

## Information Sheet

**R Bolon, Leonard Valentine, 1847-1915.**  
**313 Papers, 1865-1866.**  
**One folder, photocopies.**

This collection is available at [The State Historical Society of Missouri](http://The State Historical Society of Missouri). If you would like more information, please contact us at [shsresearch@umsystem.edu](mailto:shsresearch@umsystem.edu).

These are two Civil War letters, from Rolla and Benton Barracks in St. Louis, written by Leonard V. Bolon of Co. F, 49<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Infantry. Also included is verse written at Cuba, Illinois, Bolon's home town, in 1866.

Leonard V. Bolon was born on 23 December 1847, at Cuba, Illinois, and died on 4 November 1915 at Prairie City, Illinois. He was the son of William J. Bolon and Lydia Louisa Bonney Bolon. Lydia Louisa married Abraham Kaler after the death of her first husband.

Leonard enlisted in Co. F, 49<sup>th</sup> Wisconsin Infantry, at Liberty, Wisconsin, on 23 February 1865. The regiment was organized at Madison in late 1864 and early 1865, and was assigned to the Department of the Missouri. Bolon and the men passed nearly their entire enlistment guarding government property at Rolla and St. Louis, from March to November 1865. They were mustered out on 8 November 1865.

Bolon's wartime letters from Missouri were written to his mother, Louisa Kaler. The first is dated 15 March 1865, two days after his arrival at Rolla. The second was written on 5 November 1865, shortly before muster-out at St. Louis. In his brief missives, Bolon mentioned his satisfaction with rations and camp life.

Included with the letters is a short poem, perhaps a funerary piece, composed on 15 September 1866, at Cuba, Illinois.

*r384                      20 July 1987                      James W. Davis                      Loaned for photocopying*

## Shelf List

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<u>Date</u>	<u>Place</u>
15 March 1865	Rolla, Missouri
5 November 1865	Benton Barracks, St. Louis, Missouri
15 September 1866	Cuba, Illinois

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United States. Army. Wisconsin Infantry Regiment, 49<sup>th</sup>

United States—History—Civil War, 1861-1865

Wisconsin Infantry—49<sup>th</sup> Regiment [SEE United States. Army. Wisconsin Infantry Regiment, 49<sup>th</sup>.]