

**McLean County Museum of History**

**Drew Castle/E. M. Pike  
Collection**

Processed by  
Mary Alice Wills  
Fall 2013

**Collection Information**

Volume of Collection:	1 Box
Collection Dates:	1832-1973
Restrictions:	None
Provenance:	None
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Location:	Archives

**Brief History**

This collection relates to Drew W. Castle (1895-1978) and Edward M. Pike (1838-1924). Pike served in the 33rd Illinois Infantry during the Civil War and was awarded the Medal of Honor for gallant service at the Cache River, Arkansas. After the war he returned to McLean County and served on the police department until he was elected sheriff of McLean County in 1866. He moved to Chenoa and entered the brick and tile manufacturing business with Justus Castle, grandfather of Drew W. Castle. Research includes genealogy for his family as well as the history and origins of northern McLean County towns and villages.

**Scope Note**

This collection contains photographs, correspondence, notes, and clippings. The bulk of the collection starts with the 1960s Drew W. Castle correspondence. It is divided into folders for each correspondent; then chronologically within the folder. There are also separate folders with photographs, book excerpts, clippings, and 1832-1915 Castle family letters. Most of the correspondence deals with Castle inquiries. There are also pictures and information about E. M. Pike's Civil War record and the Cache River Battle.

## Box and Folder Inventory

### Folder 1: Pike Correspondence

- 1.1.1 To Hon. J. W. Fifer, May 5, 1895, Civil War battle at Cache River
- 1.1.2 To Hon. J. W. Fifer, May 8, 1895, Civil War battle at Cache River

### Folder 2: Watchinski/Castle Correspondence

- 1.2.1 To Mrs. Watchinski, December 30, 1963, Pike family inquiries
- 1.2.2 To Mrs. Watchinski, January 11, 1964, sending Civil War history
- 1.2.3 To Mr. Castle, January 22, 1964, thanks for sending items
- 1.2.4 To Mrs. Warchinski June 4, 1964, thanks for sending album
- 1.2.5 To Mrs. Warchinski August 7, 1964, sent article on Ivory Pike
- 1.2.6 To Mrs. Castle, October 2, 1964, thanks for clipping and photo
- 1.2.7 To Mrs. Watchinski, January 18, 1965, Civil War info

### Folder 3: Edgerton to Castle Correspondence

- 1.3.1 To Mr. Castle, no date, info on Cache River material
- 1.3.2 To Mrs. Overholt, January 7, 1962, Civil War - Cotton Plant Battle, Arkansas,
- 1.3.3 To Mr. Castle, January 10, 1962, Cache River Battle
- 1.3.4 To Mr. Castle, January 17, 1962, Pike Medal
- 1.3.5 To Mr. Castle, February 9, 1962, Civil War records
- 1.3.6 To Mr. Castle, December 28, 1962, location of Cache River Battle
- 1.3.7 To Mr. Castle, January 23, 1963, Civil War records and locations
- 1.3.8 To Mr. Castle, January 27, 1963, Civil War records

### Folder 4: Castle to Edgerton Correspondence

- 1.4.1 To Mrs. Edgerton, December 11, 1962, Civil War record Edward M. Pike
- 1.4.2 To Mrs. Edgerton, December 31, 1962, inquiring about 94<sup>th</sup>, Cache River Battle
- 1.4.3 To Mrs. Edgerton, January 9, 1963, received clippings Cache River, Pike
- 1.4.4 To Mrs. Edgerton, January 16, 1963, Pike info
- 1.4.5 To Mrs. Edgerton, January 23, 1963, Civil War
- 1.4.6 To Mrs. Edgerton, February 3, 1963, found books of interest
- 1.4.7 To Mrs. Edgerton, February 9, 1963, forwarding notes
- 1.4.8 To Mrs. Edgerton, March 10, 1963, hope to find new info at meeting
- 1.4.9 To Mrs. Edgerton, March 25, 1963, met new people with Civil War info
- 1.4.10 To Mrs. Edgerton, April 24, 1963, traveled to Civil War locations
- 1.4.11 To Mrs. Edgerton, July 9, 1963, Pike and Castle business
- 1.4.12 To Mrs. Edgerton, July 23, 1963, Pike and Castle business
- 1.4.13 To Mrs. Edgerton, September 21, 1963, Pike and Castle business
- 1.4.14 To Mrs. Edgerton, December 14, 1964, Ed Pike

### Folder 5: Castle/Ambrose Correspondence

- 1.5.1 To Mr. S. E. Ambrose from Mr. Castle, October 12, 1967, Civil War info on 94<sup>th</sup> and McLean Co
- 1.5.2 To Mr. Castle from Mr. S. E. Ambrose, October 17, 1967, thank you reply for 12<sup>th</sup> info.

- 1.5.3 To Mr. S. E. Ambrose from Mr. Castle, October 20, 1967, incl. copies of 94<sup>th</sup> Adj Gen. report and a dairy.
- 1.5.4 To Mr. Castle from Mr. S. E. Ambrose, October 23, no year, thank you reply and father's address.
- 1.5.5 To Mr. S. E. Ambrose from Mr. Castle, October 27, 1967, McLean Co. Medal of Honor
- 1.5.6 To Mr. S. H. Ambrose from Mr. Castle, October 27, 1967, father of S.E., sent CW dairies
- 1.5.7 To Mr. S. E. Ambrose from Mr. Castle, November 3, 1967, sending CW diaries and info
- 1.5.8 To Mr. S. E. Ambrose from Mr. Castle, November 10, 1967 sent portraits, albums, maps.
- 1.5.9 To Mr. S. E. Ambrose from Mr. Castle, February 4, 1968, congratulations on story.
- 1.5.10 To Mr. Castle from Mr. S. E. Ambrose, February 7, no year, acknowledging congrats.

**Folder 6: Mrs. Donald Schieler to Mr. Castle Correspondence**

- 1.6.1 To Mr. Castle, June 9, 1966, sources of McLean Co. history
- 1.6.2 To Mr. Castle, January 11, 1970, as former librarian will keep Castle's files
- 1.6.3 To Mr. Castle, January 22, 1970, questions on setting up files
- 1.6.4 To Mr. Castle, March 11, 1970, cataloging progress
- 1.6.5 To Mr. Castle, April 29, 1970, location of old McLean Co. towns and villages, id of ladies in photo
- 1.6.6 To Mr. Castle, June 1, 1970, mention of pamphlet on Lincoln and vol. on McLean Co.
- 1.6.7 To Mr. Castle, June 22, 1970, ancestor charts
- 1.6.8 To Mr. Castle, August, 29, 1970, materials being mailed
- 1.6.9 To Mr. Castle, September 10, 1970, lists of some genealogical maps on hand or needed (3 pages)
- 1.6.10 To Mr. Castle, September 23, 1970, working on Mrs, Schieler's tree (2 pages)
- 1.6.11 To Mr. Castle, October 11, 1970, cataloging topographic maps
- 1.6.12 To Mr. Castle, March 9, 1971, genealogy
- 1.6.12 To Mr. Castle, August 28, 1972, acknowledge receipt of maps, material
- 1.6.13 To Mr. Castle, September 3, 1972, acknowledge receipt of material
- 1.6.14 To Mr. Castle, February 11, 1973, divorced, Castle archives intact, new address

**Folder 7: Castle to Schieler Correspondence**

- 1.7.1 To Mrs. Schieler, May 30, 1966, sent 3 books for library
- 1.7.2 To Mrs. Schieler, June 13, 1966, Civil War material
- 1.7.3 To Mrs. Schieler, June 19, 1966, sending 2 pamphlets on Civil War
- 1.7.4 To Mrs. Schieler, June 27, 1966, sending material on Hudson
- 1.7.5 To Mrs. Schieler, July 19, 1966, locations of small towns and villages in central Ill.
- 1.7.6 To Mrs. Schieler, July 10, 1966 A. Gridley, the man and town
- 1.7.7 To Mrs. Schieler from Mrs. E S Giles, July 12, 1966, Comfort, TX public library
- 1.7.8 To Mrs. Schieler, July 20, 1966, names from Gridley in Civil War
- 1.7.9 To Mrs. Schieler, July 30, 1966, sending study of Castle letters
- 1.7.10 To Mrs. Schieler, August 19, 1966, sending miscellaneous for library.
- 1.7.11 To Mrs. Schieler, August 30, 1966, copy of letter to Mr. Foust re: Gridley (2 items)
- 1.7.12 To Mrs. Schieler, September 12, 1966, material being mailed
- 1.7.13 To Mrs. Schieler, October 25, 1966, genealogy, Gridley
- 1.7.14 To Mrs. Schieler, November 23, 1966, Gridley history
- 1.7.15 To Mrs. Schieler, November 29, 1966, old steam engines, Civil War records

- 1.7.16 To Mrs. Schieler, December 31, 1966, sending histories on Gridley cemetery
- 1.7.17 To Mrs. Schieler, February 22, 1967, pamphlets on liberty bell, patriotism, Gridley info
- 1.7.18 To Mrs. Schieler, December 7, 1967, info on Hudson
- 1.7.19 To Mrs. Schieler, February 24, 1967, inclosing Lincoln history
- 1.7.20 To Mrs. Schieler, December 7, 1968, covered bridges
- 1.7.21 To Mrs. Schieler, January x, 1970, Id people in photograph
- 1.7.22 To Mrs. Schieler, January 9, 1970, requesting to keep archives
- 1.7.23 To Mrs. Schieler, January 28, 1970, Civil War, photographs
- 1.7.24 To Mrs. Schieler, February 22, 1970, Castle genealogy
- 1.7.25 To Mrs. Schieler, March 18, Gridley, Civil War
- 1.7.26 To Mrs. Schieler, April 6, 1970, sending items of interest
- 1.7.27 To Mrs. Schieler, March 21, 1970, sending miscellaneous
- 1.7.28 To Mrs. Schieler, April 7, 1970, Civil War
- 1.7.29 To Mrs. Schieler, April 13, 1970, Civil War material
- 1.7.30 No Salutation, April 27, 1970, knows cemetery maps
- 1.7.31 To Mrs. Schieler, May 8, 1970, personal content
- 1.7.32 To Mrs. Schieler, May 24, 1970, mailing some genealogy
- 1.7.33 To Mrs. Schieler, June 2, 1970, sending items
- 1.7.34 Memo, June 7, 1970, to self about procedure and method
- 1.7.35 To Mrs. Schieler, June 28, 1970, mailings on Civil War
- 1.7.36 To Mrs. Schieler, August 15, 1970, sent envelopes, copy of CW Times
- 1.7.37 To Mrs. Schieler, August 28, 1970, Ed Pike, J. Fifer
- 1.7.38 To Mrs. Schieler, September 1, 1970, received letter
- 1.7.39 To Mrs. Schieler, September 7, 1970, received papers sent
- 1.7.40 To Mrs. Schieler, September 13, 1970, sending maps
- 1.7.41 To Mrs. Schieler, September 8, 1970, Colombian Exposition, Chicago Fair of 1892
- 1.7.42 To Mrs. Schieler, September 23, 1970, quadrangles sent for McLean, LeRoy, Arrowsmith, Mackinaw, Danvers, Colfax
- 1.7.43 No Salutation, October 2, 1970, sent items from Ivan Light
- 1.7.44 To Mrs. Schieler, November 14, 1970, Lincoln religion
- 1.7.45 To Mrs. Schieler, December 20, 1970, auto history source
- 1.7.46 To Mrs. Schieler, December 23, 1970, auto pictures
- 1.7.47 To Mrs. Schieler, February 11, 1971, genealogy
- 1.7.48 To Mrs. Schieler, March 8, 1971, bring genealogy down
- 1.7.49 To Mrs. Schieler, March 19, 1971, coming down soon
- 1.7.50 To Mrs. Schieler, no date, Crissey's work
- 1.7.51 To Mrs. Schieler, August 31, 1972, census records

**Folder 8: Genealogical Requests from Mrs. Schieler**

- 1.8.1 To Kankakee Public Library, June 22, 1970, request info on Joseph Alexander, b. 1850
- 1.8.2 To Filson Club Library, Louisville, Ky., July 15, info on William Eason Blair
- 1.8.3 To Recorder of Woodford County, February 28, 1972, search fee
- 1.8.4 To Principal, Metcalf School, ISU, March 16, 1972, request info on Bertha Bolin
- 1.8.5 To County Clerk, Casey County, Ky., March 16, 1972, marriage records and fee
- 1.8.6 To Postmaster, Pellyton, Ky., March 16, 1972, info on William Eason Blair
- 1.8.7 To Cecil W. Nohl, Co. Clerk, Woodford County, March 16, 1972, info Charles W. Russell

- 1.8.8 To Rev. Louis A. Creeden, Littletown, Pa., May 28, 1972, burial of Hilda Marie Bolin
- 1.8.9 To Msgr. Thomas J. McGough, Hanover, Pa., April 4, 1972, Bolin family info
- 1.8.10 To Catholic Bishop, Harrisburg, Pa., April 23, 1972, Bolin family info
- 1.8.11 To Raymond Smith, Casey Co. Clerk, Liberty, Ky., May 28, 1972, Blair/Helms marriage license
- 1.8.12 To Adm., Golden Years Nursing Home, Lake City, Ia., May 28, 1972, Sallie Van Hay obit
- 1.8.13 To Military Service Records, National Archives, Wash., DC, August 22, 1972, request copies
- 1.8.14 To Cara C. Gregory, Recorder, Floyd Co., Ind., September 3, 1972, request deed records
- 1.8.15 To Rev. Louis A. Creeden, Littletown, Pa., September 3, 1972, request John Bolin info
- 1.8.16 To Div. of Vital Statistics, State Dept. of Health, Frankfort, Ky., September 8, 1972, request death certificates
- 1.8.17 To Richard A. Little Funeral Home, Littletown, Pa., September 13, 1972, request info on John Bolin

### **Folder 9: Miscellaneous Correspondence**

- 1.9.1 No Salutation, No Date, handwritten description of Civil War incident for which E. M. Pike was awarded Medal of Honor
- 1.9.2 No Salutation, No Date, postcard from D. W. Castle, envelope sizes
- 1.9.3 Copy of 3 notes, no dates, from Valerie Chambers of The Everton Publishers, Logan, Utah, postal regulations
- 1.9.4 To Mr. Castle from Anna W. Sommer, February 22, 1962, Pike's children, newspaper clipping
- 1.9.5 To Drew Castle from Inez I. Thomas, March 4, 1962, Pike grandchildren
- 1.9.6 To Mrs. Edgerton from Mary Olive Overholt, January 17, 1963, map of Cotton Plant 1862, sketch of location
- 1.9.7 To Drew Castle from Inez I. Thomas, July 30, 1963, Pike estate, headstone
- 1.9.8 To Drew Castle from Inez I. Thomas, October 3, 1963, Pike research
- 1.9.9 To Friend From Illinois from Sybil Sanders, December 8, 1964, clippings.
- 1.9.10 To Mrs. Schieler from Roe Sedekum Herbert, October 25, 1966, Civil War memorabilia
- 1.9.11 To Mrs. Schieler from DW Castle, January 3, 1970, postcard about envelope sizes
- 1.9.12 To Mrs. Schieler from Drew W Castle January 14, 1970, genealogy
- 1.9.13 To Jill xxx from unknown, January 22, 1970, congratulations on published article
- 1.9.14 To Mrs. Louis Voorhees from Drew W. Castle, February 3, 1970, old towns and families in Woodford County
- 1.9.15 To Mr. Castle from Selma Voorhees, February 16, 1970, old towns and families of Woodford County, map of cemetery locations
- 1.9.16 To Mrs. Niegarth from no name, April 30, 1970, identify ladies in photo
- 1.9.17 To Mr. Prombo from Mrs. Donald Schieler, June 12, 1970, thesis
- 1.9.18 To Drew Castle from Ada Coyle, April 29, 1970, genealogy
- 1.9.19 To Mrs. Wetter from no name, February 22, 1971, genealogy
- 1.9.20 To Chuck from no name, September 1, 1972, requesting John Bolin information

### **Folder 10: Book Excerpts and Clippings**

- 1.10.1 Excerpts from Blake, W.O., *National Records and History of the Great Rebellion*, Vol I, 1863
- 1.10.2 Excerpt from *The Missouri Democrat*, Cache River Battle, typed, July 17, 1862, 2 copies
- 1.10.3 Excerpts from Marshall, Albert O., *Army Life: From a Soldiers Journal*, Joliet, 1884
- 1.10.4 "Area Students Write Articles for Magazine," *Pantagraph*, no date

- 1.10.5 “Edward M. Pike Dies at Chenoa,” 1924, “A Saturday Wedding,” Eunice Pike wed Dr. Joseph Kerr, “Mrs. J. P. Kerr Dies,”
- 1.10.6 “Old Plantation Homes,” by Mary Elizabeth Overholt, *Little Rock, Sunday*, July 10, 1933, 2 pages with photos
- 1.10.7 “Battle of Cotton Plant,” article by Mary Overholt, no date
- 1.10.8 “90 Years Ago, Woodruff County First Tasted War,” article with photo, no date
- 1.10.9 “Cache River Battle See-saw Affair,” *Arkansas Gazette*, July 1, 1962
- 1.10.10 “Marshall and The Arkansas,” by A.O. Marshall, newspaper article, no date, 2 pages

**Folder 11: Pike/Castle**

- 1.11.1 “Civil War Record of Pike Boys,” ¾ page, 6 items
- 1.11.2 Advertisement for Pike & Castle, Chenoa, Illinois
- 1.11.3 Photos of Edward M. Pike, Pike & Castle advertisement, 2 of tombstone with star
- 1.11.4 “Just One Colonial Family, The Castles,” 10 pages
- 1.11.5 “Mrs. LaVenia Castle,” obit, “Mrs. William Castle, 97, Gridley native dies,” *The Gridley News*, January 9, 1969
- 1.11.6 “Castle Letters & Drew William Castle,” 47 pages includes biography and genealogy