

Collection #
P 0298

**JOHN BASIL YELTON
CIVIL WAR PHOTO ALBUM, CA. 1865**

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Processed by

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September 2014

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Indiana Historical Society
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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

www.indianahistory.org

COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 1 photograph album

COLLECTION DATES: Ca. 1865

PROVENANCE: Phillip Ellis Faller, Gonzales, Louisiana, 2013

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: Lyman Blowers Letter (SC 2703)
Erastus Pollitt Letters (SC 2840)
Lawrence N. Cox Letter (SC 2923)
Robert H. Crist Letters (SC 3021)
Wimmer Family Letters (SC 3040)
Rufus Dooley Papers (M 0383)
James M. Potts Collection (M 0481)
U.S. Army Ind. Heavy Artillery Regt. 1st Records (BV 3052–3054)

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2013.0415

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

John Basil Yelton was born February 13, 1838 in Greenfield, Hancock County, Indiana. His parents were James Perry Yelton and Eliza Nancy Thomas. The 1850 census shows the Yelton family living in Parke County where they farmed and had seven children. By 1860 John was twenty-three and still living in Parke County but he was living with and working as a farm hand for the James Burford family.

Yelton enlisted in Company H, Indiana 21st Infantry Regiment on July 24, 1861. There he was promoted to full sergeant and mustered out on February 1, 1863. He transferred to Company H, Indiana 1st Heavy Artillery Regiment on February 1, 1863 and was last mustered out on January 13, 1866.

By 1880 he appears in the census where he was married to Lucinda A. (Lowry) Yelton and they were living and farming in Hendricks County, Indiana with their six children. The couple eventually had nine children before Lucinda died in 1898. Basil continued working as a farmer until 1910 when he is listed as a retired farmer living in Eel River in Hendricks County with his youngest daughter Anna. Local newspapers in Jamestown, Lebanon, and Crawfordsville record Mr. Yelton's activities in his later years as he visited and was visited by his adult children. He suffered a stroke in July 1914 and by 1915 was admitted to the U.S. National Home for Disabled Soldiers in Danville, Illinois. He eventually returned to Indiana and lived with his youngest daughter Annie Wall in Crawfordsville. He died at her home on August 13, 1920 and is buried in Lowry Cemetery in Jamestown, Indiana. He was a member of the Jamestown Christian Church for over sixty years.

The 21st Indiana Infantry Regiment was organized at Indianapolis on 24 July 1861 under James M. McMillan as colonel. It moved to Baltimore, Maryland and stayed there until early in 1862 when it moved out for Louisiana under the command of General Benjamin F. Butler. The regiment became the first Union unit to reach land in Butler's attack and capture of New Orleans in May 1862. It continued service throughout Louisiana, taking part in the Battle of Baton Rouge in August, 1862, and the sieges of Port Hudson from May 24 to July 9, 1863. In Feb. 1863, the regiment was transferred to heavy artillery service and designated 1st heavy artillery. After this the regiment served around the Gulf in several locations: from March to May of 1864 the regiment was active in the Red River Campaign, the assault, capture and occupation of Forts Gaines and Morgan, and the capture of Mobile Bay, Alabama, from August 1864 to April 1865. The troops remained behind in the Gulf region on guard duty until the regiment was finally mustered out in 1866.

Sources:

American Civil War Research Database [accessed September 2014]

Ancestry.com [accessed September 2014]

Newspaper Archive Academic Library Edition [accessed September 2014]

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The photograph album of John Basil Yelton was donated by Phillip Ellis Faller, a great-grandson of Yelton.

The album came with fifty cartes de visite portraits of men, women, and soldiers, and two tintypes of a boy and girl. The soldiers are members of the 21st Indiana Infantry (1st Heavy Artillery), most of them were in Company H.

Each page of the album is numbered and most individuals' names are written on the index at the front of the album. Some of the individuals also have their names written on the front or back of their carte de visite. John Yelton is not among the images in the album as his name is not listed in the index. There is a Perry Yelton carte de visite but he could not be found in the Civil War records.

The processors transcribed each name in the collection guide. Some names were misspelled or contained only first initials. Regimental and census records were checked to complete the information. The added information is in square brackets after their names.

The processor numbered each carte de visite with its coordinating page number from the Index. Brief descriptions of each image accompany the individual's names along with their military information found in the online Civil War Index.

Because of the fragile state of the album the cartes de visite and tintypes were removed from the album. They are stored in a 4x5 flip top box along with the album in a 5x7x10 inch box in the PAA Album Storage area. The album is wrapped in tissue and tucked into the box. On top of the album is the Index from the album with the list of names. It is encased in Mylar with an acid free board support.

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CONTENTS

Index with handwritten list of names removed from album and stored on top of album

Carte de visite photograph album

Page 1.
“Orville & Fannie”
[young couple seated side by side]

Page 2.
“Nancy Thomas”
[young woman standing wearing a print dress]

Page 3.
Rufus Dooley
[residence Bethany, Indiana, enlisted as a private, promoted to sergeant, soldier seated with arm on table]

Page 4.
Hettie Peffley
[woman standing with arm on table]

Page 5.
Sergt. S.E. Hunt [Syrus E. or Cyrus E.]
[residence Annapolis, Indiana, enlisted as a private, promoted to sergeant, portrait of soldier in uniform, photographed in New Orleans]

Page 6.
Nannie Talbott
[woman standing with hand on chair]

Page 7.
Capt. W.P. Wimmer [William P.]
[residence Bellmore, Indiana, enlisted as 1st sergeant, promoted to captain 10/1/1864, officer seated with sword, photographed in New Orleans]

CONTAINER

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Page 8.
Amanda Beck
[faded picture of woman with hat]

Album Storage:
PAA

Page 9.
Michael Wilkinson
[residence Jacksonville, Indiana, enlisted as a musician, discharged for disability 11/1/1865, man with mustache and goatee seated]

Album Storage:
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Page 10.
Corp. T. [Temple] Davis
[residence Morgantown, Indiana, enlisted as a private, young soldier with dark hair, photographed in New Orleans]

Album Storage:
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Page 11.
Joseph Orvis
[residence Waterman, Indiana, enlisted as a private, young soldier in uniform, photographed in New Orleans]

Album Storage:
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Page 12.
Corp. Perry Wimmer
[residence Bellmore, Indiana, enlisted as a corporal, man with overcoat and cap in hand]

Album Storage:
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Page 13.
Davidson Filson
[residence Newport, Indiana, enlisted as a private, promoted to corporal, man with mustache and goatee, photographed in New Orleans]

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Page 14.
Sergt. F.M. Abbott [Francis M.]
[residence Annapolis, Indiana, enlisted as a private, buried in Oakwood Cemetery, Parsons, Kansas, here in uniform, photographed in Baton Rouge]

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Page 15.
Aron Back
[man with tousled hair, photographed in New Orleans]

Album Storage:
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Page 16.
William Milbern Allen
[man seated with hand on leg]

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Page 17. Corp. T.J. [Thomas J.] Lough [residence Waveland, Indiana, enlisted as a private, promoted to corporal, young man in uniform]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 18. Corp. J.V. Bishop [John V.] [residence Portland Mills, Indiana, enlisted as a private, promoted to corporal, seen here bearded and with tilted hat, photographed in Baton Rouge]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 19. P. Yelton [soldier sleeping in chair with sword, photographed in Green Castle, Indiana]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 20. George H. Boswell [residence Bellmore, Indiana, enlisted as a private, promoted to corporal, seen here in civilian clothes]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 21. Sergt. W. Scott [William H.] [residence Portland Mills, Indiana, enlisted as a private, promoted to 1 st sergeant, soldier with full beard]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 22. James Davis [residence Bellmore, Indiana, enlisted as a private, promoted to corporal, soldier with handlebar mustache, photographed in New Orleans]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 23. T.W. [Thomas W.] Lough, Musician [residence Waveland, Indiana, enlisted as a private, young soldier]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 23[a]. [full length portrait of young woman not listed on Index found tucked under Lough carte de visite, photo taken by Byron's Gallery, New Orleans]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 24. S.E. Mater [young man leaning against a chair, photographed in New Orleans]	Album Storage: PAA

Page 25. William McCants [residence Catlin, Indiana, enlisted as a private, full-length of soldier holding book on table, photographed in New Orleans]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 26. William Watt, Corporal [residence Bridgeton, Indiana, enlisted as a private, soldier seated with arm on table]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 27. Asa Southerland, oldest in the bisness[sic] [soldier with full beard and hat]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 28. Sergt. W.H. Wilky [William H. Wilkey] [residence Harveysburg, Indiana, enlisted as a private, promoted to sergeant, soldier with mustache and goatee, photographed in New Orleans]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 29. G.M. [George M.] Scott [residence Portland Mills, Indiana, enlisted as a private, promoted to corporal, soldier with mustache and beard, photographed in New Orleans]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 30. H. C. Thompson [Henry C.] [residence Howard, Indiana, enlisted as a private, young soldier with mustache, photographed in New Orleans]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 30[a]. [unidentified bearded man not listed on Index, found tucked under Thompson carte de visite]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 31. Smith H. Samuels [residence Waterman, Indiana, enlisted as a private, promoted to Bugler, soldier in uniform, clean shaven, photographed in New Orleans]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 32. Corp. T.A. Campbell [Thomas A.] [residence not listed, enlisted as a private, promoted to corporal] soldier with mustache and goatee]	Album Storage: PAA

Page 33.

Major James W. Connelly

[residence Rockville, Indiana, enlisted as a 2nd lieutenant, promoted to captain, major, and lt. colonel, not mustered, transferred to Field & Staff, officer with goatee, photographed in New Orleans]

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Page 34.

Corp. George W. Phelon

[residence Bridgeton, Indiana, enlisted as a private, promoted to sergeant, later a member of GAR Post 55 (Stanton) Los Angeles, California, post war was a merchant in Los Angeles, soldier with handlebar mustache, photographed in Baton Rouge]

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Page 35.

T.E. Boose [Thomas E. Boos]

[residence Rockville, Indiana, enlisted as a private, he is seen here as a young soldier, clean shaven, photographed in New Orleans]

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Page 36.

James Phillips [James A.]

[residence Hall, Indiana, enlisted as a private, mustered into B Co., older soldier with handlebar mustache, photographed in New Orleans]

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Page 37.

Henry M. Thompson

[residence Bellmore, Indiana, enlisted as a private, man with hat posing with hand on post, photographed in New Orleans]

Album Storage:

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Page 38.

W. Edwards [Willis]

[residence Waveland, Indiana, enlisted as a private, discharged for disability, older soldier with full beard]

Album Storage:

PAA

Page 39.

Richard Larrance, Batry. H, first in recruit

[residence Ridge Farm, Indiana, enlisted 3/24/1864, soldier at attention with hat and holding sword]

Album Storage:

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Page 40.

B. Cord

[soldier with mustache, photographed in New Orleans]

Album Storage:

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Page 41. [young girl sitting in front of back drop, tintype]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 42. [young boy sitting in front of back drop, tintype]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 43. John Won [soldier with full beard with arm on newel post]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 44. [tintype of young woman in oval frame]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 45. [well dressed young man seated with leg crossed, photographed in Rockville, Indiana]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 46. Abie Hayes [soldier with full beard and jacket open]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 47. M. Higgins [soldier, clean shaven, seated with arm on table, photographed in New Orleans]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 48. Lt. Mathew Latham [residence Indianapolis, enlisted as a 1 st lieutenant, killed 8/5/1862 at Baton Rouge, Louisiana, officer in full dress uniform with sword]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 49. Lt. W.R. Aydelotte [William] [residence Bellmore, Indiana, enlisted as a private, promoted to 2 nd lieutenant, seen here with full beard]	Album Storage: PAA
Page 50. [unidentified man with sideburns and tie with stickpin, photographed by Duhem Bros., Denver Colorado]	Album Storage: PAA

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, P 0298).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.