ALVA C. GRIEST COLLECTION, 1862–1865

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Cataloging Information

Updated by

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Manuscript and Visual Collections Department
William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
450 West Ohio Street
Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 3 folders

COLLECTION DATES: July 1862–July 1865

PROVENANCE: Alexander Autographs, Inc., Cos Cob, CT, February 2006
BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Alva C. Griest was born 22 January 1840 in Crawfordsville, Indiana. He enlisted in the army on 19 July 1862, and was mustered into the 72nd Indiana Volunteers. Upon his departure from home on 26 July to join his company at Lafayette, he began keeping a diary. He left the following morning with his regiment for Lebanon, Kentucky. It remained there until General Bragg’s invasion, when it moved with General Buell’s army.

It moved into Tennessee in November and arrived at Murfreesboro on 8 January 1863, where it began serving as mounted infantry in the campaign against Tullahoma and Chattanooga. It aided in defeating the enemy at Hoover's Gap, met and routed a brigade at Rock Springs, was in the battle of Chickamauga, and aided in driving Wheeler out of Middle Tennessee.

In November it engaged the enemy at Mooresville, Alabama, and the following month was sent to Memphis and attached to the cavalry command of Sherman's army. On 30 April it started on the Atlanta campaign. It was constantly engaged in battles and skirmishes until the fall of Atlanta.

It moved to Gravelly Springs, Alabama, on 28 December, and joined Wilson's cavalry expedition, which resulted in the capture of Selma and Montgomery, Alabama, and Columbus and Macon, Georgia.

Griest was mustered out on 26 June 1865, in Nashville, Tennessee.

Sources:
Materials in collection

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists of two items. The first is a photocopy of Griest’s published journal, Three Years in Dixie: Personal Adventure, Scenes and Incidents of the March. It is a transcript of his journals that he filled in daily from the day he was mustered in, 26 July 1862, to three weeks before he was mustered out, 6 July 1865. The second item is one of the actual journals that Griest wrote in. It is from 10 August to 31 December 1863.

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Three Years in Dixie: Personal Adventures, Scenes and Incidents of the March, 26 July 1862–1863 (photocopies)  Folder 1

Three Years in Dixie: Personal Adventures, Scenes and Incidents of the March, 1864–6 July 1865 (photocopies)  Folder 2

Diary, 10 Aug.–31 Dec. 1863  Folder 3

CATALOGING INFORMATION

For additional information on this collection, including a list of subject headings that may lead you to related materials:

1. Go to the Indiana Historical Society's online catalog:  http://opac.indianahistory.org/
2. Click on the "Basic Search" icon.
3. Select "Call Number" from the "Search In:" box.
4. Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, SC 0656).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.