

**Collection #
BV 5595-5596
OM 0798**

**CAPT. JAMES M. TAYLOR
CIVIL WAR RECORDS, 1864-1865**

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Processed by

Matt S. Holdzkom
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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:	2 bound volumes, 1 oversize folder
COLLECTION DATES:	1864-1865
PROVENANCE:	Shirley Henshaw, 2021
RESTRICTIONS:	None
COPYRIGHT:	
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS:	Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.
ALTERNATE FORMATS:	
RELATED HOLDINGS:	Indiana Civil War CDV Portraits, P0310
ACCESSION NUMBER:	2021.0079
NOTES:	

SKETCH

James Milton Taylor was born 14 October 1834 in Liberty, Crawford County, Indiana to Hugh S. and Eliza [Hall] Taylor. As an adolescent, he farmed with his father. By 1860 he was working as a schoolteacher in Liberty.

On 31 July 1861 James Taylor enlisted to serve in the Union Army. He was mustered into Co. B of the 24th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, which was organized at Vincennes. The regiment headed to Missouri to join the Army of the West. In 1862 they were engaged at Shiloh and Corinth. From May to July 1863, they were engaged at the Siege of Vicksburg.

James Taylor was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant in April of 1862, and again to 1st Lieutenant in May of 1863. Finally in January of 1864 he was promoted to Captain of Co. A, 24th Indiana Volunteer Infantry. By that time the 24th was serving in Louisiana and Florida. Over the course of the war the 24th lost 8 officers and 80 enlisted men in battle, and 3 officers and 204 enlisted men from disease.

Taylor survived the war and returned to Liberty, where he became a dry goods merchant. He died 13 April 1879 at the age of 44.

Sources:

“24th Regiment, Indiana Infantry,” <https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-battle-units-detail.htm?battleUnitCode=UIN0024RI> Accessed 30 Oct. 2025

“James M. Taylor,” <https://civilwardata.com> Accessed 30 Oct. 2025

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of two ledgers created by James M. Taylor while he was Captain of "A" Company, 24th Indiana Infantry. The first, BV5595, is the "Company Descriptive Book." It contains a descriptive roll of the company, as well as lists of officers, men transferred, men discharged, and deaths while Taylor was Captain. At the back are a couple of notes from 1874 regarding road tax payments paid by others. Laid into the back cover of this volume was one discharge document for Chambers Lee dated November 1865, and three blank discharge documents.

The second, BV5596, is a book of "Company Orders." It contains Special Orders and General Orders from 13 April 1864 to 24 October 1865. Pasted in near the back are some verses or hymns either written or transcribed by Taylor. The first is titled "I am Weary!" and the second has no title, but begins with the lines, "Say, who of us all but sometimes, in his dreaming / Will go wandering back to the days that are gone." Laid into the back cover of this volume were promotion documents for John H. Wright (1st Sgt.) and John D. Hudelson (Sgt.), both dated 13 April 1865, and one for Wesley Walker (Sgt.) dated 6 August 1865.

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Company Orders

Discharge and promotion documents

CONTAINER

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