

Collection #  
BV 3055

**GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.  
GEO. H. CHAPMAN POST NO. 209  
(INDIANAPOLIS, IND.)  
PERSONAL WAR SKETCHES, 1890–1913**

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## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 bound volume

COLLECTION DATES: 1890-1913

PROVENANCE: Mildred D. Skinner, Indianapolis, IN, 5 April 1983

RESTRICTIONS: None

REPRODUCTION RIGHTS: Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained in writing from the Indiana Historical Society

ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

OTHER FINDING AIDS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS: None

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1983.0416

NOTE: This collection was on deposit from 1983 until 1995, at which time it became part of the Society's collection.

## **HISTORICAL SKETCH**

The Geo. H. Chapman Post No. 209 of the Department of Indiana Grand Army of the Republic was active at least from 1883 to 1913. In its later years it had a hall at 222 East Maryland Street in Indianapolis.

Sometime after 1890 the post historian, A. J. Buchanan, initiated a project (apparently a common one for G. A. R. posts at this time) to get a "personal war sketch" from each member of the post. Each member was asked to fill in answers to questions printed on a large sheet (e.g. "What was your rank at the close of the war?" "Give the names of a few of your most intimate comrades in the service.") The post historian then combined these answers into a connected account, and transcribed it into a specially printed large book (copyright 1890). Some of the accounts are signed by the member involved, and the date of that member's joining the post is certified by the post adjutant. The memberships date between 1883 and 1913.

Source: Materials in collection

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

This collection contains one item, a large decorated volume entitled "Personal War Sketches of the Members of Geo. H. Chapman Post No. 209 of Indianapolis."

There is a printed (in script) preface, an index, a written resolution of thanks to industrialist D. M. Parry for donating the book, and a two-page life of Brevet Major General George Henry Chapman of the Third Indiana Cavalry, for whom the post was named.

Then follow 118 pages of personal sketches, most in the same hand. There are some supplemental accounts beginning at page 308, and some Resolutions upon the Death of Members beginning at page 346.