

Collection #
M 0620

**GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC
MORGAN POST NO. 15 (PETERSBURG, IND.)
RECORDS, 1883–1901**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 manuscript box (.4 linear feet)

COLLECTION DATES: 1889-1901

PROVENANCE: Hazel M. Preston, Indianapolis, IN, July 1992

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMAT: None

OTHER FINDING AIDS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1992.0715

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Grand Army of the Republic, the largest and most influential organization of Civil War Union veterans, was founded April 1866 by Benjamin F. Stephenson, former surgeon of the Fourteenth Illinois Infantry. An oath bound society dedicated to the principles of "fraternity, charity, and loyalty," the G.A.R. was nonpartisan although most members were Republican. The organization fought for pension legislation, maintenance of old soldiers homes, the promotion of patriotism, and the censoring of school books that did not present an orthodox view of the Civil War. In 1890, G.A.R. rolls included 409,489 dues paying members (approximately forty per cent of all Union veterans in the 1890 census). As the years progressed, however, membership declined due to death. In 1949, six of the sixteen remaining members attended the last national encampment (convention) in Indianapolis. The last member died in 1956 at the age of one hundred nine.

Morgan Post #15 was founded on February 21, 1889 in Petersburg, Pike County, Indiana with thirty-three charter members. The Morgan Woman's Relief Corp. #146 served as its auxiliary post.

Source: *Encyclopedia Americana* vol. 13 (Danbury, Conn: Americana Corporation, 1980).
Material found in Collection.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collection consists of four record books of G.A.R. Morgan Post #15. Two books contain minutes (1889-1892). The third book is a Roll of Deceased Soldiers from the area (1893). A journal of the Morgan Woman's Relief Corp #146 completes the collection.

BOX AND FOLDER LISTING

BOX: Record Books, 1889-1901 **FOLDER CONTENTS**

- 1: Minutes, 1889-1890
- 2: Minutes, 1891-1892
- 3: Roll of Deceased Soldiers, 1893
- 4: Morgan Woman's Relief Corp. Journal, 1897-1901