EIGHTEENTH INDIANA INFANTRY PORTRAITS AND OTHERS
1860S–1877

Collection Information 1
Historical Sketch 2
Biographical Sketches 3
Scope and Content Note 7
Contents 8

Processed by
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## COLLECTION INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Details</th>
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</tr>
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<td>NOTES:</td>
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HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Eighteenth Indiana Infantry was organized at Indianapolis and was mustered in on 16 August 1861. It left the state the next day for St. Louis and attached to Fremont's Army of the West and Department of Missouri in January 1862. It participated in the Battle of Pea Ridge in northwestern Arkansas; the Mississippi battles of Port Gibson, Champion’s Hill, Big Black River Bridge, and Vicksburg; and the Battle of Cedar Creek in Virginia. The regiment mustered out of service on 28 August 1865.

Source:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES

William Starke Rosecrans was born 6 September 1819 in Little Taylor Run in Delaware County, Ohio. He had little formal education in his early years, relying heavily on reading books. Unable to afford college, he decided to try for an appointment to the United States Military Academy. He interviewed with Congressman Alexander Harper, who had been reserving his appointment for his own son, but was so impressed by Rosecrans that he nominated him instead. Rosecrans excelled academically at West Point. At his graduation, he met Anna Elizabeth (or Eliza) Hegeman (1823–1883) and they were married on 24 August 1843. They had eight children. Rosecrans was assigned to duty at Fort Monroe, Virginia, engineering sea walls. After a year, he requested assignment as a professor at West Point, where he taught engineering and served as post commissary and quartermaster. Rosecrans suffered a period of failing health and resigned from the Army in 1854. He took over a mining business in Western Virginia (today West Virginia). In Cincinnati he and two partners built one of the first oil refineries west of the Allegheny Mountains. He obtained patents for many inventions, including the first kerosene lamp successfully to burn a round wick, and a more effective method of manufacturing soap. While Rosecrans was president of the Preston Coal Oil Company, in 1859, he was burned severely and it took him 18 months to recover. Just days after Fort Sumter surrendered, Rosecrans offered his services to the governor of Ohio, who assigned him as a volunteer aide-de-camp to Major General George McClellan, who commanded the Ohio volunteer forces at the beginning of the Civil War. Rosecrans was promoted to colonel and briefly commanded the 23rd Ohio Infantry regiment, whose members included future presidents Rutherford B. Hayes and William McKinley. Rosecrans was promoted to brigadier general in the regular army on 16 May 1861. He participated in the Battle of Rich Mountain in what today is West Virginia; the Mississippi battles of Iuka and the Second Battle of Corinth; the Tennessee battles of Stones River and the Tullahoma Campaign; the Battle of Chickamauga in Georgia, and was active in opposing Price’s Raid in Missouri. On 13 March 1865, Rosecrans was given a brevet promotion to major general. He was mustered out of the U.S. volunteer service on 15 January 1866, and resigned from the regular army on 28 March 1867. On 27 February 1889, by act of Congress he was re-appointed a brigadier general in the regular army and was placed on the retired list on 1 March 1889.

Henry Dana Washburn was born 28 March 1832 in Windsor, Vermont. He attended Oberlin College in Ohio, studied law, and passed the Indiana bar in 1853. He practiced law in Newport, Indiana, and was the Vermillion County auditor at the time that the Civil War began. On 9 August 1861 he was appointed lieutenant colonel of the 18th Indiana Volunteer Infantry Regiment, and was promoted to colonel on 15 July 1862. He received a brevet commission to brigadier general of volunteers on 15 December 1864. He mustered out on 15 July 1865 and was brevetted to major general of volunteers eleven days later.
He returned to law practice and in 1866 was elected to the U.S. House. President Grant appointed him the surveyor general of Montana in 1869. Washburn proposed that land be set aside as a protected park area; this land eventually became part of Yellowstone National Park. However, Washburn did not live to see the establishment of the park. He died on his return trip from Montana to Washington, D.C., in Clinton, Indiana, on 26 January 1871 and was buried there in Riverside Cemetery.

**John Alexander McClernand** was born 30 May 1812 near Hardinsburg, Kentucky. As a lawyer he was admitted to the bar in Shawneetown, Illinois, in 1832; in the same year he served as a volunteer in the Black Hawk War. He founded a newspaper, the *Shawneetown Democrat*, in 1835, which he edited. He served as a Democrat in the Illinois House of Representatives in 1836 and in 1840-1843, and then in 1843-1851 and 1859-1861 he was a representative in the U.S. Congress. In May 1861 he was appointed brigadier general of volunteers. He commanded the 1st Division at Forts Henry and Donelson. In March 1862 he was promoted to major general. He commanded troops Shiloh, Vicksburg, and Arkansas. He commanded the XIII Corps at Vicksburg, was removed from command by Grant, commanded the XII Corps in the Red River campaign, and resigned November 1864. After the war he returned to being a politician. He died 20 September 1900 in Springfield, Illinois. **Note:** A portrait in the album was identified as McClernand, but was later determined to be Henry Dana Washburn (6 April 2011).

**David Glasgow Farragut** was born James Glasgow Farragut near Knoxville, Tennessee, on 6 July 1801. He came under the guardianship of Navy officer David Porter, and changed his name to David. He followed his adopted father to sea at the age of eight and received his first naval appointment as midshipman-at-large at age nine. At age eleven he saw his first combat and commanded a vessel at age twelve. After more than four years in the Mediterranean, Farragut returned to the United States in November 1820. In 1822 he was appointed for service against pirates in the Caribbean. In 1825 he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant, on 8 September 1841 to commander, and on 14 September 1855 to captain. Although from the South, at the outbreak of the Civil War he joined the Union and moved his family to the North. He commanded ships in battles in New Orleans, Vicksburg, and Mobile. In 1864, as rear admiral leading an attack on Mobile Bay, he shouted, “Damn the torpedoes! Full speed ahead!” In 1866, he became the first person in the U.S. Navy to be awarded the rank of admiral. He was asked to run for president in 1868, but declined. He died on 14 August 1870 in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. His funeral procession in New York City was headed by President Ulysses S. Grant and included ten thousand sailors and soldiers.

**Daniel Edgar Sickles** was born 20 October 1819 in New York City. He was a printer before becoming a lawyer, and then a politician in New York’s state government. He was a Democrat in the U.S. Congress from 1857–1861. In 1859 he shot and killed Philip Barton Key (son of Francis Scott Key) in Lafayette Park, across the street from both Sickles’ home and the White House, after discovering that Key had been having an affair with his wife. Sickles became the first person in this country to be acquitted of murder due to temporary insanity. His defense attorney was Edwin M. Stanton, later to become Secretary of War. The public had applauded the shooting, but turned against Sickles when
he reconciled with his wife, thus ending his political career. At the outbreak of the Civil War, he actively recruited volunteers and was appointed colonel of one of the four regiments he organized. Sickles’ division fought with distinction in the Battle of Fredericksburg, and in 1863, as a major general, he assumed command of the III Corps of the Army of the Potomac. On 2 July 1863, with the III Corps, he made an unauthorized movement to higher ground at Gettysburg, which resulted in the devastation of Sickles’ men by the Confederates. Sickles avoided being court-martialed for insubordination because he had been wounded in the battle, which resulted in the loss of his right leg. He remained in the army until 1868. He became a Republican in order to support Ulysses S. Grant and was in turn appointed U.S. minister to Spain, serving from 1869–1873. He then held various political offices in New York, and returned to the U.S. Congress for another term from 1893–1895. He chaired the New York State Monuments Commission from 1886–1912, until being forced out in an embezzlement scandal. He died on 3 May 1914, and was buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

**Shubal York** was born around 1817 in North Carolina. He was a physician in Paris, Illinois, before enlisting in the army on 10 October 1861. He then became the regimental surgeon for the 54th Illinois Infantry. In January 1864, three-fourths of the 54th Illinois Infantry, including York, re-enlisted as veteran volunteers. They were sent to Mattoon, Illinois, for furlough, arriving on 28 March 1864. That same day, an organized gang of Copperheads (Southern sympathizers) at Charleston, led by Coles County Sheriff O’Hair, attacked some of the men of the regiment, killing Major Shubal York and four privates.

**William Weaver Zener** was born 22 March 1838 in Newport (Vermillion County), Indiana. He enlisted in the 18th Indiana Volunteers in 1861. He married his first wife, Sara Florence Dickason, on 20 October 1865. Their children were Zula (b. 1867), Robert (b. 1870), Charles (b. 1872), and Mary Alice (b. 1875). William and Sara divorced in 1889 in Erie, Kansas. He married Nanie Barbie on 10 February 1890 in Harrisonville, Missouri. He died 6 October 1912 in Nevada, Missouri.

Sources:


SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of a photograph album of portraits primarily of Civil War soldiers. The album has been disassembled for the purpose of viewing some identifying information on the photographs that had been hidden by placement in the album.

The photographs include twenty-two cartes-de-visite portraits (one is an engraved portrait, the rest are photographic) and one tintype. All but two of the photographs are identified. Eleven portraits are of soldiers who were with the 18th Indiana Infantry, and there are a few of soldiers from other Indiana regiments or from other states. There are portraits of President Abraham Lincoln, General Ulysses S. Grant, Admiral David G. Farragut, and others. One photograph is of a woman in civilian dress; there is one photograph missing from the album. The photographs have been numbered to reflect the order in which they were placed in the album.

In addition to the photographs, there is also a bank check from Georgia dated 1877 made payable to Benjamin S. Fisher, who had been a captain in the 18th Indiana Infantry, and whose portrait is included in this collection. The collection also contains a small card with “Henry D Washburn / 1869” written on it; it is not known whether this is his autograph, but his portrait is also included in this collection.

Note: On 6 April 2011, it was brought to our attention that the first portrait in the album had been incorrectly identified as Henry Dana Washburn, but is actually a portrait of William Starke Rosecrans. The third portrait in the album had been identified as John Alexander McClemand, but in fact is a portrait of Henry Dana Washburn.
CONTENTS


General Ulysses S. Grant (photo taken at J.R. Martin’s First National Gallery, Paris, Illinois). (#2)


Tintype of two unidentified men wearing hats, each standing with one foot on top of a chair. (#4)

Admiral David Glasgow Farragut (photo by C.D. Fredricks & Co.). (#5)

Daniel Edgar Sickles (photo by C.D. Fredricks & Co.). Written on back is “Dan Sickles” and “Mag Genl. Dan Seigler.” (#6)

President Abraham Lincoln. (#7)


Captain Henry Darling, from Maine, 14th Regiment Maine Infantry. (#9)

Captain Benjamin H. Robinson, from Salem, Ind., 18th Indiana Infantry, Company G; mustered as Sergeant on 16 August 1861; commissioned and mustered as 2nd Lt. on 4 September 1862; commissioned as Captain on 8 February 1863 and mustered 1 March 1863; mustered out December 1864 (photo by A.D. Lytle, Baton Rouge, Louisiana). (#10)

Unidentified soldier with a five-pointed star on the chest of his coat, dark hair, beard, and mustache. (#11)
“Agness Hall / Augusta Ga” shows a young woman with long hair in a dark dress with a white collar (photo by Usher’s Gallery, Augusta, Georgia). (#12)

Photo missing from album: “Rena Gregory / Augusta Ga.” (#13)

Lieutenant William M. Porter, from Martin County, Ind., 18th Indiana Infantry, Company E, mustered as Sergeant on 16 August 1861; commissioned as 2nd Lt. on 4 June 1862 and mustered on 1 July 1862; commissioned as 1st Lt. on 10 January 1864 and mustered on 6 June 1864; commissioned as Captain on 1 October 1864; honorably discharged on 16 February 1865 “by reason of wounds.” (#14)

Captain Benjamin S. Fisher, from Vermillion County, 18th Indiana Infantry, mustered into Company C as a Private on 16 August 1861; in Company K, commissioned as 1st Lt. on 10 April 1865 and as Captain on 20 July 1865; mustered out as 1st Lt. with regiment. (#15)

Oliver C. Haskell, from Clinton, Ind., 71st Regiment, 6th Indiana Cavalry, Company A, mustered as Private on 16 August 1862; mustered out as 1st Sergeant on 17 June 1865 (photo by Howard & Davies, Indianapolis). (#16)

Gardiner K. Haskell, from Pilot Grove, Ind., 128th Indiana Infantry, Company A, mustered as Sergeant on 15 December 1863; commissioned as 2nd Lt. on 20 March 1865 (photo by Brady’s National Photographic Portrait Galleries, Washington, D.C.). (#17)

Lieut. William W. Zener, from Vermillion County, Ind., 18th Indiana Infantry, Company C, mustered as 1st Sergeant on 16 August 1861; commissioned as 2nd Lt. on 21 October 1862; commissioned as Adjutant on 26 June 1863. (#18)
Lieut. John J. Dibble, from Patriot, Ind., 18th Indiana Infantry, Company D, mustered as Sergeant on 16 August 1861; commissioned as 2nd Lt. on 6 June 1863; commissioned as 1st Lt. on 1 November 1863; commissioned as Captain on 2 March 1864; resigned 24 August 1864. (#19)

Lyman H. Tiffany, from Vermillion County, Ind., 18th Indiana Infantry, Company C, mustered as Private on 16 August 1861; mustered out as Private on 28 August 1865 (photo by P. Prescott’s New Photograph Gallery, Terre Haute, Ind.). (#20)


Lieut. John H. Popp, from Richmond, Ind., 18th Indiana Infantry, Quartermaster, mustered 16 August 1861; dropped from rolls 13 October 1864 for absence without leave (photo by L.I Prince, New Orleans). (#22)

Major Jonathan H. Williams, from Franklin, Ind., 18th Indiana Infantry, Company I, commissioned as Captain on 15 July 1861; commissioned as Major on 23 May 1863; killed 19 October 1864 at Cedar Creek, Virginia. Signed on back: “Yours Truly / J.H. Williams / Maj 18th Ind Vet Vols” (photo by A.D. Lytle, of Baton Rouge, La.). (#23)

Asst. Surgeon Peter M. Bigney, from Dearborn County, Ind., 18th Indiana Infantry, mustered as one of two Principal Musicians on 16 August 1861; commissioned as Asst. Surgeon on 2 January 1863; mustered out with regiment. Signed on front: “PM Bigney / Asst. Surg. 18th Ind Vet Vol.” (photo by Guay & Co.’s, New Orleans). (#24)

Small card with “Henry D Washburn / 1869” written on it; not known whether this is his autograph. (#23)
Check from The Commercial Bank of Augusta, Georgia, dated July 1877 for forty-five dollars made payable to “B S F” and signed by Benjamin S. Fisher. Signature on back is unclear: “? O Dorcher.” Check is torn in the middle.

Photograph album, with items removed. Dark green cover with gold-colored designs. “Album” printed on spine. Pages have open frames for holding twenty-four cartes-de-visite. Pages have gilt edging. Pages have some soiling and tears, and the bound pages are detached from the spine. Almost all the pages have writing on them to identify the pictures they held. Approximately 5” high x 3 ½” wide x 1 ¼” thick.