

**The Castle and Regimental Museum, Royal Monmouthshire Royal  
Engineers (Militia)**

<b>Reference code:</b>	<b>DVau</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Vaughan Family of Courtfield, Family and Military Papers</b>
<b>Dates:</b>	<b>1828-1940</b>
<b>Level of Description:</b>	<b>Fonds</b>
<b>Extent and medium</b>	<b>1 box</b>
<b>Name of creator(s):</b>	<b>Vaughan, William Michael (1781-1861) Vaughan, John Francis (1808-1878) Vaughan, Francis Baynham (1844-1919) Vaughan, Charles Jerome (1873-1948) Vaughan, Joseph Herbert (1910-1972)</b>

---

### **Administrative/Biographical History**

The Vaughan family estate of Courtfield was situated in Welsh Bicknor, which is now in Herefordshire, but was formerly in Monmouthshire. The family was closely involved with the Monmouthshire Militia and its successor regiments from the mid nineteenth century, with four generations serving as officers, and two being Commanding Officers.

John Francis Vaughan joined the Royal Monmouthshire Militia as a Captain in 1836, and was promoted to Major in 1847. Alongside Lt Col Clifford, he played a major part in the reformation of the militia as the Royal Monmouthshire Light Infantry in the early 1850s, and became Lt. Col. and Commanding Officer of the Regiment in 1853, a position he held until his retirement in 1877.

He felt strongly about the Crimean War, and although the Regiment was not posted there, he went out to the Crimea along with many other volunteers from the Regiment and served with the 23<sup>rd</sup> Foot (The Royal Welch Fusiliers). His diary about the conditions and events he witnessed was used as the basis of a booklet 'The Soldier in Peace and War' which he published anonymously upon his return.

Towards the end of his career, Vaughan encouraged the change of the regiment from infantry to a corps of engineers, which he advised on shortly before his retirement in 1877.

J. F. Vaughan's son, Francis Baynham, joined the Regiment as Captain in 1877, was promoted to Major in 1883, and was Commanding Officer 1890-1895.

Charles Jerome Vaughan was the third generation to serve, seeing active service as a Captain with No.4 (Seige) Company, in the Ypres Salient during World War 1. His personal diary written during the winter of 1914-1915 details the activities of the company and the conditions. C.J. Vaughan was Colonel of the Regiment from 1938-1948.

Joseph Herbert Vaughan, son of C.J. Vaughan, joined the Regiment as a 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant 1933, and served first as Captain and then as Major of 101 Company in France during the Second World War. He continued to serve as a Major in the reformed postwar Regiment until 1950.

### **Archival History**

Unknown

### **Immediate source of acquisition or transfer:**

The papers were donated to the Regimental Museum by current members of the Vaughan family.

### **Scope and Content:**

This fonds contains the papers relating to military matters of various members of the Vaughan family who held commissions in the RMonRE(M) and predecessor regiments. The majority of the papers relate to Lt. Col. J F Vaughan.

### **Appraisal, destruction and scheduling Information:**

All records have been retained. The individual records had been given numbers as part of the accessioning procedures of the museum, but these numbers did not reflect the relationships between the records. The records have all been renumbered to reflect the arrangement of the archive, and the former reference numbers have been noted on the current catalogue.

### **Accruals:**

None expected

### **System of arrangement:**

Arranged in series as follows:

- DVau/1 – Papers of William Michael Vaughan (1781-1861);
- DVau/2 – Papers of Lt. Col. John Francis Vaughan (1808-1880);
- DVau/3 – Papers of Col. Francis Baynham Vaughan (1844-1919);
- DVau/4 – Papers of Major Charles Jerome Vaughan (1873-1948);
- DVau/5 – Papers of Major Joseph Herbert Vaughan (1910-1972).

**Conditions governing access:**

Open access

**Conditions governing reproduction:**

Documents may usually be copied, but permission should first be obtained from the museum trustees or honorary curator.

**Language/scripts of material:**

English, French

**Physical characteristics and technical requirements:**

Volumes and booklets

**Finding aids:**

Item-level catalogue available

**Existence and location of originals:**

All items are originals

**Existence and location of copies**

Not applicable

**Related units of description**

The records of the Courtfield estate and some family papers are held in the National Library of Wales (ref. GB210 COUELD); some estate records are also in the Leonard Twiston Davies Collection, also held by the National Library of Wales

**Publication note:**

The records were used in research for the following books:

Vaughan, Mary *Courtfield and the Vaughans: an English Catholic inheritance* (London: Quiller Press, 1989.)

Kissack, Keith *Colonel Vaughan in the Crimea 1855* (produced for sale by the Castle and Regimental Museum, Monmouth)

**Archivists note:**

Description compiled by Heather Romaine, Archivist, in accordance with ISAD(G). Description completed March 2009, as part of a project part-financed by the Army Museums Ogilby Trust and the Welsh Assembly Government through the Museums Small Grants Scheme.

<b>Level</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>Former ref.</b>	<b>Title/description, extent and medium and related records</b>	<b>Dates</b>
<b>Series</b>	<b>DVau/1</b>		<b>Papers of William Michael Vaughan</b>	<b>1 Sep 1828</b>
Item	DVau/1/1		Circular to the 'Governors and Subscribers to the Monmouth General Dispensary', from James Holbrook, Monmouth, stating that there is no need for another surgeon in Monmouth (using Gloucester as a comparison). Copy addressed to W.M. Vaughan. (1 paper)	1 Sep 1828
<b>Series</b>	<b>DVau/2</b>		<b>Papers of Lt. Col. John Francis Vaughan</b>	<b>1836-1877</b>
Item	DVau/2/1		Commission of J.F. Vaughan as Captain in the Monmouth Militia, and envelope. (1 paper, with seal; 1 envelope)	27 Aug 1836
Item	DVau/2/2		Commission of Vaughan as Lt. Col. by Capel Hanbury Leigh, Lord Lieutenant of Monmouth. (1 paper, with seal)	16 Jul 1853
Item	DVau/2/3		Commission of Vaughan as Lt. Col., Commandant, by Capel Hanbury Leigh, Lord Lieutenant of Monmouth. (1 paper, with seal)	16 Mar 1858
Item	DVau/2/4		Transcript of first section of Col Vaughan's Crimean War Diary, including notes on various aspects of army life and conditions. The original of this section does not seem to have survived. (1 bundle)	19 Dec 1854 – 24 Feb 1855
Item	Dau/2/5		Second section of Col Vaughan's Crimean War Diary including notes on various aspects of army life and conditions Plus photocopy (1 booklet, manuscript; 1 bundle, photocopy)	28 Feb 1855 – 20 Mar 1855
Item	DVau/2/6		<i>The Soldier in Peace and War</i> , pamphlet published anonymously by Vaughan giving suggestions for arming and training the Light Infantry with observations on recruiting. (1 booklet; 1 duplicate, photocopy)	1855

Item	DVau/2/7	News cuttings sent to Lt. Col. Vaughan at the Union Club, London, regarding <i>Soldier in Peace &amp; War</i> . From the <i>Morning Post</i> , <i>The Bristol Times</i> and <i>Bristol Mirror</i> . (1 paper)	16 Jun 1855 – 29 Jun 1855
Item	DVau/2/8	'Remedies' – notes, in French for remedying problems in the army. Possibly linked to Vaughan's publication <i>Soldier in Peace and War</i> . (2 papers)	nd
Item	DVau/2/9	Notes and extracts from letters, in French and English. Possibly research notes of Vaughan for his book. (2 papers)	nd
Item	DVau/2/10	Map of Sevastopol showing the Mamelon and Russian Defences, by Lt Col Vaughan, published by James Wyld. (1 paper, printed)	14 Apr 1855
Item	DVau/2/11	Copies of news cuttings of 'Letters from the Crimea' written by Private John Cooper Watkins, 23 <sup>rd</sup> Royal Welsh Fusiliers at Sebastopol, regarding conditions in the Crimea. Newspaper in which published unknown. (3 papers, photocopy)	nd. (Feb/Mar 1855)
Item	DVau/2/12	French Pass for Lt. Col. Vaughan through/from Constantinople. Signed C. de Missy. Stamped by Intendance Militaire and the French Eagle. (1 paper)	18 Jan 1855
Item	DVau/2/13	Circular from the War Office (Lord Lieutenant Sidney Herbert), regarding increase in staff in Militia forces and changes to Regulations based on a report of the Royal Commissioners enquiring into the Establishment and Organisation of the Militia. (2 papers)	nd
Item	DVau/2/14	'Extract from the Memorandum regarding the Foundation, organization, establishment, instruction etc. of Volunteer Corps in Great Britain, to be raised under the Act 44 Geo. 3 Cap. 54.' (1 paper)	nd
Item	DVau/2/15	Character References: 1) letter from Drewe to his father, introducing Vaughan, 20 Mar 1855 2) 'Character of Mr J. Vaughan by J Marriott,	1843-1855 and nd

			1843 3) 'Roger Vaughan's character' by I Richards (3 papers, 1 envelope)	
Item	DVau/2/16		'Copy of Certificate to Rt. Hon. The Secretary-at-War, giving details of his army career and confirming his ability to command a Battalion of Infantry' (1 paper)	nd
Item	DVau/2/17		Memorandum of a conversation with Mr Marshall, Militia. (1 paper)	3 Mar 1838
<b>Sub-series</b>	<b>DVau/2/18</b>		<b>Correspondence</b>	<b>1838-1877</b>
Item	DVau/2/18/1	18	Letter from H.M. Clifford, Lt. Col. Commander, Royal Monmouth Militia, at Pembroke Dock, to Lord Lieutenant regarding circular sent on 31 Dec about raising volunteers. (2 papers)	17 Jan 1835
Item	DVau/2/18/2	82	Letter from Vaughan to Capt Carter regarding Regimental matters – stores and finance etc. (1 paper)	16 Aug 1859
Item	DVau/2/18/3	9	Letter (incomplete) to 'My Dear Sir' [Vaughan?] regarding contemporary political issues. (1 paper)	30 Apr 1847
Item	DVau/2/18/4	10	Private letter, John Dowling to Vaughan(?) regarding contemporary political issues and personal matters (2 papers)	19 Jul 1847
Item	DVau/2/18/5	11	Letter, from Crawshay Bailey and Gilbert George to Vaughan(?) regarding political argument with Digby Mackworth regarding Peel. (1 paper)	30 Aug 1847
Item	DVau/2/18/6	47	Letter (incomplete) from John Dowling (to Vaughan) regarding contemporary political matters. (1 paper)	1851?
Item	DVau/2/18/7	87	Letter, John Lawrence, in the Crimea, to Vaughan. (1 paper)	19 Apr 1853

Item	DVau/2/18/8	20	Letter, Darnard(?) to the General, regarding Vaughan's abilities. (1 paper)	20 Nov 1854
Item	DVau/2/18/9	3	Copy letter, from Vaughan regarding having gained permission of a leave of absence and his intention of going to Sebastopol, requesting an application to F.M. Lord Raglan for permission to stay with the army there. (1 paper)	19 Feb 1855
Item	DVau/2/18/10		Copy letter to Col Clifford from Vaughan at the camp before Sebastopol, regarding volunteers, conditions etc. (1 paper)	20 Feb 1855
Item	DVau/2/18/11	26	Private letter, written on reverse of the title page of a book, to Vaughan from James, Cpt. [Captain] at Middle Ravine Picquet regarding troop deployment. (1 paper)	23 Feb 1855
Item	DVau/2/18/12	37	Letter to Vaughan from Major Arthur Herbert, camp before Sebastopol, giving news of events and sending on other letters and a map. (5 papers)	9 Apr 1855
Item	DVau/2/18/13	39	Letter to Vaughan, Monmouth Militia, Pembroke, from Herbert(?), suggesting he applies for a regiment in the Foreign Legion being raised in Halifax. With envelope. (1 paper, 1 envelope)	20 Apr 1855
Item	DVau/2/18/14	38	Letter to Vaughan from Arthur Herbert, regarding the expedition to Restel. (2 papers)	11 May 1855
Item	DVau/2/18/15	17	Letter to Lt Col Lysons regarding Welsh Fusiliers, Crimea, from Vaughan giving a donation of one day's pay from each of the RM Regiment to their colleagues as a sign of sympathy and appreciation. (1 paper)	11 Jun 1855
Item	DVau/2/18/16	30	Letter to Vaughan from James, Capt. before Sebastopol regarding defeat at Redan on 18 <sup>th</sup> June. (1 paper)	27 Jun 1855
Item	DVau/2/18/17	12	Letter from Lysons to Vaughan thanking him for his letter [D/Vaughan/2/6/15] and the money. (1 paper)	8 Jul 1855

Item	DVau/2/18/18	15	Letter from Lysons to Vaughan, in response to his of 11 Jun [D/Vaughan/2/6/15], giving news and regretting Vaughan's departure from the Crimea. (1 paper)	8 Jul 1855
Item	DVau/2/18/19	33	Letter to Vaughan from Herbert(?) regarding various military ideas of Vaughan's of which he approves, and other news. (1 paper)	27 Jul 1855
Item	DVau/2/18/20	31	Letter to Vaughan from N. Godfrey Watt giving news from Sebastopol, including his view that the "govt would rather destroy another army...than charge one iota of the system of patronage". With sketches of 'Pierre's new uniform' and 'Pierre galloping across Phoenix(?) Park'. (3 papers)	??
Item	DVau/2/18/21	34	Letter to Vaughan from William Syre(?), 3 <sup>rd</sup> div camp Sebastopol, regarding the war, welfare of the men etc., which he considers poor and badly organised. (2 papers, 1 envelope)	28 Feb 1856
Item	DVau/2/18/22	32	Letter to Vaughan from Henry W. Bunbury, Light Division Camp, regarding sending back Capt Tyler with regret as ordered by Lord Hardinge, who considers him to be too old to be a subaltern. (2 papers)	7 Mar 1856
Item	DVau/2/18/23		Letter to Vaughan from Charles Prothero, Clerk of the Peace, forwarding his commission as Lt Col of Monmouth Militia, from the Lord Lieutenant. (1 paper)	17 Mar 1858
Item	DVau/2/18/24		Letter to Vaughan from A.B. Savery asking that a staff Sgt. of RMM be allowed to act as drill sgt to the Chepstow Volunteer Rifle Corps. (1 paper)	17 Aug 1859
Item	DVau/2/18/25	24	Letter to Vaughan(?) from John Finnerty(?) reporting on the parading and drilling of the permanent staff as per his orders and use of Enfield rifles. (1 paper)	10 Nov 1859



Item	DVau/2/18/26	40	3 letters in envelope, between Vaughan, Lord Llanover, and Reginald Jones/Herbert regarding the refusal of a commission of the latter under his assumed name of Herbert. (4 papers, 1 envelope)	Mar 1862
Item	DVau/2/18/27	83	Letter to Vaughan from J.W. Carter making his case against some action which has been punished (no details of the offence, just the case for the defence). (1 paper)	11 Aug 1863
Item	DVau/2/18/28	83	Letter to Col Carter from Vaughan in reply to D/Vaughan/6/2/27. (1 paper)	12 Aug 1863
Item	DVau/2/18/29	81	Letter to Vaughan from Charles Prothero forwarding, on behalf of the Lord Lieutenant, a letter from the Secretary of State for War fixing the time for training of the Militia. (1 paper)	23 Feb 1866
Item	DVau/2/18/30	85	Letter to Vaughan from J.W. Lane enclosing a testimonial from Capt Marcus Beresford in pursuance of a commission. (1 paper)	25 Dec 1870
Item	DVau/2/18/31	90	Letter to Vaughan from John Hill, Mayor, stating that he has heard only good things about the conduct of the Militia during recent training. (1 paper, 1 envelope)	7 Jun 1870
Item	DVau/2/18/32	7	Letter (draft) from Vaughan to the Duke of Beaufort regarding Lt. Vere F.J. Somerset, who has become involved with a girl in Monmouth who is of questionable character, and with whom he has refused to break off relations. (1 paper)	7 May 1872
Item	DVau/2/18/33	28	Letter to Vaughan from F.N. Ward with a receipt for a cheque. (1 paper, 1 envelope)	21 May 1872
Item	DVau/2/18/34	6	Draft letter from Vaughan to Mr Donnell regarding the former's resignation. (1 paper)	19 Dec 1876
Item	DVau/2/18/35	36	Letter to the Duke of Beaufort from Vaughan regarding the latter's resignation. (1 paper)	21 Dec 1876

Item	DVau/2/18/36	22	Letter to Vaughan from R. Hickman saying that he is sorry for the Regiment that Vaughan is retiring. (1 paper)	22 Dec 1876
Item	DVau/2/18/37	91	3 letters between Vaughan, the Duke of Beaufort and Major General Sir Garnett Wolseley regarding the possible change of the Regiment to engineers, asking for Vaughan's opinion and the type of men in the Militia. (3 papers, 1 envelope)	17-21 Jan 1876
Item	DVau/2/18/38	40	Letter from Drewe of the Grange, Honiton, to Vaughan regarding the latter's resignation from the Royal Monmouthshire Militia. (1 paper)	30 Dec 1876
Item	DVau/2/18/39		Letter from Hickman to Vaughan regarding the latter's retirement and the changing of the regiment, with an extract from the London Gazette regarding Vaughan (9 Jan 1877) (2 papers)	14 Jan 1877
Item	DVau/2/18/40		Letter from Vaughan to Clifford Bentley regarding the type of men in the Militia. Vaughan states that he isn't interested in where they are from, their religious or political leanings, just that they could do their duty. (1 paper)	14 Nov 18??
Item	DVau/2/18/41		Part letter from William Williams (to Vaughan?) regarding political matters – reporting bills being read etc. (1 paper)	May/Jun 1846
Item	DVau/2/18/42		Letter from Vaughan to the Duke of Beaufort thanking him for his consideration and kindness during his command. (1 paper)	nd
Item	DVau/2/18/43		Copy letter to Lysons from Vaughan regarding sending of the money to Royal Welsh Fusiliers and hoping they will enjoy drinking their comrades' health. [see letters D/Vaughan/2/6/15, 17 and 18] (1 paper)	nd [Jul 1855]
Item	DVau/2/18/44		Envelope addressed to Captain A. Elliston, A.D.C. Brigadier General Scarlett, The Crimean, Armée En Orient. Containing letter to 'Darling Johnny Dee' from Ceccy Dee(?), Nice, Xmas Day (2 papers, 1 envelope)	25 Dec ??

<b>Series</b>	<b>DVau/3</b>		<b>Papers of Col. Francis Baynham Vaughan</b>	<b>24 Feb 1893</b>
Item	DVau/3/1		Letter, with envelope, to Colonel F.B. Vaughan, Hotel du Londres, Roma, Italy from the Duke of Beaufort, Badminton, regarding Militia matters, retirements and promotions, etc. (1 paper, 1 envelope)	24 Feb 1893
<b>Series</b>	<b>DVau/4</b>		<b>Papers of Major Charles Jerome Vaughan</b>	<b>1914-1933</b>
Item	DVau/4/1	D250	Photocopy of the War Diary of Major C.J. Vaughan O.C. 4 Seige Coy RMRE. (1 bundle, manuscript)	Dec 1914 – Feb 1915
Item	DVau/4/2		Grant of the appointment of Major C.J. Vaughan as an Officer of the Military Division of the Order of the British Empire (1 paper)	1 Jan 1919
Item	DVau/4/3		3 certificates for 'gallant and distinguished services in the field' in the First World War. Signed by Churchill, Secretary of State for War. a) in a despatch from F.M. Haig dated 7 No 1917 b) in a despatch from F.M. Haig dated 9 Apr 1917 c) in a despatch from Gen F.R., Earl of Cavan dated 26 Oct 1918 (3 papers)	1 Mar 1919
Item	DVau/4/4		Certificate of the appointment of C.J. Vaughan as Deputy Lieutenant of and for Monmouth (1 paper)	28 Oct 1932
Item	DVau/4/5		Certificate of appointment of Major C.J. Vaughan as Sheriff of Hereford. (1 paper)	16 Mar 1933
<b>Series</b>	<b>DVau/5</b>		<b>Papers of Major Joseph Herbert Vaughan</b>	<b>26 Jan 1933</b>
Item	DVau/5/1		Commission of Joseph Herbert Vaughan as 2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant. (1 card)	26 Jan 1933

Item	DVau/5/2	<b>Transcript of the war diary of Captain J H Vaughan, 101 Field Company</b> With notes added 1972. Final page/s of diary missing (9 pages, typescript)	<b>May 16-30 1940</b>
------	----------	--	---------------------------