

Collection #  
SC 3009  
OM 0539

**JOSEPH E. DEWOLFE  
CIVIL WAR DOCUMENTS, CA. 1862-1863**

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Processed by

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## **COLLECTION INFORMATION**

VOLUME OF  
COLLECTION: 1 folder; 1 oversized folder

COLLECTION  
DATES: 1862-1863

PROVENANCE: Gift, Cerdie E. Marsh, Wilmington, DE

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE  
FORMATS:

RELATED  
HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION  
NUMBER: 2009.0254

NOTES:

## **BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH**

Joseph E. DeWolfe enlisted as a Private in the 4<sup>th</sup> Indiana Light Artillery Volunteer Regiment on September 30, 1861. Based on his journal, DeWolfe often assisted in moving and guarding the artillery. He made frequent trips to post and received mail for his unit throughout 1863. He was also responsible for compiling regimental muster and pay rolls for his company. He mustered out in Indianapolis with the other non-veterans on October 6, 1864.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Indiana Light Artillery Volunteer Regiment served from September 30, 1861 to September 21, 1864. During this three year tour, the unit gained the nickname “Bush’s Battery,” in honor of acting Captain Asahel Kidder Bush. In addition to providing support during the Vicksburg Campaign, the battery also served in Chickamauga in September of 1863. Following a return to Indianapolis in 1864, regiment veterans were reincorporated into the 7<sup>th</sup> Battery until the unit officially mustered out on September 21, 1865.

Sources:

Civil War Database

## **SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE**

The collection contains three items from DeWolfe’s service with the 4<sup>th</sup> Indiana Battery during the Civil War.

His diary covers January 1, 1863 to December 1, 1863. Although often fragmentary and very brief, his records detail small anecdotes of camp life, notes on his company’s participation in a few major battles, including Vicksburg, and correspondence with friends. Of particular note are several anecdotes about reunions with old friends, and “the boys” pooling their money to provide commander Asahel Kidder Bush with a “handsome sabre.” Entries frequently open with a note about the weather. After providing only fragmentary accounts throughout January and February, he becomes more descriptive in March and April, detailing regimental movements and geographic locations as the regiment clashes with rebels. DeWolfe and his men take part in the expedition towards Columbia during March. Through April and May, he makes frequent visits to town to collect supplies and letters for the troops. He witnesses the execution of a fellow soldier convicted of murder in June. Several October entries are written over, making them difficult to read, and his final November and December entries are less detailed.

An additional oversize file contains a single 4<sup>th</sup> Indiana Battery roster, listing the officers of the regiment ca. 1862-1863. A muster and pay roll prepared by DeWolfe for the Battery (filed in October, 1863) is also included in this file.

## **CONTENTS**

### CONTENTS

4<sup>th</sup> Battery roster (ca. 1862-1863)

4<sup>th</sup> Battery Mounted Artillery, Regt. Of Ind. Vol.  
muster and payroll

Joseph E. DeWolfe Diary (1863)

### CONTAINER

OM 0539, folder 1  
Flat File FF 13-o

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SC 3009

## 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 3009).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.