Free Civil War Diaries and Personal Narratives

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Diary Count: 1,451

No other chapter of American history has been so voluminously recorded as the American Civil War. Even today, more than 130 years after General Robert E. Lee and the remnants of his loyal, starving army bowed to inevitable defeat at Appomattox, the Civil War continues to fascinate people the world over. What draws us to that terrible conflict is not the struggle over slavery or states' rights, but the human drama it unfolds. The real war was experienced every day by those who fought it and by their families at home. The personal source materials for this conflict include letters, diaries, autobiographies, memoirs, and reports published in books that number into the thousands. Today, more than a century later, thanks to these published letters, memoirs, and documents, we can experience the conflict first hand through the words left us by those who lived through it and by some who died in it. This massive array of materials is invaluable to researchers, Civil War scholars, and others interested in this period of American history.

Every war generates a large number of official documents, and the Civil War is no exception. In fact, it prompted many more documents than previous American wars. The Official Records of the War of the Rebellion, for example, runs to 70 volumes in 127 parts plus general index and atlas. A great number of documents in this series reveal personal accounts of the combatants, often written just after the event. There are also numerous collections of Civil War letters and diaries, many written by prominent officers, men of considerable literacy, who were quite conscious of the historical importance of the conflict. Almost every general seems to have published his "Memoirs" of the events. We have collected, and continue to collect, Civil War Diaries and Personal Narratives from across the web. We offer these to our visitors free of charge. With 700+ documents to process, content will be added weekly, so stop back and see us.

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Quiner Scrapbooks - Correspondence of the Wisconsin Volunteers, 1861-1865, Volume 1
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Quiner Scrapbooks - Correspondence of the Wisconsin Volunteers, 1861-1865, Volume 8
Quiner Scrapbooks - Correspondence of the Wisconsin Volunteers, 1861-1865, Volume 9
Quiner Scrapbooks - Correspondence of the Wisconsin Volunteers, 1861-1865, Volume 10

The Correspondence of the Wisconsin Volunteers, 1861-1865, are newspaper clippings concerning the activities of Wisconsin regiments during the Civil War, which Quiner collected and bound into 10 scrapbooks. Originally the correspondence was addressed to a particular newspaper or to family and friends from men on the fields of battle. Arranged by regiments, the scrapbooks provide insight into the spirit as well as the struggles of the combatants. Each of the 10 scrapbook volumes (except for volume 1) has a separate alphabetical index volume providing access in the appropriate scrapbook to the participants mentioned.

Gurnewski, Adam. Diary, March 4, 1861 to November 12, 1862. Vol. 1 (1862)
Gurnewski, Adam. Diary, November 18, 1862 to October 18, 1863. Vol. 2 (1862)
Gurnewski, Adam. Diary, For 1863-64-65, Vol. 3 (1862)

His keen political mind and devotion to the abolitionist movement, as stated in his Slavery in History (1860), led de Gurnewski to Washington D.C. Once there, he supported the Union war effort by translating articles in foreign newspapers for the Secretary of State. The publication of his Diary (1862), however, caused a break with the administration due to his frank criticism of Lincoln, Seward, and other military officials' reorganization of the war. He advocated the organization of a troop of African-American soldiers and offered suggestions for its formation.
Albert S. Underwood Diary, 1864

This is the Civil War diary of Albert Underwood of Annapolis, Park County, Indiana. He was a member of the 9th Indiana Light Artillery. It covers the period of the war from January 1, 1864 thru January 11, 1865. It is a very different account than the one we read in the history books. It tells what the war was like to a young man from Indiana as he moved around the country with his unit. It is so personal, at times you might imagine Albert Underwood is sitting across the table from you telling you his story. A private in the 9th Battery Indiana Light Artillery, Underwood writes in his diary from January 1 through December 31, 1864. He records his activities in camp, the company’s travels on steamboats, and the skirmishes and battles in which he fought in Tennessee, Mississippi, and Missouri during the Civil War. He was killed in early 1865, along with most of his unit, when the steamer Eclipse exploded near Paducah, Kentucky.

Diary of A. Thompson

This is the unsigned diary of A. Thompson concerning movements from Chattanooga, Tenn., to Atlanta, Ga., May 4-Sept. 8, 1864. Thompson served in the 44th New York Infantry during the Civil War.

A.H. Lewis

This diary, written between December 15, 1861 and March 10, 1862, records the experience of A.H. Lewis of Saline County, Missouri as a Confederate soldier and prisoner of war. Lewis’ company of Missouri State Guards was captured by Col. Davis in the Battle of Blackwater River on December 19, 1861. After being held for several weeks at the St. Louis military prison, the Confederate prisoners were moved to the penitentiary at Alton, Illinois. Although Lewis initially criticized prisoners who took an Oath of Loyalty to the Federal government to gain freedom, Lewis took the Oath himself on March 14, 1862 and was released.

Abram Rinker

Abram Rinker diaries, 1863-1864. The collection consists of two Civil War diaries of Abram Rinker written during his service with Company B of the 53rd Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers from May 1863 - December 1864. Rinker was stationed in North and South Carolina including Beauford, Morris, James, and Folly Islands (S.C.) and Ft. Strong (N.C.). Entries discuss Rinker’s health; the bombardment of Confederate batteries in the harbor, and the landing of troops at Hilton Head, 9 Dec. 1861, and on Edisto Island in early April 1862; Union plundering of the Confederate countryside; on 8 Mar. 1862, he reports meeting missionaries aboard the steamer Atlantic en route to Port Royal to establish schools for former African-American slaves. Head also records his impressions of several plantations and churches on Edisto Island (Charleston County, S.C.) and expresses concern about the presence of Confederate troops in the area.

Adam H. Pickel

This collection consists of one diary (77 pages) kept by Adam H. Pickel during the American Civil War, 13 August 1862-8 July 1863, about camp life, troop movements, the weather, prisoners of war, the Battle of Fredericksburg, the Battle of Gettysburg, and the battlefield shot which led to his death. Also includes a handwritten transcription by his grandson of the first three months of the diary, two clippings (obituary of Pickel’s daughter Mary Ann, and 1864 notice that her and her father’s remains were moved from the Methodist Churchyard to Morris Cemetery, Phoenixville, Pennsylvania), a two page handwritten short history of the 68th Pennsylvania Infantry, and a bullet (photographed and scanned) removed from his body.

T. Roberts Baker

Diary of T. Roberts Baker, of the Second Howitzer Company, of Richmond, Va.

A. S. Oberly

This is the diary of A. S. Oberly who served on five military vessels during the Civil War.

F. M. McMillen

The Civil War Diary of Sgt. F. M. McMillen [transcribed here by Carl A. Robin] was written by Sergeant McMillen while serving in Company C, 120th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, 2nd Brigade, 3rd Division, 6th Corps from 1 January - 25 March 1865. The diary records the activities of McMillen, who was mainly a clerk, as he participated in the Petersburg final assault during the Appomattox Campaign.
Stephen Vaughn Shipman, Diary, 1865, Transcription. Major Stephen Vaughan Shipman (1825-1905) was architect of Wisconsin’s State Capitol when the war broke out, but resigned that appointment to join the 1st Wisconsin Cavalry. His 1865 diary documents cases before a court martial on which he served, and a march through Alabama and Georgia with accounts of arson, plunder, and drunkenness among the men. He also describes accidents among the troops, witnesses refugee families living in trains, and comments on the assassination of Abraham Lincoln. Shipman also discusses his assignment at the close of the war to collect Confederate government records and deliver them to Washington.

Sumner Ansel Holway Diary 1862

Sumner Ansel Holway Diary 1863

Diaries kept by Sumner Ansel Holway of Bingham, Somerset County, Maine during the year 1862-1863 in which he records his daily activity as a private in the 1st Maine Cavalry. Company H. Holway writes of his experiences in Virginia, including the battles of Middletown, 2nd Bull Run, Antietam, Chan-coltonville, Brandy Station, and the Battle of Aide, where he received a leg wound that removed him from the war.

Josephus Moore

A journal written by Josephus Moore describing his enlistment into the army in Tennessee at the outbreak of the Civil War, his experience in battle, imprisonment at Fort Donelson, and swearing an oath to gain his freedom.

Alexander E. Steen

Alexandcr E. Steen, Papers, 1861-1862. Correspondence of Confederate brigadier general of the 5th Division, Missouri State Guard, concerning a military engagement near Fort Scott, September 1, 1861. John E. Pitt's attempt to organize troops in the 5th Military District, and the discharge of soldiers.

Arthur Tappan Strong

Arthur Tappan Strong diary, January 1 to March 9, 1862. Typescript transcription of an original diary written by Arthur Tappan Strong from January 1, 1862 to March 9, 1862, while a member of the 42nd Ohio Volunteers under Colonel James Garfield. This diary refers to Arthur's death of "camp dysentery" in a Union army hospital at Ashland, Kentucky February 28, 1862.

Augustus L. Yenner

Full text of Augustus L. Yenner diary, 1863

Handwritten Civil War diary, soft cover, pocket sized, scanned and transcribed.

Aurelius T. Bartlett

Reminiscences of Aurelius T. Bartlett, 1860: Describe the affairs of the 33rd Missouri Infantry in Arkansas, Tennessee, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Missouri, including detailed descriptions of regimental casualties and of medical care provided at field hospitals. Among the following battles and campaigns: attack on Helena, Ark., Red River campaign; engagement at Old River Lake, Ark.; Tupelo and Oxford, Miss.; expeditions; pursuit of General Sterling Price through Arkansas and Missouri; Battle of Nashville; pursuit of General Hood through Tennessee; and the Mobile campaign; including the Siege of Spanish Fort.

Benjamin Whitcomb

This is the diary of Benjamin Whitcomb who served with the 15th Massachusetts Infantry from December 14, 1861 until he was discharged on December 5, 1862, for wounds received at the Battle of Antietam. The Diary contains entries from February 25 through September 27, 1862.

The Campaigns of Walker's Texas Division - By a Private Soldier

Containing a complete record of the campaigns in Texas, Louisiana, and Arkansas ... including the Federal's report of the battles, names of the officers of the division, diary of marches, camp scenery, anecdotes ... By a private soldier.

Charles Wills

Army life of an Illinois soldier, including a day by day record of Sherman's march to the sea; letters and diary of the late Charles W. Wills, private and sergeant 8th Illinois Infantry; lieutenant and battalion adjutant 7th Illinois Cavalry; captain, major and lieutenant colonel 103rd Illinois Infantry. Compiled and published by his sister [Mary E. Kellogg]

Edward Hill

The diary of Captain Edward Hill conveys the pleasures, hardships, and heroism of a Union soldier who served in the Civil War's climactic showdown in Virginia between the armies of General Ulysses Grant and Robert E. Lee. Hill and his regiment, the 16th Michigan Infantry, took part in many of the Army of the Potomac's key battles, and in later life Hill wrote about the Battle of Fredericksburg. Information about his daily wartime activities, however, is only available from February 16, 1864 to July 27, 1864 through jottings in his diary. At the beginning of this period Hill enjoyed a leisurely return to his regiment after a brief furlough in Michigan, socializing with friends and going to the theater in Baltimore and Washington. In mid-April 1864 he rejoined his men at their camp near Bealeton Station, Virginia, and during the relentless Union offensive of May they took part in the Battles of the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, and Fashirn. Hill was wounded near Cold Harbor on June 1, 1864 prior to the Battle of Cold Harbor and would later receive the Medal of Honor for his heroic leadership. The diary continues during Hill's recovery, chronicling his progress and daily visitors while he recuperated at Amory Square Hospital in Washington, D.C.
Civil War Diaries

The Immortal Six Hundred: a story of cruelty to Confederate prisoners of war. This book chronicles the ordeal of six hundred Confederate officers who were confined by their Yankee captors in the stockade on Morris Island, South Carolina, directly under the fire of Confederate guns, and then were subsequently starved on rations of rotten corn and onion pickle at Fort Pulaski, Georgia and Hilton Head, South Carolina by order of U.S. Secretary of War, Edwin M. Stanton. The author, a Major in the Confederate Army, was one of the survivors of the group.

Christian D. Rupp

Rupp's Memorandum Book, July 5-September 22 – 1864. Begins in Thibodaux, Louisiana on July 5. The soldiers are put onto a boat in the Mississippi River which almost immediately runs aground on a sandbar. They are transferred to another boat, the original boat is freed from the sand bar, then they are transferred once again to the original boat. They then travel out into the gulf, past the Tortugas, past the Hatteras Lighthouse, and up the east coast to Chesapeake Bay. They travel up the Potomac River. They disembark and travel overland to participate in battles at Winchester and Cedar Creek. Rupp was from Vinton, Iowa. He enlisted on August 12, 1862, was mustered in on September 2, 1862, and mustered out on July 31 1865 at Savannah, Georgia. This journal was donated by the Owen Workfield Family.

Henry Dysart


Thomas Jefferson Campbell

Pocket diary of Thomas Jefferson Campbell (1837-1912), Co. A, 6th Tenn. Inf. Regt., USA. It begins January 1 at Nashville, where he can hear the action at Stones River. Campbell soon records a visit from Gen. William Rosecrans, “a pleasant looking man” and later tells of a hanging execution. On September [November?] 21-23, Campbell writes, “The Battle was going on [and] we are ordered to the front… We are on lookout mout [sic] the rebels are all around us we think that we will be routed.”

Lyman D. Willey

From Louisville to the Sea - A Soldier's Diary of the Civil War, The National Tribune, 1901.

A. J. Thompson

Abner J. Thompson, a native of Newport, Herkimer County, New York, was a soldier in the American Civil War and served as a part of Battery H, 1st Ohio Light Artillery, Army of the Potomac. The diary is an account of a soldier's daily life from 1861 to 1865, and includes a list of generals under which Thompson’s unit served; hand-drawn sketches of rivers, construction supports, surveys, and artillery trajectory, with corresponding calculations; and daily notations concerning weather, activities, and personal health.

Christian Hook

Christian Hook was a Union Corporal in 151st Ohio Infantry (National Guard) during the Civil War. The collection contains his diary of May to August 1864, including entries on camp life and a near-court martial, as well as a reunion flyer for the regiment from 1865. Entries primarily detail Hook’s movements and actions from the day before mustering in Ohio until a few days before his return. Hook notes passing Harper’s Ferry and encountering wounded soldiers returning home. Most days are described as “pleasant” in the fortifications around Washington, D.C. throughout the first half of Hook’s deployment. Lincoln arrived in camp on July 10. His subsequent addresses show he knew Confederate Lt. Gen. Jubal A. Early’s forces would be arriving within a day and proceeded to stay in camp to observe the fighting, now referred to as the Battle of Fort Stevens. The strong defenses of Fort Stevens minimized the military threat and Early withdrew after two days of skirmishing without attempting any serious assaults. Hook notes the fortifications around Washington returned to quiet by July 14. All entries return to describing his pleasant until July 30. An apparent disagreement over the posting of troops resulted in Hook’s arrest and detainment at Fort Sumner while awaiting trial for court martial. For unapparent reasons, Hook was released August 6. The rest of the journal notes his picket duty, although the dates August 10-15 are missing. Diary concludes with Hook in Baltimore August 21 awaiting departure to Harrisburg and ultimately to Ohio for the Regiment to be mustered out.

Civil War diary, 1864-1865

This collection consists of a loose diary written by an unidentified Michigan soldier fighting in Georgia. The diary details the daily life of a Northern soldier fighting in Georgia during the Civil War in the winter of 1864-1865.

D. Coleman

Confederate Captain D. Coleman was an officer with various units of the Army of Tennessee and with detached cavalry in Bedford County, Tullahoma, Chattanooga, and Lookout Mountain, Tenn., and Chickamauga, Ringgold, and Dalton, Ga. The collection is a diary, 26 January 1863-15 February 1864 and summer, 1864, of Coleman, including vivid descriptions of military activity, daily life, and trips to his home at Athens, Ala., which was at times under federal occupation, to care for his family and to recruit.
Contains accounts of movements and operations of a Confederate unit in Mississippi and Alabama (February to May 1864) and during the Atlanta campaign (May to August 1864). Also contains a few pages of personal accounts.

Diary of the campaign of the 4th Battalion Sharpshooters from Palmetto, Georgia

Transcription of Diary of the campaign of the 4th Battalion Sharpshooters from Palmetto, Georgia

Diary of the Great Rebellion


Ezra Pray

Civil War Journal of Acting Assistant Surgeon Ezra Pray. With his appointment effective 21 October 1861, Ezra Pray was designated an "acting assistant surgeon" and ordered to report to the U.S. Bark Fernandina in New York City, where he arrived a week before that ship was commissioned on 16 November 1861. Pray's 154-page journal begins with his application for appointment in September and his service in Fernandina from November through 18 April 1862; however, he actually began to write his account in late January through early February 1862, using the ship's official logbook to remind himself of the key events of his first few months on board. The journal goes on to cover blockade duty, and a possible mutiny.

Stephen R. Kelsey

Union soldier in the 5th New York Regiment, Battalion J, during the Civil War. Papers include a diary written between January and May 1865, while stationed in New York and Virginia. Participated in the occupation of Petersburg, Virginia, in April 1865. Entries refer to the assassination of Pres. Abraham Lincoln and the capture of Jefferson Davis.

W.A. Mauney

Leather bound. Approximately 234 pages, condition is poor, binding very delicate. It is a hand written diary with some ink fading, some entries in pencil. A letter written to his father and a receipt for money received from the Sellers estate were included in the diary at the time it was donated. W.A. Mauney enlisted in the army and the diary has daily entries from 1861-1865 about the events, activities, and battles fought by Company B, 28th N. C. Regiment (South Fork Farmers or also known as Gaston Invincibles) in North Carolina and Virginia. Also included in the information was a set of camp song lyrics and a list of names of the people in the regiment with deaths noted. The letter that was in the diary was sent from Madison County Virginia, May 17th, 1862. The receipt was dated 1871. W. A. Mauney was one of the founding fathers of Kings Mountain. A 45 page transcript of the diary and the record of Company B volunteers was made in the 1930s and was notarized August 26, 1938.

Reuben Sweet

This diary kept by a young Wisconsin soldier from Nov. 1863 to Jan. 1865 portrays it in the everyday language of a farm boy. Reuben Sweet grew up in rural Sheboygan County and enlisted as soon as the call went out for volunteers. When his initial 90 days were up he re-enlisted for the duration of the war, and these day-by-day notes convey his experience in plain words. There is much here on the challenges of daily life, such as the weather, meals (or the lack of them), laundry, illnesses, and the landscapes he marched through. But Sweet also gives eyewitness accounts of battles and skirmishes as he traveled with the 14th Infantry across Tennessee to Atlanta, and then on to Gen. William Sherman's troops to the sea - more than 2,100 miles in all. The Atlanta Campaign is described on pages 13-20, and his work destroying the infrastructure of the southern states under Sherman's command, from Atlanta to Columbia, South Carolina, occupies much of the last 10 pages.
Volume one of Ezekiel John Ellis' diary (February-March 1865) begins with a retrospective account by Ellis of the events leading up to
the Civil War and his service in the war before his capture and imprisonment at Johnson Island in 1863. This portion of the volume is
entitled A Retrospect (p. 1-72), wherein he describes his political views; the development of Confederate military forces; his military
service; battles in Mississippi, Georgia, Kentucky, and Tennessee; and his capture at the Battle of Missionary Ridge. Ellis wrote the
account while imprisoned at Johnson Island Prison in Ohio. It serves as an introduction to his prison diary, which begins February 1, 1865.
In the diary, Ellis documents his daily observations and experiences as a prisoner of war. During his imprisonment, he read a great deal,
and his entries exhibit an extensive knowledge of history and an appreciation of poetry. Additionally, his personal thoughts reflect his
vain and distress over the war. Pages 118-132 contain poems by and autographs of other prisoners. Page 131 also contains a list of
men killed and where.

In volume two of Ezekiel John Ellis' diary (April-October 1865), Ellis documents his daily observations and experiences as a prisoner
of war. He considers the justification for war, the defeat of the Confederate States, and the political environment after the war. During
his imprisonment, he read a great deal, and his entries exhibit an extensive knowledge of history and an appreciation of poetry. He
also describes his trip back to Louisiana after his release. Pages 1-57 are his diary of April-July 1865; pages 58-67 contain an
incomplete work of fiction (Oct. 19, 1865) concerning a Louisiana planter at the onset of the Civil War; pages 200-217 contain
speeches about secession made after the war; and pages 237-238 consist of poems "The Contraband" and "The Young Volunteer"
which are identifiable by soldiers.

Rufus Dawes (1838-1899) was just 22 years old when the war broke out. He rose from captain of a company of Wisconsin lumberjacks
to colonel of the 6th Wisconsin Infantry and a leader of the Iron Brigade. The first volume of his diary is not a daily journal but rather
contains long narratives of the battles of Second Bull Run, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, and other engagements, written soon
after they happened. The second volume consists of daily entries from July 1860 through June 1862. Both volumes document what it
was like for a young man to be thrust into authority amid great challenges and horrors. After the war, Dawes became a merchant in
Marietta, Ohio, and served a term in Congress.

S.C. Jones
Reminiscences of the Twenty-second Iowa volunteer infantry, giving its organization, marches, skirmishes, battles, and sieges, as taken
from the diary of Lieutenant S.C. Jones of Company A.

Samuel McBlain
Diary and transcriptions of Capt. Samuel McBlain, 1835-1919. He served in the 44th NY and also the 140th NY in the Civil War.
Later became a teacher, a farmer, a justice of the peace and a life insurance salesman.

Samuel Hollingsworth Stout
Samuel Hollingsworth Stout papers 1863-1865. These papers relate to Dr. Samuel H. Stout's service during the Civil War under the Army
of Tennessee in Georgia. Included are documents relating to the physical conditions of William Cleveland and A.O. Adams. Additional
items discuss the transfer of wounded soldiers, the capacity of LaGrange Hospital and the hiring of slaves for hospitals. Also included is
a letter from W.M. Beckam written from Parole Camps, Demopolis, Alabama discussing war experiences.

Thomas Sparrow
Thomas Sparrow, a New Bern, N.C., native and resident of Washington, N.C., who served as a state legislator and Confederate officer.
The diary, which concerns Sparrow's imprisonment at Fort Warren, Mass., describes smallpox among the prisoners and deaths in
the hospital, the departure of prisoners for the South, news that all the prisoners were being sent home, and the trip from Boston, Mass.,
to Norfolk, Va. News of the capture of men and gunboats at Roanoke Island and the burning of Elizabeth City, N.C.

David E. Curtis
This is the diary of David E. Curtis who served with the 104th New York Infantry during the Civil War. He was wounded at the Battle of
the Wilderness, and subsequently hospitalized. The diary covers February 1-October 12, 1864 and recounts the author's experience
in camp, battle, and hospital.

David H. Reynolds
A sergeant in Company K, 43rd Indiana Infantry Regiment, Reynolds writes in his diary from January 1 through September 26, 1863.
He records his activities in camp, the company's travels on steamboats, and the skirmishes and battles in which he fought in Missippi
and Arkansas during the Civil War.

Diary of the Paymaster of Fremont's Body Guard, 1861
Diary of the Paymaster of Fremont's Body Guard, 1861 (Transcript)

Describes the expedition to Springfield, including an account of the charge against Springfield and the return to St. Louis. Contains
frequent mentions of Major Charles Zagany (Karoly Zagany), and information on marches and foraging expeditions.

Diary of the War for Separation Copy 1
Civil War Diaries

Details Civil War army life of Ferdinand Winslow, who, during this time, served as Quartermaster of the Army of the Southwest.

Ferdinand Sophus Winslow letters, September 1862-April 1865
Ferdinand Sophus Winslow letters, February-September 1862
Ferdinand Sophus Winslow letters, September 1861-February 1862

Enoch Stephens

Enoch Stephens' diary from his time in the 5th NY Veteran Volunteers from January 1st, 1863 to December 26th, 1865. Most entries describe the weather and the time of daily drills and dress parades, but the diary also documents such events as the fall of Richmond, the surrender of General Robert E. Lee, the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, Stephens' time guarding the Lincoln Conspirators and witnessing the executions, and the paying off of several regiments. Enoch Stephens (born ~1835) enlisted on June 30th, 1861 in Brooklyn, New York as a 1st Sergeant. During his time in the military, Stephens seems to have participated in the 8th Regiment, New York Infantry, the 5th Regiment, New York Veteran Infantry, and the 4th Regiment, US Veteran Volunteer Infantry. Prior to 1865 he was promoted to major.

Edwin F. Holmes


Edwin Failey

This is the diary of Edwin Failey who served with the 8th Wisconsin Infantry during the Civil War. The diary covers August 1861-June 1862, and includes entries made in Wisconsin, Missouri, and Mississippi. The diary was transcribed and published in 1862 under the title Soldier Life: The Diary of a Civil War Soldier.

Edwin R. Sharpe Journals, 1862 September 10-1863 February 1; 1863 July 15-1863 December 3
Edwin R. Sharpe Journal, 1863 February 27-1863 July 14
Edwin R. Sharpe Journal, 1863 December 10-1864 December 14

The first three journals (1862-1864) were kept while Sharpe served in the Confederate Army during the Civil War. They discuss camp life and military tactics of several major battles and campaigns, such as Gettysburg in Pennsylvania, Fredericksburg in Virginia, Antietam in Maryland, the Battle of the Wilderness in Virginia, and the Valley Campaign led by Stonewall Jackson in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. The first journal contains some quotes from various authors.

Eugene Bergin Hinkley

Correspondence from Eugene Bergin Hinkley to his sisters in which he details his activities while traveling as secretary to Commodore Thatcher, who was stationed aboard the U.S. Sloop-of-War Constellation bound for the Mediterranean to protect Union shipping. The tour also served a diplomatic function as Thatcher and Hinkley met with American and foreign diplomats at each port. Several letters include news about the Civil War as well as rumors from the diplomatic community about possible foreign actions. The news that General George B. McClellan took Yorktown, Virginia, and the possibility of French mediation thereby recognizing the Confederacy (18 May 1862) is noted as is Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton's culpability in not supporting McClellan (26 July 1862). Later, Hinkley speculates on charges of incompetence being leveled at General McClellan (18 December 1862) and questions whether McClellan lost Richmond because the use of McDowell's Corps was withheld from him (4 July 1863). Also included is a discussion of whether war with the Confederacy is justified by the Constitution (26 February 1863). Hinkley was unsure of the ability of the Union leaders to gain victory, while noting the success of the Confederacy against all odds (17 May 1863). In the English port of Gibraltar, Union and Confederate ships, in theory, were both restricted to a twenty-four-hour stay. In reality the English were partial to the Confederacy (18 May 1862) is noted as is Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton's culpability in not supporting McClellan (26 July 1862). Later, Hinkley speculates on charges of incompetence being leveled at General McClellan (18 December 1862) and questions whether McClellan lost Richmond because the use of McDowell's Corps was withheld from him (4 July 1863). Also included is a discussion of whether war with the Confederacy is justified by the Constitution (26 February 1863). Hinkley was unsure of the ability of the Union leaders to gain victory, while noting the success of the Confederacy against all odds (17 May 1863). In the English port of Gibraltar, Union and Confederate ships, in theory, were both restricted to a twenty-four-hour stay. In reality the English were partial to the Confederacy and Hinkley notes that the CSS Sumter was allowed to stay indefinitely. There, also, relations between English and Union officers were tense, ending in a fight in a restaurant (4 May 1862). Items of interest about each country are also included in the correspondence. In Turkey, the easy life of Beirut missionaries who were better supported and had fewer responsibilities than the majority of clergymen in New England is detailed (26 September 1862). Hinkley also describes a meeting with the president of the Ottoman Railway Co., an English concern, and notes the condition of the line.

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Enoch Stephens' diary from his time in the 5th NY Veteran Volunteers from January 1st, 1863 to December 26th, 1865. Most entries describe the weather and the time of daily drills and dress parades, but the diary also documents such events as the fall of Richmond, the surrender of General Robert E. Lee, the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, Stephens' time guarding the Lincoln Conspirators and witnessing the executions, and the paying off of several regiments. Enoch Stephens (born ~1835) enlisted on June 30th, 1861 in Brooklyn, New York as a 1st Sergeant. During his time in the military, Stephens seems to have participated in the 8th Regiment, New York Infantry, the 5th Regiment, New York Veteran Infantry, and the 4th Regiment, US Veteran Volunteer Infantry. Prior to 1865 he was promoted to major.

Eugene Bergin Hinkley

Correspondence from Eugene Bergin Hinkley to his sisters in which he details his activities while traveling as secretary to Commodore Thatcher, who was stationed aboard the U.S. Sloop-of-War Constellation bound for the Mediterranean to protect Union shipping. The tour also served a diplomatic function as Thatcher and Hinkley met with American and foreign diplomats at each port. Several letters include news about the Civil War as well as rumors from the diplomatic community about possible foreign actions. The news that General George B. McClellan took Yorktown, Virginia, and the possibility of French mediation thereby recognizing the Confederacy (18 May 1862) is noted as is Secretary of War Edwin M. Stanton's culpability in not supporting McClellan (26 July 1862). Later, Hinkley speculates on charges of incompetence being leveled at General McClellan (18 December 1862) and questions whether McClellan lost Richmond because the use of McDowell's Corps was withheld from him (4 July 1863). Also included is a discussion of whether war with the Confederacy is justified by the Constitution (26 February 1863). Hinkley was unsure of the ability of the Union leaders to gain victory, while noting the success of the Confederacy against all odds (17 May 1863). In the English port of Gibraltar, Union and Confederate ships, in theory, were both restricted to a twenty-four-hour stay. In reality the English were partial to the Confederacy and Hinkley notes that the CSS Sumter was allowed to stay indefinitely. There, also, relations between English and Union officers were tense, ending in a fight in a restaurant (4 May 1862). Items of interest about each country are also included in the correspondence. In Turkey, the easy life of Beirut missionaries who were better supported and had fewer responsibilities than the majority of clergymen in New England is detailed (26 September 1862). Hinkley also describes a meeting with the president of the Ottoman Railway Co., an English concern, and notes the condition of the line.

Ferdinand Sophus Winslow letters, September 1863-February 1862
Ferdinand Sophus Winslow letters, February-September 1862
Ferdinand Sophus Winslow letters, September 1862-April 1865

Details Civil War army life of Ferdinand Winslow, who, during this time, served as Quartermaster of the Army of the Southwest.
Civil War Diaries

10th Regiment, New York Heavy Artillery mustered out in June of 1865...

Bermuda Hundred, Virginia, until joining the Appomattox Campaign in March 1865, and the final battle at Petersburg in April. The campaign, and Cedar Creek in the Shenandoah Valley. In December 1864, the regiment moved again and was stationed at...

1863 the entire regiment was stationed in Washington, D.C. The regiment remained there until May 1864, when it moved to Cold war. The various companies of the 10th Regiment, New York Heavy Artillery were formed during the fall and winter of 1862. By June of...

a corporal, but it is unclear if this occurred with the regiment or prior to the end of the war. There is no information about his life after the home in New York. The memorandum section of the diary notes extended furlough pay in December. He appears to have mustered out as and December of 1864, Babcock was on a furlough which was extended from its initial 12 days to an additional 18 days. He spent it at...

was probably born around 1840 and was living in Adams, Jefferson County, New York, prior to the Civil War. During November, Babcock's diary is about his activities at home while on furlough. Willis A. Babcock enlisted as a private with Company B of the...

writes, "slept in Hospital to night for the first time since I have been a soldier." He was transferred from Alexandria to Lincoln Hospital in Washington, D.C., where he was part of the Grand Review of the Armies on May 24, 1865. He makes mention of the presidential election of November, 1864 and the assassination of Abraham Lincoln in April, 1865. Miller's diary also chronicles his frustration over constraints on his mobility while in Washington and his train ride home to Wisconsin after the war ended.

Babcock's Civil War diary begins near Washington, D.C., where his company had been since June 1863. While at Fort Carroll, his entries largely contain descriptions of his duties in camp (drills and guard, police, or ordnary duties), as well as rare sight-seeing trips in the city. He occasionally mentions his meals, recording one day in March where he had roast turkey for dinner—several of his friends caught seven turkeys the previous day. Like many soldiers, Babcock frequently records the weather in his diary. In May of 1864, the artillery unit moved to Fort Willard, Virginia. For most of that month, Babcock's diary continues to record picket and guard duties, as well as inspections and dress parades. On May 27, the regiment marched to Washington and loaded on to boats headed down the Potomac River. He spent several days on board the U.S. Transport Jefferson before marching from Port Royal to Beavling Green, Virginia. In early June, the regiment was encamped at General Burnside's Headquarters near Cold Harbor, Virginia. On June 5, 1864, Babcock writes they were being shelled, which resulting in the "killing [of] one man from Co. K....+ one from Co. M. was wounded. this is the first time we have been under fire." He records several days of shelling before moving toward Petersburg. For most of June, July, and into August, Babcock's diary includes lengthy entries of his experiences from the rifle pits in Petersburg, as well as camp life. On July 30, he writes, "losses very heavy on both sides our men occupy the same ground they did this morning, a total failure on our side." By mid-August, the 10th New York Heavy Artillery was camped at Fort Whipple, in Arlington, Virginia. In early September, Babcock's entries find him increasingly ill and excused from duty. His regiment left for the Shenandoah Valley in October and on October 8, Babcock writes, "stayed in Hospital to night for the first time since I have been a soldier." He was transferred from Alexandria to Lincoln Hospital in Washington, D.C., where he remained until November. His entries for October are very brief. From November 6 to the end of the year, Babcock's diary is about his activities at home while on furlough. Willis A. Babcock enlisted as a private with Company B of the 10th Regiment, New York Heavy Artillery on December 8, 1862 (he notes his 19-month anniversary in his diary on March 8, 1864). He was probably born around 1840 and was living in Adams, Jefferson County, New York, prior to the Civil War. During November and December of 1864, Babcock was on a furlough which was extended from its initial 12 days to an additional 18 days. He spent it at home in New York. The memorandum section of the diary notes extended furlough pay in December. He appears to have mustered out as a corporal, but it is unclear if this occurred with the regiment or prior to the end of the war. There is no information about his life after the war. The various companies of the 10th Regiment, New York Heavy Artillery were formed during the fall and winter of 1862. By June of 1863 the entire regiment was stationed in Washington, D.C. The regiment remained there until May 1864, when it moved to Cold Harbor, Virginia. The unit fought as a number of significant battles in Virginia, including Cold Harbor, a portion of the Petersburg campaign, and Cedar Creek in the Shenandoah Valley. In December 1864, the regiment moved again and was stationed at Bermuda Hundred, Virginia, until joining the Appomattox Campaign in March 1865, and the final battle at Petersburg in April. The 10th Regiment, New York Heavy Artillery mustered out in June of 1866.
William T. Russell, C.S.A. Hospital Department Surgical Notes

Russell, William T. (Thomas), 1827-1899. Diary of William T. (Thomas) Russell containing entries on medical cases of Confederate soldiers, Holcombe Legion, from the years 1862 - 1865. Soldier case entries include, name, rank and company within the Holcombe Legion and references to specific battles. Page numbers supplied by cataloger. Name entries verified in: South Carolina Confederate soldiers, 1861-1865. He served as the surgeon for the Confederate Army, Holcombe Legion, until the end of the war.

William M. Horton

Diary of William M. Horton, dated January 1, 1864 through August 28, 1864. In this diary, he discusses the weather, picket duty, inspections, deaths in the regiment, the Battle of Murfreesboro (February 6), parades, food, African Americans (April 27), sightseeing in Washington (May 5-7), the Battle of Spotsylvania, skirmishes, the Battle of Totopotomoy Creek, the Battle of Cold Harbor, Battle of Jerusalem Plank Road, the Battle of Deep Bottom, the Siege of Petersburg, the Fourth of July, changing regiments to the 118th Colored Troops, and mustering in the 118th Colored Troops (August 22). Also included in the diary is a letter list, an expenses list, a regimental history, and a list of officers and enlisted men in the 26th Michigan Infantry, Company B with details of their service record: Military Service Note: Horton, William M. Hartford. Enlisted in company E, Twenty-sixth Infantry, as Musician, Dec. 1, 1862, at Pikes, for 3 years, age 18. Mustard Dec. 8, 1862. Corporal, Oct. 31, 1863. Wounded in action near Petersburg, Va., June 16, 1864. Discharged Aug. 2, 1864, at accept commission in One Hundred and Eighteenth U.S. Colored Troops.

William L. Mangum papers, 1825-1863, undated

Transcript of William L. Mangum papers, 1825-1863, undated

Dr. William L. Mangum papers, 1825-1863, undated 1825-1863. This collection consists of military orders for Dr. William L. Mangum to raise a cavalry company from wounded Confederate soldiers; personal letters; Confederate military passes; account pages; tax and other receipts, 1833-1899; and birth, marriage, and death certificates for other members of the family.

William Morgan

Civil War Service Diary of William Morgan, beginning January 1, 1865, and ending on the day he was mustered out of the Service, June 29, 1865. Records everyday occurrences including locations of camp (Spring Hill, Nashville, and Johnsonville, TN; Paducah, KY; Cairo, IL; St. Louis and Warrensburg, MO); activities; weather; mail; general health of the companies, sickness (mumps, varioloid), and death; traffic on the river; food or lack thereof, and travel via train and boat.

William E. Vaughan

Diary of William E. Vaughan of Christian County, Missouri dated from December 14, 1861 to May 27, 1862; given to his sister Almena C. Bowles. Vaughan was sworn into Confederate Service, Christian County Company, December 14, 1861 in Ozark, Christian County, Missouri; H. P. Green was elected Captain of the company. The diary documents Vaughan’s day by day experiences as he traveled from Ozark, MO to Springfield, MO; Springfield, MO to Cove Creek, Arkansas; Cove Creek to Pea Ridge, Arkansas; Pea Ridge to Van Buren, Arkansas; Van Buren to Clarksville, Arkansas; Clarksville to Dover, Arkansas; Dover to Springfield, Arkansas; and Springfield to Des Arc, Arkansas; and on to Memphis, TN and Corinth, MS. His notations include descriptions of his company’s involvement in the Battle of Pea Ridge and the Siege of Corinth (up until May 27, 1862). Also included are descriptions of the company’s steamboat trip to Memphis, TN and their journey by rail to Corinth, MS; road conditions during various marches; attitudes and morale of Vaughan and his fellow soldiers; and living conditions and hardships of the soldiers. Pages 57 and 58 are missing from the diary.

William A. Dewey


William E. Walsh

Diary of Corporal William E. Walsh: First Rhode Island Cavalry, 1861-1865.

Basil H. Messler

February 1864-January 1865. Basil H. Messler enlisted in the Union Army in 1864, at Fort McClellan in Davenport, Iowa. Messler served in the Mississippi Marine Brigade, which was commanded by Brigadier General Alfred W. Elle. He saw action at Vicksburg several times. The Brigade was dissolved in August 1864, and Messler was reassigned as Commissary Sergeant of the First Battalion Calvary Regiment. He was later promoted to Corporal. Messler’s diary spans from late February 1864 to late January 1865. It mainly describes the non-combat life of Mesler and his fellow soldiers.

Benjamin M. Peck Diary 1864

Benjamin M. Peck Diary 1865

The 1864 leather bound, preprinted diary contains two daily entries per page with cash accounts and notes sections in the back of the diary. In 1864 Benjamin M. Peck was the Captain of Company B in the 141st Regiment PA Volunteers. Due to absences, injuries, and illness of other officers he was placed in command of the regiment before being assigned to lead the 1st United States Sharp
Missouri, and Fort Barnesville, Missouri. In early September, they were ordered to Fort Larned, Kansas, where they remained.

For June, July and August of 1865, Morgan and the 17th Illinois Cavalry balanced their time between Ft. Scott, Kansas, Balltown, Bluff, Missouri. Afterwards, the 17th left for Kansas City, Missouri, where they stayed until ordered to Fort Scott, Kansas, on June 1st.

Rolla, Missouri, but they moved to Pilot Knob, Missouri, just prior to General M. Jefferson Thompson's surrender of 7,000 men at Chalk engagement near Union Mills, Va.

he sent home money from Illinois, Missouri and Kansas while in service. In early January of 1865, the 17th Illinois Cavalry were in

Volunteer Infantry Regiment. Diary includes descriptions of military camps in Virginia and Andersonville Prison in Georgia.

Charles A. Rubright

This is the Civil War diary (January 1, 1864 to May 19, 1865), of Corporal Charles A. Rubright of Company F, 106th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry Regiment. Diary includes descriptions of military camps in Virginia and Andersonville Prison in Georgia.

Charles C. Phillips

This the Civil War diary (January 1, 1864 to May 19, 1865), of Corporal Charles A. Rubright of Company F, 106th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry Regiment. Diary includes descriptions of military camps in Virginia and Andersonville Prison in Georgia.

Benjamin F. White Diary

The collection includes the diary kept by Benjamin F. White while serving in Virginia, July-October 1861. The diary contains a detailed narrative of events, with comments and reflections, including discussion of the Battle of Manassas (Bull Run), 21 July 1861. Topics discussed include diseases that killed many in the regiment, preaching and baptizing, gambling, and other aspects of camp life.

Albert Moses Luria

This collection contains four items including an original diary kept by Carrie Berry from 1864-1866, an original diary kept by her from 1866-1874, a friendship book published in 1870, which is titled Mental Photographs an Album for Confessions or Tastes, Habits, and Convictions; and a letter written to Carrie Berry and Blanche Hardin from Clement A. Evans dated 2 February 1872, which was written while Carrie was a student at the North Georgia Female Academy. In the diary kept from 1864-1866, Carrie gives a child's account of the siege, occupation and burning of Atlanta.

Carrie Berry

These are the diaries of Bruce Elmore who served with the 143rd New York Infantry during the Civil War. Elmore describes the life of soldier, homesickness, combat, illness, and troop movements.

Bruce Elmore

C.P. Lacey

C.P. Lacey diary. 1864. This collection consists of a Civil War diary by C. P. Lacey that mainly focuses on battles in Georgia. Accompanied is a posed photo on glass of Lacey as an older man.

Calvin N. Ols

Pocket diary of Lieutenant Colonel Calvin N. Ols, 100th New York Volunteer Infantry. The entries date from Jan. 10, 1862 to Dec. 31, 1862. In the back of the diary is an account and pencil map of an unidentified battle, possibly Fair Oaks.

C. P. Lacey diary, 1864. This collection consists of a Civil War diary by C. P. Lacey that mainly focuses on battles in Georgia. Accompanied is a posed photo on glass of Lacey as an older man.

Charles C. Phillips Civil War diary and Signal Corps message book, 1864

Message book and diary (in one volume) kept by Phillips during the period April 24, 1864 - July 13, 1864. Includes details about Signal Corps activities during this period. Mentions seeing the VMI cadets at Hanover Junction on May 23 (including his brother Samuel Travers Phillips), where they stopped on their way to Richmond after the Battle of New Market on May 15.

Benjamin F. White Diary

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Albert Moses Luria

Diary. 1861-1862. The collection is a typed transcription of the diary of Albert Moses Luria while he was serving as a lieutenant in the 23rd North Carolina Infantry Regiment, Confederate States of America, 19 August 1861-13 February 1862. The diary includes a description of the Battle of Manassas Junction (First Battle of Bull Run) with an official list of casualties and an account of an engagement near Union Mills, Va.

Alfred D. Morgan Diary - Sep. to Nov. 1864

Alfred D. Morgan Diary - Jan. 1865 to Jan. 1866

Alfred Dexter Morgan was a Sergeant in Company D of the 17th Illinois Cavalry, which formed in St. Charles, Illinois. Morgan noted that he sent home money from Illinois, Missouri and Kansas while in service. In early January of 1865, the 17th Illinois Cavalry were in Rolla, Missouri, but they moved to Pike Knob, Missouri, just prior to General M. Jefferson Thompson's surrender of 7,000 men at Chalk Bluff, Missouri. Afterwards, the 17th left for Kansas City, Missouri, where they stayed until ordered to Fort Scott, Kansas, on June 1st. For June, July and August of 1865, Morgan and the 17th Illinois Cavalry balanced their time between Ft. Scott, Kansas, Baldwin, Misouri, and Fort Bamesville, Missouri. In early September, they were ordered to Fort Larned, Kansas, where they remained through November, loading supply wagon trains while the Kiowa Indians traded at the Fort. Morgan was angry about being stationed in
what he believed was the heart of secessionism; Kansas. At the end of November, the 17th Illinois Cavalry left for Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, camping in heavy snow and killing many buffalos along the way. By the time they arrived at Fort Leavenworth in December, Morgan’s health had deteriorated and he was put in the hospital. Company D of the 17th Illinois Cavalry mustered out on December 20, 1865, and Morgan was discharged on the 27th, at Camp Butler, Illinois. The remainder of the diary consists of the names and hometowns of the men in Company D and some from Company B of the 17th Illinois Cavalry. Morgan noted that some were deceased and others deserted.

Alfred Dexter Morgan enlisted in Company D of the 17th Illinois Cavalry Volunteers. His regiment organized in St Charles, Illinois, in January 1864. Morgan’s first diary, written from September 18, 1864 November 15, 1864, chronicles his actions hunting William T. (Bloody Bill) Anderson and General Sterling Price’s Army across northern and western Missouri. The 17th Illinois Cavalry fought in the Battle of Corinth on September 17, 1862 and, according to Morgan, engaged in a large skirmish against roughly 3,000 Confederate Cavalry on the Cuyahoga River on October 6. The 17th Illinois Cavalry pursued Price’s Army during his 1864 raid into Missouri, and notes the following battles: the Second Battle of Leesburg, the Battle of Mine Creek, and the Second Battle of Newmarket. After Price retreated from Missouri, the 17th Illinois Cavalry camped in Springfield, Missouri, where Morgan stated they would all die due to bad weather conditions, lack of supplies, low rations and poor leadership. By November 1864, Morgan believed only 265 men remained of the 17th Illinois Cavalry, with 21 men belonging to Company D.

Alfred Dexter Morgan

Civil War diary of Alfred Dexter Morgan, a corporal (and later sergeant) with C Company of the 27th Massachusetts Infantry. Morgan’s diary covers January 1864 through April 1864, shortly before he was killed in action in May. Entries focus on his regiment’s activities, as well as his personal experiences teaching Sunday school in the Norfolk, Virginia, area. Alfred L. Mantor, originally a farmer from Hawley, MA, enlisted when he was 25 years old as a Corporal to C Company of the 27th Massachusetts Infantry on September 25, 1862. Mantor was promoted to Sergeant on September 8, 1863. Mantor was killed in action on May 7, 1864 at Fort Walthall Junction, VA.

Andrew J. P. Giddings

Andrew J. P. Giddings’ Diary and Ledger of Income and Expenses (1863-1865) describing the life of a Confederate soldier from Onslow county, North Carolina who served in Company E, 3rd North Carolina Infantry. Includes descriptions of several Civil War battles: Gettysburg, Cold Harbor, Chancellorsville, and the Wilderness. Also includes an envelope (unaddressed) which contained the diary, “Grandad Giddings Diary” written on the envelope.

Charles H. Bushee

Bushee’s diary is an account of his duties and the movements of Company E, 112th Regiment, New York Infantry, from January to mid-November of 1863. Each entry begins with the phrase “1 day for Uncle Sam” and in the cash accounts in the back of the diary, Bushee refers to his pay as coming from “Uncle Sam.” From September of 1862 to June of 1863, the 112th New York Infantry was stationed in central and eastern Virginia. Bushee writes frequently of picket duty and skirmishes around Franklin, Carville [sic] (likely Carville), and Norfolk, Virginia. He also provides some details of the siege at Suffolk in April 1863. In July, the regiment began its march to Chaffin’s Farm. Bushee reports on the shelling at Fort Sumter from his posts around Fort Wagner, Black Island, and Charleston in August. Although he seems he often notes being ordered to and going to the front, he does not detail his actions there. By September, Bushee’s increasing illness begins to dominate his diary. The last eight weeks of entries, ending abruptly on November 18th, consists of little more than “feel unwell.” Bushee dies three weeks later. The final pages of the diary contain detailed cash accounts of Bushee’s purchases, as well as a list of dead and wounded from the company, and dates he served on guard and picket duty.

Charles H. Knox

Charles H. Knox diary and letters, 1864-1865. The collection consists of a memoir written by Charles H. Knox based upon a diary kept as a prisoner that describes the battle which resulted in his capture, the trip to Andersonville by train, the layout of the prison using a hand drawn map, the shelters of either tents or holes dug in the ground, the food and prices, the number of prisoners arriving on various days, punishments, hangings and exchange of prisoners. He includes maps and drawings of the prison grounds. There are also two letters to his wife. One letter informing her of his imprisonment and the other from Annapolis telling her that he was exchanged on February 26, 1865. Charles H. Knox enlisted January 5, 1864 in Company L, Connecticut 1st Cavalry. He was captured at Craig’s stockade for exchange.

Ashby L. Stephens

This collection consists of diaries, an account book, images, and a letter by Ashby L. Stephens of the 81st Ohio Infantry. The content mostly covers the Civil War during 1864-1865. The 81st Ohio Infantry (1861-1865), of which Ashby L. Stephens was a member was active during the Civil War. In this time the regiment captured numerous prisoners, obtained three battle flags, and participated in various battles. Stephens was promoted to Sergeant on September 8, 1863. Stephens was killed in action on April 6, 1865 at Fort Walthall Junction, VA.

Benjamin Benner

Benjamin Benner’s military service from May 14, 1861. It is an undated narrative account that describes various campaigns and regular duties of siege. This collection consists of diaries, an account book, images, and a letter by Ashby L. Stephens of the 81st Ohio Infantry. The content mostly covers the Civil War during 1864-1865. The 81st Ohio Infantry (1861-1865), of which Ashby L. Stephens was a member was active during the Civil War. In this time the regiment captured numerous prisoners, obtained three battle flags, and participated in various battles. Stephens was promoted to Sergeant on September 8, 1863. Stephens was killed in action on April 6, 1865 at Fort Walthall Junction, VA.

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Charles Koff

Koff enlisted in Company “F” of the 11th Indiana Infantry Volunteers on July 12, 1861, at the age of 23. The diary describes his experiences during four years and one month of service: the battles, the news he heard about the War in other parts of the country, and the problems of soldiering. Koff’s regiment fought fifteen regular battles, including Shiloh, the capture of Corinth, and the battle at Fort Donelson. The regiment was under fire seventy-seven different days. The last official entry of the diary is August 11, 1865, when the 11th Indiana Infantry Volunteers received their pay and went their separate ways. There is an additional entry dated December 11, 1909, the seventy-second birthday of Charles Koff.

Alpheus C. Williams

Contains brief daily entries regarding the affairs of the 32nd Missouri Infantry, including camp activities at Camp Proskinatlan, Ala.
Civil War Diaries

Andrew Ameson

Andrew E. Ameson Diary, 1865. Andrew Ameson was 25 years old when he began keeping this diary. He had come from Norway to Blue Mountains, Wis., as a child, and when he enlisted in Feb. 1865 he was married and a new father. Ameson served as a private in Co. A of the 49th Infantry and spent most of his days guarding prisoners in Missouri. His diary is interesting because it records how the closing days of the war appeared to a humble rank-and-file soldier. Most of its entries are short but beginning on page 49 is a long "Memorandum" in which Ameson reflects on his experiences. After discharge he returned to farming in Ridgeway, Wis., until he retired in 1887 and moved into Mt. Horob, where he was active in village politics until his death in 1922.

Charles L. C. Minor Cash Book and Edward P. Harmon Civil War Diary, 1860-1864

Cash book maintained by Confederate Captain Charles L. C. Minor from 1860 to 1864. Also contained within the cash book's pages are diary entries of Union Army Private Edward P. Harmon (5th Maine Infantry) during May and June, 1864. Research materials on the two soldiers (including photocopies of maps, muster rolls, census records, and an image of Harmon) and a complete photocopy of the piece are also included. The small volume of 68 pages, bearing on its spine the inscription "cash book," was retained for its intended use by Captain Minor, its original owner, in carefully record personal expenditures and savings. Minor's records commence with November 6, 1860, and end on May 4, 1864. In recording these financial transactions, Minor provides details regarding his daily whereabouts and activities. He records meal and travel purchases, as well as amounts paid to individual servants, expenses for personal and household items, services, and military gear. Also recorded within the book are Minor's bank transactions for 1861-1862, a list of silver wedding gifts received by Fanny Cazenove Minor, and a list of slaves and bonds held by Minor. The cash book was among materials seized by Federal troops in the act of destroying the rail line and depot at Hewletts Station, Virginia on May 25, 1864, and came into the possession of Private Harmon, who used it as a diary. (As the first diary entry precedes the volume's capture by three weeks, we may surmise that the early entries were made retrospectively or that they were copied from another book.) Harmon's first entry, for May 2, finds his regiment having just crossed the Hazel River and preparing to cross the Rapitan. Soon, Harmon describes fearful, endless shelling by "cast iron hummingbirds" during the Battle of the Wilderness. Harmon briefly mentions African American troops, Confederate prisoners of war, and camp rumors. As the regiment marches toward Spotsylvania Court House, Harmon mentions a fire in which many wounded soldiers were killed. He describes heavy fighting and losses at Spotsylvania and at one point questions the actions of the Brigade commander. As his regiment endures battles at North Anna and Cold Harbor, Harmon describes the morale of his comrades ("very much broken up they are tired heartick & discouraged") and himself ("sick, tired & worn out too night this is our 9th day of slaughter"). Many of the entries center on his brigade's movements and preparations for battles that often fail to materialize. Harmon's diary entries end with June 3, 1864. Following the June 3 entry is a gap, indicating the removal of several pages, and a page of wartime accounts held by Harmon and F. F. Goodwin. The volume also contains two botanical samples, one of which appears to be a collection of four-leaved clovers, tipped into the first two pages.

James Joseph Williamson

Mosby's Rangers: a record of the operations of the Forty-third battalion Virginia cavalry, from its organization to the surrender, from the diary of a private, supplemented and verified with official reports of federal officers and also of Mosby; with personal reminiscences, sketches of skirmishes, battles and bivouacs, dashing raids and daring adventures, scenes and incidents in the history of Mosby's command ... Muster rolls, occupation and present whereabouts of surviving members.

Alice Williamson

This small, leather-bound volume is the 36-page diary kept by schoolgirl Alice Williamson at Gallatin, Tennessee from February to September 1864. The main topic of the diary is the occupation of Gallatin and the surrounding region by Union forces under General William A. Poague. The diary relates many anecdotes attributed to Poague, frequently mentioned to preserve of black contrabands in and around Gallatin, attempts to give them formal schooling, and their abuse by Union Eastern Tennessee troops. Alice Williamson was bitterly resentful of the Union occupation. The diarist reflects on his experiences. After discharge he returned to farming in Ridgeway, Wis., until he retired in 1887 and moved into Mt. Horob, where he was active in village politics until his death in 1922.

Alva Cleveland

The diary of Alva Cleveland, a 57-year-old soldier who served as an orderly with the 1st Regiment, Wisconsin Infantry. The diary covers March to July 1862 while Cleveland's regiment was stationed around Nashville, Tennessee, and in northern Alabama. In the back pocket of the diary are several sewing needles and a lock of brown hair. The diary does not identify whose hair it is. Cleveland's first entry, for March 3, finds his regiment having just crossed the Hazel River and preparing to cross the Rapitan. Soon, Harmon describes fearful, endless shelling by "cast iron hummingbirds" during the Battle of the Wilderness. Harmon briefly mentions African American troops, Confederate prisoners of war, and camp rumors. As the regiment marches toward Spotsylvania Court House, Harmon mentions a fire in which many wounded soldiers were killed. He describes heavy fighting and losses at Spotsylvania and at one point questions the actions of the Brigade commander. As his regiment endures battles at North Anna and Cold Harbor, Harmon describes the morale of his comrades ("very much broken up they are tired heartick & discouraged") and himself ("sick, tired & worn out too night this is our 9th day of slaughter"). Many of the entries center on his brigade's movements and preparations for battles that often fail to materialize. Harmon's diary entries end with June 3, 1864. Following the June 3 entry is a gap, indicating the removal of several pages, and a page of wartime accounts held by Harmon and F. F. Goodwin. The volume also contains two botanical samples, one of which appears to be a collection of four-leaved clovers, tipped into the first two pages.

Anne W. Avery

Civil War diary of Anne W. Avery of Illinois who served in the Third Missouri Cavalry, Company I. The diary begins with a brief reminiscence back to Avery's enlistment in 1861 and has regular entries from January of 1862 until March of 1863. There are also entries from July to September of 1865. The diary was transcribed by Daniel Smith in 1983.

Berry Benson Diary 1861-1865

A Confederate Sergeant's Adventures, 1890-1911

The collection mainly consists of diaries of Berry Benson from 1861-1865, which detail his service as a Confederate Civil War soldier with Company H of the 1st South Carolina Infantry Regiment as a scout and sharpshooter. Includes information on the battle of Fredericksburg, Virginia; Benson's capture in Spotsylvania, Virginia; his imprisonment and escape from Elmira Prison, New York;
and other events in Maryland and Georgia. Persons mentioned in Benson’s diaries include Benson’s brother Blackwood “Bob” Benson, Frank Champion, Mike Duffy, and General Bradley Johnson. The collection also includes a manuscript (1910-1911) written by Benson entitled “A Confederate Sergeant’s Adventures” later published as a chapter in Elmira Prison Camp.

Albie M. Brooks Diary (Transcript)

Albie M. Brooks diaries and church invitation, 1858-1870. This collection contains two diaries of Abigail M. Brooks, which date from 1865 and 1870 along with typewritten transcriptions of both. In addition, there is an invitation to attend church which dates from 1858. In the 1865 diary, Brooks describes life in rural Tennessee, near Nashville, and then she moves to a one room school house. Later in the year, Abigail moves to Edgefield, Tennessee, near Nashville, and starts her own school. She describes life in Edgefield, trials with her students, the smoking stove, and parents who don’t pay tuition. She also describes trips to Nashville to shop, take music lessons, and visit with friends. In April 1865, she mentions the fall of Richmond, General Robert E. Lee’s surrender, President Lincoln’s assassination. She describes meeting soldiers who were traveling home from war and learning about their war experiences. In the 1870 diary, Brooks describes the cities of Edgefield, Nashville, Atlanta, Madison, Augusta, and Savannah. Her diary gives insight into the Presbyterian Churches that Abigail attended while living in these cities. She describes the services, the ministers and church buildings. Many of the entries review her efforts to make a living selling books, religious prints, maps, or pictures of Robert E. Lee, both door to door and in local factories or offices. She mentions many local businessmen and their wives and sometimes comments on race relations, travel, city conditions and the hardships she encountered as a single woman trying to make a living in the post-Civil War South.

Alverez C. Ide diary, 1864

Handwritten Civil War diary, soft cover, pocket sized, scanned and transcribed.

Andrew J. Boies


Andrew J. Weston

Journal kept at Quartermaster’s Department in Detroit by Andrew J. Weston, a clerk and bookkeeper, during the Civil War. Contains items of clothing issued to members of Company G, Second Michigan Infantry.

Anna Hasell Thomas

Anna Hasell Thomas Diary, July 1864 - May 1865, unbound diary describing several months preceding and following end of Civil War, relating illness of her sister, Cornelia; departure from their home in New York City for South Carolina on board the steamer, Arapaho; death of her sister on board ship near the coast of Hilton Head Island, S.C., on Christmas day, 1864; arrival at Charleston harbor and passing through the Union blockade; details of crossing enemy lines on land, with an escort by Union soldiers, including African American troops, and meeting with Confederate soldiers; travel from Charleston with her sister’s body, through Columbia, S.C., to Ridgeway (Fairfield County, S.C.), and burial of her sister. Later entries discuss rumors of Sherman’s arrival, and her account of 23 Feb. 1865, the day Union soldiers filled her family home and removed meat, livestock and valuables; the diary concludes with her return trip through the burned ruins of Columbia, S.C., a difficult journey to the coast, food shortages in Charleston, meeting former slaves who had worked for her family, and her arrival in New York, with the city in deep mourning for the assassination of President Lincoln.

B. H. Johnson

The B. H. Johnson Journal is a handwritten account of one year from September 1863 to September 1864 recorded by a Methodist circuit-riding minister of eastern Virginia. Some mentioned locations within Virginia are Shiloh, Charlottesville, Salem, Port RoYale, Spotsylvania, Caroline County, Augusta County, Caroline County, and Madison County, among others. Subjects include the American Civil War and its concomitant destruction, the duties and practices of a Methodist minister, typhoid fever, “Yankee” crime, and slavery. A particularly engaging segment within Johnson’s journal discusses the theft of his horse by Rogues and the eventual heroic repossession of his steed.

Barth Family, Papers, 1852-1907

Several letters written during the Civil War describe economic conditions and confrontations with Confederate guerrillas in the Rocheport area.

Benjamin T. Hunter, 1861

Benjamin T. Hunter, 1861 (Handwritten)

This collection contains Benjamin T. Hunter's diary, in which he wrote extensively about the weather, his school, hunting, Civil War battles, drilling and camp life with the local militia, the cost of items he had purchased, and various activities he pursued in his workshop. Also included are military documents in which Hunter is ordered to arrest deserters. There are also letters from J. Dewitt Bushhead regarding a teaching position in Athens, Georgia. The collection also contains papers related to Hunter's teaching career, such as a booklet entitled "Compositions of the Students of Grove Academy," and papers from the University High School which include a school pamphlet, minutes of a Civil War veterans' organization in the school, and minutes from the Alpha Nu Society of the University High School.

Bruno Trombly

Diary and Records, 1866-January-December 1866, of Bruno Trombly, apparently of Potsdam, N.Y., who was, for most of this period, a lieutenant in the 81st United States Colored Infantry at New Orleans, La., and service records (copies only) of Trombly from the National Archives. Trombly discussed daily military and social routines, working for a merchant in New Orleans, and his struggle to
decide whether to settle in Louisiana or New York State.

Charles A. Gunn

Diary of Charles A. Gunn dated 1863. In this diary, he writes a poem to his mother, draws badges for himself and Arthur Gunn, discusses rationing, finances, the weather, the railroad, his health, a circus, the Siege of Vicksburg, General Morgan, camp life, deaths in his regiment, the shooting of his horse (Dec 11), and the mail. Military Service Note: Gunn, Charles A. Clinton County. Enlisted in company B, Third Cavalry, Sept. 1, 1861, at St. Johns for 3 years, age 19. Mustered Oct. 11, 1861. On duty with Ninth Illinois Cavalry from Jan 31 to May 30, 1864. Discharged at expiration of term of service at Brownsville, Ark., Oct. 24, 1864.

Charles Carroll Gray Diary vol. 1
Charles Carroll Gray Diary vol. 2
Charles Carroll Gray Diary vol. 3

Charles Carroll Gray of New York was a United States Army medical officer in the first Battle of Manassas. During the Civil War, he was confined in Confederate prisons. The collection is a diary, initially 1861-1862 and later expanded to 1877, of Charles Carroll Gray in the first Battle of Manassas and while confined in Confederate prisons, including Libby Prison in Richmond, Va., Castle Pinckney in Charleston, S.C., and in other facilities at Columbia, S.C., and Salisbury, N.C. The diary entries are extremely detailed, especially concerning medical conditions of the prisoners and social interactions between prisoners and guards.

Darwin H. Babbit

Diary of Darwin H. Babbitt dated 1864. In this diary, he discusses being under arrest with the Provost Guard, rejoining his regiment, skirmishes, the Battle of the Wilderness, and the Battle of Topotomoy Creek. Military Service Note: Babbitt, Darwin H. Ypsilanti. Enlisted in company K, Fifth Cavalry, Aug. 21, 1862, at Detroit, for 3 years, age 18. Mustered Sept. 2, 1862. Taken prisoner at Hawes’ Shop, Va., May 28, 1864. Released Jan. 27, 1865. Mustered out at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., June 22, 1865.

Darwin G. Palmer

This is the diary of Darwin G. Palmer who served with Company D, 101st Ohio Infantry during the Civil War. From January-May 1865, he was a nurse at the U.S. Army General Hospital No. 3, Lookout Mountain, Tennessee.

Daniel White Wells

Civil War diary of Hatfield soldier Daniel White Wells, covering the dates Oct. 2, 1862, through July 28, 1863. Includes Battle of Port Hudson, during which he finished his 9-month service. Digital donation courtesy of John F. Wells.

Zadok B. Austin

This is the 98 page diary of Zadok B. Austin who served with the 10th New York Heavy Artillery during the Civil War. The diary covers January 1 to July 7, 1865 and tells of camp life, battle and encounters with freedmen.

William W. Barnett

A diary with one-page entries for the year of 1862. A few pages of memoranda follow on which Barnett has listed miscellaneous clothing expenses and his pay record for the year. The diary describes his time in hospital in January and February, as well as from September through December. These latter entries include his work as a nurse, particularly tending to the wounded following the battle of Fredericksburg in December 1862. Camp life and routine, visits with his brother Henry, and brief trips into Washington D.C. are among the topics mentioned. Barnett also mentions review of the division by President Lincoln, General McDowell, and Secretary Stanton in May near Fredericksburg and again by Lincoln and McClellan in July near Harrison’s Landing. The diary includes descriptions of battle at Mechanicsville, Gaines’ Mill, Fracier’s Farm, and Malvern Hill in the Seven Day’s campaign and at the Second Battle of Bull Run.

William D. Alexander vol. 1
William D. Alexander vol. 2

William D. Alexander (b. 1841), of Mecklenburg County, N.C., was a Confederate hospital steward who served with the 37th North Carolina Regiment. The collection is a diary, initially 1861-1862 and later expanded to 1877, of William D. Alexander covering the Gettysburg Campaign to the end of the war in Virginia, and a few passes and other military papers encloadded in the volumes. Entries describe fighting in Pennsylvania and in Virginia, especially around Petersburg.

William Daniel Thompson

Sgt. William Daniel Thompson, Co. I, 46th Tenn. Inf., CSA, kept this diary during the war. He volunteered in Nov. 1861 and was sent to Island No. 10. They were "surrendered up to the enemy" April 8, 1862. He was imprisoned at Camp Butler, Ill., then paroled at Vicksburg in Sept. 1862. He fought in Mos. and later at Missionary Ridge and the Atlanta Campaign. He lists soldiers in his company, and
William Andrew Stuck

Part of Gen. John Hunt Morgan's Confederate Kentucky cavalry command. Capt. William Andrew Stuck, Co. C, 8th Ky. Cav., CSA, kept this small, leather-bound diary during the Civil War. He fought at Ft. Donelson and escaped with Gen. Nathan B. Forrest. He also fought at Shiloh. He was captured with Gen. John Hunt Morgan at the last "Great Raid" into Indiana and Ohio. He was sent to Johnson's Island prison camp, where he remained until his release in 1865.

Lot Abraham diary, 1863
Lot Abraham diary, 1864

Diary details the wartime experiences of Lot Abraham, farmer and future Iowa state senator, who served in the 4th Iowa Cavalry during the Civil War.

Leroy Warren

Typed copy of Civil War diary kept by Leroy Warren (OC '58) of Company C, 7th Regiment, Ohio Infantry from August 24, 1861 through June 5, 1862. Leroy Warren's diary begins a few days before The Battle of Kessler's Cross Roads in western Virginia and describes the battle and its aftermath. Warren blames the officers of the 7th Regiment, Ohio Infantry for the loss of the battle. He was captured a few days after the battle by Confederate scouts while breakfasting in the home of a civilian. He describes being held with other prisoners from the 7th Ohio in different holding pens as well as their forced march through various small Virginia towns to Richmond. In Richmond he was held in Alphonso's Tobacco Factory, a make-shift prison, and describes prison life there. After a few weeks Warren and his fellow prisoners from the 7th Ohio were transported by train to New Orleans Parish Prison in Louisiana. He makes note of all that he sees while passing through the Carolinas, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi. Once in New Orleans Parish Prison he mentions that their rations are better than what they were provided in Richmond. Warren also mentions that a few of the men from Company C of the 7th Ohio died of fever in the New Orleans prison. There is a lapse in his diary covering most of the month of December, 1861. By early 1862 he writes that he and his fellow prisoners will be exchanged shortly. They traveled by train, under Confederate guard, towards another prison in North Carolina which they reached in February, 1862. Warren spent six weeks in the prison hospital and began writing again in May, 1862. He makes note that he signed his parole papers on May 26th and left with other prisoners toward Union Army lines on May 31. His diary ends in June 1862 while aboard a steamer "Adriatic" off of Hatteras, NC explaining how happy he is to be out of Confederate territory.

Leroy Barker 1862-1863

Leroy Barker 1864


George Lucius Desha

The General Lucius Desha civil war diary documents Desha's time as a citizen prisoner of war in Camp Chase, Ohio. The diary describes the events leading up to his incarceration as well as his time in Camp Chase. Additionally, the diary contains a list of him and several other men imprisoned in Camp Chase, a list of supplies obtained from the sutler, and a list of accounts for 1862.

Lucius Dwight Hinkley miscellaneous letters and essays

Primarily Civil War papers of Lieutenant Hinkley, Waupan, Wisconsin, of the 23th Wisconsin Infantry Regiment, Company K, including correspondence relating to his company; a diary; letters to his family, some written from Libby Prison; and a number of essays written by Hinkley in his later years, recounting experiences at Libby Prison and prison escape attempts, a return to Gettysburg in 1868, and battle descriptions of Stone River, Chickamauga, and Chaplin Hills (Perryville).

Lewis C. F. C. Lasch Naval Diary

This is the Naval Diary of Naval Engineer Lewis C. F. C. Lasch, who served aboard the U.S.S. Pequot, during the first half of 1864, and kept a daily diary of activities, from January 1, 1864, until May 20, 1864. Lewis Lasch was born in the German State of Mecklenburg in 1844, emigrated to the United States with his father (Louis or Lewis, possibly originally Ludwig), settled in Philadelphia and was educated at Pennsylvania Polytechnic College. He joined the U.S. Navy at age 19, and was assigned to duty aboard the U.S.S. Pequot. The diary recounts his observations near Boston, Massachusetts, Portsmouth, Virginia and near the ports of Beaufort and Wilmington, North Carolina. A very bad sore on his left foot impeded him from certain duties, and his resignation from the Navy was accepted on May 24, 1864. The diary is a pocket diary, with leather covers, on ruled paper, covering three days per page. Closed it measures approximately 7" by 3." At the beginning of the diary there is interest calculation information, the 1860 Census information showing the population of different states and territories, the moon phases for the year, information in regards to the solar eclipse that will take place in 1864 as well as information as to postage rates, and at the end there is a bills and accounts section with several account notations. A brief history of the USS Pequot, the USS Pequot was a wooden screw gunboat of the Union Navy. The ship launched on June 4, 1863 near the Boston Navy Yard and commissioned on January 15, 1864, with Lt. Comdr. Stephen P. Quackenbush in command. The ship heralded its names from the Pequot Indian tribe from the Southern Connecticut area, members of the Algonquian language grouping. The Pequot departed Boston Harbor on 5 February and joined the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron. She captured the notorious British blockade runner the Don off Beaufort, North Carolina, on March 4, 1864, and helped the Army beat back a Confederate attack if they deserted or died.
John W. Finch Diary

The collection is a diary, with entries 22 March-30 August 1865, of soldier John W. Finch of Burchville, Mich., serving in the Union Army with the 22nd Michigan Infantry Regiment and the 29th Michigan Infantry Regiment during the Civil War. The diary begins with the day of mustering, 22 March 1865, and ends 30 August 1865, a few days after he was honorably discharged from the army and returned to Michigan. The diary was updated daily with entries varying in length from a few lines to a page. Finch never saw battle, so the entries consist of descriptions of military life in camps. He included many descriptions of meals, medical treatments for various ailments, and prices. The diary is reversed for the last ten pages and includes financial information.

John W. Chambers Diary

The diary contains brief entries detailing his experiences in camp, on marches, and at battle, as well as entries made while in the regimental hospital. The final entries recording Chambers’ illness and death are written in a different hand. The memoranda pages at the back of the diary include a note about his enlistment and other men who enlisted at the same time. Also at the back of the diary are notes about expenses. John W. Chambers (1840-1863) was born in Guyandotte, Ohio and later moved to Burlington, Iowa. He served as a private in Company E, 15th Regiment, Iowa Infantry from 1862 to 1863. The regiment was stationed in Memphis, Tennessee, and later in Louisiana and Mississippi, and they took part in the siege of Vicksburg. The regiment also worked on the digging of a canal to connect Lake Providence, Louisiana, and the Mississippi River. Chambers was taken sick with typhoid fever in July 1863 and remained in the regimental hospital until early August. He became ill again at the end of August and was taken to Lawson Hospital in St. Louis, Missouri. He died of typhoid fever in a hospital in St. Louis on 21 September 1863. He is buried in Jagger Cemetery, Danville Township, Iowa. Blank pages not included here.

John W. Bell

Picket diary covering January to June 1864 describes service aboard the U.S.S. General Pillow (gunboat), Mississippi Squadron.

John Ridley Buford

This document is the diary of John Ridley Buford that he carried with him during his service in the Civil War. The final pages include his immigration to Brazil. John Ridley Buford was a resident of Eufaula, Alabama. He enlisted in April 1862, at Eufaula, Alabama and was appointed Sergeant Sergeant of Capt. Reuben Kudis’ Battery of the Barbour Alabama Light Artillery. He was transferred on November 6, 1864, with the rank of private to the Eufaula Battery of Alabama Light Artillery. He was in St. Mary’s Hospital at Union Springs, Alabama from September 29, 1864, until November 6, 1864. Buford took part in the battles of Kentucky Campaign, Hood’s Tennessee Campaign, and Chickamauga, and was paroled at Meridian, Mississippi, on May 10, 1865. At his parole, he listed his residence as Eufaula. In late February of 1867, Buford moved to Santa Barbara, Brazil where he farmed tobacco.

John H. Maybury

This collection contains the Civil War diary of Corporal John H. Maybury of Company L, 10th New York Cavalry, the first entry in the diary (January 1, 1864) finds Maybury encamped in northern Virginia and describing routines of camp life (drilling, washing clothes, policing quarters, buying goods from the sutler, picket and forage duty, drawing a new uniform, inspection, building quarters). The weather conditions are noted on a daily basis. In March, contacts with civilians and enemy combatants grow more frequent, with references to taking prisoners (soldiers, a lady spy and bushwhackers) and denying passage through the lines. Maybury makes occasional reference to camp rumors, such as a supposed sighting of Stuart’s cavalry and the taking of Richmond by Kirkepatrick. In May, the regiment sees more action, with Maybury noting the capture and burning of Virginia Central Railroad supply trains at Beaver Dam Station, the capture of guns at Ashland, heavy fighting near Richmond, and a description of action at the Battle of Hare’s Shop. For the next several months, Maybury alludes to frequent skirmishes and battles with the Confederates. In the fall, Maybury’s entries revert to camp activities and routines (including mention of an inspection by generals Meade and Gregg), with less frequent references to engagements with the enemy. The diary ends with Maybury traveling to the hospital, following the wound he had sustained the previous day. At the end of the diary are a few notes made by Maybury on the clothing he had drawn in service and the pension had had drawn afterward.
Civil War Diaries

John Overton Casler

Four years in the Stonewall brigade: containing the daily experiences of four year's service in the ranks from a diary kept at the time; a truthful record of the battles and skirmishes, advances, retreats and maneuvers of the army.

John Milton Bancroft Diary/Scrapbook

This document is the original diary book of Bancroft's handwritten comments, which he later turned into a scrapbook by adding various items. Some of the included items are photographs, newspaper clippings, drawings, cards, illustrations taken from various sources, etc. Bancroft's unit was involved in a large number of battles and campaigns including the battles of Antietam, Chancellorsville, Fredericksburg, Gettysburg, Malvern Hill, and Seven Days. Edited typescript published as "Notes--1861-1864: Army Life During the Rebellion with the Army of the Potomac, 5th Corps, 1st Division, 2nd Brigade, 4th Michigan Infantry" n.p., n.d.

John Morrison

John W. Morrison served as a musician in the 49th Pennsylvania Volunteers Regimental Band in 1862. This diary describes band activities, military actions, and daily weather during his service in the Civil War from January to August 1862.

John Holliday Diaries and Photographs, 1864-1865

Holliday's diaries, the first covering 1 May through 8 August 1864 and the second covering 1 September 1864 through 4 July 1865, begin with the regiment's entry into Virginia's New River Valley and conclude with his return to Ohio at the conclusion of the war. Holliday includes information on his participation in action in and around the New River Valley, including the battles of Cox's Mountain and New River Bridge. The collection also includes four photographs, believed to be of Holliday and one of his wife. Two of the images have locks of hair under the glass and several have hand-painted details added.

Otis Dean

This collection contains the diary of Otis Dean, a private in Company E, 56th Massachusetts Infantry during the Civil War. The diary entries begin with January 4, 1865, with Dean listing the uniform and materials issued to him in camp. In very concise entries, Dean describes mostly routine personal and unit activities (making particularly careful note of the clothing and equipment issued to him), but he also mentions battles at North Anna River and Peebles' Farm, an inspection by generals Grant and Burnside; prices of various goods, and the names of comrades killed, wounded and captured. The diary's entries conclude with June 13, 1865. "I washed my shirt." Otis Dean, a private in Company E, 56th Massachusetts Infantry during the Civil War, was born on March 1, 1822 at Raynham, Massachusetts, the son of Chandler Robbins Dean and Abigail (Bissn?) Dean married Augusta Dunbar (born October 1826) on January 4, 1848. By 1850, the Deans were living in Foxborough Massachusetts, where Otis Dean was employed as a boot-maker. Dean enlisted in the Union Army as a private on December 30, 1863 and was mustered into Company E of the 56th Massachusetts on January 12, 1864. Wounded in battle at Peebles' Farm (September 30), Dean was captured by Confederate forces and held at Richmond. Paroled on October 8, 1864. Dean entered an army hospital at Warrenton, Virginia. Dean rejoined his regiment on March 20, 1865 and was discharged on June 15, 1865.

Nathanial C. Wilson

Nathanial C. Wilson Civil War Letter and Diary, 1863. One letter, March 1863, discussing activities of his unit on the march in North Carolina; discusses supplies, food, surrounding countryside. Also diary (fragment, some pages missing) kept by Wilson during the Gettysburg Campaign, covering period 25 June through 3 July. Wilson was killed in action on July 3. These items are part of the Nathanial C. Wilson Papers.

Nelson Stauffer

Nelson Stauffer enlisted in Co. A, 3rd Regiment, Illinois Infantry during the US Civil War. He kept a diary from 1862-1865. In it, he writes of his enlistment, training, troop movements, interactions with other soldiers, daily work assignments, paroling, and a brief illness. He also describes the actions of some African-Americans he encountered while marching in the South, battlefield conditions, and the burning of Columbia, South Carolina.

Meritt Hager Smith

The Civil War diary of Private Meritt Hager Smith of Company G, 97th New York Infantry, a member of the regimental band. The diary entries span the entire year of 1863. The first entry finds Smith receiving orders to proceed to Belle Plain Landing, Virginia to assist Lt. Louis Rowan, the regiment's quartermaster. Smith describes his work, the relative comfort in which he lives, recreation, the weather, homesickness, prayer meetings, sutlers, and makes many references to frequent and excessive drinking by various officers.
Smith mentions attending Lincoln's grand review of the 1st Army Corps on April 9. Later that month, the regiment began marching northward, frequently changing camp, and Smith writes of the difficulty in marching and the conditions of the various camps. On July 1, the regiment arrived in the Gettysburg, Pennsylvania area. Smith describes the area, provides a brief synopsis of the news he has heard from the battle and mentions speaking with a group of Confederate prisoners. As the army again moves to camps southeastward, Smith notes the many towns and villages through which they pass.

James F. Elliott diary, 1861-1862
James F. Elliott diary, 1861-1863

A private in Company I, 8th Indiana Infantry, Elliott writes in his diary from August 14, 1862 to May 17, 1863. He records his activities in camp, the company’s travels, and the skirmishes and battles in which he fought in Missouri, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

Horace Barlow

Time Period Covered: August 18, 1862 - July 10, 1863 Horace Barlow was born on May 30, 1842. Barlow graduated from the University of Vermont in 1862 and was a member of the Sigma Phi Society. On August 18th, 1862, Barlow enlisted in Company C of the 12th Regiment of the Vermont Volunteer Militia. While in Burlington, Vermont, he enlisted and then traveled south through Bradleboro, New Haven, Jersey City, Philadelphia, and Baltimore before arriving in Washington, D.C. Barlow’s diary includes entries from his journey as well as his time spent at: Camp Sewanti; Hunting Creek Bridge; Camp Vermont; Fairlawn; Virginia; W.R. Shoals; Reapahanack Station; Bislow Station; Union Mills; Wolf Run Shoals, as well as his return journey to Vermont. Barlow died on December 31, 1895 in Hudson, Wisconsin.

James McCulloch

James McCulloch diary, 1862 August - 1863 April. The collection consists of a Civil War diary written by James McCulloch. The original is in fragile condition and contains pencil writing which is faded. A typed transcript is included, which covers the days from August 1862 to April 1863. Like many Civil War soldiers, James McCulloch discusses movements, the food and water situation, the health and feelings in his diary. He also comments on fighting and scavenging. Several different moments are of remarkable interest: his many encounters with secessionists, his finding a dying man and moving him to a road to be buried, his scavenging of the diary and other materials; his frequent sickness and experience of the Army’s medical services; his encounter with a battlefield near Richmond, Ky., and wounded, dead, and recently buried men; accidental shootings amongst the Confederates; and his return to the 34th and participation in the Vicksburg Campaign.

James Miles

The Civil War diary of James Miles, an enlisted soldier in the 18th Regiment of the New York Infantry. The diary describes soldier life and spans from January to March 1865 until the author was killed in action. Entries include descriptions of battles and the deaths of soldiers by snipers. Miles’ short entries relate the physical and emotional difficulties of being a soldier as evidenced by an entry about a fellow soldier who had deserted, “supposed to shoot him but didn’t have it in me.” The last entry is on the day before Miles was killed in action which was ten days before the end of the war. James Miles enlisted with Company K of the 18th Regiment, New York Infantry at Syracuse, New York on September 3, 1864. The 188th regiment was organized at Syracuse, New York and Company K was mustered into service as the 1st Brigade, 5th Army Corps of the Potomac until May 6, 1865. During the term of service, the regiment lost 59 soldiers by death from wounds and 39 enlisted men by death from diseases. Miles was killed in action on March 29, 1865.

Francis W. Knowles

Diary of Francis W. Knowles, Company "B", 36th Mass. Vol., in the War of the Rebellion, 1862 to 1865. Reprinted in the years 1885-86 and illustrated with maps, sketches etc. 190 p. A diary scrapbook (1862-1865) written by Private Knowles while serving in Company B of the 36th Massachusetts Volunteers. The diary records the activities of Knowles, who was mainly a clerk, as he participated with the IX Corps at Fredericksburg (December, 1862), in the District of Indiana and Michigan (June-September, 1863), the Knoxville Campaign (November-December, 1863), the Wilderness campaign (May, 1864), the Spotsylvania Courthouse campaign (May, 1864), at Cold Harbor (June 3-4, 1864), and in the Petersburg campaign (June, 1864-April, 1865). Entries of interest include a description of camp life at Camp Wool in Massachusetts (August, 1862), the activities of the Confederate raider John Morgan in Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana (June-July, 1863), and the battles of the Knights of the Golden Circle in Kentucky (September-November, 1863). Also included are a report by General Edwin V. Sumner of the Battle of Fredericksburg in which he commanded the Right Grand Division, a newspaper clipping entitled “The last night of Fredericksburg” by Joshua L. Chamberlain, autographs of Ambrose B. Burnside, Lewis Richmond, and John G. Parke, maps of the various campaigns in which Knowles participated, battlefield sketches, and field orders. Knowles was mustered out of the army in June of 1865.

Francis Mohrhardt

Major Francis Mohrhardt’s maps (and diary) of the Tullahoma Campaign (1863). Field notes and hand-drawn pencil maps of Francis Mohrhardt, a Union major and topographical engineer in Gen. William Rosecrans’ Army of the Cumberland, attached to the staff of Gen. Philip Sheridan, include numerous pencil-drawn maps of this army’s 1863 summer campaign from Murfreesboro to Chattanooga, Tenn., otherwise known as the Tullahoma Campaign. A large series of 30+ maps, which show in detail the road taken by the army from its encampment near Murfreesboro to its crossing of the Tennessee River near Bridgeport, Alabama and its eventual arrival in Chattanooga. Different places depict the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad line, bridges and ferries, forts and breastworks, homes and structures along the road, Tullahoma, the University at Sewanee, Cowan Station, distances between towns, and topographical features. Notes and the maps are presented in original order, which in general are reverse order from Alabama northward.

Cyrena Bailey Stone

Cyrena Bailey Stone diary, 1864

The collection consists of a diary of Cyrena Bailey Stone written from January 27, 1864 to July 9, 1864. The diary includes descriptive accounts of life in the South during the Civil War, slaves’ reaction to the Emancipation Proclamation and the probable fall of the Confederacy, prices for food and clothing, visits to prisons and hospitals, preparations of fortifications, shellings and cannonadings, falsified reports in Southern newspapers, disorders towards leaders of the Confederacy especially Howell Cobb and Jefferson Davis, the fall of towns such as Tunnel Hill, Dalton, and Resaca (Ga.), and the evacuation of Atlanta.
Eliza Andrews - The war-time journal of a Georgia girl, 1864-1865

Eliza Andrews' diary is more cogent than any novel about the Civil War. General Sherman laid a track, and Eliza had to follow his footsteps through Georgia. Her insights into war and the havoc it wrought in the South are accompanied by her own editorial comments forty-four years later.

Diary of George Benton Arnold dated 1863

Diary of George Benton Arnold dated 1864

Diary of George Benton Arnold dated 1865

Diary of George Benton Arnold dated 1863. In this diary, he describes the movements of his regiment, chores, finances, deserters (March 28), religion, books, the weather, a slave auction (May 4), burning railroad stations and cotton (July 18), The Battle of Fredericksburg (November 16-19), African Americans (November 17), and skirmishes.

Diary of George Benton Arnold dated 1864. In this diary, he discusses the status of his regiment, deserters (January 25, February 29, March 1), African Americans (April 8, July 25), skirmishes, Battle of the Wilderness (May 5-7), Battle of Spotsylvania Courthouse (May 8-21), Battle of Totopotomoy Creek (June 1-2), Siege of Petersburg, Battle of the Crater (July 30), Battle of Cold Harbor (June 1-12), Siege of Petersburg, Battle of the Crater (July 30), Battle of Liberty Tavern (August 18-21), Battle of Peeler's Farm (September 30-October 2), and the Battle of Hatcher's Run (October 27-30).

Diary of George Benton Arnold dated 1865. In this diary, he describes the weather, skirmishes, Battle of Fort Steadman (March 25), the Capture of Petersburg (April 2), the capture of General Lee, the assassination of President Lincoln, and his discharge.


A.J. McRoberts

Primarily letters written by A.J. McRoberts to his wife Mollie during the Civil War, and her replies. McRoberts was a Union sympathizer living in Saline County, MO. His wife had returned to her family in Ohio. They describe conditions in their respective locales. Other letters discuss family affairs.

Adam S. Johnston

The Soldier Boy's Diary Book; or, Memorandums of the alphabetical first lessons of military tactics. Kept by Adam S. Johnston, from September 14, 1861, to October 2, 1864 (1866)

Addison Bell

Dr. Addison A. Bell was born in Elbert County, Georgia. He was educated at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia and later completed post-graduate work at the New York Medical University. During the Civil War he acted as surgeon in the Confederate hospital in Augusta.

Amos Guthrie

Amos Guthrie diary, 1864. This collection consists of diaries, an account book, images, and a letter by Adbury L. Stephens of the 81st Ohio Infantry. The content mostly covers the Civil War during 1864-1865.

Calvin Leach Diary, 1861-1863 vol. 1
Calvin Leach Diary, 1861-1863 vol. 2
Calvin Leach Diary, 1861-1863 vol. 3
Calvin Leach Letters, 1863-1867

Calvin Leach Diary and Letters, 1861-1887. Calvin Leach was born in 1843 and served as a church clerk in Montgomery County, N. C., before he joined the first North Carolina Infantry Regiment, Confederate States of America, in September 1861. He died near Mechanicsville, Va., in June 1864. The collection includes Calvin Leach's pocket diary, 1861-1864, and five letters, 1863-1867. Note that the first entry in the second volume of the diary is marked 1862 and subsequent entries are marked 1863. Contents indicate, however, that the correct date is 1862 throughout. Most of the diary entries recount daily life in the army and record military activities in Virginia and Maryland, especially at Malvern Hill and Antietam. The first four letters were written by Leach to his mother and his sister Louisa and relate his living conditions and news of other men from his hometown. The 1867 letter was to Leach's father, D. A. Leach, from William Owens and concerns land appraisal.
George A. Brooks Diary, 1862

The collection consists of a detailed diary, 1 January-6 August 1862, of Captain Brooks, 46th Pennsylvania Regiment, while he was serving in Maryland and the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia during General Stonewall Jackson's Valley Campaign. Brooks noted weather, his reading, camp life, plans and speculations, marches and movements, drills and inspections, news of Jackson's movements, his own paperwork, characteristics of areas he passed through, and events among soldiers. A few accounts and memoranda are included.

Benjamin Henry Pope

The journal includes entries from Benjamin-Henry Pope in 1862 as he serves in Company K, 9th Mississippi Infantry, and provides details of battles in the Glasgow/Cave City/Munfordville, Kentucky area and his opinion that General Chalmers made errors and poor decisions.

C. W. Gerard

A Diary - The Eighty-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry in the War, 1862-1865.

California Civil War diary of an Unknown Soldier, 1862-1863

This diary belonged to an unknown soldier in Company C, 4th Infantry, California Volunteer Regiment, who was assigned to a detail guarding a wagon train carrying specie to the east.

Richard Lewis


Charles A. Canavella

Confederate diary of Charles A. Canavella, Co. E, 3d., Alabama Infantry, 1863-1864. This diary tells of the battle of the Merrimac fought on March 8th and 9th, 1862.

Charles O. Poland

This is the diary of Charles O. Poland, a private in Company B, 142nd Ohio Infantry (National Guard) during the Civil War. The 142nd Ohio National Guard was organized at Camp Chase, Ohio and mustered into service for 100 days on May 12, 1864. On May 14, the regiment proceeded to Martinburg, West Virginia, where it drilled until May 23, when ordered to Fort Lyon, Virginia, from which it served guard duty in the Washington D. C. area. On June 5, the regiment was ordered to the front and arrived on June 9 at White House Landing, Virginia, where it was dispatched to guard a supply train through the Wilderness to Cold Harbor. From there, the 142nd proceeded to Point of Rocks, about five miles from Petersburg, Virginia. The regiment participated in the early siege of Petersburg through August 19, when it was ordered back to Washington, D.C., thence to Camp Chase, where it was mustered out on September 2, 1864. The diary entries commence on June 15, 1864, with Know already in the rifle pits before Petersburg. He writes of being detailed to destroy Confederate breastworks, erect fortifications, and fell trees as battles raged nearby. Elsewhere he mentions having seen generals Grant and Burnside, the gunboats on the James River, the discovery of a cache of buried silver and gold by a New York regiment while hunting for fishing worms, and the trading of hardtack for tobacco between the lines. Throughout the diary, Poland notes many days on picket, and the state of the fighting around Petersburg. On July 20, Poland developed a fever, and the final four entries, concluding with July 31, are devoted to the condition of his health.

Charles W. Boyce

A brief history of the Twenty-eighth regiment New York state volunteers, First brigade, First division, Twelfth corps, Army of the Potomac, from the author's diary and official reports. With the muster-roll of the regiment, and many pictures, articles and letters from surviving members and friends, with the report of proceedings of the thirty-fifth annual reunion held at Albion, New York, May 22, 1896. [By] C. W. Boyce.

Charles W. Chapman

Charles W. Chapman was a farmer from Grandview, Iowa. He served as a private in Company F of the 19th Infantry Regiment of Iowa Volunteers. (In the regiment number written on Chapman’s diary is the 13th Infantry; however, it appears that he was actually in the 19th Infantry.) This is a handwritten pencil diary, detailing Chapman’s daily life in the military.

Charles W. Hadley

Diary kept by Charles Whipple Hadley (1844-1936), of Anamosa, Iowa. At age 17, Hadley left Anamosa to enlist in the Union army during the American Civil War. He traveled south to Davenport, where he became a member of the 14th Iowa Regiment of Volunteer Company H. Hadley's regiment was based in St. Louis at Benton Barracks. Serving from 1861 to 1863, Hadley commanded his own company, spent six months as a prisoner of war, and was probably wounded in battle. In 1863, he returned to Anamosa to live with his family, where he continued writing in his diary until 1864. He spent many years in Ogden City, Utah, where he died in 1936.
Charles Wood

Charles Wood diary, 1857-1869. The collection consists of a diary of Charles Wood from 1857-1861, 1863. Early entries relate to his activities as a law student and his political views. Entries in 1861 describe his journey from Richmond (Va.) to Tallahassee (Fla.) after being assigned as aide-de-camp to General John B. Grayson, who was Commander of the Dept. of East Florida. Wood describes the various towns he traveled through and upon arriving in Tallahassee, the illness and death of General Grayson. In 1863, he wrote a short entry discussing the war's impact on his personal philosophy. The volume also contains personal financial accounts from 1868-1869.

Cyrus Bacon 1861-1863 diary

Cyrus Bacon 1861-1863 diary transcript

In this diary, Bacon describes daily life in the Seventh Michigan Infantry. He gives vivid accounts of Yorktown, Fair Oaks, White Oak Swamp, Antietam, and Gettysburg.


Cyrus F. Jenkins

Cyrus F. Jenkins Civil War diary, 1861-1862. The Cyrus F. Jenkins Civil War Diary, 1861-1862, held at the Troup County Archives, chronicles Cyrus Franklin Jenkins' experiences as an enlisted man in the Meriwether Volunteers. Company B, 12th Georgia Infantry Regiment during the first year of the war, June 1861 to March 1862. Jenkins vividly describes the euphoria of the war and the regiment's campaigns in western Virginia (now West Virginia) as part of Floyd's Brigade and in Savannah in Lawton's Brigade. The regiment took part in skirmishes at Sewell Mountain, Laurel Hill, and Whitemarsh Island. While traveling, Jenkins also remarks on the changing scenery he encounters. Additionally, his account of camp life highlights the medical care available to Confederate soldiers at this stage in the war. Jenkins was killed at Spotsylvania, Virginia, on May 12, 1864.

Cyrus Thomas Diary, 1862

Cyrus Thomas Diary transcript, 1862

Handwritten Civil War diary, soft cover, pocket sized, scanned and transcribed.

D. H. Hill Papers, 1848-1869

D. H. Hill Papers, 1866-1869

D. H. Hill Papers, 1879-1951 and undated

The collection consists of Civil War and postwar correspondence of General D. H. Hill with high Confederate military and civil officers, with some letters from Robert Lewis Dabney (1820-1890), Virginia theologian and Confederate chaplain. There are also notes by Charles W. Dalby, who assembled the items, circa 1929-1931. Persons represented include Rufus Barringer, P. G. T. Beauregard, John C. Calhoun, Robert Hoke Chilton, Robert Lewis Dalby, Jubal A. Early, William A. Graham, Wade Hampton III, Stonewall Jackson, Joseph E. Johnston, Washington Carters Keen, Diny Lacy, James Henry Lane, Alexander Robert Lawton, Robert E. Lee, James Longstreet, Alexander Peter Stewart, Robert Augustus Toombs, Robert Augustus Toombs, and William Henry Chavis Whiting. Also included is a Hill family genealogy and a few other items. Some items are originals and others are photocopies.

D. W. Nelson

Civil War Diary of D. W. Nelson.

Daniel Hoge Bruce

Diary of Capt. Daniel Hoge Bruce, Co. A, 51st Va. Inf. Regt., CSA. Bruce was captured at Waynesborough by Sheridan's cavalry on March 2, 1865, and sent to Fort Delaware Prison. The diary contains songs, poems, autographs from fellow soldiers, and details on his capture, imprisonment, and subsequent return home after the end of the war.

David J. Minto

Civil War Diary written by David J. Minto of the Ninety-Sixth Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry, for the year 1866.

David Lane

A Soldier's Diary, the Story of a Volunteer, 1862-1865.

W.L. Judson

Judson writes brief daily entries spanning from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31 of 1862, a year he spent as a bugle player in a Civil War military band. He mentions the weather, his health; letters received and written; he talks about the movements of his unit through Kentucky and Tennessee; the time of day he played the Reveille; the food they are eating; and mentions deaths in the cavalry. He mentions various sources of entertainment: several visits to the theater; sketching; preaching; swimming and exploring the landscape. Many entries are accompanied by small sketches, primarily of people.
Walter R. Collins served as a sergeant in Company M, 100th Pennsylvania Volunteers, during the American Civil War. This collection contains three diaries that detail battles, troop movements, exchanges with Confederates while on picket, and notes the deaths of comrades.

Diary of Lieutenant Adam B. Smith, March 11-July 4, 1863. Describes operations along the Tallahatchie River in Mississippi and around Helena, including descriptions of engagements with rebel forces and gunboat operations. Diary is concluded with a note written by John G. Hudson relating the death of Smith on July 4, 1863, at Helena.

Ivy W. Duggan diary, 1861-1864. The collection consists of several types of materials—transcripts of letters, articles, poems, and obituaries written by Duggan from 1861-1864, while serving in the Confederate Army.

J. E. Whitehorne diary

The collection includes a typed transcription of the diary, 30 March-22 April 1865, of Sergeant J. E. Whitehorne, describing in detail the retreat from Chesterfield County to Appomattox, the Confederate surrender, and Whitehorne's trip home to Greensville County, Va. Whitehorne's feelings and personal reactions are reflected in his account. This transcription was prepared and edited by W. H. T. Squires of Norfolk, Va., in 1939.

William A. Reid diary

This is the diary of William A. Reid who served in Company F, 39th Wisconsin Infantry during the Civil War. He was initially stationed at Camp Washburn in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The diary covers the time period from May 13, 1864 to September 25, 1864.

William Branson diary

William Branson was a member of an Iowa regiment during the campaign of 1861 in Missouri. He fought in the Battle of Wilson's Creek, 10 August 1861.

William Bishop papers

William Bishop, Papers, 1839-1891. Papers of a commander of a Union cavalry unit in northeast Missouri during the Civil War, and State Treasurer of Missouri following the war. The papers consist of personal and military correspondence and miscellaneous documents, and State Treasurer records.

Thomas S. Rogers diary

This is the 41 page diary of Thomas S. Rogers who served with Company E, 26th Ohio Infantry during the Civil War. The diary covers January 1 to May 6, 1865.

S.H. Walkup diary, 1 April 1862 - 29 March 1865 (typed transcription)

S.H. Walkup, Original letters, 1860-1864

Samuel Hoey Walkup was a colonel of the 48th North Carolina Infantry Regiment, Confederate States of America. The collection contains miscellaneous papers, including the Civil War diary of S.H. Walkup while stationed in Virginia and eastern North Carolina; and letters written home from the front. The diary describes the formation of the 48th North Carolina Infantry Regiment and its participation in the Peninsula Campaign, the battles of Bull Run, Antietam, and Fredericksburg, and the siege of Petersburg.

Philip Van Buskirk diary

This diary chronicles events from 1863 to the later part of 1865 during the American Civil War. Van Buskirk served as a Confederate cavalryman and later deserted. An earlier volume detailing events from 1861 to 1862 was taken from him when he was captured by Union forces. Some attempts were made by him to reconstruct those years when he transcribed his smaller journals into the larger format in the 1890s. He enlisted in the 13th Virginia Infantry in June of 1861 and was stationed at Camp Walker near Manassas, Virginia. He deserted in 1862 and wrote in his diary that he had made an "escape from his regiment" most likely because he failed to gain a commission. Captured shortly thereafter by Union forces he was sent to Camp Chase military prison in Ohio. Released during a prisoner exchange later that year he wandered northward chronicling the everyday life of civilians caught in the warfare that surrounded them. In particular he documents the wartime activities and struggle for survival in the region of the upper Shenandoah Valley. Throughout this period he describes the conditions of the towns and countryside, his own attempts at
employment and records the sentiments of the people he encounters. After the Civil War ended in 1865, Van Buskirk, despondent and often unemployed, returned to Washington D.C. to reenlist in the U.S. Marine Corps. In one of his last entries in his journal for 1865 he exclaims “1865 is gone. My God! What memories crowd it! It has passed over me like an ugly dream”.

Michael Dougherty


Richard Colburn

The Civil War diary of Richard Colburn, an enlisted soldier of the 12th Infantry of the United States Regular Army attached to the Army of the Potomac. The diary contains entries from December 18, 1861 to February 17, 1863 and details camp life, daily activities, battles, and experience as a prisoner of the Confederate army. It traces Colburn’s first days in the army in Iowa and his travel from 14 February 1862 when he left Iowa to his arrival at Fort Hamilton in New York City two days later and his continuing journey to Washington DC. Upon arrival in Washington, Colburn notes that he “set in to help cook.” Many of his subsequent entries include brief notations of cooking for the men. Expecting to march to Abasass Junction from Washington, he moved first to Camp California, just outside Alexandria, VA, and from there to Fort Monroe in late March 1862. The 12th Infantry, marching from Fort Monroe, became involved in the Peninsula Campaign, which lasted into July 1862. Colburn refers to “the hard battle between Yorktown and Richmond” (Battle of Williamsburg) on May 5th and makes reference to Big Bethel and Camp Winderfield Scott where he was camped. On Friday 27 June 1862, Colburn was engaged in the Battle of Glencoe Mill and writes, “Marched off to the left where we had a heavy battle where Maj. Clitz [Henry Boynton Cliz] myself and several others were wounded and taken prisoner by the 5th regiment Va, with some that was not wounded, many killed.” The remainder of the diary describes his time in hospital, both Confederate and Union, his eventual release on 15 January 1863, and his trip home. Colburn’s last entry is dated 17 February 1863 when he was in Southington, Ohio visiting his sister on his way, presumably, to Iowa.

Robert A. Boyd

Robert A. Boyd Diary – Nookote. One volume notebook, ca. 45 pages, containing miscellaneous personal notes (Dec. 1864-April 1865) and brief diary entries (January 1, April 3-13, 1865). Diary portion covers activities of the 1st Engineers Regiment during the last few days of the war; mentions surrender at Appomattox and includes pencil sketch of surrender site. Notes concern supplies, furloughs and desertions, guard rosters; also maxims and quotations from books.

Richard H. Adams

Richard H. Adams, Jr, b. 1841 at “Altwood”, Marengo County, Alabama; served as officer during Civil War with 5th Alabama Infantry Regiment and in Engineer Corps on General Wheeler’s staff, captured near Nashville; prisoner of war Sept. 1863-June 1865, one of “immortal 600”; engineer after war; d. 1896 at Radford, Virginia.

Richard G. Woodson

Richard Goodrich Woodson Papers, 1862-1865. This collection consists of correspondence, orders, and miscellaneous military papers of Richard G. Woodson, of Pike County, Missouri, colonel of the 3rd Missouri State Militia Cavalry (New). The papers concern the administration of the post at Pilot Knob, Missouri, and the activities of the 3rd Missouri State Militia Cavalry.

Robert Bingham Diary, Volume 1 June-October 1863

Robert Bingham Diary, Volume 1 June-October 1863 (Transcription)

A diary Robert Bingham kept, 1863-1864, while he was a prisoner at Norfolk, Va., Fort Delaware, Johnson’s island, Ohio, and Point Lookout, Md.; and a letter, 14 March 1863, from him to his granddaughter, Henrietta Bingham, describing his Civil War experiences in Virginia, his capture, and his imprisonment. The diary, marked “intended only for my wife,” records thoughts Bingham hesitated to put into letters to his wife. The diary describes prison life, including quarters, gambling, work, escape plots, sermons, food, illness, and hospital at various prison camps. Included are descriptions of the trip from Johnson’s island to Point Lookout; of Bingham’s work making chairs and gold and silver rings, needles, and buttons; of his exchange of books with other inmates and guards; and of rumors, including rumors of cessation of prison exchanges, return of North Carolina to the Union, and Confederate privates signing oaths of allegiance.
Diary of Robert McAfee dating from May 31, 1862 - September 19, 1862. During the period in which the diary was written, McAfee was serving a three-month term of enlistment in the New York State Militia's 12th Regiment. The regiment was stationed in Baltimore, then later at Harper's Ferry. The diary begins on the day the regiment was mustered into service and primarily describes the prosaic activities of daily life, including military drills, the weather, dress parades, inspections, etc. Toward the end of the diary, McAfee describes the battle at Harper's Ferry that took place in September 1862. Confederate General 'Stonewall' Jackson surrounded and attacked the Union garrison, forcing the eventual surrender of federal troops, who were commanded by U.S. Army Colonel Dixon S. Miles. In his entry from September 15, McAfee references the fact that Col. Miles was shot in the leg, an injury which proved to be fatal. McAfee and his regiment were briefly prisoners of war, but were soon released by Confederate forces and put on trains heading north. In his entry from September 19, McAfee describes arriving back in New York City, marching up Broadway to Union Square, then being dismissed.

Typewritten copy of a journal of Robert P. Goodman and his experiences as a Union soldier in Missouri. Also included in the back of the book are letters from Goodman's family.

Robert P. Goodman

Robert T. Wood papers, 1863-1865, 1879 (bulk 1864). The collection consists primarily of letters from Robert T. Wood (d. 1865, Confederate soldier in the Georgia Militia during the Civil War, resident of Washington County, Georgia) from May - August 1864 while serving in the Georgia Militia near Atlanta, to his wife and children in Washington County, Georgia. Also includes letters from a cousin, Fannie H. Rogers, Coalburn's Mills (S.C.); a letter from D.R. Childers (unit unknown), dated July 19, 1863, Chattanooga, Tennessee, which mentions the Tullahoma campaign; and a social letter from W.D. Johnson dated 1879, from Liverpool, England to his sister, Missouri.

Robert T. Wood

Diary of Roysdon Roberson Etter, Co. H, 16th Tenn. Inf. Regt., CSA. This diary is from Sept. 1861 to October 4, 1862. Soldier was from Viola, Warren Co., Tenn. Etter was wounded at Perryville, Ky. in October 1862. Handwritten copy of the diary of Pvt. Roysdon Roberson Etter, Co. H, 16th Tenn. Inf. Regt., CSA. This copy of the soldier's diary was made by his grand daughter Henrietta Pummill. The grand daughter copied his original diary by hand. Pvt. Etter was wounded in the shoulder blades at Perryville, Ky. In Oct. 1862.

Roysdon Roberson Etter Diary, Sept. 1861 to October 4, 1862

Diary of Lt. Rufus B. Parker, Co. E, 9th KY. Inf. Regt., CSA (also known as 5th KY and 9th KY Mtd. Inf.). The diary was lost at Shiloh and was returned to the family in 1925. After Shiloh, Co. E, became Co. A, 23rd Tenn. Inf. Regt., CSA. Parker's diary includes information about the early movements of the regt. Leading up to the battle of Shiloh. One entry lists ordnance items issued to his company. Parker was discharged from the army on May 17, 1862.

Rufus B. Parker

Diary of Samuel Hall, 1862. Samuel Hall was a soldier during the Civil War. He was taken prisoner of war at Gettysburg July 2, 1863.

Samuel Hall Diary, 1862

Diary of Charles E. Ripley, 1863-1864. This collection consists of an 1864 Civil War diary that covers events like the capture of Atlanta and Sherman's March to the Sea. Also included is documentation of daily skirmishes and cannonades, as well as military movement and analysis. Charles E. Ripley, Corps Sergeant, 21st Wisconsin, enlisted as a corporal August 15, 1862, and served with his unit through the end of the war, being mustered out at Washington on June 8, 1865.

Charles E. Ripley

Charles F. Weller, Pocket sized diary, from January to June of 1865.

Charles F. Weller, Pocket sized diary, beginning in 1862 and ending in 1864.
The diary begins with his entries in March 1864; his wife continued the diary until September 1864. Charles Darwin Elliot's portion of the diary describes troop movements around southern Louisiana, the threat of Confederate guerrillas and Jayhawkers, correspondence with his wife, and brief observations on his daily activities. Emily Jane Elliot's contributions to the diary detail the journey from New Orleans, La., to Massachusetts following Charles Darwin Elliot's discharge; daily life and household activities; and relationships with her husband's family while the couple lived in Fitchburg immediately after the war. In the diary, there is a list of tasks related to Elliot's surveying work. December 1863-March 1864. Included in the surveyor field books are topographical sketches of and notes from May 1863 about Bayou Boeuf, La., and undated information about eastern Connecticut.

Charles H. Peterson Diary, 1863
Charles H. Peterson Diary, 1864
Charles H. Peterson Diary, 1865

Between 1863 and 1866 Charles H. Peterson kept these diaries which document his participation in the Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Wilderness, and Petersburg campaigns during the U.S. Civil War. He tucked notes, correspondence, currency, and newspaper clippings between the pages. The collection includes notes, correspondence, currency, and newspaper clippings that were tucked between the pages of the three diaries.

Robert C. Peirce

The diary of Robert C. Peirce, Paymaster of the U.S.S. Dawn, from September 24, 1862 - February 7, 1863. The diary contains information about the activities of the U.S.S. Dawn in and around the Ogeechee River, south of Savannah, Georgia including the islands of Ossabaw and Wassaw, as part of the Union blockade. Peirce discusses trips up the Ogeechee to attack "the Battery," weather, and how crew members hunted to provide food. Includes transcription.

James M. Little

A soldier in the 39th Indiana Infantry Regiment, Little writes in his diary from August 27, 1861, through April 28, 1862. He records his activities from the mustering of the regiment to just before its march to Corinth, Mississippi. He includes his account of the Battle of Shiloh (April 6 and 7, 1862) and drawings of the Union defenses at Bowling Green, Kentucky.

James M. Malbone Diary
James M. Malbone Diary Transcrip

The diary and notebook of Lt. James M. Malbone, Company B, 6th Virginia Infantry, CSA includes entries for 1863 and 1864. This pocket book contains diary entries, accounts, poetry and copies of letters and documents to and from Malbone. The provenance of this diary is uncertain. James M. Malbone (aka Malbone, Malbon) enlisted on 3/25/1862 at Interior Line as Private. On 3/25/1862 he mustered into "B" Co. VA 6th Infantry. He was wounded 5/3/1863 Chancellorsville, VA (Gun-shot wound right arm). He was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant on 5/1/1862.

James Robert McMichael Diary, 1864-1865

James Robert McMichael (1835-1893) was a Confederate officer who served with the 12th Georgia Infantry Regiment. The collection includes a photocopy of a typed transcription of the diary, July 1864-June 1865, kept by McMichael, while he was a prisoner at Fort Delaware, Del, Morris Island, S.C., and Cockspur Island near Savannah, Ga., with memomanda, names of fellow prisoners, a roll of his company, and seven letters to him chiefly about items being sent to him by relatives and friends. Diary entries describe prison conditions, McMichael's health, and his feelings about imprisonment, harsh treatment he received, and the Confederacy.

James S. Davy Civil War Diary, 1861
James S. Davy Civil War Diary, 1863
James S. Davy Civil War Diary, 1864
James S. Davy Civil War Diary, 1865

Davy served in the 47th Indiana Infantry Volunteers, Company C, in the Civil War from 1861-1865. During his time in the Civil War, he kept an account of his daily life.

Isaac B. Brown

This is the 33 page diary of Isaac B. Brown who served with the 211th Pennsylvania Infantry. The diary contains entries, January-October 1864, covering the time that Brown was involved in espionage and his discovery. (Diary is missing covers, looks like pages could be missing—first page is smudged from rubbing and is very difficult to read —the first part seems to take place in 1864 since it talks about Jerusalem Plank Road battle which was during June, 1864)

Isaac N. Williamson Diary, 1863

Isaac N. Williamson was a bugler in Company E of the 18th Pennsylvania Cavalry. He was mustered on September 17, 1862; wounded at Spotsylvania, VA, on May 8th, 1864; and mustered out on July 14, 1865. He describes fighting at Hanover, PA.
Isaac S. Knapp diary, 1865
Isaac S. Knapp diary, 1865 (transcript)

Isaac S. Knapp diary, 1865. Handwritten Civil War diary, soft cover, pocket sized, scanned and transcribed.

Isaiah Goddard Hacker

The 1864 pocket diary was owned by Isaiah Goddard Hacker, a soldier from the Union Army who served in the American Civil War. He was part of the Company E, 38th Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteers, attached to the 3rd brigade, 2nd division, 19th Army Corps (Department of the Gulf, and Army of the Shenandoah, Middle Military Division).

Isaiah Smith Diary July 1860 - February 1867
Isaiah Smith Diary July 1860 - February 1867 (transcript)

The collection consists of a diary and photographs. Also included are an introduction, description, and transcription of the diary done by descendants of Isaiah Smith. The diary covers Isaiah Smith's daily life from July 1860 until February 1867. Such topics as family, friends, work, church, singing, the weather, army camp, hospital duties, and fellow soldiers are described. There are also several pages of accounts and medicines. The photographs are of Smith, his family, and his CSA discharge certificate.

J. J. McDaniel

Diary of battles, marches and incidents of the Seventh South Carolina regiment.

J. S. Jones

J. S. Jones was in the 30th Tennessee Infantry, C. S. A. He was captured at Fort Donelson and imprisoned at Camp Butler prisoner camp in Illinois.

J. W. Moore

Diary of the Twentieth Iowa; from its organization until it was mustered out after the war.

Jacob Andervount Diary

Jacob Andervount Diary Transcription

Diary of Jacob Andervount, Company A, 19th Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Georgia.

Jackson S. Stuchal

Diary kept by Jackson S. Stuchal in 1861. The diary contains several pages of poems and verses, some of which were copied while others were written by Stuchal himself. The diary also includes a record of Stuchal's day by day activities as a soldier in Company A of the 62nd Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers. The diary itself is a daybook from 1860, so Stuchal has had to scratch off and rewrite the dates for most of his entries. Stuchal is camped at various locations near Washington, D.C. and Alexandria, Virginia. He visits Mount Vernon and sees where George Washington is buried. He also visits wounded soldiers in a hospital within view of Fort Washington. He describes building winter quarters, his pay and equipment, preparing for drill and dress parades, and the recruiting efforts of one of his commanders, Captain Craps. The diary entries conclude on December 24, 1861 with "excitement in camp today as tomorrow is Christmas Day."

Jacob D. Irish Diary, January-August 1865

Diary kept between 1 January and 27 August 1865 by Union soldier Jacob D. Irish. From January through June, entries were recorded on a daily basis. These entries are short and describe drill and guard duties, cooking and wood cutting chores, camaraderie with fellow soldiers, as well as the continuing correspondence between Irish and his family. The entry on 29 March describes the assault on Fort Sedman by Confederate soldiers. Another entry, written while at City Point, Va., on 17 April, refers to mourning Abraham’s Lincoln death stating, "Flags at half mast for Uncle Abe and firing guns all day." The diary continues with intermittent entries after Irish mustered out in mid-June of 1865 and returned home.

Jacob R. Shotwell

This is the diary of Private Jacob R. Shotwell who served with Company B, 41st Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment during the Civil War. The diary documents Shotwell's activities during 1864, while serving with the Army of the Potomac in Virginia. It includes a brief description of the Battle of Spotsylvania.
Jacob Nauman Diary, 1864-1865

His Civil War diaries describe his experiences as a soldier in the Union Army at Vicksburg and include maps and drawings.

Jacob Wallace Smiley

The diary of Jacob Wallace Smiley, a Union sharpshooter with the 7th Company, 1st Battalion, New York Sharpshooters, in the northern Virginia region. The first few pages of the diary include a brief history of his enlistment. The early entries describe his unit's travels around Alexandria and Northern Virginia. The majority of the entries detail his experiences in and around Culpeper from December 1863 to May 1864. He talks about camp life, drills, daily activities, letters from home, and playing baseball in camp. Smiley's last complete entry was on May 4, 1864, when the regiment moved from Culpeper toward Wilderness. May 5th includes a date and location, but no entry. Smiley was killed in action at the Wilderness later that day. Tucked inside the diary is a CDV of Smiley and his wife, Melissa, probably taken before Jacobo was drafted.

George G. Smith

Leaves from a soldier's diary: the personal record of Lieutenant George G. Smith, Co. C, 1st Louisiana regiment infantry volunteers (white) during the war of the rebellion; also a partial history of the operations of the army and navy in the Department of the Gulf from the capture of New Orleans to the close of the war.

George H. Marshall

Civil War diary of George H. Marshall, a soldier in Company K, 113th Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery during the Civil War. The diary contains short entries spanning one year, beginning with Marshall's enlistment on February 24, 1864. The diary's early entries cover Marshall's enlistment and the movement of his regiment. Later entries, made from Fort Monroe, Virginia, at which the 113th was stationed, relate to the daily routines of Marshal, his regiment, and the fort. Marshall notes such details as the weather, the condition of his health, and his correspondence but also makes mention of prisoners of war, African American troops, the wounded, and skirmishes with the Confederates. George H. Marshall of Company K, 113th Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, was born in Pennsylvania, ca. 1835. The son of Sarah Marshall, he lived in Chester County before enlisting as a private in Company K of the 113th on February 23, 1864. He was promoted to full artificer on September 3, 1865. After the mustering out of his regiment at Fort Monroe, Marshall returned to Chester County, Pennsylvania, where he recommenced working as a carpenter.

George Hewey

This is the 75 page diary of George Hewey who served with the 7th Maine Light Artillery Battery during the Civil War. The diary contains Hewey's daily entries for 1865, and includes descriptions of the Union Army's siege of Petersburg, Virginia and the Confederate retreat and surrender.

George J. Engelmann

Contains report of events as he saw them, or as he learned of them through newspapers, local rumors, or reports from friends. He divides his entries between local news and news from abroad, and occasionally summarizes the progression of battles and engagements by dates and months. He pastes in pertinent clippings, and comments on laws, political news and local events.

George Jacob Mook

Diary of George Mook, January 1, 1865, to June 22, 1865. George Jacob Mook was born April 26, 1828, in Oxford, Ohio. During the Civil War he served as a private in the 4th Missouri Cavalry (Confederate). He was captured October 25, 1864, near Fort Scott, Kans., and imprisoned at Goal Street Prison and Albion Military Prison, before being sent to the South on exchange. After the war he returned to St. Louis, where he served as vice president and treasurer of Flich & Mook Painting Company. He died November 2, 1900, in St. Louis.

George L. Bright

George L. Bright was a band member of the 46th Ohio Volunteer Infantry (or 46th OVI), an infantry regiment in the Union Army during the American Civil War. Bright's diary details weather and marching conditions from January to September 1862 and in specific locations including Camp Logan, Ohio; Columbus, Ohio; and Paducah, Kentucky. Bright's entries also note days when he played his horn for regimental funerals.

George M. Hanvey

The collection consists of the papers of George M. Hanvey from 1858-1865, 1880-1889. The papers from 1858-1865 relate to Hanvey's service as captain of the Newnan Guards, later known as Company A of the 1st Georgia Infantry Regiment including two letters regarding its organization (1858, 1859); a letter to Governor G.W. Gist of South Carolina offering their services should South Carolina secede (Nov. 1860); a penciled note from Governor Joseph E. Brown to Captain Hanvey instructing him to rendezvous at Macon, Georgia on March 20, 1862; a letter to General Braxton Bragg (May, 1862) desiring to attach his company to the Artillery at Warrington, Florida; a muster roll of the Newnan Guards who left for Pensacola, Florida in 1861; a circular from Harvey to W.L. Beadle regarding the bombardment of Ft. Sumter; and Hanvey's oath of allegiance. The later papers, 1880-1889, contain letters.
John W. Fisher

The diary of Lieutenant John W. Fisher, a Confederate soldier in the 10th Cavalry Regiment of the Missouri State Guard, 8th Division, 1861-1862, was written for his wife Bettie. In his diary, Fisher describes daily military camp life and activities, descriptions of the towns and regions they travel through, the economy, and depredations suffered by the civilians, as well as entries pertaining to Jayhawkers and skirmishes, and his personal desire to return home to see his wife and child.

John W. Tuttle Diary Transcript

This diary was kept and recorded by Captain John W. Tuttle (1837-1927) from 1860-1867. The diary spans Tuttle's social and family life before the Civil War, his time serving in Company H of the 3rd Kentucky Volunteer Infantry for the Union Army during the Civil War, and the post-war when he returned home to his legal work in Monticello, Kentucky. Existing in a single bound volume, the diary features printed type rather than handwriting. This collection contains a bound typescript of a diary that John W. Tuttle, kept during the Civil War while serving in the Union Army. He participated in the battles of Shiloh, Lookout Mountain, and Atlanta. Tuttle wrote brief daily entries and continued to write after returning to his position in the bankruptcy court in Monticello, Kentucky. Subjects written about in the diary include Tuttle's social and family life; his troop movements, illnesses, and duties during the war; and his legal work in Monticello.

Joseph Child diary, 1862-1863

A Civil War soldier from Lyons, Iowa, Joseph Child served in the 26th Regiment of the Iowa Infantry Volunteers, Company K. His diary contains descriptions of the battles leading to the siege of Vicksburg.

Joseph Smith

Letter head with color illustration of a camp scene written in the field. Topics include several diary entries detailing Joseph’s experiences from November 23rd, 1861 to January 9th, 1863 that include camp life; soldiers marching music; viewing the Chantilly battlefield; desecration of the dead, discovery of coffins of Confederate officer in barn of area family; firing at Rebels with death of a horse resulting, burned and empty buildings in the area; activities of local people including assisting a southern woman regain her father who had been taken prisoner.

Joseph Priest

This is the diary of Joseph Priest who served as a hospital steward and pharmacist for the Union Army from June to September 1864.

Joshua Brynoffe

Joshua Brynoffe family papers 1864, 1893. The collection consists of a Civil War diary written by Joshua Brynoffe in 1864; a typescript of a letter written by Joshua Brynoffe to his children in 1863 in which he describes his Civil War experiences; a typed genealogy of the Brynoffe family; and six family photographs. The diary gives details of Joshua Brynoffe’s participation in three Georgia battles in Resaca, Atlanta, and Fort McAllister. The letter describes Joshua Brynoffe’s moves through Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky and Virginia with battles at Rich Mountain and Cheat Mountain, West Virginia, and White House Landing and Petersburg, Virginia.

Lyman Gibson Bennett Diary from August 19, 1861 through December 20, 1861

Lyman Gibson Bennett Diary from December 21, 1861 through April 4, 1862

Lyman Gibson Bennett Diary from January 1, 1865 through October 04, 1865

Lyman Gibson Bennett Diary from August 19, 1861 through December 20, 1861 documents Bennett’s every day actions from the day he joined the military until he sends this diary home to his wife, Melissa. Bennett discusses his motivations for joining the military, political feelings, and thoughts of sadness as he leaves his wife for Missouri. Originally, Bennett was in the regular infantry, but eventually he is identified as a cartographer and an engineer. His skills are put to use, as he is ordered to map and survey the surrounding areas of Rolla, Missouri. Bennett provides colorful insight to his perspective of Missouri, its citizens, and the military throughout the diary.

Lyman Gibson Bennett diary, 1862-1863

Lyman Gibson Bennett Diary from January 1, 1865 through October 04, 1865

Lyman Gibson Bennett, a soldier in the 36th Illinois Infantry, recorded this diary from August 19, 1861 through December 20, 1861. The diary documents Bennett’s every day actions from the day he joined the military until he sends this diary home to his wife, Melissa. Bennett discusses his motivations for joining the military, political feelings, and thoughts of sadness as he leaves his wife for Missouri. Originally, Bennett was in the regular infantry, but eventually he is identified as a cartographer and an engineer. His skills are put to use, as he is ordered to map and survey the surrounding areas of Rolla, Missouri. Bennett provides colorful insight to his perspective of Missouri, its citizens, and the military throughout the diary.

Lyman Gibson Bennett’s diary from 21 December 1861 through 4 April 1862, records his daily activities in St. Louis, southwest Missouri, and Arkansas. While in St. Louis, Bennett became sick, hospitalized, and placed in a prison for not having a pass. After conclusion of his work in St. Louis, he returned home for a short furlough. Bennett then traveled to Rolla and southwest Missouri, where he conducted an inspection of Sterling Price’s cache of rations and supplies. He then marched into Arkansas and participated in the Battle of Pea Ridge, providing vivid details of the events he experienced.

Lyman Gibson Bennett Diary from January 1, 1865 through October 04, 1865 documents his work as a civilian in General Samuel R. Curtis’s engineering department and his experiences during the Powder-River Expedition. Under Curtis, Bennett mapped the 1864 battlefields of Sterling Price’s Missouri Expedition, including the Big Blue River, the Marison River, and Warrensburg, Missouri. He then traveled to Mine Creek, Kansas. Bennett then received orders to inspect military forts in Kansas and the defenses along the stage line to Denver, Colorado, and at Fort Laramie, Wyoming. This first segment of the diary ends in April, and the last segment begins in July, as Bennett joins the Powder-River Expedition under Col. Nelson Cole of the 2nd Missouri Light Artillery. His diary includes vivid descriptions of incidents along the march, skirmishing with Native Americans, and the effects of exposure and starvation on the men and animals in the column. After Bennett’s column reached Fort Conner, he was ordered to Fort Laramie to begin mapping the operations of the Powder River Expedition.

J.T. Speck
J.T. Spink served in the 2nd Ohio Cavalry.

**Jacob Cohn**

The diary of Jacob Cohn, a soldier in Company A, 54th Pennsylvania Infantry during the Civil War. Cohn's brief entries commence with April 14, 1864 and trace his regiment's movements and battles, particularly those at New Market and Piedmont. The entries cease with June 18, 1864, and are followed by the names of Company A's soldiers wounded and killed at the Battle of New Market. The diary also contains various lists of goods and prices, some dated June-September 1863. Jacob Cohn enlisted as a private in Company A, 54th Pennsylvania Infantry on February 10, 1864. He is listed among soldiers who served from Cambria County, Pennsylvania, in which Company A recruited. Cohn's name does not appear on the regiment's muster-out roll, and no further information about him could be found. The 54th Pennsylvania Infantry was organized in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania in August and September, 1863, having recruited largely in Somerset and surrounding counties of southwestern Pennsylvania. In February 1862, the regiment was ordered to Washington, D.C., then to Harpers Ferry, (West) Virginia, from which the individual companies were dispatched to guard strategic points along a 60-mile section of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. Company A guarded the vicinity of South Branch Bridge. As part of the Union Army's Department of West Virginia, the regiment participated in the Shenandoah Campaign of 1864, engaging the Confederates in several battles, including those at New Market, Piedmont and Lynchburg. As part of the 54th was assigned to the Army of the James and transferred to Petersburg, Virginia. There, it participated in the siege against the city, the pursuit of Lee's forces, and the Appomattox campaign. The regiment was mustered out of service on July 15, 1865.

**Jacob Young**

This is the 33 page diary of Jacob Young who served with Co. B., 188th Ohio Infantry during the Civil War. The diary covers February 1 through September 27, 1865.

**James Aker diary, 1864.** This collection consists of a diary that covers Civil War events like marching through Tennessee and the Atlanta Campaign.

**James Dickson Diary**

**James Dickson Diary Transcript**

The collection consists of the diary of a blockade runner during the Civil War from December 1861 through February 1862. The diary describes the voyage from New York to Halifax, Nova Scotia and the return voyage on the brigantine the Standard of Windsor, loaded with dry goods, food, and medicine for the Confederate government. The author describes in detail the weather, sea conditions, eating habits, and life aboard ship; fears of capture by Union forces; maneuvers used to run the blockade; and off-loading the cargo. Also contained in the collection are research notes, speeches, and correspondence of William Porter Kellam pertaining to his research of the diary. Kellam attributes the diary to James Dickson in Savannah, Georgia.

**James E. Green Diary, 1863-1872**

A typed transcription of the intermittent diary, 1863-1865, kept by James E. Green while he was a Confederate soldier on active duty in Virginia and Pennsylvania with the 53rd North Carolina Regiment, in army hospitals at Lynchburg, Va., and Charlotte, N.C., and on furlough, November 1864-March 1865; and 1865-1869 and 1872 while he was farming at home near Marshville in Union County, N.C.

**Franklin Denny**

Franklin Denny enlisted in Company C, 1st Missouri Cavalry on August 1, 1861. He was elected third sergeant, and in February 1862 he was promoted to first sergeant. In his diary, Denny recorded the actions of the 1st Missouri Cavalry as they travelled across Kansas, Missouri and Arkansas from 1862 through 1864. He noted engagements with bushwhackers and rebel soldiers, personal thoughts on Kansas Jayhawkers, the impact of the War on civilians, and the routine of military life. Denny was discharged from the service on September 17, 1864.

**Carlos Colby letters, 1862-1864**

Second Corporal, 97th Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment, Company G. Consists of 129 letters home, 1862-1865, from Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Florida, describing all aspects of daily camp life, covering such topics as accommodations, food, clothing, health, weather, scenery, transportation, and weaponry. The letters also reveal social and racial attitudes, moral and mental states, and patriotic sentiments and contain observations on military leaders (Ulysses S. Grant). Colby includes graphic descriptions of particular battles and skirmishes (Vicksburg, Port Blakely, and Jackson).

**Cloe Tyler Whittle Greene Diary, vol 1**

**Cloe Tyler Whittle Greene Diary, vol 2**

**Cloe Tyler Whittle Greene Diary, vol 3**

Diary of Cloe Tyler Whittle Greene, July 30, 1862 - September 27, 1863. This diary begins at the outbreak of the Civil War, when she was a student. She gives a detailed account of war-time activities in Norfolk, Virginia including the fall of that city and being evacuated to Charleston, South Carolina, and then the fall of Charleston prompting her return to Norfolk. She records the fall of Richmond.
and General Robert E. Lee's surrender. She visited Jefferson Davis while he was in prison. She also met General Robert E. Lee and General Curtis Lee. After the war, she writes of her social and church activities, books read and trips taken, and the courtship and marriage to John Greene.

Daniel Butterfield Pease family papers, 1864-1866
Consists of correspondence, mainly from Daniel Butterfield Pease, to members of his family in Maine while serving with Company G of the 12th Maine Infantry Regiment from 1864-1866. Pease's letters were written from Camp Coburn, Maine; Gallops Island, Massachusetts; and Augusta, Savannah, and Thomasville, Georgia and contain descriptions of the different areas, his duties, the Civil War, and peace-keeping activities during Reconstruction. The collection also contains a few letters from Pease's brothers, Dixon and Plummer.

David L. Day
My Diary Of Rambles with the 25th Mass. Volunteer Infantry, Burnside's Coast Division; 18th Army Corps, Army of the James.

Theodore Reichhardt
Diary of Battery A, First Regiment Rhode Island Light Artillery.

Ephraim Shelby Dodd
Diary of Ephraim Shelby Dodd - Member of Company D Terry's Texas Rangers, December 4, 1862- January 1, 1864.

William H. Jackson / Lipman George Balle
Civil War diary, 9 June - 19 Sept. 1863, written in two different hands, begun by Union soldier William H. Jackson (4th Michigan Regt.) during the week of 9-19 June 1863; collected from the battlefield in Gettysburg, Penn., by a Confederate soldier and subsequently sold to Private Lipman George Balle (Col. D., 3rd S.C. Batallion), who added entries, 31 July - 19 Sept. 1863. Family lore holds that a minie ball struck the diary in battle, thus saving Balle's life; a prominent tear pierces the volume. The volume also includes accounts, including on the pages for 1-9 Jan. 1863.

M.M. Cottingim
The diary of M.M. Cottingim between April and October of 1862. In addition to short entries about his regiment's movements and activities, his last few entries make mention of his leg being wounded at Antietam on September 17, its subsequent amputation and infection, and his removal to a hospital near Frederick. M. M. Cottingim served as a private with Company A, 2nd Regiment Mississippi Infantry - he mustered in during March of 1862. He died in November 18, 1862, probably from wounds sustained during fighting at Antietam, and was buried in Frederick, MD.

Madison Miller Diary, April 1862
Diary of Madison Miller, April 1862 Describes a battle with the enemy attacking on the right, surrender by General Prentiss, and being taken prisoner of war. Also describes being marched to Corinth and sent by rail to Memphis, food given to prisoners, and being quartered in the Baptist College in Taladega, Alabama.

Mahlon D. Cushman Diary, 1864-1864
Mahlon D. Cushman, a Union soldier during the Civil War, served as a private in Company I of the 16th Connecticut Infantry Regiment, 1862-1864. As part of the Union garrison at Plymouth, N.C., the 16th Connecticut, with the 18th Army Corps, defended against a Confederate land and naval attack, 17-20 April 1864. On 20 April 1864, the Union garrison at Plymouth surrendered, and Cushman was sent to the Andersonville Prison at Camp Sumter, Ga. He was paroled in November 1864 and discharged with disability in June 1865. The diary consists of the 1864 pocket diary of Civil War soldier Mahlon D. Cushman. The diary documents Cushman's capture by Confederate soldiers at the Battle of Plymouth and subsequent imprisonment in Andersonville Prison. Daily entries are typically brief, generally indicating weather conditions and occasionally diet. Entries of note include the 20 April 1864 surrender at Plymouth, the journey southward, and 2 May 1864 arrival at Andersonville Prison. Brief entries tell of many hundreds of prisoners coming into the prison and the deaths of prisoners. On 26 November 1864, Cushman recorded his parole and, on 5 December 1864, his arrival in Annapolis, Md.
Marcus B. Warner

Diary written by Marcus B. Warner in 1864. The diary is written in a green Allings & Cory pocket diary. In addition to describing his life as a soldier, Warner also chronicles his previous civilian life and the Union army recruitment process. Writing as a civilian, his common discussion topics include the weather, his daily schedule, fluctuating gold prices, local and national politics and elections, war news, and local community and church events. A notable entry on August 6th gives insight to his political sentiments: The Copper Heads are getting to be quite bold they are spewing out their venomous treason against the Government at times when I hear them talk it almost makes my blood boil with rage I fairly hate the sight of them and there is many those who we would expect better things from. After Marcus mustered into service in September of 1864, his descriptions shift to daily camp life and more in-depth war news that is sometimes accompanied by newspaper clippings. A humorous entry on October 4th details a false alarm around camp, in which a guard mistook a lone dog for an enemy attack.

Mary Boykin Chesnut

A Diary from Dixie is the Civil War diary of Mary Boykin Chesnut, society matron and wife of United States senator and Confederate general, James Chesnut, Jr. As an active participant in her husband's career, accompanying him to postings in Montgomery, Richmond, Charleston, and Columbia, Chesnut became an eyewitness to many important events of the war, and, despite being a member of the privileged class, managed to convey the Confederacy's struggle from different points of view. A Diary from Dixie is considered by many to be the most important work produced by a Confederate author. Filmmaker Ken Burns made extensive use of Chesnut's diary in his documentary series The Civil War.

Mary Phiney Olhauzen

Adventures of an Army Nurse in Two Wars. Edited from the Diary and Correspondence of Mary Phiney Olhauzen.

Miles Beaty Letters

Letters from Beaty to his family recounting his experience as a Union soldier in the 149th Regiment of the Pennsylvania infantry, and letters to his family from his comrades recounting the circumstances of his death and burial.

Milton S. Koontz Diary

Diary from March 1865 to May 1865 details the movements and actions of Koontz and his fellow troops. Diary from June 10, 1863 to December 31, 1863 focuses primarily on the military related actions of each day.

Milton S. Koontz Letters

Letters from Beaty to his family recounting his experience as a Union soldier in the 149th Regiment of the Pennsylvania infantry, and letters to his family from his comrades recounting the circumstances of his death and burial.

Milton S. Koontz

Milton S. Koontz Diary from June 10, 1863 to December 31, 1863
Milton S. Koontz Diary from March 1865 to May 1865
Milton S. Koontz, 1863 Copybook
Milton S. Koontz, 1865, Sketchbook

Mary Phinney Olnhausen

Adventures of an Army Nurse in Two Wars. Edited from the Diary and Correspondence of Mary Phinney Olnhausen.

Miles Beaty

Miles Beaty, 1862-1863
Miles Beaty, 1863

Milton S. Koontz

Milton S. Koontz Diary from June 10, 1863 to December 31, 1863
Milton S. Koontz Diary from March 1865 to May 1865
Milton S. Koontz, 1863 Copybook
Milton S. Koontz, 1865, Sketchbook

Milton S. Koontz Diary from March 1865 to May 1865 details the movements and actions of Koontz and his fellow troops. Diary from June 10, 1863 to December 31, 1863 focuses primarily on the military related actions of each day.

Myra Owen

Myra Owen served with the 8th New York Cavalry Regiment and joined the Army of the Potomac. He served the quartermaster, managing supplies of forage for the horses. He was present at the battles of Harper's Ferry, Antietam, Chancellorsville and Richmond.

Myra Owen

Myra Owen diary, 1864

Miles Beaty

Miles Beaty Letters from Beaty to his family recounting his experience as a Union soldier in the 149th Regiment of the Pennsylvania infantry, and letters to his family from his comrades recounting the circumstances of his death and burial.

Charles Arad Gates

Charles Arad Gates letters, 1861-1865. Charles Arad Gates was born in 1841, one of five children of Arad and Charlotte Gates, in the village of West Monroe, near Baldwinsville, New York. His parents were third generation New York farmers, but his family history dated back to the immigrant Stephen Gates and his wife Anne who traveled from England to settle in Hingham in the Massachusetts Bay Colony in 1638. Charles' ancestors, Deacon Samuel Gates II and Samuel Gates both served in the Revolutionary War. From September 161 to June 1865 Gates served in the 1st New York Light Artillery, Battery B, which was known until the Gettysburg campaign in 1863 as Petri's Battery, after its first captain Rufus Pettit of Baldwinsville. The battery was organized at Baldwinsville and was composed chiefly of Onondaga county men. It was mustered into the state service at Baldwinsville on August 24, 1861 and into the service of the United States at Elmire on August 31, 1861. Charles wrote letters home frequently to his parents, relatives, and friends describing his experiences and thoughts about the war. This collection is comprised of 39 of those letters written between September 161 and December 1863 and envelopes for which no letters were found. There are examples of illustrated stationery, both in the letters and the envelopes, including Union icons and likenesses of McClellan, George Washington, and the Sons of Erin. Among the contents are four maps drawn by Gates including the battery's first winter camp at Camp California near Alexandria, Virginia; a map of the Antietam battlefield; a camp at Bunker Hill near Harper's Ferry, Virginia during the Maryland campaign in 1862; and a copy of the Chancellorsville battlefield. Noteworthy letters include a letter of July 4th, 1864 describing two days of battle including the climactic charge of Confederate troops led by General George Pickett on the Union defense of Cemetery Ridge on the third day of battle.

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Charles Newell Hammond

Journal of Charles Newell Hammond, 1835-1891. Hammond served with Co. F, 96th Ill. Vol. Inf. Regt., USA. The journal provides an account of the company's rations and expenses as well as his personal account of the mundane events of camp life. On June 25 he wrote, 'My 28th birthday. Thought about greens for dinner but had to eat hard tack & sow belly. The boys nearly all went to the front but
Charles Sigwalt, originally a resident of Long Grove, Illinois, went on to become a prominent businessman, Postmaster and eventually Village President [Mayor] of Arlington Heights, Illinois. He was Village President during the years 1891-1893, 1894-1897 and 1899-1905. This diary begins with Sigwalt’s daily life on a farm in Long Grove and continues with his enlistment and involvement in the 88th Regiment Illinois Volunteer Infantry.

Charles Smedley

Life in southern prisons; from the diary of Corporal Charles Smedley, of Company G, 90th regiment Pennsylvania volunteers, commencing a few days before the “battle of the Wilderness”, in which he was taken prisoner, in the evening of the fifth month fifth, 1864: also, a short description of the march to and battle of Gettysburg, together with a biographical sketch of the author.

Alexander H. Stephens

Recollections of Alexander H. Stephens; his diary kept when a prisoner at Fort Warren, Boston Harbour, 1865; giving incidents and reflections of his prison life and some letters and reminiscences. Ed., with a biographical study, by Myrta Lucile Avary.

Alexander Downing


Andrew F. Davis papers, May-December 1861

Andrew F. Davis diary, 1861-1862

Andrew F. Davis papers, 1862

Andrew F. Davis papers, January-October 1863

Davis, of Liberty, Union County, Indiana, enlisted in Company I, 15th Regiment, Indiana Volunteers on May 14, 1861. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant September 10, 1861, and as a first lieutenant November 1862.

Willis B. Keith

Civil War diary of Willis B. Keith. Includes history, official records, etc. of the 35th (First Irish) Regiment. Typewritten copy from Indiana State Library Archives Division.

William W. Perry


William Watlington

Personal narrative of the history of the 3rd Indiana Cavalry during the United States Civil War, containing troop movements, daily life of enlisted and officers, battles, and casualties from the diary notes of William Watlington.

William M. Standard enlisted in the Illinois Volunteer Infantry on August 9, 1862, and was assigned to duty as first sergeant of Company A, 103rd Regiment. He mustered into active service with his unit on October 2, 1862, in Peoria, Illinois. Over the course of the war, the 103rd Regiment served in the 13th, 16th, and 15th Army Corps, Department of Tennessee, and saw action in many Civil War campaigns including the Siege of Vicksburg and the Chattanooga-Ringgold Campaign. During the Atlanta Campaign, Standard's unit fought at many locations in Georgia, including Resaca, Kennesaw Mountain, Ezra Church, Jonesboro, and Lovejoy's Station. His unit participated in General William T. Sherman's March to the Sea and was part of the "Grand Review" in Washington, D.C., on May 24th, 1865. Standard was promoted to first lieutenant of Company A on February 23, 1865, with rank effective from January 15, 1865. He was discharged on June 21, 1865 at Louisville, Kentucky.

William Sylvester Dillon

William Sylvester Dillon Civil War Diary. Typed transcription, 133 p.

May 26th.

Today I settled up with Mr. E. G. Sibley, who I was working with, for the purpose of going south and enlisting in the army of the South. I must here state that I was a strong Union man until Lincoln's call for 75,000 men, when I considered it time for every American to take sides in the question and as I never was for a Union of States baled together with bayonets I could not consistently support any cause but that of the South. As there were no hosts running below St. Louis and no cars running on the Iron Mountain Railroad, I went down the river on a skiff to New Madrid, Mo., and from there to Annolgh, Tenn., on the south Kentucky.

William Raleigh Clack

William Raleigh Clack, Co. B, 43rd Tenn. Inf. Regt., CSA Company B, 43rd Tenn. Inf. Regt., CSA was raised in Sulphur Springs, Rhea County, Tenn. The diary begins on May 23, 1863 about the time that the regiment reported to the defenses of Vicksburg, Mississippi and ends on July 28, 1863. Vicksburg surrendered July 4, 1863 and Clack mentions the surrender in the diary. Paroled with the rest of his regiment after the surrender, Clack took the oath of allegiance in December 1863 and presumably returned home to Rhea County, Tennessee.

William P. Lyon

Reminiscences of the civil war; comp. from the war correspondence of Colonel William P. Lyon and from personal letters and diary by Mrs. Adelia C. Lyon. Published by William P. Lyon, j.r.

William Newton Price

One Year In The Civil War. A Diary of the Events from April 1st, 1864, to April 1st, 1865 By William N. Price, A Private Soldier in Company D, 6th Tennessee, United States Volunteer Infantry.

William Moore

Diary, September 7, 1861-June 26, 1862, of Captain William Moore, Company G, 10th Wisconsin Infantry Regiment, describing the organization of the company from the Jackson County Rifles, and the history of its movements and battles in Kentucky, Tennessee, and Alabama until the time of Moore's death; includes observations on slavery and the effects of war.

William H. Merrill

Five Months in Rebeldom: Notes from the diary of a Bull Run prisoner at Richmond by Corporal William H. Merrill, Color Guard, Co. E., 27th Regiment, N. Y. S. V.
William Leonard

Leonard's diary begins in August 1864, apparently when he was appointed to drive an ambulance. His entries are short and refer mostly to his daily activities: who or what he was conveying to and from the hospital at City Point outside Petersburg; what letters he sent or received; war news; or when he attended religious meetings. Shortly before the diary ends in April 1865, he notes the firing of guns and cannon for the death of Abraham Lincoln, President of the U.S. who was shot by a man by the name of Booth.

Buford Brown

Diary of Buford Brown, soldier. August 7, 1862 to May 31, 1865. Contains descriptions of daily weather and activities. Includes lyrics to popular Civil War song "Lorena."

C.T. Kimmel

This is an excerpt from the diary of C.T. Kimmel, an assistant surgeon in the 2nd Missouri State Militia Cavalry. The entries, dated May 10 – June 2, 1865, describe Kimmel mustering out of service and returning home to Chariton County, Missouri. He mentions nearby guerrilla warfare, and writes about mourning the death of President Lincoln. Attached is an invitation to a New Year's Union Ball on December 31, 1865 in Brunswick, Missouri.

Chapin family papers, 1862-1870

The collection consists of correspondence from 1862-1870 to Mrs. Joel (Amelia) Chapin of Enfield, Connecticut from friends of J. Leander Chapin regarding his imprisonment and death at Andersonville Prison, Georgia. The letters discuss the hiring of Amelia Johnson in Andersonville to care for the grave and erect a stone. Johnson's letters contain very descriptive comments about the cemetery and stockade. Also in the collection are three documents concerning death benefits paid to Mrs. Chapin for her son's military service. Letters from Leander's friends who describe his character and death are also included.

Charles A. James Martin family papers, 1864

The collection consists of correspondence from Civil War soldiers Charles A.J. Martin, James K. Polk Martin, and probable cousin H.L. G. Whitaker, while serving in the 29th Georgia Infantry Regiment in 1864. The letters are mostly written during the Atlanta Campaign, except for one, from James Polk while he was in a hospital in Alabama. The letters contain some comments on fighting, but the soldiers mainly discuss their fears of dying and concern for friends and family in the war and at home. Typed transcriptions are available for most of the letters.

Charles Cady letters, 1862-1864

Charles Cady was born in Brooklin, Connecticut. On October 21, 1861, at the age of thirty-two he enlisted in Company E of the 15th Regiment of the Iowa Volunteer Infantry. He served as a sergeant in that company until his discharge on November 3, 1864.

Cyrus Vannatta

Civil War Diary of Cyrus Vannatta, member of Company E, 8th regiment, Indiana Volunteers.

David James Palmer papers, November 1862 - November 1928

David James Palmer papers, January 1863

David James Palmer papers, January 1863-February 1867

David James Palmer papers, August-December 1863

David James Palmer papers, January-June 1864

David James Palmer papers, July-December 1864

David James Palmer papers, January 1864-May 1895

David James Palmer papers, December 1864-May 1896

David James Palmer Papers describing the war experiences of Palmer, who was from Washington County, Iowa and fought with the 8th Iowa Infantry and later the 25th Iowa Infantry. He was severely wounded in the Battle of Shiloh but recovered and was promoted to captain and eventually lieutenant colonel and took part in the siege of Vicksburg and Sherman's March to the Sea. After the war he was a state senator and railroad commissioner.
Delia Locke Diary, 1862-1869.

Edward Holcomb

The is the diary of Edward Holcomb who served with the 111th New York Infantry during the Civil War. It contains details of this common soldier’s life, January 1-December 31, 1863.

Ebenezer E. Mason

The diary of Ebenezer E. Mason, a standard leather bound pocket size edition with three dates per page that covers his experiences from January through August 1864 as well as a few entries in February 1865. The entries typically note the weather of the day as well whether or not Congress was in session. The diary also includes a short poem (original) and some account information in the back. The diary contains a pocket that holds a period newspaper clipping of an article Mason wrote for the State Journal, making a defense for adopting a new constitution, as well as several receipts and clippings. Ebenezer Erskine Mason was born August 29, 1829, in Maine. He married Elizabeth Thompson (1825-1913) prior to 1860. Mason later became a local magistrate and a member of the Accotink Home Guard, a company that remained loyal to the Federal Government throughout the Civil War. Notably, Mason served as a delegate to the Second Wheeling Convention and was sergeant of arms to the Senate in 1862. In 1864, Mason served as delegate to the Restored Virginia Government Convention where a new constitution was put in place that abolished slavery and recognized West Virginia as a loyal state. Mason died in 1910 was buried in Fairfax County, Virginia.

Edward F. Winslow memoir, 1863-1865

Edward F. Winslow papers, September 1862-August 1864

Edward F. Winslow papers, July 1864-December 1864

Military memoir about the American Civil War, including an account of the siege of Vicksburg and the taking of Jackson. Miss. Episodes 9-10 contain the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies.

Papers of Edward Winslow, who mustered into Co. F, 4th Iowa Cavalry in November 1861, as a captain. The 4th Iowa later saw action at the siege of Vicksburg, the taking of Jackson, Mississippi, and the battle of Brice's Cross Roads. Winslow was promoted to the rank of colonel on July 4, 1863, and given command of the cavalry forces of the XV Corps. In December of 1864, he was brevetted brigadier general for gallantry in action. After the hostilities ceased, Winslow was put in command of the Atlanta military district. He was discharged from the Army on August 10, 1865.

Edward W. Allen Papers June 1862-April 1864

Edward W. Allen Papers May-August 1864

Edward W. Allen Papers September-December 1864

Edward W. Allen Papers 1865-1866 and undated

Correspondence, diary entries, and other papers of Edward W. Allen during the Civil War. Most of the letters are from Allen to his parents in 1864 and 1865. Also included are letters he wrote to friends and letters his parents wrote to him, as well as some pages of diary entries, which Allen apparently sent to his parents, and other papers. Letters discuss camp life, supplies, health, troop movements, and battles. Some letters also discuss the army service, disappearance, imprisonment, probable death, and return home of Edward Allen's brother, Fred Allen, who served in the 36th Regiment of Wisconsin Volunteers. Edward W. Allen was at Camp Randall in Wisconsin, February 1863-February 1864; at Vicksburg, Miss., March 1864; at Plaquemine, Tenn., May 1864; near Atlanta, Ga., June-September, 1864; in Savannah, Ga., December 1864; Columbus, S.C., February 1865; in Goldsboro, N.C., March-April 1865; in Petersburg, Va., June-July 1865; and back in Wisconsin, July-August 1865. The earliest and the latest letters are from Edward Allen's friend, George W. Hyde, who wrote in 1862 and 1863 from Arkansas and Missouri where he was apparently serving with a Wisconsin regiment and in 1866 from Elmira, N.Y., where he was apparently still in the army. Edward W. Allen of Eau Claire, Wis., was a sergeant and then second lieutenant in Company H of the 36th Regiment, Wisconsin Infantry Volunteers, during the Civil War. He was the son of James and Emily Allen. He had several siblings, including James F. (Fred) Allen, who served in Company K, 36th Regiment of Wisconsin Volunteers.

Henry H. Chaffee

This is the 120-page diary of Henry H. Chaffee who served with the 4th Vermont Infantry during the Civil War. The diary covers the entire year of 1863 and includes accounts of the Battles of Chancellorsville and Gettysburg.

Henry Hamilton Bennett Diary vol. 1

Henry Hamilton Bennett Diary vol. 2

Henry Hamilton Bennett Diary Transcript and loose pages

Henry Hamilton Bennett became one of Wisconsin's best professional photographers. But before that, at age 16, he enlisted in the 12th Wisconsin Infantry and fought in the Civil War. He served as a private in Mississippi and Louisiana and took part in the Siege of Vicksburg. After being wounded in 1864, he was mustered out and returned home. Bennett filed two pocket diaries with short entries describing camp life, daily activities, the fighting at Vicksburg, and marches through Tennessee, Kentucky, and Mississippi.
Henry J. Durgin

Diary of Henry J. Durgin, Chief Bugler of the 1st N. H. Cavalry from Franklin, Louisiana, a leather-bound book with small paragraphs written under a typed heading for each day of 1864. Durgin served in the Civil War at Camp Ford.

Henry L. Burnell

The diary of Private Henry L. Burnell, Co. "I", 8th Maine Volunteer Infantry, 1869 - 1865. Burnell served in the Union Army from September 7, 1861, until July 22, 1865. Burnell's journal is written in short, often one-line, entries. The war-date material is often entered without regard to chronology and documents movements rather than details. Henry L. Burnell, born June 2, 1841, was a resident of West Baldwin, Maine. There he was a member of the Temperance Society and participated in a local band as a percussionist. On August 8, 1861, Burnell enlisted in Captain McArthur's company for three years, but when the company took a leave of absence, Burnell enlisted in the state service for a term of three years. He began his service in coastal South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. Transferred to Virginia in 1864, he participated in actions near Petersburg. Captured at Drewry's Bluff, Burnell landed in Andersonville via Libby Prison and Danville, Virginia. Following several prison transfers, Burnell eventually arrived home in May of 1865.

Henry A. Potter Diary, 1863

Henry A. Potter Diary, 1864

Henry A. Potter Diary, 1865

1863 Diary of Henry A. Potter. In the diary, he describes daily life and the status of his regiment.

1864 Civil War diary of Henry Albert Potter dated January 1, 1864 - December 31, 1864. In this diary, Potter describes everyday life within the regiment, the daily weather, his commission, illness, and expenses.

1865 Civil War diary of Henry Albert Potter documenting the events between January 1, 1865 - December 31, 1865. In this diary, Potter describes everyday life within the regiment, the battles at Selma and Macon, the occupation of Montgomery, and the death of Abraham Lincoln. Potter also notes at the end of each entry the number of miles his regiment marched that day.


Henry A. Smith

This is the diary of Lt. Henry A. Smith which was kept at Petersburg, Virginia, from August 22nd through September 13th, 1864. Smith was an aide to Confederate Major Gen. Charles W. Field.

Henry Beck Civil War diaries, 1864-1865

Henry Beck Civil War diaries, 1864-1865 (transcriptions)

Henry Beck Civil War diaries, 1864-1865

Henry Beck's diary compiled during his service in the Army of Northern Virginia. Beck's diaries from 1862-64 were lost in a fire at the headquarters of a Confederate Reunion in Birmingham, in 1894. In 327 diary entries, Beck provides detailed observations on the daily life of an enlisted man in the Confederate Army. Beck ruminates on weather conditions, daily marches and his primary duty of feeding the troops. He gives detailed accounts of troop movements and battle strategies. Beck vividly recounts the battles at Spotsylvania, 2nd Cold Harbor, Monocacy, Civil Spring, Berryville, Opequon, Fisher's Hill and Cedar Creek. After the Confederate defeat at Cedar Creek on October 19, 1864, Beck embarks on a four month tour of Northern Virginia in which he attends numerous social functions, attends to daily business in the local towns and meets, courts and falls in love with his future wife. Beck's final diary entries find him back home in Alabama in February, 1865, on what turns out to be a permanent furlough.

Henry Brockway Diary, 1864

Henry Brockway served as a soldier during the Civil War in Company K, 34th Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteers.

Henry C. Ash

This is the 1862 diary of Henry C. Ash who served with the 8th New Hampshire Infantry during the Civil War.

Henry C. Dickinson

Three Years in the Saddle: a Diary of the Civil War. Henry Campbell, 1862-1866. Henry Campbell joined the 18th Indiana Artillery Battery in 1862 and kept a journal during his enlistment; shortly after the war he edited the manuscript, adding maps, newspaper clippings, etc.

Henry Clay Russell's Civil War letters, 1861-1865.

Henry Corbin diary. Date: Apr. 20 1863 - Sep. 22 1864.

Charles F. Craver fought in the United States Civil War for the Union Side. He was listed as being from Iowa. He was a Private E in the 4th Iowa Cavalry.

Cornelius C. Platter Civil War Diary, 1864 - 1865

Civil War diary of Lt. (later Capt.) Cornelius C. Platter, of the 51st Ohio Infantry Volunteers, from November, 1864 - April 27, 1865. Platter's diary details Sherman's march through Georgia from Rome to Savannah and the march north through the Carolinas. He gives dates, times, and lengths of marches and describes the weather, locales, scenery, and food as well as orders, rumors, positions, troop morale, and administrative duties. The diary also includes a description of the burning of Columbia, South Carolina, the news of the Confederate surrender, and the assassination of Abraham Lincoln.

Cornelius Hanleiter (1815-1897) was born in Savannah, Georgia, the fourth and youngest child of John Jacob Hanleiter, Jr. and Elizabeth McFarland. His father died shortly after his birth and his mother orphaned him at the age of eight. He was soon an apprentice in Savannah where his career as a printer developed. Hanleiter published newspapers and journals throughout the state including the Constitutionalist, Georgia Messenger, and The Southern Ladies Book, among others. In 1847 he moved to Atlanta and by 1852 began publishing the Atlanta Intelligencer. Hanleiter was active in Atlanta civic affairs, organizing the Gate City Guard, and serving on the Atlanta City Council and as a judge of the Inferior Court of Fulton County. Although he opposed secession, Hanleiter served in several Georgia units, most prominently in the Jo Thompson Artillery of Wright's Legion, 18th Georgia Infantry Regiment. He eventually gained the rank of Colonel.

Elias Perry of DeWitt, MO, was a 2nd lieutenant in Sherman’s army on the march to the sea. Diary covers the period 12 November 1864 to 24 March 1865.

Winchester Byron Rudy

Winchester Byron Rudy was born on March 27, 1840, in Maysville, Kentucky, which is in Mason County. He enlisted in Company "C" of the 16th Kentucky Volunteer Infantry on August 10, 1861, and served in the army until January 27, 1865. The 16th Kentucky was mustered into U.S. (Union) service on January 27, 1862. In January 1864, he was reassigned to the 13th Kentucky, 23rd Army Corps for which he served in a Division headquarters’ position until his discharge. Winchester Byron Rudy died February 27, 1920 in Maysville, Kentucky and was buried in the Mason County Cemetery.

William Legg Henderson

William Legg Henderson was born in Old Deer, Aberdeenshire, Scotland on March 28, 1833. He came to America in 1846 and settled in Iowa in 1849. He married Clara J. Durno on March 27, 1856. He was the brother of David Brenner Henderson and Thomas Henderson. On September 22, 1861 he enlisted in Company C, 12th Iowa Volunteer Infantry, and was present with this company at Fort Donelson. He was a member of the Union Brigade at the siege of Corinth and at the battle of Corinth on October 3 and 4, 1862. Henderson was promoted to 1st Sergeant on April 1, 1863 and served at the Siege of Vicksburg, the Siege of Jackson, Brandon, Tupelo, and at Nashville where he commanded the company. Soon afterward he received a promotion as first Lieutenant, in which capacity he served most of the time until he mustered out on January 20, 1866. He was commissioned Captain, Company C on November 22, 1865 but owing to reduced numbers was not allowed to muster in.

William J. Stubblefield

Transcripts of the Civil War diary of William J. Stubblefield, father of Nathan B. Stubblefield. William Jefferson Stubblefield was an officer in Company G of the 7th Kentucky Mounted Infantry. The diary covers the time period from April 12, 1862 to September 19, 1862. In the diary’s introduction he writes of camp life, the battle at Shiloh and contracting yellow fever. He criticizes conscription, the lack of supplies and endless marching. He mentions his regiment being shelled at Vicksburg, participating in a battle at Baton Rouge, Louisiana and the regiments retreat to Port Hudson, Louisiana. The diary ends with his return to Calloway County, Kentucky after suffering weeks from an illness, 1865.

William J. Pittenger

The diary of William J. Pittenger, a soldier serving in the 93rd Illinois Infantry and the U. S. Army Signal Corps during the Civil War. The diary’s entries span the first half of 1863 through 1864 and touch on such matters as camp life, the U. S. Army’s advance down the Mississippi River, and the siege of Vicksburg. (Pittenger made no entries for most of March 1863, as he was bedridden with smallpox). The diary also contains names and addresses of Pittenger’s comrades, records of financial transactions, and a list of soldiers from Co. D, 93rd Illinois Infantry killed at Champion Hill. William J. Pittenger, son of Abraham and Elizabeth Gladfelter Pittenger, was born in Ohio in 1838. While working as a Missouri schoolteacher in 1862, Pittenger enlisted in Company D of the 93rd Illinois Infantry. In February 1863, he was assigned to the U. S. Army Signal Corps. Pittenger contracted small pox one month later but resumed duties in April and participated in the siege of Vicksburg and, later, in Sherman’s march to the sea. He mustered out with his regiment in June, 1865.

William J. Black Civil War Diary

William J. Black Civil War Diary transcript

William J. Black Civil War Diary and VMI Account Book, 1862-1865. The collection consists of the one volume diary of Confederate soldier William J. Black. The diary entries date from October 1864 - January 1865, written while Black was serving in Captain John J. Shoemaker's Company, Virginia Horse Artillery. Included are brief accounts of various skirmishes and the Battle of Cedar Creek; campsites and positions are recorded daily. Following the diary entries are copies of two of Shoemaker's reports detailing Battery activities, dated September 1, 1864 (covering the period May - August) and December 25, 1864 (covering the period September - Dec 25). The front of the volume also contains Black's Virginia Military Institute account book, listing expenses incurred while a cadet (1862-1864) prior to joining Confederate Army. A printable full text transcription is available as a separate document in this collection.
Civil War Diaries

William J. Creasey Diary, 1863-1865

The collection is a diary, 16 October 1861-29 July 1862, kept by Lieutenant William J. Creasey while he was serving with the 23rd Massachusetts Regiment. The entries include information on General Ambrose E. Burnside's invasion of eastern North Carolina, 1862, including landing at Cape Hatteras and Duck and Roanoke Islands, N.C., and battles in and around New Bern and Goldsboro, N. C. Entries also mention forts and other defenses, camp life, religion, and other matters.

William Hoskin

Diary of a Confederate soldier from Palmyra, MO, who served under Sterling Price and fought in battles in Missouri, Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi. Hoskin's diary describes these battles and the mundane routine of military life. Includes original and typescript of diary.

William Henry Baker's Civil War Diary, Aug. 15, 1862 - May, 1863

William Henry Baker's Civil War diary, May, 1863-December, 1863

William Henry Baker's Civil War diary, 1864

William Henry Baker's Civil War diary, November 8, 1864 - September 27, 1865

William Henry Baker (1843-1896), a farmer from the town of Lindon in Iowa County, was still a teenager when he began keeping these diaries. He served as a private in Co. B of the 30th Wisconsin Infantry. The diaries were written in Camp Randall, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Kentucky. Baker saw no combat, describes the war as a minor one, describes his clothing, religious and political opinions, and prisoner of war experience. He comments on public events such as the surrender of General Lee and assassination of Abraham Lincoln.

William H.H. Fisher

William H.H. Fisher was born in Rutland, Vermont, on 31 January 1841. During the American Civil War Fisher served in the Vermont Infantry, 7th Regiment, Company D, and was promoted to corporal on 4 March 1865. This diary details Fisher's time stationed in New Orleans, Louisiana, Alabama, and Texas and includes writings on camp activities, trips into New Orleans, writing letters to and receiving letters from his family, attending non-commissioned officers' school, the siege of Spanish Fort and occupation of Mobile, and monthly account pages that record his purchases and expenditures.

William H. Tilson Diary, 1863-1864

William H. Tilson was mustered into Company E, 84th Illinois Infantry Regiment, United States Army, on 1 September 1862. He was captured by Confederate troops while foraging for water on 21 September 1863, the day after the Battle of Chickamauga. He was eventually taken to Libby Prison in Richmond, Va., traveling through Chattanooga, Tenn.; Atlanta, Ga.; Augusta, Ga.; Columbia, S. C.; Charlotte, N.C.; Jackson; mistakenly called Charlotteville); Raleigh, N.C.; and Petersburg, Va. He spent the next several months as a prisoner of war before being exchanged in April 1864. He was discharged from the Army due to wounds on 22 September 1864. The collection contains William H. Tilson's handwritten transcription of the diary that he kept, 1863-1864, while a prisoner of war. The diary describes his capture while foraging for water the day after the Battle of Chickamauga, where he was serving with the 84th Illinois Infantry Regiment, his transportation from Georgia to Virginia through various locations in the South; and his confinement in a warehouse adjoining Libby Prison in Richmond, Va. The diary details conditions within the prison and the reaction of southern soldiers and civilians to the captured Union soldiers.

Diary of William H. Perkins 1865

William H. Perkins 1865 (Sgt.) "Alexanders" Baltimore Light Artillery. (US) Born at Lewistown, in Frederick County, in 1841, he became a teacher, educating himself in local schools. After the war he studied medicine at the University of Maryland and the Long Island College Hospital of Medicine, in New York. He graduated in 1866. Moving to Hancock he established a very successful practice. Perkins enlisted in the Baltimore Light Artillery Association, Maryland Volunteers, 14 August, 1862, and was appointed corporal of the day. After Antietam his battery was assigned to the Maryland Brigade, commanded by Brig. Gen. John R. Kemly, U.S. Volunteers, attached to the Eighty-First Army Corps, defending the upper Potomac. His conduct in various engagements, including Winchester, and Manassas, in 1862, and after Gettysburg, earned a promotion to sergeant. In 1864 he fought at Cedar Creek and the Monocacy.

William H. Mengel

William H. Mengel served in both the Missouri State Guard and Union Army. He enlisted in the Missouri State Guard in May 1862, and less than a month later, he joined the Cole County Home Guard. Mengel was taken prisoner at the Battle of Lexington where he fought against his old regiment. After being paroled, he joined the 28th Missouri Infantry, and was sent to Mississippi and Tennessee. Mengel survived the war, and kept post-war account records in the back of his diary. Mengel's entries document his Civil War experience from 1861 through 1862.

James B. Weaver

James B. Weaver letters, 1860-1864. James B. Weaver was trained as a lawyer, entered the Civil War as a private and left as a brigadier general, was an attorney general, tax assessor, and newspaper editor in Iowa, was elected to Congress, and was twice a presidential candidate, for the Greenback and Populist parties.

James F. Degan
Jeffrey Thomas Wilson

Jeffrey Thomas Wilson (1844-1929) was a former slave who spent most of his life in and around Portsmouth and Norfolk, Virginia. He outlived four wives and had at least twelve children. Wilson's diaries include entries on a range of topics from local news and politics, race issues in the South, and much of his personal history. The 1863 diary contains extra pages on which Wilson recorded events from that date in the past. According to his obituary, he learned to read and write in secret. Based on his diary, he was the body servant of Alexander P. Grace, likely the son of his owner, who served with Company A, Cohoon's Battalion, Virginia Infantry, at least during a part of 1862. In 1866, after being freed, Wilson entered and went to Europe with the U.S. Navy. When he returned home, he lived in the house he inherited from his mother. Wilson worked at the Portsmouth Navy Yard, as a laborer, and as a bailiff for the Federal Court at Norfolk.

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Jenkins Lloyd Jones

An Artilleryman's Diary by Jenkins Lloyd Jones. Jenkin Lloyd Jones (1843-1918) was born in Wales but grew up in Ionia, Jefferson County, Michigan. As soon as he turned 18 he enlisted as a private in the 6th Wisconsin Light Artillery. This 400-page book consists of his diary entries throughout the war. Jones describes the reality of daily life for soldiers in the field in detail and with good humor. He also recounts the Battle of Corinth, the sieges of Vicksburg and Chattanooga, and the battles at Champion Hill, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. After the war, Jones was ordained and served as pastor of the Unitarian Church in Janesville and of All Souls Church in Chicago. A militant pacifist and social reformer, he believed in ethical rather than theological unanimity while promoting the ideal of universal religion.

Henry E. Skaggs

Henry E. Skaggs joined the United States Military in September of 1862 at the age of thirty-three where he was enlisted as a Sergeant into Company C of the 1st Missouri Cavalry. Skaggs observed and chronicled his perspective of the Civil War from latter half of 1862 to mid 1864. Skaggs documented his travels throughout Missouri and Arkansas noting skirmishes and battles that he encountered including The Battle of Bayou Musi (AR 1863)’. He wrote about a variety of experiences; that ranged from escorting General James Totten, to witnessing the execution of a rebel spy. These are a diary and papers, 1862-1865, of Henry Ellison Skaggs, pertaining to his service in the 1st Missouri Cavalry in Missouri and Arkansas during the Civil War. Included are a diary, two letters from Little Rock, Arkansas, a photograph of Skaggs in uniform, and a group of prayers. There are also correspondence concerning his military pension, 1893-1895, and genealogical data.

Henry Pollard Whipple

Henry Pollard Whipple (1838-1906) was a farmer in Waterloo, Wisconsin, when he enlisted in Co. A of the 29th Wisconsin Infantry. In 1906 he published this pamphlet recounting his experiences. Pages 1-7 record his diary dating from Jan. 1, 1863. In Aug. 12, 1865. Pages 76-80 consist of re-collected anecdotes. Whipple took part in the Siege of Vicksburg and in the battles of Port Gibson, Champion Hill, Jackson, Spotsylvania and Port Blakely. His brief daily entries discuss the black market in cotton, traveling by steamer, camp life, sickness among the troops, lack of rations, and frequent skirmishing. He also describes rivalry between regiments, persistent boredom, confusion about Lincoln's assassination, and yellow fever in New Orleans.

Henry F. Dillman

Henry F. Dillman Diary. Describes troop movement of the Indiana 31st, Co. G., battles fought in, and the dead and wounded from the company.

Henry Squire

The 1863 diary of Henry Squire, 72nd New York Infantry and includes entries from January through July. Early entries detail camp life, war news, and in particular, playing baseball and boxing, an inspection by Lincoln, and camp rumors (from March 'Gen. Lee [was] dead and [Stonewall] Jackson had been wounded'). Entries during the first part of May talk about Squire's experiences while at Libby Prison in Richmond. He was captured at Chancellorsville May 3rd and paroled May 13.

Henry Stanley

Henry Stanley Diary

Henry Stanley Diary transcript


Perry P. Powell

The collection consists of a diary that Perry P. Powell kept during the year 1865. The diary begins January 1, 1865 while 20 year-old Powell is still at home in Waukegan, Illinois. He enlists on February 20, 1865 and starts for Camp Butler in Springfield, Illinois. He arrives in Memphis, Tennessee on March 6. He describes several events such as the celebration over the capture of Richmond and General Lee, the assassination of Abraham Lincoln, the explosion of the steamer Sultana in the Mississippi River, and the capture of Jefferson Davis. On July 24, 1865 he mustered out and returned home where he continued farming. In September, 1865 he traveled to Blairstown, Iowa to open a store with partner, Oliver Bluffington. The diary describes the stocking and opening of the store, the town, and the townspeople. Perry P. Powell was a Union soldier in the 1st Illinois Light Artillery, Battery G.
Philip H. Conard diary, 1864-1865

Conard was mustered into Company A of the 135th Regiment of the National Guard of Ohio on May 8, 1864, and left the army in September.

Robert Augustus Moore Diary (Volume 1)

Diary (Volume 1). Written from in from Moore's time in Corinth, MS through his journey to Virginia and early camps, this diary details Moore's daily activities. Parts of this volume are unpublished poems, letters from friends & daily routine of camp life in a schedule form.

Diary (Volume 2). Written daily from in Goose Creek, Leesburg, Culpeper & the company's Winter quarters, diary details Moore's activities. Also provides an Army listing, 12 January 1862, and 1860 census information.

Diary (Volume 3). Written from various locations in Virginia, Gettysburg & Chickamauga, this diary details Moore's daily activities. Moore died at the Battle of Chickamauga, 20 September 1863, at the age of 25.

Robert M. Lusher diary, 1862

Robert M. Lusher diary, 1863

Robert M. Lusher diary, 1863-1864

Robert M. Lusher diary, 1863. Lusher's 1863 diary includes daily activities in performance of duties as clerk of the Confederate States District Court and chief tax collector for Louisiana during the Civil War.

Robert M. Lusher diary, 1863-1864. Lusher's 1863-1864 diary includes daily activities in performance of duties as clerk of the Confederate States District Court and chief tax collector for Louisiana during the Civil War.

Robert M. Lusher diary, 1862 diary includes daily activities in performance of duties as clerk of the Confederate States District Court and chief tax collector for Louisiana during the Civil War.

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Robert M. Lusher diary, 1862 diary includes daily activities in performance of duties as clerk of the Confederate States District Court and chief tax collector for Louisiana during the Civil War.

Robert Memminger Campbell civil war diary, 20 May 1862 - 24 July 1862. The collection consists of Robert Memminger Campbell's diary, with entries spanning from 20 May 1862 to 24 July 1862. In the diary, Campbell describes his while stationed in Camp Jackson, Virginia, his journey through Virginia, and his encampment outside of Richmond. He records in great detail observations on the weather, rations, the countryside, his thoughts on the validity of the Confederacy, reports of battles and skirmishes, descriptions of his Company's movements, interactions with civilians in Virginia, and his relationships with other soldiers and officers.

Robert S. Martin


Samuel Stott

This is the 1865 diary of Samuel Stott who served with Company D, 3rd New York Cavalry during the Civil War. The diary includes reference to the assassination of Abraham Lincoln.

Samuel T. Dolen Diary, 1862-1865

The diary of Private Samuel T. Dolen covers his service in the 89th Ohio Infantry Regiment of the United States Army from the time he volunteered in August 1862 until he was mustered out in June 1865 after the Civil War had ended. The pocket diary consists of almost daily entries documenting the distances he traveled and areas through which he traveled. Although Dolen's regiment missed the battle at Fort Donelson, Tenn., in February 1863, he arrived afterwards and described the dead on the battlefield. He briefly described the burning of Atlanta, Ga., and the Battle of Jonesboro, Ga. After the regiment traveled to Savannah, Ga., it headed to North Carolina where Dolen was involved in skirmishes from Goldsboro, N.C., to Raleigh, N.C. On 13 April 1865, he learned of Lincoln's assassination and the declaration of peace. In May 1865, his regiment headed to Washington, D.C., for the Grand Review of the Armies. Dolen mentioned visiting several sites while there, including the Capitol and the Smithsonian Institute. Although most of Dolen's diary concerns the advancement of his regiment, he sometimes briefly mentioned aspects of military life, including food, pay, and the weather. Also included are song lyrics, such as "Carry Me Back to Old Virginny," "Marching through Georgia," and "Sherman's March to the Sea," and other songs about plantation life; what seem to be accounts for Dolen's work as a carpenter, including names, dates, items, and amounts paid to him; a list of names of officers in the regiment; a list of soldiers with information on their deaths, resignations, or discharges from the army; and a clothing account with dates, clothing items, and prices. A "card of distances," showing distances by railroad between several cities, was enclosed with the diary.
Civil War diary of Sherman Lincoln dated 1861-1862. In this diary, he discusses morale, joining his regiment, sailing from New York, attending church, organizing a soldier school, picket duty, inspection, the movements of his regiment, food, a boy being shot, and sightseeing around Washington, D.C. Also included is a list of supplies from the government and a list of expenses.

Edward T. Beall

Diary of sixteen year old soldier Edward T. Beall, covering period September 1862 - October 1863. Very brief entries concerning regimental activities (miles marched, location of camps, etc.). The volume begins with a short biographical sketch of Beall's early life. The volume also contains poetry/song: "When This Civil War Is Over", "The Little Girl", "Lieutenant General Jackson".

Pocket diary including daily entries and expense ledger.

Elisha J. Bracken

This collection contains the Civil War diary of Elisha J. Bracken who served in Company C of the Pennsylvania Volunteers, 100th Regiment. Additionally, the collections contains photocopies of a portrait of Bracken, a poem written by Bracken, and a transcript for the diary. Bracken died battling at Spotsylvania, Virginia, on May 12, 1864.

Elisha R. Reed

Writings of Elisha R. Reed, Company H, 2nd Wisconsin Infantry Regiment, consisting of a journal, July 1861-May 1862, written while a prisoner at Tuscaloosa, Alabama and Salisbury, North Carolina; and an essay titled "General Lee at Gettysburg".

Elizabeth Christie Brown

Family papers consisting of correspondence on life in Iowa and Illinois in the Civil War era and beyond.

William E. Stork Diary vol. 1

Daily experiences of William E. Stork as he recounts the towns he travelled through, the mileage covered, and the expenses incurred during his tenure with the military; his enlistment of January 1865; his arrival in Knoxville, Tennessee; attempts to learn the bugle; recognition of Robert E. Lee's surrender and Abraham Lincoln's death; his duty moving refugees across the river in Decatur, Illinois; near Flesher's Ferry and ensuring dutes transporting and guarding relief prisoners; his daily life of washing clothes in the river and picking berries; the arrival of the U.S. Colored Artillery which would relieve them of duty; mustering out of the military September 27, 1865, and details of his trip home; his visit to the Belmont Gardens and Minnehaha Falls; his ride on the War Eagle and return to Brownsville; his work on the farm making repairs before leaving for Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to study at the Commercial College; his political timeline and financial information.

William E. Stork Diary vol. 2

Daily experiences of William E. Stork at Bryant Stratton and Spencer's Commercial School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin; the reconstruction era of the Civil War, and farming in southern Minnesota. Events of particular interest include his work near Vicksburg, Mississippi, cutting wood, clearing brush, and working on the ice boat; the difficulties of getting food rations and payment during this time; news of his sister Ann's death in May of 1866 and the ensuing difficulties getting home via steamer with a fever; farm labor that included slaughtering hogs, digging potatoes, plowing fields, digging wells and placing stones, and taking grain to the mill; visits with his mother, Grace Stork, and siblings Rosalie, Charley, Edwin, Adaline, and Aaron; notes of natural events like the first frost October 22 and snowstorms; teaching school at the Stone School House beginning December 3 and the ensuing spelling and singing schools; serving as Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and holding special town meetings in 1867.

A Diary of the 30th Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteers

This 110-page book about the 30th Wisconsin Infantry lists all field and staff officers, sergeants, corporals, musicians, wagoners and privates of Companies A-K, including when and where they enlisted. The men of this regiment hailed from the Chippewa Valley, Saint Croix, Waukesha and Iowa counties. It includes only a brief one-page history of the regiment's duties, such as guarding the transports in the Indian Expedition in the upper Missouri River.
William Bosher

A Drummer-Boy's Diary: Four Years of Service with the Second Regiment Minnesota Veteran Volunteers, 1861 to 1865.

Aaron Pugh

Aaron Pugh letters, 1863-1864. Letters written from near Waverly, Tennessee describing enemy attacks, camp life and activities, and his impressions of the state; includes a letter from Eli Kiefer telling of Pugh's capture; and two printed documents concerning Pugh as Enrolling Officer for Marcy Township, Boone County, Iowa.

Handwritten account of the Battle of Bull Run, 1861.

Gideon Welles' 1861 appointment as secretary of the navy placed him at the hub of Union planning for the Civil War and in the midst of the powerful personalities vying for influence in Abraham Lincoln's cabinet.

Anne Fannie Gorham

Anne Fannie Gorham diary 1861 Dec. 30-1862 July 13. The Anne Fannie Gorham Diary Collection consists of a transcript of Hamilton, Georgia resident Anne Fannie Gorham, which describes her daily life in Hamilton, Georgia at the beginning of the Civil War. The diary begins in December 30, 1861 and ends with July 13, 1862 with an entry for every day. Gorham details visits to her sisters' houses, books she was reading, sewing, and the Civil War.

Anson R. Butler

Anson R. Butler letters, 1861-1900. Primarily correspondence from Butler to his wife while he was serving with the 26th Iowa Infantry Regiment during the Civil War.

Richard Ramsey Hancock

Hancock's Diary or A History of the Second Tennessee Cavalry, C.S.A., with Sketches of First and Second Battalions, 1867.

Bartlett Yancey Malone

Bartlett Yancey Malone was born in Caswell County, North Carolina in 1838. In 1861, when he was twenty-three, he left farming to enter the Civil War. He fought with the 6th North Carolina regiment throughout Virginia, Maryland, and Pennsylvania, rising in the ranks from private to sergeant. On November 7, 1863 he was captured by the Union Army and imprisoned at Point Lookout, Maryland, where he remained until February 24, 1865. The Diary of Bartlett Yancey Malone offers readers the voice of one Confederate soldier among the thousands whose experiences and impressions have gone unheard. Reported in a simple and matter-of-fact manner, the diary begins, its editor notes, as a weather report catalogued by an experienced farmer transplanted abruptly from cornfield to battlefield. Many of the daily accounts in the first half of the journal contain descriptive phrases about the weather. However, as Malone grows as a soldier, so do the length, depth, and content of his entries. His persistent journal habits include notations on his diet, his regiment's marches, and biblical texts referred to in the sermons he hears. Interestingly, his rudimentary spelling throughout the diary gives way to more formal prose in the few sentimental poems he includes and likely composed. Of particular interest to scholars is Malone's account of his time in prison at Point Lookout, which offers a glimpse into the hardships Confederate soldiers endured in Northern prisons. Malone ends his diary upon his return home to Caswell County in March 1865.

Albert Cross

Civil War diary of Albert Cross, 1862.
Augustus Cleveland Brown
Diary of a Line Officer by Captain Augustus Cleveland Brown, Company H, Fourth New York Heavy Artillery.

C. W. Bardeen
A Little Fifer’s War Diary, an autobiographical memoir about his experiences during the American Civil War.

Charles H. Lynch

Cyrus Bussey
This collection consists of one thirty-six page document where Bussey details his exploits as an officer with the Iowa Cavalry. Bussey recounts his experiences in this laudatory discussion of his experience with the Army of the Southwest, including his encounters with Colonels Van Dorn, McCulloch, and McIntosh; Generals Osterhaus, Fremont, Steele, Sherman, and Grant; Major William C. Drake, Lt. Col. Frimble, Captain Thomas J. Taylor, Lt. A. H. Griswold and Union spy William Miller.

Diary and Letters of Rutherford Birchard Hayes vol. 2, 1861-65
Rutherford B. Hayes kept a diary from age twelve to his death at age 70 in 1893. He was one of only three presidents to keep a diary while in office. The edited diaries and letters were published in 1922 as a set of five volumes. This volume covers the Civil War years.

Francis Fearn
Diary of a Refugee, edited by Frances Fearn, is the diary of Fearn’s mother, a white southern slave holding woman, recounting her experiences during and after the Civil War.

Dolly Sumner Burge
A woman’s wartime journal; an account of the passage over a Georgia plantation of Sherman’s army on the march to the sea, as recorded in the diary of Dolly Sumner Lunt (1918).

Dora Richards Miller
War Diary of a Union Woman in the South: 1860-63. George Washington Cable, ed.

Sarah Morgan Dawson

Draughton Stith Haynes
The field diary of a Confederate soldier, while serving with the Army of Northern Virginia, C. S. A.

Edward Porter Alexander
Voluminous postwar correspondence with other officers concerning a proposed history of Longstreet's corps and preparation of Alexander's memoirs (published 1907), drafts of the manuscript and other writings, speeches, and collected histories of various army units.
Elizabeth Collier Diary, 1861-1865
Elizabeth Collier was a young woman who lived at Everittsville, a village near Goldsboro, N.C. In 1865, she took refuge in Hillsborough, N. C. The collection contains the Civil War diary of Collier, which details her reactions to the war.

Elvira Ascenith Weir Scott, Diary, 1860-1867
Diary of a Miami, MO, woman including descriptive observations on the themes of home, family, and religion, as well as the impact of the Civil War on life in her own community and region.

Emmanuel Stott
This is the 65 page diary of Private Emanuel Stott of the 52nd Illinois Volunteer Infantry from February 16th to June 3rd, 1864. Diary includes descriptions of military life as a new recruit in the Union Army during the Civil War. The diary also mentions the hanging of Sergeant John Myers of the 7th Illinois, the battles of Snake Creek Gap and Resaca, and various skirmishes about Atlanta during the spring of 1864.

Emilie Quiner diary
Madison resident Emilie Quiner describes her life as a Madison school teacher, a student at Normal School, the Madison social scene and reactions to the Civil War, and her experiences caring for soldiers at a Union hospital in Memphis, Tennessee, during July and August 1863.

Emma LeConte Diary, 1864-1865
Emma Florence LeConte was the daughter of scientist Joseph LeConte. The collection is the diary of Emma LeConte while she was living in Columbia, S.C. In the diary, LeConte reflected on the Civil War and other matters and wrote about various activities and events, such as the burning of Columbia.

Erich Pape Quartermaster's Account Book, 1862
Quartermaster's account book of Lieutenant Erich Pape, Company K, 3rd M. S. M. Cavalry (new), 1862. Includes accounts of military equipment and clothing for members of Company K, diary entries for Company K for the month of June (year not provided), and brief entries regarding the operations of the 12th M. S. M. Cavalry in southeast Missouri in September 1862.

Ethan Allen Hitchcock
Fifty Years in Camp and Field: Diary of Major-General Ethan Allen Hitchcock, U.S.A. In the War for the Union, declining on account of age and ill health the command of the army in the field and insisting that it be given to General Grant, he became the military adviser of Secretary Stanton and Mr. Lincoln, and directed many of the most important movements. During the war he kept a continuous diary, filled with graphic descriptions of detail and estimates of methods and of men.

Eugene R. Sly Diary, 1864
Handwritten Civil War diary, soft cover, pocket sized, scanned and transcribed.

This is a diary believed to have been written by a soldier of the 44th Massachusetts from December 11, 1862 to February 8, 1863. It includes descriptions of camp activities, marches and the aftermath of the Battle of Kinton on Dec. 14, 1862 and the Battle of White Hall.

Francis Davis Millet
Francis Davis Millet recounts his experiences as Assistant Contract Surgeon attached to the U.S. Army, stationed in the 60th Massachusetts Volunteers at Camp Burnside, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Francis Fairbank Audsley
Francis Fairbank Audsley (1835-1922) and Harriet Elizabeth Audsley (1840-1924), Papers, 1862-1912, n.d. The papers of Francis Audsley, a farmer in Saline and Carroll counties in Missouri and a Union soldier during the Civil War, and his wife Harriet E. consist of the Audsleys's correspondence during the Civil War, 1863-1865

Frank J. Mattimore
Diary of Dr. Frank J. Mattimore, Assistant Surgeon, 18th NY Volunteer Infantry. Leatherbound diary approximately 9cm x 15.5 cm; first hand-written penciled chronicling various duties as surgeon. Diary and notebook of Frank J. Mattimore, Assistant Surgeon, 18th New York Volunteer Infantry. Mattimore's diary entries began August 11, 1862.

Frank Malcom
Frank Malcom letters, 1864
Frank Malcom letters, 1865
Frank Malcolm, Iowa Infantry Regiment, 7th [1861-1865]. Company D.

Charles S. Wainwright
A diary of battle, the personal journals of Colonel Charles S. Wainwright, 1861-1865. Edited by Allan Nevins.

Ferdinando H. Coppernoll Diary and typescript, 1863-1864

G. L. MacMurphy
G. L. MacMurphy Diary 1860/1863
G. L. MacMurphy Diary 1864/1865
G. L. MacMurphy Diary 1862/1863

1860/1863: Diary of G. L. MacMurphy of Galveston, Texas, describing events of the Civil War from his perspective as a soldier. Also included in the back of the diary are lists of other soldiers.

1864/1865: Diary of G. L. MacMurphy of Galveston, Texas, describing events of the Civil War from his perspective as a soldier. Parts of the diary were written in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and a list in the back of the diary has the names of soldiers and whether they had died or deserted.

1862/1863: Diary of G. L. MacMurphy of Galveston, Texas, describing events of the Civil War from his perspective as a soldier. Parts of the diary were written in Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Frances A. Murdoch
Civil War Diaries

Owen Johnston Hopkins

January 1, 1864-July 21, 1864; edited, with an introduction, notes, and maps, by Wirt Armistead Cate.

Two soldiers; the campaign diaries of Thomas J. Key, C. S. A., December 7, 1863-May 17, 1865, and Robert J. Campbell, U. S. A., Wirt Armistead Cate

A rebel came home; the diary of Floride Clemson tells of her wartime adventures in Yankeeland, 1863-64, her trip home to South Carolina.

Inside the Confederate Government; the diary of Robert Garlick Hill Kean, head of the Bureau of War. Edited by Edward Younger.

Civil War diary of James H. Hougland, Company G., 1st Indiana Cavalry, for the year 1862. Transcription and foreword by Oscar F. Curtis.

Edward Clifford Anderson Papers, Diary, Diary, 2 November 1863-13 November 1864

Edward Clifford Anderson Papers, Diary, 1861-1862

Edward Clifford Anderson Papers, 1845-1865

Corporal Frederick August Kullman, a soldier in the 13th Missouri Cavalry, kept this journal recording the conclusion of the American Civil War. Kullman recorded his perspective as a German-American soldier in the Union Army. His diary describes social interactions, camp life, and leisure activities of a Union soldier. Kullman also gave his thoughts on Abraham Lincoln and national events. Kullman ended his diary in late April 1865 with news of Joseph E. Johnston’s surrender. Twenty-seven years later, Kullman began recording his daily activities again in the fall of 1892.

Frederick August Kullman

A journal maintained by Frances A. ‘Fannie’ Murdoch, a young woman living on a Mississippi plantation during the Civil War. Containing approximately 60 pages, the journal commences with an entry dated May 29, 1861. The journal is largely introspective in nature, as Murdoch dwells on personal feelings, focusing heavily on her religious beliefs. She often questions her worthiness and chastises herself for sins, frequently mentioning her quick temper. At the same time, Murdoch takes pride in the evening Bible studies she conducts with the plantation’s slaves. Murdoch also describes the weather and often refers to siblings Willie, Jonnie and Sallie, as well as various relatives, servants and neighbors. As the Civil War commences, Murdoch very briefly mentions reports from Harpers Ferry and Phillips, Virginia. After the Battle of Manassas, her entries focus more on war rumors and news. She mentions a personal telegram received by acquaintances from President Davis, relaying news of the Confederate victory at Manassas, and Davis’ proclamation for a day of prayer and fasting. On April 16, 1862, Murdoch expresses thanks for what she considers a Confederate victory at Shiloh, while at the same time disagreeing with those who believe the war’s end may soon be drawing near. ‘I think we have just begun this long dreary war’, she writes. ‘Still we must fight on, our lives, our homes, our lands, our slaves, depend on the end of this matter’. As the war progresses, she becomes ever less hopeful of victory and mentions a prophecy that the war will last four years and result in the reunification of the states. She relays secondhand but somewhat lengthy descriptions of a battle between the Nashville militia and a Union gunboat, the death of Colonel Stuart Wilkins Fisk at the Battle of Murfreesboro, and the plundering of Brumby by Union soldiers. Elsewhere, she reports the surrenders of New Orleans and Vicksburg. On a few occasions, Murdoch expresses her fear of a slave insurrection but feels confident that slaves Ben or Henry would save her and brother Jonnie, ‘as they say they like us so much’. Elsewhere, Murdoch deplores the torture used on Natchez slaves to elicit information about rumored plans for an uprising. On May 3, 1863, she notes that many of the family’s slaves have departed, averring that they had forgotten how well they were treated by the family and comparing them to a fly being lured by a spider—‘the lure in this case being the promise of eleven dollars a month. Also on this date, Murdoch notes that the carriage horses are all gone, and she feels in danger of being ‘outraged and insulted at any time.’ After intermittent entries made during the next several months, the journal ends on October 12, 1863.

Edward Clifford Anderson Papers, 1845-1865

Edward Clifford Anderson Papers, Diary, 1861-1862

Edward Clifford Anderson Papers, Diary, 2 November 1863-13 November 1864

Anderson was an officer in the United States Navy during the 1830s and 1840s, but apparently resigned to become a planter in Georgia, residing in Savannah. During the Civil War, he served as a Confederate Army officer, initially as a purchasing agent in England and later commanding the river batteries in the Georgia Military District with headquarters in Savannah. After the war, he was mayor of Savannah, representative of Hope Mutual Insurance Company of New York, and director of the Atlantic and Gulf Railroad Company and the Central Railroad and Canal Company of Georgia.

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Robert Garlick Hill Kean

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Edward Clifford Anderson Papers, Diary, 2 November 1863-13 November 1864

Floride Clemson

A rebel came home; the diary of Floride Clemson tells of her wartime adventures in Yankeland, 1863-64, her trip home to South Carolina.

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Civil War soldier.

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Under the flag of the Nation; diaries and letters of a Yankee volunteer in the Civil War. Edited by Otto F. Bond.

John Jackson Kellogg

War experiences and the story of the Vicksburg campaign from "Milliken's Bend" to July 4, 1863, being an accurate and graphic account of campaign events taken from the diary of Capt. J.J. Kellogg, of Co. B 11th Ill. volunteer infantry.

Salmon P. Chase

Inside Lincoln's Cabinet; the Civil War diaries of Salmon P. Chase. Edited by David Donald

Salmon P. Chase

Diary and Correspondence of Salmon P. Chase. Annual Report of the American Historical Association for the Year 1902. Vol. 2, 1903

Alfred L. Castleman

The Army of the Potomac. Behind the scenes. A diary of unwritten history; from the organization of the army to the close of the campaign in Virginia. by Castleman, Alfred L. (Alfred Lewis), 1809-1877. Published 1863

George A. Cook, 27th NY Volunteer Infantry Regiment diary

The diary of George A. Cook covers the period from Jan. 1, 1862 to Oct. 25, 1862.

George Anderson Mercer (1835-1907) was a Confederate officer and lawyer of Savannah, Ga. Mercer kept his diary intermittently during his time as a student in Savannah, Ga., and New-Haven, Conn., at Princeton University, and at the University of Virginia, where he studied law. Included are entries relating to hunting and observations of birds, accounts of his Confederate military experiences in Savannah, 1861-1864, the Atlanta Campaign, 1864, service with Mercer's and Wright's division in Georgia and South Carolina, his capture in Macon, Ga., and return from prison to Savannah, 1864-1865; and his postwar work, social life, family affairs, reading and study, and reactions to current events and ideas.

George Augustus Sala was a journalist, travel writer, and essayist, and had worked as a painter and illustrator before turning to journalism. He was the London Daily Telegraph correspondent during the American Civil War and was a contributor to Dickens' Household words. Sala published My diary in America during the Civil War in 1865.

United States. Army. Iowa Infantry Regiment, 35th (1862-1865). Company C.

Civil War Diary of Confederate soldier George D. Wise. He served as captain in the Confederate States Army during the Civil War. He was Commonwealth's attorney of the city of Richmond from 1870 to 1889, when he resigned.

George Falconer – Albert Ellithorpe
This diary belonged to George Falconer of Col. J. J. Clarkson’s Confederate Cavalry, and Albert Ellithorpe of the Indian Home Guards, 1st Kansas Infantry. Ellithorpe captured the diary from Falconer during the Battle of Locust Grove on July 3, 1862. The majority of the diary is written by Ellithorpe and provides his accounts of engagements with Confederate soldiers, Kansas politics, and bushwhackers.

George H. Gordon - War Diary of Events in the War of the Great Rebellion, 1863-1865

Gordon organized and became colonel of the 2nd Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. The regiment served guarding the upper Potomac River and Frederick, Maryland, and in the spring of 1862, Gordon served under Maj. Gen. Nathaniel P. Banks, unsuccessfully opposing Maj. Gen. Stonewall Jackson in the Shenandoah Valley. Gordon was appointed a brigadier general of volunteers on June 12, 1862, to rank from June 9, 1862.

George Hall

George Hall Civil War letters, 1861-1864.

George Harrington diary, 1863

George Harrington diary transcript, 1863

George Harrington diary, 1863. Handwritten Civil War diary, soft cover, pocket sized, scanned and transcribed.

George J. Johnston

During the Civil War, he joined the Confederate Army as a private in the 60th Alabama Infantry. On December 12, 1863, he was wounded in his right foot at Bean Station, Rutherford County, Tennessee, and was temporarily discharged. In September, 1864, he rejoined the Army and helped defend Petersburg, Virginia, against the Union Army. He was wounded in his leg in March, 1865, during the Petersburg Campaign and given a sixty day furlough to return home.

George M. Shearer diary, 1863

George M. Shearer diary, 1864

George M. Shearer diary, 1865

George M. Shearer fought in the Civil War as a soldier in the 17th Iowa Infantry. Company E. His diaries describe his daily experiences, including his time at the Battle of Vicksburg and time as a prisoner of war at Andersonville Prison.

George Palmer

Union Captain George Palmer’s diary, written July-August, 1861, records daily life in his company of dragoons. Palmer writes of meeting “Col. Grant,” searching a suspicious barge, and receiving orders from General Pope. He also hears news of a “battle at Springfield, presumably the Battle of Wilson’s Creek. Palmer recalls that during a storm in camp, 100 men from Col. Williams’ regiment “stripped of all their clothes and ran out in the rain,” causing “much merriment.”

Reverend H. Cleavel Diary

Diary with the names of dying Federal soldiers to whom he ministered at Andersonville, Ga. July and August, 1864 / ed. by George Robbins.

George S. Smith diary, 1862-1866

Civil war diary of a minister in the Church of Christ in Kellogg, Iowa. United States. Army. Ohio Infantry Regiment, 83rd (1862-1865)

George W. Bisbee

This is the diary of George W. Bisbee who served with the 9th Vermont Infantry during the Civil War. It contains entries January 1-October 10, 1863. Bisbee refers to guarding Confederate prisoners at Camp Douglas, Ill., transporting prisoners to City Point, Va., and exchanging them for Union prisoners. Bisbee also describes a soldiers’ oratory club to which he belonged, an athletic contest against the 18th New York Infantry, and the author’s hospitalization.
George W. Bowen Diary, 1863-1864

The volume was printed as a diary for 1864, with three days per page. Bowen kept daily entries, 1 January-8 May, 24 June-8 August, and 11-23 September 1864. At the end, five entries from April and May 1863 appear. During most of this period, Bowen and his regiment were encamped in Washington, N.C., but, in late April 1864, they moved north towards Richmond, Va. Between 1871 and 1881, Bowen used the diary for miscellaneous notes and calculations. War-time entries describe Union Corps practices, monitoring and fighting Confederates, the regiment’s social life in Washington, N.C., the move into Virginia, and a trip to Pennsylvania. Included are lists of letters sent and received, clothing and its cost, instruments for a band, and a financial account. The notes from later in his life include, among other things, several songs and recipes, measurements for shoes, and the amounts due from his boarders.

George W. Gibson

George W. Gibson was born in Monroe Township, Delaware County, Indiana on March 13, 1835. He enlisted in the 19th Indiana Infantry Regiment, Company A on July 29, 1861. He was later promoted to Corporal and transferred to the 20th Indiana Infantry Regiment. He died on October 23, 1911.

George W. Strong correspondence and papers, 1863-1865.
George W. Strong correspondence and papers, 1865-1868.
Iowa Infantry Regiment, 20th (1862-1865). Grand Army of the Republic. August Wentz Post No. 1 (Davenport, Iowa)

George Wagner

A Freedmen's Bureau Diary, Co. 2, 110th Regt. Pennsylvania Volunteers Infantry, Papers re.

Nathan W. Daniels Diary; Vol. I, 1861, Dec.-1864, May
Nathan W. Daniels Diary; Vol. II, 1864, May-1865, Dec
Nathan W. Daniels Diary; Vol. III, 1866-1867
Nathan W. Daniels Diary Addition, scrapbook, 1863-1867
Nathan W. Daniels Diary Summaries and transcripts by C. P. Weaver: Diary 1
Nathan W. Daniels Diary Summaries and transcripts by C. P. Weaver: Diary 2
Nathan W. Daniels Diary Summaries and transcripts by C. P. Weaver: Diary 3

In volume one of the diary, Daniels describes his Civil War service as colonel of the 2nd Regiment of the Louisiana Native Guard, an African-American infantry regiment chiefly stationed at Ship Island, Mississippi, and his time in New Orleans, Louisiana, during the summer and fall of 1863. The entries in the first third of the volume were written by New Orleans cotton merchant Hamilton McNeill Vance and wife Lizzie Luckett Vance, the original owners of the volume. They left the diary behind when they fled New Orleans in 1862, and Nathan W. Daniels found the volume in November 1862 and appropriated it for his own use. The middle third of the volume covers the months from January to September 1863, and documents Daniels’s service with the 2nd Regiment of the Louisiana Native Guard. This portion of the diary was edited by C. P. Weaver and published as Thank God My Regiment an African One: The Civil War Diary of Colonel Nathan W. Daniels (Baton Rouge, 1998). The last third of the volume spans the period September 1863 to May 1864, after Daniels had left the military and was residing in Washington, D.C. Summaries and transcripts for this final portion of the diary were prepared by C. P. Weaver and are included in the collection.

George Ward Nichols

The Story of the Great March, from the diary of a staff officer (1865)

Gilman A. Hoyt

This is the 1864-1865 diary of Gilman A. Hoyt who served with Company D, 17th Maine Infantry during the Civil War.

Willoughby Babcock

Selections from the letters and diaries of Brevet-Brigadier General Willoughby Babcock of the Seventy-fifth New York Volunteers: a study of camp life in the Union armies during the Civil War, by Willoughby M. Babcock, Jr.

J.H. Kidd

Personal Recollections of a Cavalryman with Custot’s Michigan Cavalry Brigade in the Civil War, 1908
Camp and prison journal describing the author's experiences in camps, on the march, and in prisons in the North. Prisons and
camps described are Springfield, Gratiot Street, St. Louis, and Macon City, Missouri; Fort Delaware, Allen and Camp Douglas, Illinois;
Camp Morton, Indiana; and Camp Chase, Ohio. Also describes scenes and incidents during a trip for exchange of prisoners from St.
Louis, Missouri, via Philadelphia, to City Point, Virginia.

Gustavus Woodson Smith

Gustavus Woodson Smith papers, 1858-1863. Jefferson Davis often quarreling about army administration and strategy, appointment of
staff, and subsequent resignation as Major General. There is one letter to his wife Lucretia from New Kent County, Virginia, three
pencil reports with revisions on engagements at Eltham Landing and the Battle of Seven Pines or Fair Oaks during the Peninsula
Campaign in Virginia, and operations of the Georgia Militia near Atlanta during the 1864 Atlanta Campaign. Also included is an
original battlefield map showing Smith's route through Virginia in the vicinity of Fairfax Court House (1861).

H.W. Santelle

This collection consists of a journal kept by H.W. Santelle. It records the medical treatment of three patients he attended from 1863-1864.
He notes their rank, age, regiment, company, injury, and battle where the injury was sustained. Each soldier's health and treatment
are documented, and the journal includes a post-mortem examination report. The three soldiers were: Clarence L. Coulter, a twenty-four
year old corporal in Company G, 123 New York Volunteers; Thomas Ruffin, a thirty-seven year old colonel in the 1st Florida Cavalry;
and N.P. Bush, a twenty-nine year old private in the 1st Massachusetts Cavalry. Company F. Also included in the journal
are prescriptions for various problems including coughs, toothaches, upset stomach, small pox, diarrhea, and scarlet fever. The end of
the journal contains information such as unidentified farm work accounting and genealogy for an individual identified as David Hazard.

H.M. Cheavens

Diary of Cheavens from July 1863 to August 1864 recording some incidents in Civil War, it also has a descriptive list of 3rd Missouri
Battery at Feb. 1st, 1864.

Joseph C. Robert

The letterbook contains letters from Confederate Army Lieutenant and Assistant Adjutant General Joseph C. Robert and his
colleague, Colonel Edward Dillon, written from Camp Dick Garnett in the District of South West Mississippi and East Louisiana. Letters
deal with prisoner exchanges, deserters, and conditions at the camp, including the procurement of supplies. The officers addressed
include Major G.W. Holt, Lieutenant Colonel Carter, Major Coleman, Captain J.H. Jones, and others.

Harriet Douglas Whetten

A Volunteer Nurse in the Civil War: The Letters of Harriet Douglas Whetten: Little is known about Whetten (born ca. 1822) apart from
the letters reprinted here. A native of New York, she served on a hospital ship conveying injured Union troops from Virginia to New York.
The 12 long letters printed here date from 1862 and describe her working conditions, crew members, the Chesapeake Bay region, her
fellow crew members, and injured soldiers. (20 pages). This second installment of the letters of Civil War nurse, Harriet Douglas Whetten
(b. ca. 1822), offers insight into the experience of a woman working with the Civil War's wounded. The letters date from the summer
months of 1862 and were written on one of the Sanitary Commissions transport ships, traveling mostly in and around the Chesapeake
Bay and its tributaries. (17 pages)

Harriet H. A. Eaton Diary

Harriet H. A. Eaton Diary, volume 2
Harriet H. A. Eaton Diary, volume 3
Harriet H. A. Eaton Diary, volume 4: Journal of a second tour to the Army now lying before Petersburg and Richmond

Harriet H. A. Eaton Diaries, 1862-1864, constitute a detailed record of Eaton's observations and feelings as a U.S. Army nurse visiting
camps in Virginia, leaving supplies, and aiding the sick and wounded.

Harry Linscott Diary

Harry Linscott Diary Transcript

Diary of Harry Linscott [Union] 1864.

Harry White

Transcription of a diary that Harry White kept while he was being held in three Confederate prisons--Libby in Virginia, Salisbury in
North Carolina, and Richmond Prison in South Carolina. The diary begins on December 15, 1863 in Libby Prison in Richmond and ends
on June 11, 1864 with Harry still imprisoned. Among Harry's entries is a description of his escape with four other officers in May 1864 as
they were being moved by train to Richmond Jail in South Carolina. He also describes prison conditions including the whippenes of
prisoners, poor food, boredom, lack of information about the war, etc. [Harry is subjected to harsher treatment and is not released in prisoner exchanges because his captors know that he is a senator in Pennsylvania whose vote, if he were released, would affect Pennsylvania’s deadlocked Senate and the state’s diminishing support for the war.] Harry compares prisons in South Carolina with Libby Prison in Virginia. In South Carolina the treatment is more humane—the food is better; he has access to books; and, on Sundays, there may even be a sermon from a local Presbyterian minister. Imprisonment, however, is difficult to bear—he suffers from depression and a constant longing for his family and friends. On May 23, 1864 he learns of the imprisonment of his brother Richard. He worries about Richard’s condition and the impact of his capture on their parents who now have two sons in Confederate prisons.

Hartwell Percy Spain Diary
Hartwell Percy Spain Diary Transcription
Hartwell Percy Spain was a volunteer Confederate soldier in the Darlington Guards on duty around Charleston, S.C. The collection is Spain’s wartime diary, 5 January to 17 March and 4 August 1865 (about 75 pages), and the April 1867 issue of the "The Land We Love," a magazine published in Charlotte, N.C. The diary consists of a detailed narrative of Spain’s daily life on Sullivan Island and Morris Island, and at Charleston, S.C., including notes about his opinions and feelings, and descriptions of his surroundings. It also includes poems and miscellaneous memoranda.

Heber S. Thompson diary, 24 Aug. - 16 Dec., 1864
Pocket diary written by an Union officer during his recuperation as a prisoner of war in South Carolina, describing people and conditions at the First South Carolina hospital in Rikersville, S.C., located ca. 4 miles from Charleston, S.C., where Thompson was a patient. Entries discuss food, medical care, African-American soldiers, and his departure from South Carolina following a prisoner exchange. Other notes include list, "Relief Cavalry" naming officers of "Kelly’s Division" and other regiments; and addresses of his fellow inmates, with later notes regarding attempts to contact them in 1891. Specifically states that hospital population included in addition to officers, soldiers at the rank of private, both "black [and] white". Dr. George R. C. Todd, brother-in-law of Abraham Lincoln, served as a doctor at the facility. African-American soldiers of the 54th Massachusetts Regiment were serving as nurses. Thompson expresses hope for parole, with usual concerns re food rations and condition of prisoners; also comments on prisoners of war from Andersonville, Ga.

Henry Mosler
The diary contains records of sketches Mosler made for Harper’s Weekly, a narrative of his activities during 1862, financial notes, poems, names and addresses, and several sketches.

Henrietta Fitzhugh Barr
The Civil War diary of Mrs. Henrietta Fitzhugh Barr (Barre), 1862-1863, Ravenswood, Virginia (West Virginia).

Henry S. Eggleston Diary entry of June 22, 1861 to January, 1862.
Henry S. Eggleston Diary entry of March 11, 1862 to June 26, 1862.
Henry S. Eggleston, Letters.
Henry S. Eggleston. Papers of Henry S. Eggleston, a former businessman and postmaster of Appleton, Wis., and a commissioned officer in the “Ripon Guards” (Company B) of the 1st Wisconsin Cavalry Regiment. The collection consists primarily of correspondence, with Eggleston’s wife written during his Civil War service. These document conditions at Camp Harvey (Kenosha, Wis.), tensions among officers, the difficulties in training cavalry troops; and the work of hunting Confederates around Bloomfield, Mo. The letter dated August 5, 1862 describes a pitched battle between 100 members of the 1st Cavalry and 600 Texas Rangers about eight miles from Marianna, Ark.

Henry Warren Howe

Herbert E. Valentine
Manuscript notebook describing the author’s experiences in the Mass. 23rd Infantry. The illustrations are original watercolors which have been pasted in. Two additional watercolors, a photo of the author and a print are laid in.

Herman Salomon
The Civil War Diary of Herman Salomon: The author (1834-1881) was a German cabinet maker who came to Manitowoc in 1853, and was the brother of Gov. Edward Salomon (1828-1909). His diary is terse and lacks much descriptive detail, being composed for the most
part of short, mundane notes. Entries from 1861-1862 are especially sparse; the 1863 entries concern building bridges in Mississippi, the battle of Corinth, and the siege of Vicksburg; the 1864 entries are scattered and concern weather, pay, and routines of daily life in camp.

**History of the Fifth Indiana Battery**

Compiled and written from the field diary of lieutenant Daniel H. Chandler, official reports of officers of the Army of the Cumberland (1900)

**Horace Currier**

Horace Currier, 1862-1865 / Papers, 1861-1863. Typewritten copies of letters written by Corporal Horace Currier, Company I, 7th Wisconsin Infantry Regiment, to his brother Edwin, describing his army experiences serving in Virginia; and copy of a diary, 1863, with brief entries including notes on his experiences at the Battle of Gettysburg, being taken prisoner, and final illness.

**Horace Smith**

Two Months : being the account of life as a prisoner of war.

**The Washington diary of Horatio Nelson Taft**

Vol. 1
Vol. 2
Vol. 3

The Washington diary of Horatio Nelson Taft has been in the possession of the Taft family since the author's death at Sag Harbor, New York, April 14, 1888. Amazingly, the three-volume manuscript has never been read or discussed at length outside the Taft family. The only hint of its existence appeared in 1901 in a small but popular book entitled Tad Lincoln's Father, which was written by Horatio Taft's daughter, Julia Taft Bayne (1845-1933).

**Hugh Black**

Transcription of the diary excerpt of Hugh Black describing he and his regiment's campaign throughout the south, and dated circa late 1862 to early 1863.

**Iowa Governor and Adjutant General correspondence, 1862-1865**

**Irene Richards Diary, Volume 1**
**Irene Richards Diary, Volume 2**

**J. J. Neeley**

Diary of Col. J. J. Neeley, 14th (Neeley's) Tenn. Cav. Regt., CSA. The diary lists horses, mules, etc., purchased for Hardeman's Avengers (Conf. cavalry and infantry units) organizations & elections, encampments, enemy engagements/battles, etc. The diary was purchased from Mary Neeley, whose great-grandmother was "master Neeley's housewaker." There is also a reference to the fall of Fort Sumter. (Also included: ages of Negroes & horses, various battles, river transports, General Pillow, etc.).

**J. W. Gaskill**

Footprints through Dixie : everyday life of the man under a musket : on the firing line, and in the trenches, 1862-1865 / by J. W. Gaskill. This history is compiled from a diary written while serving with the 104th Volunteer Infantry, 23d Corps, Army of Ohio.
Diaries recounting the Civil War experiences of Jacob Harrison Allspaugh of the 31st Ohio Infantry regiment, primarily describing the war in Tennessee, Mississippi, and Georgia. Allspaugh was a resident of Rock Rapids, Iowa, in his later years.

James E. Hall

The diary of a Confederate soldier: James E. Hall. Edited by Ruth Woods Dayton.

James H. Polk

Capt. James H. Polk, Co. E, 6th (1st) Tenn. (Wheeler’s) Cav., CSA, wrote of forming a cavalry brigade to “thrash” out “Lincoln abolition foes.” Writing from West Tennessee, he noted the destruction caused by Federal troops and the warm welcome given to Confederates by locals. He described a battle near Bolivar, Tenn. on August 30th. [Later entries in the transcription describe actions in Mississippi in September.]

James Francis Beall

Pages taken from a diary written by James Francis Beall from 1859 to 1866. On page 3 he refers to “some abolitionist and negroes” (John Brown), on page 15 to Ball’s Bluff and on page 19 to the Federal troops who stole his crops on their way to Frederick as the “most wicked & meanest set of men in the civilized world” and the Battle at Antietam. Page 44 he reports “I have had very good luck with my lambs thus far” and “Apr. 14th 1865 President Lincoln was assassinated at Ford’s Theater Washington D. C. Lee had surrendered to Grant on the 9th of April 1865.”

J.H.P. Baker

This is an excerpt from the diary of Dr. J.H.P. Baker, an army doctor working under the command of Gen. Joseph O. Shelby. The entries included here are from October 10-27, 1864. Baker discusses conscription, bushwhackers, travelling across Missouri, and marching to Price’s headquarters. He mentions the Battle of Boonville, the Second Battle of Lexington, the Battle of the Big Blue, the Second Battle of Independence, the Battle of Westport, and the Battle of Cedar Creek.

James M. Brant

Author’s extractions from his diary written from August 6, 1862 through November 30, 1863, while serving in the Union Army during the Civil War. The manuscript also contains recalled episodes, business and work records during March 23, 1878 through October 1, 1878 relating to two wills, and a list of expenses in January 1880 (possibly by Flora L. Brant).
18th Pennsylvania in the US Army during the Civil War taking part in the battle of Gettysburg. Captured in 1863, he was a prisoner of war in Libby Prison and other Confederate prison camps. He reached the rank of colonel. The diary covers June 1, 1863 - April 1, 1865 with one entry per day.

**James P. Jones**


**James Rosser**

Diary of Pvt. James Rosser, 12th Tenn. Inf. Vols. CSA. Diary is difficult to read, but describes a series of movements across West Tennessee early in the war (1861) and mentions that he “saw lots of party girls and all got drunk.”

**James T. Stuart Civil War Diary - Original and Transcript**

Civil War Diary associated with Stuart's tenure as Captain of Company G, 49th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers (1864-1865)

**James T. Ayers**

The Diary of James T. Ayers: Civil War Recruiter.

**Jane L. Killian papers, 1865-1931, undated.** This collection consists of Jane L. Killian's 1865 diary. Of particular interest are entries that include her thoughts on the death of President Lincoln, the surrender of General Robert E. Lee, the day Confederate money was no longer legal tender; the return of captured Confederate prisoners to Atlanta, Georgia; and her reaction to her husband's murder.

**Jefferson K. Scott**


**Jeremiah Rode**

Diary and Notebook of Jeremiah Rode (Rhodes), 3rd Wisconsin Battery, 1864. Pocket diary and notebook contains short diary entries, addresses, facts that interested Rode and a lengthy narrative about his visit to Lookout Mountain, TN.

**Jesse Dawley**

Diary and Notebook of Jesse Dawley.

**Jesse L. Henderson**

Civil War diary of Rev. Jesse L. Henderson of Chiwapa, Pontotoc County, Mississippi. Henderson served in the Confederate Army, 41st Mississippi Infantry Regiment, for 3 years. This diary was kept in 1864 and covers the defense of Atlanta and the Battles of Franklin & Nashville.

**Jesse Skinner Wilkerson**

Wilkerson, a young farmer in Hamburg, Iowa, was drafted into the 13th Iowa Infantry, Company C; he left behind his pregnant wife Sarahett to run the farm. He traveled by his estimate more than 5,000 miles to seven states and the District of Columbia during his service, and was mustered out in July 1865. He was murdered in a barroom in 1869.

**John A. Caho**

John A. Caho papers, 1861-1875. This collection contains a diary kept by John A. Caho from October 16, 1863 to March 2, 1864. It also contains photocopies of his parents' marriage certificate, pension applications filed by Ann Jones Caho, medical examination records for both Charles H. Caho and John A. Caho, affidavits from neighbors and medical professionals verifying the conditions of Charles and John Caho's illnesses, and company muster rolls for John A. Caho. The diary was written while John Caho was in Louisiana and Texas. It records daily weather conditions, the natural environment of each place his Company stopped, accounts of rations and marching orders including approximate distances marched each day. Caho describes daily life in the Federal Army and notes occasional fighting.
with the Confederates without detail.

John A. Cobb
John A. Cobb Papers.

John Beauchamp Jones
A Rebel War Clerk's Diary, Vols. 1 & 2, 1866.

John Bigelow 1860 Jun 22-Jun 16
John Bigelow 1861 Jan 16-1864 Dec 2
John Bigelow 1865 Jan 2-Dec 31
John Bigelow 1866 Jan 2-Oct 10
John Bigelow 1866 Oct 14-1867 Apr 16

John Bigelow papers, 1839-1912. Includes correspondence and documents relating to prison reform in New York State, the construction in France and England of warships for the Confederate Navy, the movement of Confederate ships in European waters, Confederate activities in Europe.

John Harville Diary 1, August 1861 to January 1862
John Harville Diary 2, from January 28 to March 27, 1862
John Harville Diary 3, from March 28 to May 12, 1862.
John Harville Diary 4, from May 14 to August 4, 1862.
John Harville Diary 5, from August 5 1862 to May 29, 1863.
John Harville Diary 6, from June 5 to November 26, 1863.
John Harville Diary 7, from December 1863 - August 1864.
John Harville Diary 8, from July - August 1864.
John Harville Diaries 1 - 6, scanned originals

The collection contains eight handwritten diaries chronicling John Harville's experiences during the Civil War. From August of 1861 to January of 1864 Harville served with the 7th Wisconsin Regiment, Company F. He then transferred to the Veteran Reserve Corps for the remainder of his term, ending in July 1864. His diaries include details and stories from camp life, largely around Washington, D.C., and Baltimore, MD. Suffering from chronic "congestion of the lungs," Harville spent Autumn 1862 to Spring 1864 in hospitals. He continued to document this period with stories of daily life, chores, staff and volunteers at the hospitals, and war news.

John H. Hancock

The diary of John H. Hancock, who served in Company H, 29th Massachusetts Infantry during the Civil War. The diary entries cover January-June 1862, with a single entry made from Paris, Kentucky on April 1, 1863. Hancock's diary entries relate largely routine information such as weather conditions, personal health, camp routines, and troop movements. Longer entries relate to orders, marching, battles, and war news. Frequent mentions are made of gun boats. Contrabands and prisoners of war are also mentioned, as are activities of other regiments within the brigade. The last approximately two thirds of the diary were blank pages and were not scanned. John H. Hancock, a sergeant in Company H, 29th Massachusetts Infantry during the Civil War, was born ca. 1841 in Massachusetts. While employed as a clerk, Hancock enlisted as a private at Charlestown, Massachusetts, in a unit that would be designated as Company H, 29th Massachusetts Infantry and join the remainder of the regiment already deployed on the Virginia Peninsula. Hancock was promoted to corporal on August 3, 1862, and to sergeant on March 15, 1863. Wounded, he was discharged from the service on August 25, 1864.

John Brooks

Diary of John Brooks, dated June 1, 1862 through September 24, 1862. In this diary, he discusses the weather, some men of the 47th New York Infantry murdering a civilian (June 9), a soldier in the 47th New York Infantry murdering a 1st Surgeon (June 9), rations (August 15), James Brook's illness (August 17), and daily life.

John C. Brown Diary, 1864

John C. Brown fought in the Civil War as a soldier in the 9th Iowa Infantry. Company C: This diary describes his daily experiences.
including his participation in Sherman’s March beginning in Chattanooga.

John D. McKown

Personal correspondence, business papers, and Civil War military papers and Provost Marshall papers.

John D. Thomas

John D. Thomas Diary (1862). Written 10 July 1862 as a reminiscence, Thomas describes his experience in the Battle of Shiloh extensively; also discusses his journey from the night before departure from Mississippi through camp in Tennessee and arrival in Corinth. Mentions the conditions of the camp, provisions, daily activities, set up of tents, building fortifications.

John Freeman Shorter Diary

John Freeman Shorter Diary Transcription

John Freeman Shorter grew up in Washington, D.C. as a free man. By the spring of 1863, he was living in Ohio when he left for Boston to enlist in the 55th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry. A white officer once described Shorter as “…tall, of muscular build, …hair light, complexion almost white, and blue eyes, whose lively expression brightened a face otherwise somewhat grave.” Shorter became one of only two other fully-commissioned black officers in the 55th Massachusetts—”Three as worthy men as ever carried a gun,” declared the chaplain of the 55th. All three of these officers were connected to Monticello. Shorter was the only direct descendent of the enslaved at Monticello; the other two were connected through marriage.

John Houston Bills Papers, 1843-1871

Diary kept by Bills with almost daily entries between 1841 and 1871. Typical entries are 10-25 words in length and include information on weather conditions (usually with temperature), agricultural activities and production (cotton, corn, hogs, etc.), and a very brief account of Bills’s activities for that day. Bills was also careful to note prices paid and received for goods and services. Other subjects include slaves—their work, treatment, and prices; problems with overseers; relationships with freedmen after emancipation; land values; religious activities (Bills attended a variety of denominational services); and descriptions of Bills’s travels. The Civil War prompted Bills to abandon his terse style occasionally. Longer entries reveal that he was a Douglas Democrat and a Unionist until Lincoln’s call for troops. Although Bills then threw his lot in with the Confederates, entries show that he remained pessimistic about the war’s effect on the nation. His hometown of Bolivar was occupied by Federal troops from 5 June 1862 until 9 June 1863, and, from July 1863 until October 1864, the town was subjected to raids and occupations by both sides. Bills included a lengthy description of his attempt to locate his wounded son at the battlefield of Shiloh in April 1862.

Diary of John J. Mercer

Transcription of Diary of John J. Mercer


John G. Roller

Civil War diary transcript and related correspondence, 1864-1960.

John H. Brown Diary, 1862-1865

John H. Brown of Marblehead, Mass., served in the 24th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment during the Civil War. The collection consists of John H. Brown’s diary, which references the military campaign in eastern North Carolina, October-November 1862, and the siege of Fort Johnson and Fort Wagner, S.C., July-September 1863. The diary describes marches, maneuvers, casualties and deaths, including African American losses, possibly of the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment. The diary also includes lists of letters written and accounts paid and received.

John H. Surratt

The private journal and diary of John H. Surratt, the conspirator.

John Jasper Wyeth

Leaves from a diary written while serving in Co. E, 44 Mass., Department of North Carolina, from September 1862 to June 1863 (1878).
John Jennings

Diary of Sgt. John Jennings, 2nd Tenn. Mtd. Inf., USA. Jennings was from Decatur County, Tenn. The diary has only a few entries from 1865 and mostly notations about expenses, etc. He enlisted at Clifton, Tenn. in April 1864 and was promoted to sergeant. He was listed as sick in hospital in Gallatin, Tenn. in December 1864 and was discharged in May 1865. Jennings returned to Decatur County after the war and started the Farmers Bank in Parsons, Tenn.

John L. Ryno

Civil Way Private Diary of John L. Ryno. John L Ryno of Interlaken NY was a member of the 3rd Brigade Band, 3rd Division, 2nd Corps, Enlisted Company C, 126th New York Infantry, Volunteers. He was born in Farmerville (now Interlaken) NY in 1833, and enlisted in 1862. He died March 7, 1930, aged 94 years, 5 months, and 17 days.

John L. Ransom

Andersonville Diary, escape and list of the dead with name, Co., regiment, date of death, 1861.

John R. Crossman

This small diary kept by John R. Crossman of Columbia County, Wis., includes notations made during his service with the 1st Wisconsin Heavy Artillery Regiment, Co. M in the Civil War. Also included are lists of clothing and the cost of each item, his own telling of Lincoln's assassination (he attended the funeral in Washington, D.C.), and an account of volleys fired by his company to salute Union veterans in 1865. Additional entries include recipes for liniments and other treatments for animals, accounts of rents collected, money spent, and work done for hire. Also included in the collection is his discharge paper.

John T. Clarke

Contains brief accounts of military operations of the 31st Missouri Infantry in Georgia during the Atlanta campaign, including numbers of casualties.

John Taylor Wood diary, Volumes 1-3, typed transcription

John Taylor Wood diary, 2 April-16 July 1865

John Taylor Wood Papers, 1858-1915. John Taylor Wood (1830-1904) was a United States and Confederate naval officer. He was the grandson of Zachary Taylor and nephew of Jefferson Davis.

John W. Pratt diary, 1862

John W. Pratt diary, 1865

John W. Pratt was a soldier in Company A of the 27th Iowa Volunteer Infantry Regiment during the Civil War. He enlisted on August 22, 1862, and was mustered out on August 7, 1863. These diaries are filled with his feelings of homesickness and longing and includes short comments about encounters with the rebel.

John West

Texan in Search of a Fight - Being the Diary and Letters of a Private Soldier in Hood's Texas Brigade. [1901]

John Withers

Diary of Confederate Officer Lieutenant Colonel John Withers, October 1860 to December 1862.
Memoir of John Yates Beall: his life, trial; correspondence; diary; and private manuscript found among his papers, including his own account of the raid on Lake Erie

Jonathan B. Fuller

This is an excerpt from the diary of Rev. Jonathan B. Fuller. Fuller, a pastor in Kansas City, Missouri, writes about visiting military hospitals, leading prayer meetings for soldiers, and hearing the sounds of muskets in nearby skirmishes. His diary entries, dated June 4, 1864 - June 25, 1865, also describe the Battle of Westport, and mention the movements of Gen. Price and Col. Jennison, and the assassination of President Lincoln.

Josephine Clay Habersham

Ebb tide: as seen through the diary of Josephine Clay Habersham, 1863.

Joseph Kohout

Joseph Kohout letters, 1863-1865.

Joseph Stockton

War Diary (1862-5) of Brevet Brigadier General Joseph Stockton, 726 Regiment Illinois Infantry Volunteers.

Josiah M. Favill

The Diary Of A Young Officer: Serving With The Armies Of The United States During The War Of The Rebellion By Josiah Marshall Favill, Adjutant, Captain, And Brevet Major 57th New York Infantry, Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, And Colonel U. S. Volunteers.

Judith McGuire

Diary of a Southern Refugee During the War, 1867.

Kate S. Carney Diary, 1859-1876

Diary, with entries dated chiefly 1859-1862, of Kate S. Carney describing antebellum life in Murfreesboro, Tenn.; travel in the Southeast, Northeast, Midwest, and Canada; schooling in Philadelphia; a stay with her sister in Yazoo County, Miss.; and life in Murfreesboro during the Civil War while the city was under U.S. army occupation.

L. G. Hall

This is the 1864 diary of L. G. Hall who served with the 3rd Iowa Battery during the Civil War.

L. Stone Hall

L. Stone Hall was a member of the Iowa Infantry, Nineteenth Regiment, Company C, during the U.S. Civil War. The diary includes brief descriptions of camps, journeys, battles, skirmishes, guarding prisoners and memories and yearnings for home. During the time period when Hall wrote his diary, Company C spent much of their time in the area of Pascagoula Bay and Franklin Creek (Mississippi). The news clipping contains an image and caption about James Ivo Dungan and his capture and escape from the Confederates. The History of the Regiment contains the chapter describing Hall, Cary and Cocklin’s escape from the Shreveport, Louisiana prison.

Lancelot C. Ewbank

Private Lancelot C. Ewbank writes about life in the 31st Indiana Volunteer Infantry. From November 1861 to January 1863, he worked
on woodworking tasks in camp as assigned, such as building a bridge, making coffins, building a daguerreotype room, and repairing the hospital facility. Ewbank describes the countryside encountered during hard marches through Tennessee, Mississippi, and Kentucky. He provides information on the capture of Fort Donelson, the Siege of Corinth, and the Battle of Stone’s River. Throughout the diary, Ewbank notes prisoners in camp, waiting on the sick, preparing for the enemy, skirmishes with “secesh” soldiers, drilling and picketing, drawing rations, and shortages of supplies and water. The last part of this diary covers the first two months following Lancelot C. Ewbank’s enlistment as a private into the 32nd Indiana Volunteer Infantry. During his first months in the army, Ewbank stayed at Camp Vigo and then went to Evansville. He worked as a cook and was on guard duty several times. He notes prisoners in camp, waiting on the sick, preparing for the enemy, skirmishes with “secesh” soldiers, drilling and picketing, drawing rations, and shortages of supplies and water.

Lawrence Van Albertyn
Diary of an Enlisted Man, 1910.

John A. Williams
Leaves from a Trooper’s Diary, 1869. Experiences with the 15th Regiment, Pennsylvania Cavalry (the Anderson Cavalry). “An account of the mutiny in the Anderson Cavalry, at Nashville, Tenn., December, 1862.”

Lemuel Abbot
Personal Recollections And Civil War Diary, 1864

Lemuel Amzi Donnell
Lemuel Amzi Donnell joined the 4th Infantry Regiment, 8th Division, Missouri State Guard at the age of twenty-two. Donnell documented his Civil War experiences across Missouri, Arkansas, Texas, Tennessee and Louisiana. His entries begin with his enlistment on August 30, 1861 and conclude after the Confederate surrender in 1865. Donnell participated in the Battle of Pea Ridge in March 1862 and several skirmishes with Federal troops.

Levi C. Worster - Perpetual diary, 1863
Levi C. Worster - Planters & Merchants Insurance Co. diary and song lyric book, 1865-1913
Levi C. Worster - Pocket diary, 1864
The Levi C. Worster diaries and papers primarily comprise three diaries that provide an eyewitness account of life as a Union cavalry soldier during the Civil War, 1863-1865.

Lewis Crater Diary, 1864-1865
Officer in the 50th Pennsylvania Volunteers.

Lewis Leon
Diary of a Tarheel, 1913

Lewis Steiner
Report Of Lewis H. Steiner, M. D., Inspector Of the Sanitary Commission, Containing a Diary During The Rebel Occupation Of Frederick, Md., An Account Of The Operations The U. S. Sanitary Commission during The Campaign In Maryland, September, 1862.

Lizzie Hardin
The private war of Lizzie Hardin: a Kentucky Confederate girl’s diary of the Civil War in Kentucky, Virginia, Tennessee, Alabama, and Georgia. Edited by G. Glenn O’B.

Louisa Dorothea Swan
Diary of Louisa Dorothea Swan (1838-1900) of Bradley County, Tenn., describing her experiences during the war. An excerpt from January 3 is especially poignant. She writes: "Never has the desolation around us prayed so heavily on my heart as on this gloomy evening. The fenceless fields, the empty barn, the dead and suffering stock. It is sad indeed, but come what will, we are in Our Father's hands still."

Lt. Shelton
Lt. Shelton Diary, 1864

Lucian A. Voorhees

John Waldrop
Diaries of John Waldrop, Second Company, and Wm. Y. Montecia, Second Company Richmond Howitzers, Combined.

Lucy Virginia Smith French
Lucy Virginia Smith French was the daughter of Mease W. and Elizabeth Parker Smith. She was born on March 16, 1825. She was married, on Jan. 12, 1853, to Col. John Hopkins French. By the time of the 1860 U.S. Census of McMinnville, Warren County, Tennessee, they had three children ages six and under, one boy and two girls. Her profession on the 1860 census is listed as "Poetess, Author." She died on March 31, 1866.

Luman Harris Tenney
War Diary of Luman Harris Tenney, 1861 – 1865.

M. L. Gordon
M. L. Gordon's experiences in the Civil War - from his narrative, letters and diary (1922)

Marcellus W. Darling letters, 1862-1863
Marcellus W. Darling papers, 1864
Marcellus W. Darling papers, January, March 1865
Marcellus W. Darling letters, 1865-1892

Marcellus Warner Darling (1844 -- 1913) was a native of New York. He and his older brother enlisted in Company K, 154th New York Volunteers on September 6, 1862. The 154th saw a great deal of action during the Civil War. Darling was wounded in the battle of Chancellorsville, was subsequently captured and later escaped. While his regiment was fighting at Gettysburg, Darling was hospitalized with typhoid fever. He fought in the battles at Lookout Mountain and Chickamauga, and participated in the taking of Atlanta, Savannah, and Charleston, during General Sherman's march to the sea.

Milton S. Lytle
Milton S. Lytle Civil War era diaries, 1860-1866, volumes 1-9

Milton Scott Lytle (1842-1915) of Spruce Creek, Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, graduated from The Farmers' High School of Pennsylvania in 1861, served in the Army of the Potomac and Army of the Cumberland (1862-1865), and after discharge, was a lawyer, editor, and author of History of Huntingdon County (1876). The first diary dates from February 16, 1860 when he left Spruce Creek, Huntington County, Pennsylvania to attend Farmers High School and ends March 7, 1861. The second diary continues the first, dating from March 8, 1861 to June 12, 1861. They report his daily activities and classes, from going to the laboratory, attending lectures, going to the chapel, and playing games such as chess with fellow students. Of note is the substantial extracurricular reading he reports, as well as the agricultural labor required of all students. Most entries also describe the weather as well as the coming and goings of Dr. Pugh, the president of the Farmers High School. In April 1861 he described the start of the war, an organization of a student military corps and great excitement in his hometown of Huntington after news of the Southern secession. He attached clippings of an article he wrote for the Philadelphia Enquirer noting strong union sympathies among students. The third diary dates from June 13th to August 30th 1861, at Farmers College until July 24, and in Spruce Creek through the remainder of summer. He noted hot feelings between loyal residents and others not altogether loyal. Other entries note celebrations with visiting volunteer soldiers. The fourth diary dates from September 1, 1861 to January 3, 1862 and recounts his last days in college, and quotes a letter setting forth reasons that his parents do not want him to enlist. It also notes the October 16th taxe round for two students who did enlist. He described his preparations for exercises for his December graduation and his return to Spruce Creek. The fifth diary begins October 6, 1862, beginning, not as a diary, but as his recollections of his first two months of service, during which time he had not kept a diary. He wrote that he enlisted in the Huntington County Bible Company in August 1862 with the consent of both
his parents, was assigned to the 125th Regiment, trained in Camp Curtin, was sent to Maryland where he fought at Antietam (September 17, 1862). He resumes daily entries (October 10 to November 30, 1862). Then there is a gap until April 1863.

Diary six beginning from the last page (April 27 to May 6, 1863) describes the battle at Chancellorsville; beginning from the front (May 10 to August 31, 1863) describes the battle at Gettysburg. This diary includes a newspaper clipping about officer advancement and another about General Buford Farewell to New Orleans. Lytle writes about daily events, carefully noting locations and activities. He also notes the weather, the movement of the regiment and other companies, physical engagements with the rebels, and activities in camp.

Diary seven dates from September 7 to December 31, 1863, during which time he transferred to the Army of the Cumberland in Tennessee. This diary has a newspaper clipping from the New York Times, of General Meade's account of the Battle of Gettysburg, which he annotates and corrects. It also contains a photograph of General Henry Slocum of the Twelfth Army Corps taken in 1863.

Diary eight dates from January 1 to December 31, 1864 and was written from the headquarters of the 1st Division of the 12th Army Corps or Army of the Cumberland in Tullahoma, Tennessee, in the field in Georgia during the Atlanta Campaign from May 2 to August 7. He provides detailed descriptions of the movement of troops and supplies during the war. He wrote that his brother Decatur was in extremis in a Confederate prison. His entries are intermittent over the summer and he writes of being ill, eventually returning to Spruce Creek, September 14th not returning to the headquarters until December 14th. At that time, he described hundreds of contrabands coming north with the troops from Alabama. He described the Franklin Campaign in which Confederate forces took and then lost Franklin, Tennessee. He positions at camp rather than the front lines allowed him to note that 6,000 prisoners and wounded soldiers flooded into camp when Union forces retook Franklin, Tennessee, on December 20, 1864. This diary ended with the year.

This diary [Diary 9] consists of printed articles he had sent as correspondent to the Philadelphia Press, The Daily Gazette, and The Globe (probably in or near Huntington County). These newspaper clippings are pasted into the 9th diary, which also includes entries for August 1866 concerning his admittance to the Bar and his political activities to elect Republican legislators.

Milton Sawyer diary, 1863

Handwritten Civil War diary, soft cover, pocket sized, scanned and transcribed.

Mann family papers, 1861-1865

Mann family papers, January 1864-March 1866

Marcus J. Helms papers, 1861-1864

This collection consists of letters from Marcus J. Helms discussing fighting in locations in Virginia and South Carolina. He also describes the burning of Charleston by the Yankees in a letter dated January 20, 1864.

Margaret Ann Meta Morris Grimball Diary, 1860-1866

Margaret Ann Meta Morris Grimball Diary, 1860-1866 [Typed transcription]

Margaret Ann Meta Morris Grimball was the wife of John Berkley Grimball (1800-1892), rice planter of Saint Paul's Parish in the Colleton District of South Carolina, with connections to the Manigault and Lowndes families of South Carolina and to the Morris family of Morrisania, N.Y. The collection is the manuscript diary, 1860-1866, of Margaret Ann ("Meta") Morris Grimball, with the greater part of the entries concentrated in 1861 and 1862. Mrs. Grimball resided from the Grove Plantation (Colleton District, S.C.), primary Grimball residence until after the Civil War; from Charleston, where the family spent the summer months; and from Spartanburg, S.C., where they took refuge in May 1862 from anticipated Union attacks on the South Carolina coast. Topics include plantation life; slave management; the progress of the Civil War and its effects on the lives of those close to Mrs. Grimball, including the activities of her sons in the Confederate army and navy, and civilian relief efforts; sickness among the civilian and military population; the family's removal to the relative safety of Spartanburg, where they rented quarters at St. John's College; her husband's conversion from Presbyterianism to Episcopalianism; her daughters' teaching careers; and other family and community matters.

Marks Family letters, 1861-1865

Marks Family letters, 1862-1864

Marshall A. Carpenter

This is the 1862 diary of Marshall A. Carpenter who enlisted on September 8, 1862, and organized a company at North Brookfield, Vermont on September 11, 1862. He was mustered into federal service on October 22, 1862, and he spent the rest of the year near Washington D.C. On January 15, 1863 he was commissioned as a captain in Company C, 12th Vermont Infantry Regiment and on April 15, 1865 he received his commission as a 2nd Lieutenant in the 7th Vermont Infantry Regiment.

Martin Link

This is the 126-page memoir of Martin Link who served with the 85th New York Voluntary Infantry. Diary notes made between March 1862 and 1865 serve as the basis for the memoir. Information about battles at Fair Oaks, Yorktown, and Williamsburg in Virginia and Kingston and Goldsboro in North Carolina is included.
Diary of Mary Henry 1864-1868

Diary of Mary Henry 1864-1868 [transcription]

Diary of Mary Henry 1868-1869

Diary of Mary Henry 1868-1869 [transcription]

Diary of Mary Henry, daughter of the first Smithsonian Secretary Joseph Henry. This diary spans the years of 1864-1868 and covers life in the Washington, D.C. Mary lived with her family in the Smithsonian Institution Building, or Castle, and witnessed the tumultuous years of the Civil War. Its impact on Washington and the reconstruction of the country. Her entries include details of visitors to the Castle, her father's work with the Smithsonian, and events of the Civil War.

Mary Austin Wallace

Mary Austin Wallace: her diary, 1862, a Michigan soldier's wife runs their farm.

Mary Jeffreys Bethell, 1853-1873

Mary Jeffreys Bethell Diary, 1853-1873 [typed transcript]

The collection is the personal diary of Mary Jeffreys Bethell of Rockingham County, N.C. The first part of the book contains short reminiscences of her immediate family. After her marriage in 1840, the diary contains entries relating to her home, neighborhood, the Methodist Church, constant religious activities including camp-meetings, her children, several of whom died young, and the Torian children, whom she referred to as nieces and nephews, and who lived in the Bethell household for years. There is frequent mention of journeys with her husband to Louisiana, Tennessee, and Arkansas, with the possible intention of moving the family, and her negative reaction to the idea. During the Civil War, there is mention of her sons Willie and George entering the Confederate Army, and of news and visits from them. George, in the 95th Regiment, North Carolina Troops, was captured and imprisoned at Johnsons Island. Mary's husband entered the army in 1864 and she wrote of the difficulties at home after he left, including the departure of slaves. There are also reports of rumors and news of the fighting. After the war there are references to social conditions, difficulties with servants, etc.

Mary Shelton Diary, 1864

Mary Shelton Diary, 1865

The work that Mary had performed during the war, both life-saving and life-changing, remained important to her. She kept in touch with some of the men she had met or cared for in hospitals and continued to have fond memories of those "blessed hospital days." Toward the end of her life she and her husband moved to Washington, D.C., where she died in January 1909.

Mary T. Hunley Diary, 1861-1864

The collection is typescript copy of excerpts of the Civil War diary of Mary T. Hunley of Gwynn Island, Mathews County, Va., concentrating on the general lawlessness and violence in the area, including the burning of property, killings, and desertion of Union and Confederate soldiers.

Mason Whiting Tyler

Recollections of the Civil War: with many original diary entries and letters written from the seat of war, and with annotated references.

McDowell family papers, 1857-1863

Includes war letters about 7th Iowa Infantry, Company H.

Mead family papers, July 1863-January 1864

Mead family papers, January-May 1865

Melinda Ray, 1861-1865

A typed copy the diary of Melinda Ray, this diary gives a young girl perspective of life in Fayetteville North Carolina during the Civil War.
Prince Napoleon had been over the battle field of Manassas &
had been spending his time with Gen Beauregard. I don't know
what we are to do with all of the prisoners at Richmond. I don't
think they ought to be kept idle. They ought to be put making
shoes for our soldiers for they will need them this winter. I
went over to see Emily this evening. When it was pretty late we
came and sat out on the lumber and had a nice talk.

All the grown folks have been busy making coats for the

cavalry.

Morris W. Hackman

Morris W. Hackman was born on November 10, 1845 in Womelsdorf, Berks County, Pennsylvania. During the American Civil War,
Hackman enlisted in Company G, 29th Pennsylvania Regiment, at age sixteen. The diary details Hackman's experiences during
the American Civil War from his enlistment in Hesterville, through marches to Harpers Ferry, battles at New Market and Front Royal,
his capture by Confederates on 23 May 1863 and subsequent imprisonment in Richmond, Virginia.

Myron Underwood Letters, 1862-1863

Myron Underwood letters, 1864-1865

Myron Underwood Letters from Underwood to his wife, Sophie, and two from her to him, while he was an assistant surgeon of the
12th Regiment of the Iowa Infantry during the Civil War.

Nannie E. Haskins Diary, 1863-1917

Excerpts from a small handwritten diary written by Nannie Haskins, a young girl of Clarksville, Tennessee. Provides an insight into the day
to-day activities of an observant young girl. Haskins was strongly in support of the Confederacy and loathed the occupying Federal
troops. She saw secession and Civil War as the South's Revolution.

Narrative of the Western Theatre in the American Civil War, 1865s

Notebook containing an American Civil War narrative of the western theatre, concentrating on the siege of Vicksburg and the preparations
for that campaign. Creator. unknown.

Nathaniel Rollins Diary excerpts from Gettysburg Battlefield, June 30-July 6, 1863

Nathaniel Rollins Letter to Timothy O. Howe

Taken prisoner at Gettysburg in 1863, Nathaniel Rollins, a Captain in Co. H of the 2nd Wis. Infantry, spent much of the remainder of the
war in Libby Prison in Richmond, Virginia. In January of 1865, only six weeks after being freed, Rollins wrote this 25 page account of his
life as a prisoner of war for Wisconsin senator Timothy O. Howe.

Nimrod Porter Papers, 1819-1871 (Typed transcription of Volume 1)

Nimrod Porter Papers, 1819-1871 (Typed transcription of Volume 3)

Nimrod Porter Papers, 1819-1871 (Typed transcription of Volume 4)

Diary and other records of Nimrod Porter. The diary, 1861-1871, records daily life during the Civil War and Reconstruction; weather; farm
and business activities; operations of Union and Confederate armies and guerrillas in Maury County and vicinity; news of neighbors in
the Confederate Army; the federal occupation of Tennessee; behavior of slaves and freedmen; and feelings and comments about
events. There are also scattered household and farm notes, receipts, and accounts, 1833-1843 and 1869-1870; and Porter's brief
pungent descriptions of his campaigns for sheriff, 1819-1843.

Notes from a private soldier's diary

Notes from a private soldier's diary : commencing with his capture by the rebels, and ending with his arrival at Annapolis.

O.W. Lowe papers, 1860-1865

The collection consists of letters written by O.W. Lowe as a Confederate soldier from 1860-1865. Lowe describes the regiment's march
to Richmond, fighting in Pennsylvania and men killed, his scout duties, a fishing detail in Port Royal, and his recruiting duties in
Virginia during 1864. Lowe's letter dated October 1, 1865, describes his time spent in prison including the lack of food, his health, life
after the war, how freedmen are coping with life, and the need to forget the past war.
Letters to his father, sister and brother in Albia, Monroe County, Iowa and journal excerpts concerning camp life and activities; containing references to General Sherman, the battle of Shiloh and the siege of Vicksburg.

Diary of Orin M. Jameson, Jan. 1 - Aug. 7, 1864
Orin M. Jameson, 17th Regiment Wisconsin Volunteers.

Diary of Orville E. Babcock, May - July 1866
Diary of Orville E. Babcock, 1863
Diary of Orville E. Babcock, January - March 1864
Diary of Orville E. Babcock, January - May 1864
Diary of Orville E. Babcock, March 1864

The Orville E. Babcock diaries represent the experiences of an Union Army officer and engineer, and aide-de-camp to Ulysses S. Grant. Babcock's diaries begin in 1863 and continue into 1869. Babcock records his experiences in Kentucky, Ohio, Washington, DC, Vicksburg, Nashville, Knoxville, and Chattanooga, before being summoned to Virginia by General Grant.

Osborn Oldroyd
A Soldier's story of the Siege of Vicksburg.

Oscar Jackson
The colonel's diary: journals kept before and during the civil war by the late Colonel Oscar L. Jackson...sometime commander of the 63rd regiment O. V. I.
Commodore Foote with his fleet of gunboats and mortar boats has been bombarding the rebels at Island Number Ten since the fifteenth of March. The rebel gunboats, every day or two, run up to our batteries below Point Pleasant and give them a few rounds but they keep well out of range. So that nearly all of this time we could hear the roar of heavy artillery which became as familiar to our ears as a railroad whistle. A slough runs from Island Ten around to New Madrid. For a long part of this time General Pope has been trying to cut a canal through it to get steamboats to New Madrid for us to cross on, so we can attack the rebels in the rear of their batteries at Island Ten. On the morning of Sunday, April 16th, four steamboats reached New Madrid by the new cut canal, to our great joy, for if the steamers had not got through, General Pope intended to attempt to have the army cross the Mississippi on rafts, and there would have been great loss of life. One ironclad gunboat, the "Carondelet," ran past the rebel batteries at Island Ten during a terrible storm Saturday night without receiving any injury, and Sunday night the "Pittsburgh" did likewise.

Oscar James Owen letters 1861 through 1864
Oscar James Owen, 1863 diary
Oscar James Owen, 1864 diary

These letters and diaries are by Oscar James Owen who served with Company A, 36th Ohio Infantry during the Civil War.

Ozias Ruark

Ozias Ruark, soldier in the 8th Missouri Militia, traveled throughout Southwest Missouri, and kept this daily log of his activities. Entries are generally short, but as Ruark discussed many key issues facing citizens of the Ozarks. Ruark recorded the living and travel conditions of civilian refugees, his encounters with bushwhackers, and made many notations about camp life and his marching orders.

Paisley family diary, 1864
John Paisley was born in Ohio in 1831. In the Civil War, he served in the Ohio Volunteer Infantry and the Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, and he was with General Sherman on his march to the sea. In later life he lived in Iowa, Washington, D.C., and Kansas.

Diary of Patrick Casey, 1863
Diary of Patrick Casey, 1864-65

These diaries belonged to Civil War soldier Patrick Casey from the 104th Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry, during the year of 1863-65. A large majority of the entries are written in second-person narrative form (i.e. Casey employed the pronoun "you" to refer to himself), as he recorded precise accounts of his journey across Virginia to Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, where he served in battle and was ultimately captured by Confederate soldiers on July 01, 1863. For much of the diary, Casey meticulously detailed the distances between his current destination and provided a brief description of the tasks performed or the events that occurred throughout his travels. Notable entries include him being taken as a prisoner of war, relocating to Belle Isle Prison (referenced as "Bell Island" in text), the poor living conditions within the prison, and the questioning of his faith in the U.S Union Government for not sending help for those captured.

Paul Agalus McMichael Papers, 1852-1868

The collection includes typed transcriptions of Civil War papers of Lieutenant Colonel Paul Agalus McMichael with the 20th South Carolina Infantry Regiment, Confederate States of America., including a diary, 1864-1865, McMichael kept in Virginia and in prison at Fort Delaware, Del., letters to his wife from South Carolina and Virginia, and personal accounts; and a few antebellum and postwar business papers from Orangeburg, S.C.

Pennock Huey's diary dated August 26 through December 8, 1864
Pennock Huey 1862 diary excerpt with entries dated March 31 through August 18

While he was a prisoner of war in Charleston, South Carolina. In this 25-page document, Huey recounts the events of his capture on June 24, 1864 near the Battle of St. Mary's Church in Virginia and his subsequent moves as a prisoner of war from the battlefield to Libby Prison in Richmond, Virginia, then from Libby Prison through many towns in Virginia and North Carolina to Macon, Georgia, and finally to prison in and around Charleston, South Carolina. In this excerpt he talks about the difficulties of prison life and, during the move from Macon, Georgia to Charleston, South Carolina, an escape attempt he and several other officers made. Included in this excerpt (in the left column of pages 8-10 and 12) are, in their own handwriting, the name, rank, unit, and address of some fellow Union officers Huey met while a prisoner of war, including; L. G. Billings, Chauncey McCall, O. S. Sanford, B. F. Campbell, J. S. Hammell, Chas. H. Nichols, Jas. G. Cimarron, F. A. Sherman, Homer R. Stoughton, Geo. H. Pendleton, M. Montgomery, John Christopher, T. J. Thorp, T. H. Butler, H. W. Baldwin, Berj. S. Calh. E. L. Palmer, Charles G. A. Peterson, and Jn. O. Goodrich. Included in the left column of page 25 are the name, rank, unit, and address of one Confederate officer, a surgeon, David P. LaGrone.

Peter Ake

A diary (1864-1865) kept by Captain Peter Ake, Missouri Volunteer Cavalry, in which he wrote mostly about his travels, the weather, the lack of food, providing detailed descriptions of rations, and the lengths to which the men went to obtain food. Although no year is noted, the entries made between August - December, appear to have been written in 1864; those made between January - July, were written in 1865.

Philander Smith

A leather-bound journal, with approximately half of the entries in pencil, the remainder in ink. Subject matter includes daily routines and activities, war news, and wartime conditions.; Philander Smith was born in 1835. He married Sarah S. Allee, and lived in Greenfield, Indiana. He enlisted as a sergeant in the 8th Indiana Infantry Regiment, Company B on August 24, 1861. He was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant on January 30, 1863, to 1st Lieutenant on July 1, 1864, and finally to Captain on September 30, 1864. He was discharged on May 4, 1865. After the Civil War, his family settled in Missouri.
From 6-29 June 1862 the Union soldier, Philip Shaffner, wrote of his regimental activities beginning in Washington, D.C., and continuing near Fredericksburg, Virginia, until he was killed on 30 June. Confederate Brevet Second Lieutenant Robert H. Ward continued the diary on 30 June 1862, writing sporadically of the activities of his regiment until daily entries from 19 September through 31 December in Virginia (Richmond, Hagerstown, Harper's Ferry, Winchester, Staunton, Fredericksburg). Of note are the entries about sociability between Confederate and Union pickets, destruction of railroad tracks, and building of military defenses. The 1869 cash entries detail receipts for a variety of legal services and cash payments for board and to women for services. Philip C. Shaffner mustered in on 21 June 1861 in Clearfield County, Pa., as a private in Company C of the 34th Regiment, 5th Pennsylvania Reserve Volunteers. He was killed in the Seven Days Battle at the Charles City Cross Roads (Battle of Glendale), Henrico County, Virginia, on 30 June 1862. Robert H. Ward mustered in to the Confederate infantry as a Brevet Second Lieutenant and mustered out as a Captain; in 1862 he served in Company I, 13th Regiment, North Carolina Infantry, part of Pender's Brigade, A.P. Hill's Division.

The Rachel Carter Craighead diaries span the latter half of the nineteenth century and the early twentieth century, and they provide a remarkable look at Nashville life. Topics covered in the diary include descriptions of school life in the 1850s, trips to places such as Mammoth Cave, New York, and Newport, as well as life in occupied Nashville during the Civil War. Historical Note Craighead, an affluent Nashville young woman with Confederate sympathies, faced the reality of living in occupied Nashville during the Civil War. Born to prominent Nashville banker Daniel F. Carter and Mary J. Buntin Carter in 1837, Rachel Carter married Nashville lawyer Thomas D. Craighead in 1859, and the couple continued to live with her parents at 6th and Union, along with her younger brother John. War time brought the death of her brother at Perryville and numerous arrests of her father in Nashville.

Randolph McKim

A Soldier's Recollections - Leaves from the Diary of a Young Confederate, 1910: With an Oration on the Motives and Aims of the Soldiers of the South.

Robert J. Moyle letters, 1862-1906

Moyle, a resident of Hillsboro, Iowa, (Henry Co.), was a member of the 25th Regiment of Iowa Volunteers and participated in the siege of Vicksburg and encounters at Dallas, Georgia. His letters, addressed to his parents, include descriptions of battles, camps, and the health of the troops. He injured his leg in a barge accident, contracted typhoid fever, and died on June 27, 1864 at Boston Iron Works, Georgia.

Samuel A. Agnew - Volume 6: 28 October 1861-4 April 1862

Samuel A. Agnew - Volume 7a: 5 April 1862-3 September 1863

Samuel A. Agnew - Volume 7b: 27 September 1863-23 September 1864

Samuel A. Agnew - Volume 8: 12 September 1864-10 December 1865

These volumes are filled with rumors and bits of news collected by Agnew at his home in Tippah County, Miss., concerning the war activities in his neighborhood, as well as those in other parts of the country. There are reports of skirmishes here and there, stories told by passing soldiers or other travelers, gleaned from newspapers. These accounts reveal that many soldiers, both Yankee and Confederate, passed near Agnew's home.

Samuel Calvin letters, May-August 1864

Samuel G. French

Two wars: an autobiography of General Samuel G. French – Mexican war; war between the states, a diary, reconstruction period, his experience; incidents, reminiscences, etc.

Emily Ann Powell Warrington

Emily Ann Powell Warrington's annotated diary from 1846 to 1862. In these pages Emily discusses events that took place, including visits to family, social activities, and other goings-on. She talks expressively and expresses her distress over the outbreak of the Civil War with the attack on Fort Sumter.

Samuel M. Quincy


Etta Adair Anderson

Diary Journal of Etta Adair Anderson (1880-1896)
Sarah Madison Taylor Johnson

Sarah Madison Taylor Johnson wrote sporadically about her family's experiences during the Civil War. In January 1862 her father was to join "Brathen's regiment" as a surgeon. In February a cousin was imprisoned at Ft. Donelson, and in April four local boys were killed at Corinth (Shiloh). Her uncle James Taylor was ordered to Ft. Pilkey on April 17, 1862. She married Sgr. Robert F. Johnson, Co. D, 7th Tenn. Cav., CSA.

Sewell Van Alstine diary, 1863-1864

Sewell Van Alstine describes his experiences as a soldier in the 95th Illinois Infantry during the Civil War. Diary contains entries from September 1863 to October 1864. Van Alstine is also featured in the Iowa Authors Collection.

Silas S. Silver diary, 1863

Silas S. Silver was a physician in Glenville, Harford County, Maryland, in the mid-nineteenth century.

Thomas Butler Gunn - January 1-February 28, 1861

Describes Gunn's experience as a correspondent for the New York Evening Post in Charleston, South Carolina, in the aftermath of South Carolina's secession from the federal government, including a conflict between A.H. Colt and Mr. Woodward, a visit to Sullivan's Island, John Mitchel's date of assisting with the lynching of an abolitionist, attending a celebration in honor of Benjamin Montelew, Will Ward's arrival in Charleston, the scene in Charleston the day the Star of the West was fired upon by the Morris Island battery, pistol and rifle practice with various Charlestonians, a rumor in New York about Gunn's having been tarred and feathered in Charleston, a visit to the quarters of the "Richland Rifles," witnessing a slave auction, and a visit to Colonel Bull's home.

Thomas Butler Gunn - March 1-June 14, 1861

Includes Gunn's descriptions of the scene in New York at the commencement of the Civil War; boarding house living, visits to the Edwards family, Mark Thomson's engagement to Fanny Fern's daughter Grace Eldredge, Frank Cahill's return to New York from London, Frank Bellow's dissatisfaction with living in England, Thomas Nast's engagement to Sally Edwards, the scene in New York during the departure of the 7th New York Regiment for Washington, attending the wedding of Olive Waite and Hamilton Bragg, a visit with Frank Cahill to the camp of the 1st Regiment of New York Volunteers and the 2nd Regiment of New York State Militia on Staten Island, the death of Charles Weidner, and his rejoicing work.

Thomas Butler Gunn - June 15-October 15, 1861

Includes Gunn's descriptions of the scene in New York at the commencement of the Civil War; his visits to military camps in and around New York City as a reporter for the New York Evening Post; boarding house living; a bridal reception at the Edwards family's residence in honor of the marriage of Sally Edwards and Thomas Nast; a visit to the Hoylyn and Rogers families in Rochester; and his trip to Paris, Ontario, to visit George Bolton and the Conworths.

Thomas Butler Gunn - October 16, 1861-February 28, 1862

Includes Gunn's descriptions of the scene in New York at the commencement of the Civil War; his visits to military camps in and around New York City as a reporter for the New York Evening Post; boarding house living; the shooting of Sergeant Davenport by Captain Fitz James O'Brien for insubordination, and Frank Bellow's marital troubles.

Thomas Butler Gunn - March 1-May 23, 1862

Includes Gunn's descriptions of his experiences as a correspondent for the New York Tribune in Virginia while traveling with the Army of the Potomac during the Peninsular Campaign: the Siege of Yorktown; the Battle of Williamsburg; his departure from Alexandria on the steamer Kent; the ruins of Hampton, Virginia, after it was burned; the death of Fitz James O'Brien from a gunshot wound; James Parton's temporary separation from Fanny Fern; and seeing Robert E. Lee's house in Virginia.

Thomas Butler Gunn - May 29 - September 30, 1862

Includes Gunn's descriptions of his experiences as a war correspondent for "The New York Tribune" at Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, especially Hilton Head, Port Royal, St. Augustine, Key West, and the end of his experiences with the Army of the Potomac during the Peninsular Campaign when he had to leave camp due to illness.

Thomas Butler Gunn - October 1, 1862-February 12, 1863

Includes Gunn's descriptions of his experiences as a war correspondent for "The New York Tribune" at New Orleans, Louisiana, and Baton Rouge, Louisiana; boarding house living; a visit to the Rawlings family; a fight with Mr. Blankman at his boarding house; his journey on the North Star with the Banks expedition; the re-occupation of Baton Rouge by Union forces; a visit to a sugar plantation in Louisiana; and the death of Fanny Fern's daughter Grace Thomson.

Thomas Butler Gunn - January 1-April 7, 1863

Includes Gunn's descriptions of his experiences as a war correspondent for "The New York Tribune" at New Orleans, Louisiana, and Baton Rouge, Louisiana, as well as his preparations in New York for going back to England.
Marcus Joseph Wright

Diary of Brigadier-General Marcus J. Wright, C.S.A., April 23, 1861 - February 26, 1863.

Solomon B. Childress

Journal of Solomon B. Childress, August 24, 1864-June 27, 1865: Describes the affairs of the 18th Missouri Infantry, including brief accounts of the Siege of Atlanta; Battle of Jonesboro, Ga.; operations in northern Georgia and northern Alabama; Savannah campaign; Carolinas campaign, including the burning of Columbia, S.C.; and the Grand Review of the Union armies at Washington, D.C.. Contains information on camp life, marches, and casualties.

Solomon Canright

Typewritten copy of the Civil War diary of Private Solomon Canright, Company A, 28th Regiment Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, including clothing prices and a list of deaths, discharges, and desertions in Company A.

Spencer Kellogg Brown

Spencer Kellogg Brown, his life in Kansas and his death as a spy, 1842-1863 - as disclosed in his diary (1903)

Stephen Minot Weld

War Diary and Letters of Stephen Minot Weld 1861-1865, 1912

Stephen R. Mallory

Stephen R. Mallory Diary and Reminiscences, 1861-1872. Typescript diary (volumes 1 and 2).

The Civil War Diary of a Southern Belle [transcribed]

The hand-written diary of a 23-year-old young lady from northern Alabama during the year 1862.

The Diary of Edward Bates, 1859-1866

This is the diary of Edward Bates, who originally from Virginia and who held the office of United States Attorney General from 1861 to 1864. This diary starts in the year 1859 and ends in 1866.

The Diary of Edward W. Crippen


Thomas Ellis

Leaves from the Diary of an Army Surgeon, 1861-1865 : or, Incidents of field, camp, and hospital life. Offering a unique perspective on the horrors of the Civil War, Ellis permits us a striking glimpse into the lives of the men who attempted to undo the damage, suffering, and pain inflicted upon their brothers in arms. In doing so, we are permitted a viewpoint that is vastly different from other works which center around this horrible conflict. Further, the narrative is presented in an easy to follow chronology, which allows the reader the opportunity to seek a specific battle or event.

The Diary of Edward W. Crippen


Thomas J. Carey Diary [diary and partial transcript]

Diary kept by Thomas J. Carey of New Branford, Conn., who served as a private during the Civil War with Company E of the 15th Connecticut Infantry Regiment during the spring and early summer of 1865. During this time, his unit was posted to Lenoir County, N. C., and Craven County, N.C., in eastern North Carolina. Carey’s diary contains descriptions of New Bern, N.C., various skirmishes; the Battle of Wise Forks; provost duty at Kinston, N.C., friendly relationships and conversations with local inhabitants; and his reactions to Lee's surrender and Lincoln's assassination. Company E was mustered out of service on 27 June 1865 and returned home to New Haven, Conn., to be discharged on 12 July 1865. Later entries address Carey's reintegration into civilian life and his wedding

Thomas Maguire

Thomas Maguire Farm diary, part one, 1859-1866. The diary follows the daily happenings on the plantation, including weather, farming schedule, family comings and goings, and the development of the Civil War. In his diary, Thomas Maguire describes daily farm life; the buying and selling of goods such as cotton, the spread of smallpox and efforts to provide vaccinations. Maguire often makes references to the anxiety and excitement leading up to the Civil War. Dozens of entries mention preparations of Georgia units, sightings of Union prisoners-of-war, and Sherman's march through Georgia. On July 21, 1864 Thomas Maguire wrote that the Yankees robbed his house and ravaged the town of Rockbridge. In an attempt to prevent further harm to his property, he attempted to hide food and supplies, but Union soldiers continued to steal them. On November 26th he hid in the woods while Union soldiers attacked the plantation and shot his livestock. During these years, Maguire writes that many local slaves attempted to escape and join the Yankee army, although farmers thwarted their efforts. Although Thomas lost property and many farm hands, the plantation continued
to function in the post-war years, although with less prosperity. The 1866 will of Thomas Maguire is also inside in the Farm Diary.

Sterns family papers, September-December 1862
Sterns family papers, January-March 1863
Sterns family papers, April-June 1863
Sterns family papers, July-August 1863

Wartime experiences of Thomas Recsum Sterns, who joined the army in 1862, served with the Wisconsin Volunteers and died in 1863.

Thomas W. Conyers

Thomas W. Conyers, Papers, 1817-1903. The diary of a Monroe County, Missouri, landowner, merchant, soldier and politician during the early part of the Civil War.

Thomas T. Eckert

This is the memorandum notebook kept by Thomas T. Eckert recording his income, expenses, major social activities, and travel itineraries while living in Washington, D.C. in 1865. Eckert served as head of military telegraph headquarters in the United States War Department during the Civil War.

Thomas W. Westlake

Memoir by Thomas W. Westlake of his Civil War and post-Civil War experiences.

Thomas Ware Diary, Volume 1: 22 July 1861-11 February 1862
Thomas Ware Diary, Volume 2: 11 February-4 June 1862
Thomas Ware Diary, Volume 3: 5 June-27 August 1862
Thomas Ware Diary, Volume 4: 30 October 1862-27 April 1863
Thomas Ware Diary, Volume 5: 13 April-2 July 1863

Typed transcriptions of a five-volume diary kept by Thomas Lewis Ware, presumably of Washington, Ga., while he was a member of the 15th Georgia Infantry Regiment, Confederate States of America, serving in Virginia and in the Gettysburg campaign, during which he was killed; and an essay or address about Jews and early Christians. The diary consists of daily entries for the period 21 July 1861-2 July 1863. Entries are often detailed descriptions of military activity or observations on towns, countryside, and civilians. Final pages of the diary are in a different hand.

Eliphalet W. Ensign diary, January 1864-August 1865
Eliphalet W. Ensign diary, August 1865-June 1866

B. R. Cole

Excerpt from the diary of B. R. Cole, 73rd Ind. Vol.

Caroline Richards

Richards, Caroline Cowles. Village life in America, 1852-1872, including the period of the American Civil War as told in the diary of a school girl (1913)

Frank L. Church

Civil War Marine: A Diary Of The Red River Expedition, 1864

George Washington Baker

George Washington Baker papers: personal correspondence, 1864-1865. Lt. George Washington Baker served with Company K, 123rd New York Volunteers, fighting throughout Virginia and participating in Sherman's infamous "march to the sea." Two of these three letters deal with Baker's observations of Atlanta during the Union invasion, as well as its social atmosphere after occupation. The final letter highlights events in Raleigh, North Carolina on the day the Confederate surrender was assured.
This collection contains information relating to the military service of George Young during the Civil War. Included are the pension applications he filed for himself and those filed on behalf of his widow, Sarah. Also included is a letter (October 31, 1862) from Young to his parents written during the war from Virginia. The letter describes the weather, an incident where "a man named Allan" accidentally shot off his fingers hunting crows, and the drafting of an "Uncle Snyder" who may have "procured a substitute" for himself before he joined. A photocopy of an article entitled "George Young: Forgotten Hero of Peach Tree Creek" was published in the March/April 1860 issue of North South Trader. It details Young's involvement in the battle, the injuries he suffered, and resulting health problems. The article also contains information on Young's post-war occupation. Also included are military papers such as vouchers and abstracts accounting for the loss of his horse at the Battle of Peachtree Creek and special orders appointing Young to various positions within his regiment.

Giauque family papers, 1861-1865

Brothers James and Alfred Giauque, along with their cousin Florian all served in the Civil War. James was a corporal in Company D, 30th Regiment of the Iowa Volunteer Infantry. He took part in the siege of Vicksburg and a number of other battles. Alfred Giauque was in the military in 1861, and wrote in detail about the company's band of which he was a member. Florian Giauque was a cousin of James and Alfred's from Ohio. He served in the 1st Ohio Volunteers.

Bean family letters, 1862-1863

Correspondence between Dr. Asa Bean and his family while he served as a surgeon in the Union Army in Maryland, Louisiana, and Tennessee. Dr. Bean died of disease on a hospital ship April 26, 1863, as his wife, Mary Bean, was traveling to Memphis to see him, having been informed that he was gravely ill.

Byford E. Long

Diary and history of Co. E, 67th Regiment (1860), Indiana infantry by Captain B.E. Long.

Gilmer's Soldier Papers

David Gilmer enlisted as a private in Company B of the 88th Illinois Infantry in 1862. He fought in the Battle of Perryville, and on December 31, 1862 was wounded in the Battle of Stone's River in Murfreesboro, Tennessee and taken prisoner. While a prisoner, he was sent to a hospital in Annapolis, Maryland where he stayed from January 28 until March 11, 1863. From Annapolis he travelled to Benton Barracks in Missouri, where he stayed until June 2, 1863. Watts was freed in an exchange of prisoners and fought in battles in Chattanooga, and later in the Atlanta Campaign. He was killed during the Battle of Kennesaw Mountain on June 19, 1864.

Gould D. Molineaux (1835?-1883) was a clerk and bookkeeper by trade and served as a corporal (and, as of January 1864, a sergeant) in Company E of the 8th Illinois Volunteer Infantry. He fought the duration of the Civil War from early June 1861 to the war's conclusion, and kept a diary through May 1866. This is the fourth and final volume of his diaries, dating from May 1865 to March 1866. The diary closes with several pages of budget lines indicating Gould's salary during the war, when he was paid, by whom, and how much; addresses of friends and acquaintances; and hair tonic recipes.

Isaac Alexander

The collection includes typed transcriptions of letters, 1862-1895, from Isaac Alexander to his mother, describing life in Confederate army camps and on the front, and commenting on commanding generals and on the situation in the South, as he moved from Mississippi to Kentucky to Tennessee.

A Musician

Three months in camp and field - diary of an Ohio volunteer (1861)

Tillie Wise diary, 1863-1875

Tillie Wise taught school in Pennsylvania and later married Sam Clark.

Turner S. Bailey diary, 1861

Turner S. Bailey diary, 1862

Turner S. Bailey diary, 1863
Bailey, of Epworth, Iowa, was mustered into the 3rd Iowa Infantry, Company A in June 1861 and spent the rest of the year moving around Missouri, engaging in a number of skirmishes. He served as a cook, forager, and clerk of muster rolls.

Diaries (1863-1864) of Captain Van S. Bennett of Company I, 12th Wisconsin Infantry Regiment, giving accounts of the Siege of Vicksburg and other campaigns while a member of Sherman’s army in Mississippi and Georgia, and his observations of the activities of the Union soldiers he served with. Also included are his notebook containing various accounts, orders for equipment, and lists of wounded.


Villeroy A. Tambling Civil War Diary, Ink on pocket diary, February 27 to September 30, 1862.

Diary (1864) kept by Trago during his Civil War service with Company I of the 15th Ohio Infantry Regiment which describes actions during the Atlanta Campaign, trading with Confederate soldiers at Kennesaw during a lull in battle, and casualties and burials at Pickett’s Mill (Ga.). Some diary entries may have been written by Hugh L. Long, of the same unit.

S. Millett Thompson

Thirteenth regiment of New Hampshire volunteer infantry in the war of the rebellion, 1861-1865, a diary covering three years and a day (1888)

Virgil S. Murphey Diary, 1864-1865

The collection is the diary reminiscences of Virgil S. Murphey, Confederate colonel, 17th Alabama Regiment. Pages 1-133, presumably written in early January 1865, recount his experiences from his capture at the battle of Franklin, Tenn., 30 November 1864 to 17 January 1865; during most of this period, Murphey was a prisoner at Johnson’s Island, Ohio. Actual diary entries begin with 18 January (page 132) and conclude with 17 February 1865 (page 201), with Murphey still a prisoner at Johnson’s Island. Final pages of the volume contain miscellaneous notes of addresses, expenses, etc.

Diary of Volney S. Harris, Company M, 8th Cavalry, New York, Georgia

Transcription of Diary of Volney S. Harris, Company M, 8th Cavalry, New York, Georgia

W.B. Emmons diary, 1864-1865

W.B. Emmons was a soldier with the 34th Illinois Infantry during the Civil War. In his diary, he writes about the Atlanta Campaign, the end of the war, and Lincoln’s assassination.

W.H. Duff

Terrors and horrors of prison life; or, Six months a prisoner at Camp Chase, Ohio (1907)

W.P. Simmons

Diary of W.P. Simmons dated 1863. In this diary, he describes the Battle of Chickamauga and Wheeler's Raid.
Wendell D. Wiltsie, a soldier in Company E of the 23rd Michigan Infantry, describes his experiences during the Civil War.

A soldier's diary, or, The history of Company L, third Indiana Cavalry. (1885)

Wilbur Wightman Gramling

Wilbur Wightman Gramling was a Confederate soldier who fought with Company K of the 5th Florida Infantry during the Civil War. On May 6, 1864, Gramling was wounded in the right arm and taken prisoner during the Battle of the Wilderness in Virginia. Gramling kept a diary documenting all but about two months of his time as a prisoner of war. The diary traces his capture, stays at several Union hospitals in the Washington, D.C., area, and eventual transfer to the Union prisoner-of-war camp in Elmira, New York. The entries are short, but they provide a valuable perspective on daily life in the camps, especially relating to the routines, concerns and schemes of the inmates. Because Gramling began his diary in the middle of the year (May 6, 1864), his narrative begins in the middle of the volume. At the start of 1865, Gramling began writing in the unused front portion of the diary, ending the narrative on May 5, 1865.

Willard Felton

Willard Felton (1844-1862) was 18 years old when he enlisted as a private in Co. F of the 18th Wisconsin Infantry on February 24, 1862. Six weeks later he was taken prisoner at the Battle of Shiloh and five months after that he died in a Confederate prison at Macon, Georgia. Felton's short diary runs from March to July of 1862. Short entries describe the weather, his health, and the amount and quality of the food he was given after being captured. Many pages of the diary are filled with miscellaneous notes.

William Allan Papers, 1802-1937 - Volume 1 Description of General John Pope's campaign, 1862
William Allan Papers, 1802-1937 - Volume 2 Notebook, 1865 and undated
William Allan Papers, 1802-1937 - Volume 3 Notebook, 1868-1879
William Allan Papers, 1802-1937 - Volume 4 Diary, William Allan, April-June 1873
William Allan Papers, 1802-1937 - Volume 5 Diary, William Allan, January 1862-July 1863
William Allan Papers, 1802-1937 - Volume 6 Diary, William Allan, September 1864-March 1866
William Allan Papers, 1802-1937 - Volume 7 Diary, William Allan, March 1866-May 1868
William Allan Papers, 1802-1937 - Volume 8 Reminiscences, William Allan
William Allan Papers, 1802-1937 - Volume 9 Reminiscences, William Allan
William Allan Papers, 1802-1937 - Volume 10 Memoirs, Elizabeth R. P. Allan, original
William Allan Papers, 1802-1937 - Volume 10 Memoirs, Elizabeth R. P. Allan, typescript copy
William Allan Papers, 1802-1937 - Volume 11 Typed copies of excerpts from volumes and correspondence

William Allan (1837-1889) was a Confederate military officer and an educator. The collection contains letters, deeds, esse papers, business papers, diaries, reminiscences, and other material documenting the life of Allan and of members of his family. Allan's volumes include reminiscences, written in the 1880s, of his early life and of the Civil War, during which he served as a colonel and chief ordnance officer for generals Jackson, Ewell, and Early in the Army of Northern Virginia; notes on the 2nd Battle of Bull Run; notes on his conversations with General Robert E. Lee, 1867-1870 (typed transcriptions).

William B. Howard, 1862-1863

William B. Howard was in the 7th Regiment, enlisted August 14, 1861 and died at Gettysburg. Howard recounts, in great detail, his company's movements in Northern Virginia and recalls the numerous battles he fought in. The diary gives total men lost and wounded after most of the battles as well as number of prisoners taken. The diary ends on June 27, 1863 with Howard's company marching into Pennsylvania.

William Boston


William H. S. Burgwyn Diary, August 1, 1862 - March 2, 1863
William H. S. Burgwyn Diary, January 25, 1864 - September 29, 1864
William H. S. Burgwyn Diary, September 29, 1864-March 11, 1865

Diary of William H. S. Burgwyn describing First Lieutenant Burgwyn's service in Co. H of the Thirty-Fifth Regiment North Carolina Troops from August 1862-March 1863. Diary of William H. S. Burgwyn he kept daily records of his life in General Thomas Clingman's Brigade from January 21, 1864 thru September 29, 1864. This diary recounts his obligations as a member of General Clingman's staff, his leg wound he received at Petersburg, and his time on medical furlough.Diary while he was a prisoner of war, September 29, 1864-March 11, 1865
William Cooper Diaries, 1862-1886

William Cooper was a planter of Tusculumia, Colbert County, Ala., and Magnolia Plantation, Coahoma County, Miss. He travelled frequently between his home at Tusculumia, Ala., and his plantation in Coahoma County, Miss. William Cooper's diaries chiefly contain brief daily records of weather, but include occasional discussions of dealings with slaves and of life in Tusculumia during the Civil War and Reconstruction.

William Emile Doster

Abraham Lincoln [address delivered at Lehigh University, Feb. 12, 1909]--Washington City, 1862.--The old Capitol and Carroll prisons, 1862-63.--The War Department and its head, 1862-63.--Incidents of provost duty.--Cabinet members and army officers.--The campaign ending with Chancellorsville.--The campaign ending with Gettysburg.--The capital in 1864: a diary.--Conspiracy trial, 1865.

William F. Goodhue diary, 1861

Goodhue, of Brodhead, Wis., served with Company C of the 3rd Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry Regiment, enlisting in 1861. He was stationed around Harper's Ferry, Md. for most of that year.

William Fisher

Handwritten diary (selected pages) of William Fisher, Co. C, 11th (Holman's) Tennessee Cavalry. Gives Mr. Fisher's 1864 account as a soldier in Army of Tennessee at Battles of Tunnel Hill, Resaca, Nashville and subsequent retreat. Includes his obituary.

William Frederick Thayer, April 8, 1864 - June 27, 1865

Daily diary of Srg. W. F. Thayer, Co. A, 4th Regt., Iowa Veteran Volunteers, from April 8, 1864, to June 27, 1865. The brief entries cover his service in the 4th Iowa, from Iowa to Chicago; fighting through Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina; and returning home through Virginia, Washington, D.C., and Louisville, Ky. Brief descriptions of action include capture and burning of Columbia, S.C., and Battle of Bentonville. Also poetry and family birth and death dates (1841-1912).

William H. Anderson

Typescript of the manuscript Civil War diary of William H. Anderson. Mr. Anderson was born on a farm in Putnam County, Indiana, March 28, 1843. A member of the 18th Indiana Battery, he died December 28, 1862 and is buried in the Pleasant Hill Methodist Episcopal Church cemetery, west of Greencastle.

William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, Front Matter

William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1863 (April)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1863 (May)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1863 (June)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1863 (July)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1863 (August)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1863 (September)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1863 (October)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1863 (November)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1863 (December)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1864 (January)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1864 (February)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1864 (March)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1864 (April)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1864 (May)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1864 (June)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1864 (July)
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William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1865 (July)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1865 (August)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1865 (September)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1865 (October)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1865 (November)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, 1865 (December)
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, Back Matter
William R. Townsend Civil War Diary, Notes

This collection consists of scanned images of pages from the Civil War diary of Union soldier William R. Townsend. The diary contains descriptions of camp life, battles, furlough and leisure activities, civilian interaction, and other information.

William H. Arehart 1863
William H. Arehart 1864
William H. Arehart 1865

William H. Arehart diaries, 1863-1865. Describes movements of troops near Appomattox, April, 1865, and his return home.

William H. Kesler

Civil War letters of William H. Kesler, written during his service in the 3rd Missouri Cavalry, 13 January 1862 to 12 June 1865. There are also four letters from the papers of Alexander M. Lytle, 10 September 1861 to 15 April 1869. Genealogical information on the Kesler and Lytle families is included.
William H. McDowell

William H. McDowell papers, 1861-1864. The collection consists of the papers of William H. McDowell, special agent to CSA Ordnance Dept. from 1861-1865. The collection contains several orders signed by Captain Richard M. Cuyler of the Macon Arsenal (Georgia) authorizing McDowell to procure railroad cars, purchased coal, iron, leather, copper, tin, and carriages with siege guns for Richmond, Virginia. There are travel passes, a receipt for boots and for board while driving pilings in the Savannah River. The collection also contains McDowell's certificate of election to the Savannah Volunteer Guards.

William H. Stewart Diary, Volume 1: Accounts and diary, November 1863-May 1864

William H. Stewart Diary, Volume 2: Diary, October 1864-August 1865

The collection contains a diary of Stewart's military experiences. Volume 1 contains accounts for November 1863-February 1864 and a diary for 11 March-5 May 1864, describing Stewart's participation in the Red River Campaign under generals Banks and Steele. He described troop movements, camp life, skirmishes, and the destruction of towns along the way. Volume 2 discusses Stewart's return from his home in Woodstock, Ill., back to the seat of war, several weeks spent in Sedalia, Mo., a trip via St. Louis, Cairo, and Paducah to Nashville, Tenn., and movements through Tennessee, all during October-December 1864, and from 1 January-20 August 1865, his passage through Corinth, Miss., Memphis, Vicksburg, New Orleans, Spanish Fort, Mobile, Montgomery and Opelika, Ala. He started for home in July 1865 and the diary ends with his arrival in St. Louis.

William Howard Russell - My Diary North and South

William Howard Russell wrote My Diary North and South while traveling through the Union and the Confederacy from March 1861 to April 1862 as a war correspondent for the Times of London. Along the way he met and interviewed an impressive number of Union and Confederate leaders—including Abraham Lincoln, Jefferson Davis, William H. Seward, and General George B. McClellan—but he also canvassed average citizens on both sides, recounting their manners, appearance, values, and habits in remarkable detail. This memoir of his journey provides a vivid snapshot of American life and culture at the dawn of the Civil War.

William I. Fletcher

A soldier for one hundred days: being letters from the Sixth Regt. M.V.M. during its last term of service, July 16 to Oct. 24, 1864: with a connecting narrative and an appendix containing a roster of the regiment and a roll of Company H/ by William I. Fletcher.

William J. Crossley

Extracts from my diary, and from my experiences while boarding with Jefferson Davis, in three of his notorious hotels, in richmond, va., tuscaloosa, Ala., and Salisbury, N.C., from July, 1861, to June, 1862.

William P. Woodlin

Diary of an African American soldier in 8th Regiment United States Colored Troops, Company G, Woodlin, William P. (fl. 1863-1864). Woodlin enlisted in the Army at Syracuse, New York; in August 1863 at the age of 21. The 8th Regiment United States Colored Troops was organized at Camp William Penn, Chester Hills, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, from September to December 1863. Woodlin's brief entries describe camp life, his service with the regimental band as a horn player, several battles, the weather, equal pay with white soldiers, and the famous 54th Massachusetts Regiment, among many other topics. He describes his part in the siege of Petersburg, Virginia, where his regiment arrived two months after fighting began. The middle section of this journal includes blank leaves, followed by several pages of notes and lists. The diary was rebound, but includes the separated original cover.

William Porter Kelton

W.P. Kelton speech regarding diary of James Dickson. The collection consists of the diary of a blockade runner during the Civil War from December 1861 through February 1862. The diary describes the voyage from New York to Halifax, Nova Scotia and the return voyage on the brigantine the Standard of Windsor, loaded with dry goods, food, and medicine for the Confederate government. The author describes in detail the weather, sea conditions, eating habits, and life aboard ship; fears of capture by Union forces; maneuvers used to run the blockade; and off loading the cargo.

William Titus Rigby

Army roster 1 for 24th Iowa Volunteers, 1860s

William Titus Rigby diary, 1863

William Titus Rigby diary, April-July 1863

William Titus Rigby diary, September-December 1863

William Titus Rigby journal, 1863

William Titus Rigby letters and documents, 1860s-1920s

William Titus Rigby letters and papers, 1860-1863

William Titus Rigby papers, 1860s-1910s
William Titus Rigby served in the Civil War as a second lieutenant in the 24th Iowa Infantry, Company B. Later he attained the rank of captain. He was involved in the Coldwater Expedition and the Vicksburg campaign. After the war he attended Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa, gaining his A.B. degree in 1869. He later became a banker at Mechanicsville. Rigby was deeply involved with veterans affairs. In 1895, he was elected secretary of the Vicksburg National Military Park Association. In 1899, he became the park's resident commissioner. He is buried at the Vicksburg National Cemetery.

William W. Work

This collection includes letters from William W. Work to his father, James B. Work, in Wenona, Illinois, from July 27, 1864 to July 5, 1865, during his service as a Union Soldier; one letter from Williams brother, Albert B. Work, to their father, dated June 27, 1865, during his service as a Union Soldier; 2 deeds, dated 1877 and 1890 for the same parcel of land in the state of California; an undated family history written sometime after 1957 (the death date of a person in the history is stated as 1957); and the Personal Military and Civil History of William Work as entered in the Soldiers and Sailors Historical and Benevolent Society, dated 1911.

William H. Shaw

A diary as kept by William H. Shaw, during the great Civil War, from April, 1861 to July, 1865.

H.O. Babcock

H.O. Babcock was a farmer and schoolteacher from North Stonington, Connecticut. Diary entries record work, social and church activities, weather, and financial affairs. Also included are comments on the day's political and military affairs, particularly battles and lost friends.

John Beck

Diary of John Beck, 1865. This diary by John Beck describes his life in 1865. He writes about his imprisonment and conditions at Danville Confederate Prison in Danville, Virginia. Beck was paroled February 21, 1865, at Aikens Landing, Virginia. While in a hospital at Annapolis, Maryland, he hears of Lincoln's assassination and talks about the assassination of Lincoln and the assassination attempt on William H. Seward. He makes a trip to Washington to attend Lincoln's funeral. After being discharged from the Army, John traveled to Kansas and bought a farm near Ft. Scott, Kansas. The diary was transcribed by Clark John Beck, Jr. and it includes a photograph of John Beck wearing his uniform.

John D. Axline

Civil War diary (ca. 110 pp.) of Axline, a sergeant in Co. A, 9th Ohio Cavalry Regiment at the time of writing, including service in Ohio (Camp Chase, Zanesville, and Camp Dennison) and in Kentucky (Lexington, Richmond, London, Manchester, Barbourville, Williamsburg, Pine Mountain, and Cumberland River). There are descriptions of military action against small Confederate units and guerillas in southeastern Kentucky, and of camp life.
Manuscript copy of documents exchanged between Barnard, chief engineer on Grant’s staff, and Major General Burnside, July 3-August 6, 1864, relative to mining operations under the Confederate defenses at Petersburg, Va., and the battle of the Crater on July 30; and an extract from a letter by Barnard to his wife, April 2, 1865, reporting on the last days of the siege of Petersburg.

Chronicles from the diary of a war prisoner in Andersonville and other military prisons of the South in 1864

Family correspondence of Bradshaw, 1st sergeant, Co. G., 38th N.C. Infantry, largely addressed to his wife Nancy and his parents. Letters discuss his participation in the defense of Richmond, 1862, and in the Battle of Gettysburg. The collection touches upon campaigns, camp life, and war weariness, but is limited mainly to reports on his health and his desire to be at home.

Primarily letters concerning events preceding and just after the South’s secession, in preparation for the coming war. Includes raising, training, and arming the state militia and the Columbus Guards. Also, letters in 1865 concerning the defeat of Union forces at Cedar Keys, Fla., and proposing the use of slaves as soldiers. Other letters deal with war-related topics, including Brown’s opposition to the conscription act, Confederate finances, accusations of horse-stealing against Wheeler’s cavalry and Wheeler’s response, and politics.

Diary of a Union soldier in the 2nd Regiment of the Massachusetts Volunteers. Enlisted August 1862 in Boston. Entries begin at Fairfax Station, Virginia on January 10, 1863. Subjects include lack of religious services in the regiment; his hospitalization in 1863; detailed descriptions of the hardships of army life; food, development and maintenance of camps, guard and picket duty, camp drinking. Entry for April 10 describes review of brigades by President and Mrs. Lincoln and their two sons, accompanied by General Joseph Hooker. Late April and early May entries describe the unit’s march to Chancellorsville and the ensuing battle. Akerman was sick during the battle and his diary describes the bad hospital conditions. Diary ends June 26 when Akerman arrived in Washington by ambulance. Akerman apparently had a wife named Mary and a child named Josey.

Letters to Alman’s wife, Caroline, written by Alman’s comrades, chiefly Dan. P. Boger, describing experiences with the 7th North Carolina Volunteers, and imprisonment, probably at Point Lookout, Md. There are accounts of several battles in Virginia, including a skirmish at Orange Court House, 1862.

Letters to Mary from her brother, William Henry Brown, a Union soldier with the Army of the Potomac, describing life and medical care at the Odd Fellows Hall Hospital, Washington, D.C.; temperance meetings there; the U.S. Army General Hospital in Baltimore; service on the U.S.S. Union at Key West, Fla.; and a storm experienced by the U.S.S. Memphis. Other subjects mentioned include the 61st regiment New York Volunteers, Thanksgiving meals provided by women at the General Hospital, camp life, casualties, and Confederate prisoners. Includes some printed pictures of the two ships U.S.S. Monitor and Memphis.

Typescript of diary (10 pages) kept by O.J. Benham, a soldier in the Fourth Corps of the Army of the Cumberland. Diary begins on February 24, 1865 when Benham left Tiffin, Ohio on his way south and ends on June 15, 1865 when Tiffin mustered out and arrived at Cincinnati, Ohio. Diary entries are brief and typically describe his movements, correspondence with his wife, weather, and other routine matters.

Diary of Allen’s service as a hospital steward with the 22nd New York Cavalry, 1864-1865, with brief entries describing the battle of the Wilderness, Jubal Early’s Valley campaign, and the siege of Petersburg. Also contains personal financial accounts and weekly reports on the regimental sick, and a reference to Allen’s return to Ohio.

Civil war diary of Robert Armstrong, sergeant, 66th Indiana infantry, 1862-1865.
Letters from Robert Boyd's five sons and his son-in-law, Fenton Hall, all serving in the Confederate Army. Topics include camp life, the hardships of war, army disciplinary measures, the heavy toll of measles and pneumonia, and life as a prisoner of war. One letter from Capt. Robert Chatham tells Robert Boyd of his son Andrew's death in the Battle of Murfreesboro (1864).

Chiefly letters to Bradbury, in Connecticut, from Andrew Jackson Crossley, who served with the U.S. Engineers in the Army of the Potomac. Crossley's letters describe the work of the engineers — particularly construction of artillery emplacements and fortifications of railroad bridges — as well as military activities, low morale, disputes between officers and enlisted men, his hatred for military camp life.

Orders given under Gen. Barton's command at Fredericksburg, Va., to Col. C.J. Philips of the 52nd Georgia Regiment. Topics include depredations on private property and straggling; guards and pickets; and personnel matters.

Collection consists of letters sent by Brown to his family after he was captured in late spring 1862. Letters, subjected to censorship, described his life in Union prisons at Fort Columbus, Governor's Island, N.Y., and at Johnson's Island, Sandusky, Ohio, and expressing hope for a prisoner exchange. Brown described his treatment by Union captors as mild and humane. By Aug. 31, 1862, he wrote his sister that he was traveling south by way of Vicksburg and the Mississippi River, presumably he had been freed by this point.

Papers of Tilmon Blalock, a farmer and lieutenant colonel in the 92nd Regiment of the North Carolina militia. Blalock became a captain during the Mexican War, and later served as captain in the North Carolina militia in the Civil War. The papers consist of Mexican War military reports, records of army supplies received, applications for pensions for men killed in his regiment, and Blalock's will.

Letters to Virginia Arnett from two Confederate soldiers, Robert T. Cullars and George W. Normans, describing campaigning in Virginia, particularly under General George B. Hood.

Correspondence relating to army life, especially the appointment of officers, and to family matters. Letters discuss the Camp of Investment near Cumberland Gap, Tennessee. Other topics include agricultural conditions, a tax to provide funds for the families of soldiers, the educational system, and smallpox. Correspondents include Capt. J. W. Anderson, O. H. Smith (a Georgia legislator), John Withers, Alexander Stephens, and William Waring Habersham.

Documents relating to Allen's naval career, including his appointment to Annapolis; orders as commander of the sloop, "Oneida", and the gunboat, "New London" as part of the Western Gulf Blockading Squadron, 1863-1864; report of the capture of the schooner "Raton del Nilo"; orders to serve on naval general courts-martial on the "Portsmouth," 1863, in Boston, 1869, and in New York, 1872; and an account of Allen's command of a shore detachment in the attack on Fort Fisher at the mouth of the Cape Fear River, North Carolina, December, 1864-January, 1865.
Personal letters from a Confederate soldier to his father, Thomas A. Andrews. Topics include business affairs, crops, weather, debts, death of a female slave, religion and preaching, commodity prices in Virginia, and the progress of the war, including casualties, sickness and prisoners; the sieges of Suffolk (1863) and Petersburg (1865); and the battles of Nashville (1864), Gordonsville (1864), and Sayler's Creek (1865); the Confederate government; conscription and the election of officers in the 10th Battalion of Virginia Heavy Artillery; Confederate and Union generals; and rumors about the Confederate peace commissioners and General Lee's call for the use of African Americans. There is also Andrews' Book of Psalms, containing his notes from May 1865 regarding his own admittance into a Point Lookout, Md., hospital as well as the death from typhoid fever of a relative in a Newport News, Va., prison hospital.

William J. Blackshear papers

Chiefly war letters from Blackshear, who was engaged to and eventually married Marian Baber, daughter of Ambrose Baber; and of George D. Smith, Confederate soldier and cousin of the Babers. The letters include descriptions of the fall of Port Royal, S.C., in 1861, and graphic descriptions of army life and activities on St. Simon's Island, Ga. Other correspondents wrote of the efforts of "Yankees" in 1865 to get teachers for African-American schools in Savannah, and impressions of Texas.

William M. Archer

Letters and papers relating to Confederate army life in Alabama and Virginia. Units mentioned specifically are the 2nd and 11th Regiments of Volunteer Infantry.

William Elmer Thorp

William Elmer Thorp correspondence, 1846-1868

William G. and J. S. Agnew papers

letters of William and J.S. Agnew, probably brothers, serving in the Confederate forces. William's letters deal with the military affairs and camp conditions while he was involved with the Peninsular Campaign. J.S.'s letters, written from Chickamauga, Tenn., and Camp Foster, Ga., are concerned with personal and military matters.

Adam K. Brown papers

Letters to his parents describing camp life in the Union Army, chiefly in western campaigns in Mississippi. In June 1864 he was in a hospital in Huntsville, Alabama, but was soon moved to Nashville, Tenn's Cumberland Hospital. He was later sent to Resaca, Georgia and later transferred to the Army of the Potomac occupying Petersburg, Virginia. His regiment was later shipped to Louisville, Kentucky, where he remained until July 1865. Brown wrote about encountering captured Confederate soldiers as well as his travels and experiences as an officer.

Alexander Brown papers

Civil War subjects include Confederate and Federal prisoners; sieges of Charleston, Savannah, and Wilmington; battles of Bull Run and Antietam; women's care for wounded Confederate soldiers; and Confederate Army concerns such as sickness, casualties, hardships, shortages, food, shoes, clothing, desertsions, troop movements, and recruitment.

Andrew Donaldson Stewart

Letters of Sergeant Andrew Donaldson Stewart, 25th Ohio Volunteers, to Lettie Bonnifield, St. George, Va., describing the movements of his own and other Union regiments, predominantly in Virginia.

Beidelman family papers

Personal correspondence of the Beidelman and Wilmer families. Topics include the marriage of Mary Wilmer to the Rev. John Nicholson of Rahway, N.J.; John Wilmer's voyage around Cape Horn to Chile during the 1830s; the marriage of Catherine P. Wilmer to David Beidelman, of Philadelphia, and the Civil War experiences of Wilmer and Daniel Beidelman, Jr., members of the 13th Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, discussing the destitution of the people of southern Maryland and northern Virginia and the aftermath of the Battle of Gettysburg.

Boardman family papers

Collection consists of letters between the Boardman family. The earliest letters are between Volney and his daughter Margaret, who was attending an academy between 1850 and 1860; they concern her education and the family's financial hardship following a drought and failed crops. Civil War letters of James L. Boardman, 5th Alabama Regiment, C.S.A., and of his brother, Henry, 62nd Alabama Regiment, C.S.A., describe camp life, supplies, capture and imprisonment by the Yankees, military campaigns, and the destruction of the Harper's Ferry and Winchester Railroad. Letters following the war largely detail family affairs, with one letter mentioning the activities of the Ku Klux Klan.

Boyle family papers

Civil War family letters from the Boyles brothers of Stokes and Surry County, N.C., six of whom died during the war. Eight of the
Boyles brothers are represented either by their own letters or by references in their brothers' letters. They are: Augustin (d. 1862 Nov. 14); John William (d. 1862 Aug. 11); James (d. 1864 Jun. 1); Calvin H. (d. 1865 Feb. 13); A. M. (d. 1863 Jan. 27); Irvin (d. 1863 Sept. 3); Riley R., and Wade. Of these, Wade was too young for military service, and Riley R. (or R.R.) was in Junior Reserves. All of the other brothers died during the Civil War from disease, except for Calvin and James, who died following wounds received in action. The brothers belonged to Co. I and Co. F, 21st N.C. Regiment, and Co. D, 33rd infantry. Most letters indicate they served in Raleigh or in Virginia. Letters discuss the progress of the war in Virginia and North Carolina, camp conditions, shortages of food and clothes (including a letter from 1863 Jan. 20 indicating they were barefoot), and the execution of deserters (a letter from 1863 May 13). Also included is a photograph of Mary Ann Boyles taken in 1858.

Boyles brothers papers
Predominantly letters concerning military affairs regarding the Civil War, discussing fortifications, the port of Pensacola, health in the army (including measles), the Army of Tennessee, a court martial, and Confederate government pottery factories. Correspondents include Eliza Brooks Ellis (his wife), Jefferson Davis, Patrick Colburne, Samuel Cooper, and James A. Seddon.

Brown family papers
Collection consists of personal letters of Jesse, Austin, and Bardin Brown, Confederate soldiers, to their family. Most letters document their loneliness and pessimism about their prospects of returning home, and expressions of love and affection for their family. They complain about lack of food, clothing, and timely wages. One letter from August 1862 references Stonewall Jackson's military strategies in battle.

Charles Berry papers
Primarily letters from Berry to his family while serving in the Confederate Army. There are also family letters, 1842, from Eliza M. Griggs of Charles Town, Va. (now W. Va.), possibly Berry's mother.

Charles Brown
Collection of letters with subjects including business and personal affairs; "Traveller's Rest" (Buckingham County, Va.); vaccinations; and freemasonry. Also contains a soldier's letter discussing Confederate cavalry operations in 1863, mentioning food, clothing, horses, troop movements, and fighting. Confederates, as well as Union troops, are guilty of depredations: "our men in many respects equaled the Yankees in the way of plundering and roguing."

Charles S. Brown papers
Letters describing the Sherman's Army march from Chattanooga, Tenn., by way of Dalton, Atlanta, Milledgeville, and Augusta, to Savannah, Ga., in 1864, and across South Carolina to Raleigh, N.C. camp-life, chaplains; foraging; the burning of Atlanta (which he witnessed); destruction of property by the Union army between Atlanta and Savannah; the hanging of a Confederate bushwhacker; the battle of Bentonville, N.C.; the occupation of Raleigh; and the reaction in Sherman's Army to the new of Lee's surrender and the death of Lincoln. He describes the vandalism of Sherman's forces in S.C., and compares them to lighter damage inflicted by the men in N.C.; he also describes the vandalism of Gen. Joseph Wheeler's cavalry in Raleigh.

Charles Stewart Vedder Diary, 1 Jan. 1861 - 31 Dec. 1861
Charles Stewart Vedder Diary, 13 July 1863 - 2 Sept. 1866

Daily Journal for 1861 - Commenced in Columbia, S.C." by Rev. C. S. Vedder. Topics discussed include religion, the start of the Civil War, travels, and Vedder's start as the pastor of Summerville, S.C. Diary of Rev. C. S. Vedder, begun 13 July 1863. Topics discussed include travel, religious activities, illness, and news from the war. Includes a long gap, Feb. - May 1865, "due to the fact that it was buried, with other papers, to avoid its being taken and destroyed by anticipated Raiders."

Dwight Allen papers
Letters discussing camp life, discipline, casualties, Confederate and Union generals, and statements by Confederate deserters concerning low morale in the Army of Tennessee.

Edward Porter Alexander papers
Letter inquiring about Confederate losses in Virginia; list of the artillery of the Army of Northern Virginia; letter declining to attend a reunion of Confederate veterans, 1895.

Ellen Aumack papers
Collection consists primarily of Civil War letters to Ellen Aumack from Sergeant Young J. Powell of Company K, 2nd Regiment, Iowa Infantry Veteran Volunteers. Powell's first three letters were written from Tennessee, where he had been separated from his regiment. He wittered there and reports news about Sherman's army. Two letters then written from Goldsboro and Raleigh, N.C., after Powell had rejoined his regiment. He wrote about the ending of the Civil War, with topics including General Sherman's army, the surrender of General Johnston, and Abraham Lincoln's assassination. Following the war, Powell wrote from Washington, D.C., discussing troop movements and reviews. The collection includes one letter from Aumack to Powell, as well as his discharge certificate.
F. A. Bleckley papers

Personal letters from F. A. Bleckley, a private in the Confederate Army, and from his brother, William L. Bleckley, written to their family. One letter, January 23, 1865, concerns a proposed armistice. The letters give a fairly good picture of army life.

Ferdinand F. Boltz

Combination daybook, memorandum book, and diary of Boltz, a member of the 88th Regiment, Indiana Volunteers, containing brief accounts of his regiment; Sherman's march through Georgia; the siege of Savannah; and the march through the Carolinas ending at Richmond, Va.

Frank Bennett

Civil War diary (94 p.) records the experiences of Lt. Col. Frank T. Bennett as a prisoner of war in Confederate prisons in Charleston and Columbia, S.C., from March 18 to October 10, 1862. There is also an entry about his capture during the Battle of Drewry's Bluff, 1864, and imprisonment in Libby Prison, Richmond, during May 16-October 8 1864. Bennett speaks well of Southerners in general despite the hardships of prison life, and records his views of Northern military and political tactics. The volume begins with a series of poems and there are a few poems interpersed in the diary entries. A loose item consists of a brief chronology of the war and the military service of Frank and of Horace C. Bennett. Horace (d. 1862) may have been Frank's brother.

G. H. Beatty papers

Letters from a Confederate soldier to his family, and a list of articles owned by the Lisbon Ladies Aid Society, and accounts of company movements and army life at forts Caswell and Fisher, North Carolina, as well as the area around Gordonsville, Virginia.

George F Moore, 1863

George F Moore, 1864

Small pocket diaries of George F. Moore. Includes daily writings of George as a Civil War soldier in 1863 and 1864. He writes of his daily life and the life of the 35th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteers.

George W. Beaman

Official papers of Beaman, a native of Vermont, while assistant paymaster on the U.S.S. Union, a store ship stationed off Key West, Florida, during the Civil War.

George William Brent

Official correspondence, reports, military dispatches, and orders. Papers concerning the affairs of the Georgia Railroad indicate improper use of government transportation by private individuals; other topics include the disorganization in Mississippi during the last months of the war, detailed accounts of subsistence stores, railroad equipment, troop movements, ordnance depots, and supplies, after Sherman's March. Includes an official report of the medical director, Division of the West. A letter from Leonidas Polk explains why he disobeyed orders at Chickamauga, and one from Simon B. Buckner discusses the organization of the Dept. of East Tennessee. Other correspondents include John F. Branch, Howell Cobb, B.D. Fry, Duff C. Green, E.H. Harris, and J.R. Waddy.

Granville W. Belcher

Personal letters which reflect events in the Civil War such as the second battle of Manassas and the battle of Gettysburg.

Henry Isely Henry Isely diary

This diary was written by Henry Isely, a member of Company C, Sixty-seventh Regiment, Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He enlisted in 1862 as a private and served over three years. Isely tells about the capture of Morris Island, the charge on Fort Wagner, and the siege of Fort Sumter. After the attack at Fort Wagner, Isely developed typhoid fever and was in a field hospital on Morris Island for six weeks. He describes his physical problems resulting from typhoid. Isely recovered and rejoined his company. He participated in many battles and in the end, witnessed the surrender of General Lee at Appomattox Courthouse on April 9, 1865. Isely was mustered out at Richmond on October 16, 1865. In 1870, he moved to Brown County, Kansas, where he bought farm land. In addition to farming, he became involved in politics and, in 1872, he was elected Township Clerk of Walnut Township, Brown County, Kansas. In 1873, he was elected County Clerk of Brown County and reelected in 1875 and 1877. Isely ran for the Kansas House of Representatives in 1882 and was elected by a sixty vote majority. In 1883, he was elected to the Kansas Senate.

J. R. Brown papers

Letters concerning current rumors as to the end of the Civil War, desertions by Confederates to the Union forces, and the limited rations distributed to soldiers in early 1865.
James Blauvelt papers

Personal correspondence concerning Civil War activities around Pensacola Bay, Fla., Mobile Bay, Ala., and Vicksburg, Miss. His letters, addressed to his mother, comment on a run up to Vicksburg, bringing out wounded men, and enemy forces near the shores of Mobile Bay. A letter from 1867 indicates he was bound for Vera Cruz and Havana on the U.S.S. De Soto.

James Brady

Papers of James Brady. In 1850 James Brady was acting as executor for the estate of John A. Craven. Papers reference a public sale of the property on 1850 Aug. 30. The remaining items in the collection relate to Brady’s Civil War service; topics include a furlough in March 1863; taxes of $36 in 1865; the military service of his brother, William W. Brady, a private in Co. H., 3rd Reg. of N.C. troops who died in 1864; and Brady’s being judged unfit for military service in early 1865.

James Gordon Bennett papers

Four Civil War letters to Bennett as editor of the New York Herald from reporters L.A. Whiteley and Hiram Calkins in Washington, D.C. In April, 1862, Whiteley reports Union troop movements in Virginia aimed at trapping the Confederates before Richmond as part of the Peninsula campaign. He also reports the source of his information and makes reference to censorship. In a letter dated October 6, 1862, Whiteley reports on rumors surrounding President Lincoln’s visit to General McClellan and the possibility of changes in Union army leadership. Calkin’s letter of December 22, 1864, discusses Sherman’s activities in Georgia and South Carolina, differences between Civil plans for the siege of Richmond. His letter of February 23, 1865, discusses possible plans by Robert E. Lee to move forces below Raleigh, N.C. to stop Sherman’s advance north. He also reports various political rumors concerning the presidential election in 1865 and appointments of various cabinet officers.

James H. Baker papers

Letters describing his experiences in active service in the Confederate Army at Weldon, N.C., in 1864, and his stay in the General Hospital in Richmond, Va., where he died in 1865.

James M. Hart

Civil War diary of James M. Hart, 7th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, with a brief regimental history of the seventh Indiana Volunteer Infantry. Edited and compiled by Jerry M. Easley.

John Barnard papers

Letters from a private in the Union Army concerning sickness among troops near Baton Rouge, La., 1862, and giving a graphic description of the Battle of Port Hudson, La., 1863.

Browne, Samuel T. et al. Personal Narratives of events in the War of the Rebellion, Rhode Island Soldiers and Sailors Historical Society, Series I, 1881

Browne, Samuel T. et al. Personal Narratives of events in the War of the Rebellion, Rhode Island Soldiers and Sailors Historical Society, Series IV, n. 1-10, 1881

Browne, Samuel T. et al. Personal Narratives of events in the War of the Rebellion, Rhode Island Soldiers and Sailors Historical Society, Series IV, n. 11-20, 1881


Browne, Samuel T. et al. Personal Narratives of events in the War of the Rebellion, Rhode Island Soldiers and Sailors Historical Society, Series II, n. 12-20, 1881

Browne, Samuel T. et al. Personal Narratives of events in the War of the Rebellion, Rhode Island Soldiers and Sailors Historical Society, Series III, n. 1-10, 1889

Browne, Samuel T. et al. Personal Narratives of events in the War of the Rebellion, Rhode Island Soldiers and Sailors Historical Society, Series III, n. 11-20, 1889

Browne, Samuel T. et al. Personal Narratives of events in the War of the Rebellion, Rhode Island Soldiers and Sailors Historical Society, Series V, n. 1-10, 1889

Browne, Samuel T. et al. Personal Narratives of events in the War of the Rebellion, Rhode Island Soldiers and Sailors Historical Society, Series VI, 1889

Browne, Samuel T. et al. Personal Narratives of events in the War of the Rebellion, Rhode Island Soldiers and Sailors Historical Society, Series VII, 1889

Jefferson Davis A Memoir by His Wife, Vol. 1, 1890

Jefferson Davis A Memoir by His Wife, Vol. 2, 1890

Varina Davis was well-educated and possessed as strong a will as her husband. They had their differences at times over the fifty-four years of their marriage, but they remained devoted to each other through several decades of remarkable hardship. After Jefferson Davis’ death in 1889, Varina Davis published Jefferson Davis, A Memoir in 1890, then moved to New York City the following year to pursue a literary career.
Dr. Jonathan Letterman was the medical director for the Army of the Potomac during the American Civil War. Dr. Letterman graduated from Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia in 1849. With his appointment to the largest portion of the Union Army, Dr. Letterman was tasked with improving what would today be called a population health nightmare.

Memoir of Jonathan Letterman, M.D., Surgeon United States Army and Medical Director of the Army of the Potomac. Dr. Letterman graduated from Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia in 1849. With his appointment to the largest portion of the Union Army, Dr. Letterman was tasked with improving what would today be called a population health nightmare.

Jonathan Letterman, M.D.

Military Memoirs of a Confederate: A Critical Narrative, 1907

Edward Porter Alexander

Fast and loose in Dixie. An unprejudiced narrative of personal experience as a prisoner of war at Libby, Macon, Savannah, and Charleston (1880)

James Madison Drake

Army Memoirs of a Volunteer, 1879

Lucius Barber

The Citizen Soldier or Memoirs of a Volunteer, 1879

John Beatty

The Memoirs of Rhode Island officers who were engaged in the service of their country during the great rebellion of the South. Illustrated with thirty-four portraits (1867)

John Bardett


John Hill Brinton

The long roll - being a journal of the civil war, as set down during the years 1861-1863 (1911)

Alfred Mathews

From reefer to rear-admiral - reminiscences and journal jottings of nearly half a century of naval life (c1899)

Benjamin F. Sands

Reminiscences of service in the First Rhode Island Cavalry (1878)

Robert H. Dacus

Reminiscences of Company H, First Arkansas Mounted Rifles, Arkansas, Post-Dispatch Print., 1887.

George Bliss

Reminiscences of service in the First Rhode Island Cavalry (1870)
Chester Barney
Recollections of Field Service with the Twentieth Iowa Infantry Volunteers, 1865.

John G. B. Adams
Reminiscences of the Nineteenth Massachusetts regiment, 1869.

James Adams

Thomas E. Taylor
Running the blockade - a personal narrative of adventures, risks, and escapes during the American Civil War, 1897.

John Batten
Reminiscences of Two Years in the United States Navy, 1881.

Stephen Blanding
Recollections of a Sailor Boy - Or - The Cruise of the Gunboat Louisiana, 1886.

Orvey S. Barrett
Reminiscences, incidents, battles, marches and camp life of the old 4th Michigan Infantry in War of Rebellion, 1861 to 1864, 1888.

Herbert W. Beecher

Herbert W. Beecher

Ellen McGowan Biddle
Reminiscences of a Soldier's Wife, 1907.

Ellen McGowan Biddle was the wife of James Biddle, a U.S. Army officer who saw wide service on the frontier. Reminiscences of a Soldier's Wife is a record of her astute, articulate observations about life in the Army. From Macon, Georgia to Fort Robinson, Nebraska, Ellen McGowan Biddle followed her husband throughout his career. Throughout her 'reminiscences', she relates not only the daily day events of her life as a Army wife, but also the excitement, uncertainty, and sacrifice of life on the frontier.

Ephraim McO Anderson
Memoirs Historical and Personal, Including the Campaigns of the First Missouri Confederate Brigade, 1868.

One of the better Confederate narratives; written by an upper-class Southerner and strongly revealing for social conditions in the Confederate. Anderson's military activities were confined to the Mississippi Valley, first in Missouri, then from Boonville to Springfield, back to Lexington, and on to the Kansas border. After the battle of Pea Ridge, his forces went on through Arkansas by way of Fayetteville, Van Buren, and Des Arc to Memphis. After this period most of his experiences were in Mississippi. This is among the best of all accounts relating to the South during the war.

John Stillwell Applegate
Reminiscences and letters of George Arrowsmith of New Jersey, late lieutenant-colonel of the One hundred and fifty-seventh regiment, 1893.

Adison Bishop
The Story of a Regiment, Being a Narrative of the Services of the Second Regiment, Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, 1861-1865.
Reminiscences of an ex-confederate soldier; or, Forty years on crutches (1904)  

George Booth  
Personal Reminiscences of a Maryland Soldier in the War Between the States, 1898  

Memoir of Brevet Major-General Robert Ogden Tyler  
George Cullum, ed., Memoir of Brevet Major-General Robert Ogden Tyler, U. S. army, together with his journal of two months travels in British and Panther India (1879)  

Thomas A. Ashby  
Being the Reminiscences of a Non-Combatant While Between the Lines in the Shenandoah Valley During the War of the States.  

William Edgar Hughes  
The journal of a grandfather (1912). Served in the Civil War in the 1st Texas Artillery and as colonel of the 16th Confederate States Cavalry.  

J.K. Blackburn  
Reminiscences of the Terry Rangers, 1919. A description of the Civil War from the point of view of the Terry Rangers (8th Texas Cavalry Regiment). It is written in first-person, describing specific incidences, including the Woodsonville Skirmish, the Battle of Shiloh, the Battle of Bentonville, as well as other events and anecdotes.  

George Townley  
Our Cruise on the Confederate States' War Steamer Alabama-- The Private Journal of an Officer (1863)  

Henry V. Boynton  
Sherman's historical raid. The Memoirs in the light of the record. A review based upon compilations from the files of the War Office, 1875  

Ferdinand Daniel  
Recollections of a Rebel surgeon, and other sketches or, in the doctor's sappy days (1881)  

Augustus Woodbury  
The Second Rhode Island regiment: a narrative of military operations in which the regiment was engaged from the beginning to the end of the war for the union.  

Henry Villard  
Memories of Henry Villard, journalist and financier,1863-1900. As he proceeded and arrived at his experiences in the Civil War, he began, as he explains, to feel the ardor of the historian, and, using the Official Records of both sides in the greatest of American conflicts, he described the various campaigns in which he took part.  

Willis J. Abbott - Battlefields and Victory  
A Narrative of the Principle Military Operations of the Civil War From the Accession of Grant to the Command of the Union Armies to the End of the War (1891)  

Willis J. Abbott - Battlefields and Campfires
A Narrative of the Principle Military Operations of the Civil War From the removal of McClellan to the accession of Grant, 1890

Willis J. Abbott - Battle-fields of '61

A Narrative of the Principle Military Operations of the war for the Union up to the end of the Peninsular campaign (1889)

Samuel H. Hurst

Journal History of the Seventy-third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, 1866.

Samuel Heineken

Samuel Heineken's diary written during his service as a private with Company G, 3rd Indiana Cavalry Regiment during 1862-1863. Heineken enlisted on August 24, 1862 and rose to the rank of quartermaster sergeant on November 12, 1862. He was taken prisoner during the Battle of Stone River in 1863 and held in Libby Prison in Richmond, Virginia.

Richard Girvan

Journal of Army Life, 1874

Preston Hussey

Preston Hussey Daily pocket diary for the year 1860

Preston Hussey Daily pocket diary for the year 1862

A diary and day planner bound in black leather. The pages also contain a calendar and almanac for 1860, percent rates and postage, travel distances and useful facts like the 1860 population of the U.S. and a list of its Presidents. Diary entries are made on the daily planner pages.

Philip Hayes

Journal history of the Hundred & third Ohio volunteer infantry (1872)

Almer Doubling

Reminiscences of Forts Sumter and Moultrie in 1860-'61 (1876)

Adam Redou

Grant in peace. From Appomattox to Mount McGregor. A personal memoir (1887)

Alfred A. Demorest

Brief History of the Ninety-third Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry, Recollections of a Private, 1898.

Anna Boyden

War reminiscences- a record of Mrs. Rebecca R. Pomroy's experience in war-times

Augustus C. Buell

The Cannoneer or Recollections of Service in the Army of the Potomac, 1890

Augustus Woodbury

General Ambrose E. Burnside and the Ninth Army Corps - a narrative of campaigns in North Carolina, Maryland...during the war for the preservation of the Republic (1887)

Augustus Woodbury

A narrative of the campaign of the First Rhode Island regiment, in the spring and summer of 1861 ... (1862).
Basil W. Duke

Benjamin D. Dean
Recollections of the Twenty-Sixth Missouri in the War for the Union, 1862.

Benjamin T. Strong

Benjamin F. Butler
Autobiography and personal reminiscences of Major-General Benj. F. Butler...his legal, political, and military career (1892).

Charles Coffin

Charles Dana
Recollections of the Civil War - with leaders at Washington and in the field in the sixties, 1898.

Chauncey Curtis
Reminiscences -The Burnside Expedition to Roanoke.

Chester Berry
Loss of the Sultana and Reminiscences of Survivors, 1862

Charles Craver
Pocket diary. 1862-1864. Pocket diary in pencil and pen. Covers a wide range of dates, and includes address, muster lists, as well as diary entries for the Months of August, September and October, 1863. There is a drawing of a dove on the inside back cover.

Christiana Bond

Confederate women of Arkansas in the Civil War, 1861-'65
Memorial Reminiscences, United Confederate Veterans. Arkansas Division (1867)

David Langworthy
Reminiscences of a prisoner of war and his escape (1915)

Edward C. Downs
Four years a scout and spy - Being a narrative of the thrilling adventures, narrow escapes, noble daring, and amusing incidents...as a scout and spy for the federal army (1866)

Pierce, Edward. Memoir and letters of Charles Sumner, Vol. 1, 1811-1838 (1877)
In war time. Two years in the confederacy and two years north. With many reminiscences of the days long before the war (1885)

Elbridge J. Coppe
Reminiscences of the War of the Rebellion 1861-1865, 1911

Ephraim A. Wilson
Memoirs of the War, 1893

Fannie Buehler
Recollections of the Rebel Invasion and One Woman’s Experience During the Battle of Gettysburg, 1900

Francis Warren Duxon

George A. Eggleston
A Rebel’s Recollections, 1899

George Alfred Townsend
Campaigns of a non-combatant, and his romance abroad during the war.

George Chiles
Recollections of General Grant, 1891

George Collins
Memoirs of the 149th Regiment New York Volunteer Infantry, 1891.

Henry Davidson
Fourteen months in southern prisons; Narrative of The Treatment Of Federal Prisoners Of war In The Rebel Military Prisons of Richmond, Danville, Andersonville, Savannah, And Millen; Describing The Author's Escape With Two Comrades, From Andersonville And The Blood Hounds; His Activities During A Fourteen Nights' March In The Swamps Of Western Georgia, And His Subsequent Re-Capture ; To Which Is Added A Large List Of Those Who Have Died In Various Prisons In The Confederacy.

Henry Edward Tremain
Two Days of War- A Gettysburg Narrative and other Excursions, 1905.
Henry Walker

Naval Scenes and Reminiscences of the Civil War in the United States, 1877.

Henry Washington Benham

Recollections of West Virginia campaign, with The three months troops, May, June, and July 1861 (1873).


In one of the most exhilarating of war memoirs, Heros von Borcke gives a stirring account of his service in the cavalry of the Army of Northern Virginia. The story begins in the spring of 1862, when the twenty-six year old Prussian soldier boarded a Confederate blockade runner in Bermuda bound for South Carolina. Narrowly escaping capture in Charleston Harbor, he quickly earned a commission in General J.E.B. Stuart's cavalry command in Virginia. He rode with Stuart's men in the battles of Seven Pines, the Seven Days, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Brandy Station before being wounded in the early part of the Gettysburg campaign.

Horace Bolton

Personal reminiscences of the late war (1892).

Horace Harbaugh

The civil war journal of Horace Harbaugh. This is a daily memorandum of the doings and whereabouts of the a member of the 114th O.V. Co. K, with a slight sketch of the duties and performances of the said Regiment in the year 1895.

Howell Carter

A Cavalryman's Reminiscences of the Civil War, 1900.

Isaac Handy

Duress by federal authority, a journal of current events during an imprisonment of fifteen months, at Fort Delaware (1874).

J. Hamp. seCheverell

Journal History of the 29th Ohio Veteran Volunteers, 1861-1865, its victories and its reverses. And the campaigns and battles of Winchester, Port Republic, Cedar Mountain, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Lookout Mountain, Atlanta. The March to the Sea, and the campaign of the Carolinas, in which it bore an honorable part.

J.D. Bloodgood

Personal reminiscences of the war (1893). Late Sergeant Company I, 141st Pennsylvania Volunteers.

J.N. Cardozo

Reminiscences of Charleston, (1866).

Jacob Dodson Cox - Military Reminiscences of the Civil War, Vol. 1, Apr 1 861 - Nov 1863 (1900).


James A. Bignes
The Eighty-Sixth Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry: A Narrative of Its Service in the Civil War of 1861-1865, 1895.

James Oates

Personal Recollections and Experiences in the Confederate Army, 1861-65, 1897.

Jesse Bowman Young

The Battle of Gettysburg - a comprehensive narrative (1913). A first-hand account from a young officer who witnessed not only the famous battle but also the entire Gettysburg Campaign from the time of Lee's crossing the Potomac to his retreat across the same river some weeks later. Includes valuable biographical sketches of all the officers (Union and Confederate) above the regimental command.

John A. Lidell - Surgical Memoirs of the War of the Rebellion, Vol. 1, 1870


John Adolphus Dahlgren

Memoir of Ulric Dahlgren (1872.)

John Archibald Campbell - Reminiscences and documents relating to the Civil War during the year 1865 (1887)

John Archibald Campbell - Reminiscences of the evacuation of Richmond, April 2nd, 1865 (1880)

John C. Myers

A daily journal of the 192d reg't Penn'a volunteers in the service of the United States for one hundred days (1864)

John Dyer

Four years in the Confederate Army a history of the experiences of the private soldier in camp, hospital, prison..., 1861 to 1865 (1898).

John E. Wilkins

A transcript of John E. Wilkins 1863 diary containing a vivid, hour by hour account of the Battle of Champion Hill, Mississippi. The battle ended in a Union victory but cost over 1,700 lives on the Northern side alone. An entry from John E. Wilkins Diary, dated May 1864. Wilkins describes the skirmishes they had with the Confederate Army and how they were able to push them back. He was also offered the position of Assistant Adjutant General, but he turned it down because he thought he deserved a rest for all the work he had done. Wilkins also describes how they ransacked and destroyed property in the towns of Alexandria and Grand Ecore along the Mississippi River.

John M. Cammack

Personal Reminiscences of Private John Henry Cammack, 1920. Written at the urgent request of his family and friends, during the last years of his life, and published that the story may be read by those who knew and honored him.

John Moremph Kell

Recollections Of A Naval Life Including The Cruises Of The Confederate States Steamers "Sumter" And "Alabama"

John S. Abbott

The life of General Ulysses S. Grant. Containing a brief but faithful narrative of those military and diplomatic achievements... (1868).
Jonathan Letterman
Medical recollections of the Army of the Potomac (1866).

Joseph Brown Turner

Joseph Grant

Kate M. Rowland
The Journal of Julia LeGrand New Orleans 1862-1863, 1911. The story of New Orleans, the proud, the beautiful city, in her thraldom under Butler and Banks, is here interwoven with a family chronicle.

Kemp Battle
Reminiscences - The Chatham Railroad Company, nd.

Laura Elizabeth Lee
Forget-me-nots of the Civil War - a romance, containing reminiscences and original letters of two Confederate soldiers (1909).

Le Grand B. Cannon - Personal reminiscences of the Rebellion, 1861-1866 (1899)
Le Grand B. Cannon - Reminiscences of the Iron Clads, Monitor and Merrimac, and Incidents of the Fights, 1875

Louis Richards
Eleven days in the militia during the war of the rebellion; a journal of the “emergency” campaign of 1862.

Lucius Chittenden
Personal reminiscences, 1840-1890 (1893), including some not hitherto published of Lincoln and the war.

Madeleine Vinton Dahlgren
Memoir of John A. Dahlgren, Rear Admiral United States Navy, 1882.

Mary Elizabeth Dickison
Dickison and his men. Reminiscences of the war in Florida (1895).

Mary Potter Higginson
Letters and journals of Thomas Wentworth Higginson, 1846-1906 (1921).
General John Adams Dix was born in Boscawen, New Hampshire in 1798. In his youth, he was educated by his father; he spent a year at Phillips Exeter Academy, and then went to the College of Montreal in 1810. His time at university was cut short by outbreak of the War of 1812. At the age of fourteen, Dix desired to join the military and fight in the War. Dix’s father, a military man in Baltimore, Maryland, helped him get a commission, John Adams Dix served for the first time at the Battle of Niagara, also known as Lundy’s Lane.
Reminiscences - The last days of war in Ashville.

S.J.B. Cain

Reminiscences - The last days of war in Ashville.

W.W. Morgan

Memoirs of service with John Yates Breall, C.S.N.

Frank Malcom

Such is war: the letters of an orderly in the 7th Iowa Infantry, October 1860.


Recollections of a Private is an engrossing look at the life of the private soldier in the Army of the Potomac. Warren Lee Goss chronicles not only his own experiences but those of his brother soldiers as well. Beginning with life as a raw recruit and continuing through the major battles of the Civil War, Goss gives us a behind-the-scenes look at a soldier's life before, during and after battle.

Warren Lee Goss, The Soldier's Story

Warren Lee Goss, a member of the 2nd Massachusetts Regiment of Heavy Artillery during the war. In "The Soldier's Story" Goss writes of his captivity at Andersonville and Belle Isle prisons. Goss was a prisoner twice, once in 1862 for four months and in 1864 for nine months. His experience in these prisons was of a kind that few endure and live to write about. Although he attempts to relate the tale of horrors experienced in these prisons without exaggeration, he realizes that it is hard to comprehend that men can live through some of the cruelties of which he writes, to understand man's inhumanity to man. The Appendix contains the names of the Union soldiers who died at Andersonville with the number of their graves, their rank, the companies and regiments to which they belonged, the dates of their decease, and the diseases of which they died. The numerous accurate illustrations of prison life were taken from actual Rebel photographs.

Wayland Fuller Dunaway, Reminiscences of a Rebel 1911.

Wayland Fuller Dunaway served as a Captain of Company I, of the 40th Virginia Regiment of the Army of Northern Virginia fought in all the battles of Lee's Army until he was captured after the Battle of Gettysburg, whence he is incarcerated at Johnson's Island until the end of the war. This narrative gives an excellent picture of life in the Army of Northern Virginia.

Wiley Britton, Memoirs of the rebellion on the border, 1863 (1865).

As no other Civil War account does, Wiley Britton's Memoirs of the Rebellion on the Border, 1863 fully illuminates and illustrates the character of the little-known conflict on the western border of the trans-Mississippi theater during the decisive year of 1863.

William Bennett

A narrative of the great revival which prevailed in the southern armies during the late civil war between the states of the federal union (1877)

William Breckley

Recollections of the East Tennessee campaign - battle of Campbell Station, 16th Nov. 1863, siege of Knoxville, 17th Nov.-5th Dec., 1863 (1872).

William Brownlow

Sketches of the rise, progress, and decline of secession - with a narrative of personal adventures among the rebels (1862).
William Corby
Memoirs of Chaplain Life, three years chaplain in the famous Irish Brigade, "Army of the Potomac", 1860

William Crook
Through five administrations - reminiscences of Colonel William H. Crook, body-guard to President Lincoln (1910)

William Robertson Roggs
Military reminiscences of Gen. Wm. R. Roggs, C.S.A. (1913)

William Laplaham
My recollections of the war of the rebellion; (1892)

William Emil Doster
A brief history of the Fourth Pennsylvanis Veteran Cavalry, embracing organization, reunions, reminiscences, etc: (1891)

William F. Draper
Recollections of a Varied Career. 1909. During the American Civil War Draper enlisted as a private in the Twenty-Fifth Regiment, Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry, on September 9, 1861. He was soon elected Second Lieutenant of his company and was promoted rapidly to lieutenant colonel. After his discharge Draper was awarded the brevet grades of colonel and brigadier general of Volunteers.

Robert Siderfin Critchell
Recollections of a fire insurance man, including his experience in U.S. Navy (Mississippi squadron) during the Civil War (1890)

Robert Siderfin Critchell
Recollections of a fire insurance man, including his experience in U.S. Navy (Mississippi squadron) during the Civil War (1890)

William W. Chamberlaine
Memoirs of the Civil War, 1912

Charles Lewis Francis
Narrative of a private soldier in the volunteer army of the United States, during a portion of the period covered by the great war of the rebellion of 1861 (1879)

Charles Augustus Fuller
Personal recollections of the war of 1861, as private, sergeant and lieutenant in the Sixty-first Regiment, New York Volunteer Infantry (1904)

Fritz Fuzzlebug
Prison life during the rebellion. Being a brief narrative of the miseries and sufferings of six hundred Confederate prisoners sent from Fort Delaware to Morris' Island to be punished (1869)

Newton Martin Curtis
From Bull Run to Chancellorsville; the story of the Sixteenth New York Infantry together with personal reminiscences (1906)
Alonzo Foster
Reminiscences and Record of the 6th New York Veteran Volunteer Cavalry, 1892.

Daniel Fletcher
Reminiscences of California and the Civil War (1894).

Augustus L. Cherban
Recollections of Seventy Years, (1896)

C. H. Hance
Reminiscences of One Who Suffered in the Lost Cause, 1915.

John Helm
Reminiscences of the Civil War (1903).

William C. Chase
Story of Stonewall Jackson - A Narrative, 1901.

John Daniel
Life and reminiscences of Jefferson Davis (1895), By Distinguished Men of is Time..., 1890.

Personal Memoirs of Ulysses S. Grant, Vol. 1, 1886
Personal Memoirs of Ulysses S. Grant, Vol. 2, 1886
The Personal Memoirs of Ulysses S. Grant is an autobiography by Ulysses S. Grant, the 18th President of the United States, focused mainly on his military career during the Mexican–American War and the American Civil War, and completed as he was dying of throat cancer in 1885.


John Porter Fort - A Memorial, and Personal reminiscences (1918)

D.M. Kelsey - Deeds of daring by the American soldier, North and South on each side the line during the civil war (1887)
D.M. Kelsey - Deeds of daring by the American soldier, North and South on each side the line during the civil war (1903) Revised Edition
Thrilling narratives of Personal adventure, exploits of scouts and spies, forlorn hopes, heroic Bravery, patient endurance, imprisonments and hair breadth escapes, Romantic incidents, hand to hand struggles, humorous and tragic Events, perilous journeys, bold dashes, brilliant successes, Magnanimous actions, etc., on each side the line during the Civil War.

In 1860, he was an elector for Abraham Lincoln. He served as the Chairman of the Republican National Committee during the administration of President Abraham Lincoln. Staunchly pro-Union, he is given credit for founding the New England Loyal Publication Society in early 1863 (Smith 1948). After the Civil War, Forbes was elected as a 3rd Class (honorary) Companion of the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States.
The Fortunes of War — The Epoch of Self-sacrifice — Wounded — With the Invading Army — A Prisoner of War — Life on Johnson’s Island

A personal narrative of thrilling experiences as an army courier, a volunteer captain, a prisoner of war, a fugitive from southern dungeons, a guest among the contrabands and unionists, and finally, a skirmisher at the very front at Appomattox. A true narrative of the civil war.

MEMOIR OF MEAD HOLMES, JR., SERGEANT OF COMPANY K, 21ST REGIMENT WISCONSIN VOLUNTEERS, 1864

Reminiscences - The Battle of Shiloh, written by Major Giles B. Cooke.


History of the Eighty-fifth Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, 1861-1865, comprising an authentic narrative of Casey’s division at the Battle of Seven Pines (1815).

Reminiscences of the Life of a Nurse in field, hospital and camp during the Civil War, 1904.

Recollections of a Cavalryman of the Civil War after Fifty Years, 1861-1865 (1915).

Reminiscences of a veteran (1897).

A narrative of the formation and services of the Eleventh Massachusetts Volunteers, from April 15, 1861, to July 14, 1865. (1893).
Memoirs of the war of secession (1910).

History and Reminiscences of the Thirtieth Regiment of Illinois Volunteer Infantry in the Civil War. Compiled by Committee, 1861-1865, 1892

John J. Garrett

Gettysburg: A Complete Historical Narrative of the Battle of Gettysburg, and the Campaign preceding it, 1888.

James R. Gilmore

Personal recollections of Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War (1898).

Henry Pelhre Goddard

14th C.V. - Regimental reminiscences of the war of the rebellion (1877).

Grenville Dodge

Personal recollections of President Abraham Lincoln, General Ulysses S. Grant and General William T. Sherman (1914).

Grenville Dodge

Personal Recollections of William T. Sherman, 1902.

Robley Evans

A Sailor's Log - Recollections of Forty Years of Naval Life, 1901.

Mary Anna Jackson

Memoirs of Stonewall Jackson, 1895.

Silas Weir Mitchell, M.D.


Richard W. Johnson

A Soldier's Reminiscences in Peace and War, 1886.

John Azor Kellogg

Capture and Escape - A Narrative of Army and Prison Life (1908).

Theodore Gerrish

Army Life - A Private's Reminiscences of the Civil War, 1882.
John B. Gordon

Reminiscences of the Civil War. 1903.

John Eaton

Grant, Lincoln, and the Freedmen: Reminiscences of the Civil War with special reference to the work for the contrabands and freedmen of the Mississippi Valley (1907).

Herman Haupt

Reminiscences Of General Herman Haupt. 1901. Personal Narratives Of Important Military Operations, And Interviews With President Lincoln, Secretary Stanton, General-in-Chief Halleck, And With Generals Moltzell, McDowell, Meade, Hancock, Burnside, And Others in Command Of The Armies In The Field, And His Impressions Of These Men.

George B. Guild

A Brief Narrative of the Fourth Tennessee Cavalry Regiment, Wheeler's Corps, Army of Tennessee. 1911.

William Holbrook

A Narrative of the Services of the Officers and Enlisted Men of the 7th Regiment of Vermont. (1882)

Ethan Foster

The conscript Quakers, being a narrative of the distress and relief of four young men from the draft for the war in 1863 (1883).

Dennis Haynes

A thrilling narrative of the suffering of the Union refugees (1866)

Joseph E. Johnston

Narrative of Military Operations, Directed During the Late War. 1874.