds at a field hospital in Georgia; Pitts' resignation from the army; financial hardships; his efforts after the war to farm in Resaca (Ga.), find employment in Atlanta (Ga.), and establish a factorage business in Calhoun (Gordon County, Ga.); an artificial foot made for Pitts; the opening an office of his factorage business (Pitts & Johnson) in St. Louis (Mo.); and the death of Thomas H. Pitts.

His letters are from Laurensville, Clinton, Camp Ruffin, and Camp Johnson in South Carolina; Camp Jackson, Camp Butler, Camp Gregg, Camp Beauregard, Vienna, and Camp Orr in Virginia; "Hospital in the Woods" (a field hospital), Resaca, Atlanta, and Calhoun in Georgia; and St. Louis (Mo.).

Also included are transcriptions of letters from Lizzie Craig (later Lizzie Pitts) to Thomas H. Pitts; letters from Dr. John T. Craig to Lizzie; and letters to Thomas H. Pitts from his brother John R. Pitts and brothers-in-law William A. Shands and A.C. Shands.

**Preferred citation:** Green, Maru M., ed. *My dearest Lizzie*, n.d. (1151.00) South Carolina Historical Society.

**Search terms:**

Craig, John Thomas.  
Pitts, John Robert, b. 1852.  
Pitts, Nancy Elizabeth Craig, b. 1836.

Pitts, Thomas Henry, 1832-1871.  
Shands, A.C.  
Shands, William A.  
Craig family.  
Pitts family.  
Confederate States of America. Army -- Officers -- Correspondence.  
Confederate States of America. Army. South Carolina Infantry Regiment, 3rd.  
Bull Run, 1st Battle of, Va., 1861.  
Farms -- Georgia -- Resaca.  
Seven Days' Battles, Va., 1862.  
Atlanta (Ga.)  
Calhoun (Ga.)  
Clinton (S.C.)  
Georgia -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865.  
Gordon County (Ga.)  
Laurens County (S.C.)  
Lawrenceville (Ga.)  
Resaca (Ga.)  
Saint Louis (Mo.)  
South Carolina -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865.  
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865.  
Virginia -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865.  
Letters (correspondence)  
Love letters.  
Farmers.  
Merchants.

**Container listing:**

11/570/1-6 Pitts, Thomas H. 1832-1871  
Letters, 1861-1873. 427 pages.

Confederate soldier, Laurens Co. planter. Typescript of letters (1861-1873) of Thomas Henry Pitts to his fiancé and wife Nancy E. (Lizzie) Craig . Also some letters of John T. Craig, Nancy E. (Lizzie) Craig, J.R. Pitts and other members of the Craig-Pitts family. Letters mostly regarding Thomas Henry Pitts' service in the CSA Army at Manassas and many other places in Virginia and Atlanta, GA. Letters also regarding Thomas Henry Pitts' wounds, war gossip, battle news and much other war news, reconstruction and Thomas Henry Pitts' attempts to farm and establish a factorage business. Letters from Laurensville, Clinton, St. Louis, MO, and Columbia. Also included are genealogical notes regarding the Craig and Pitts family. Edited by Maru M. Green.