

Collection #
SC 2775

PHILANDER SMITH PAPERS, 1862–1885

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Processed by

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION: 2 folders

COLLECTION
DATES: 1862–1885

PROVENANCE: Historical Collectible Auctions, Graham, NC, April 2005

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS: None

RELATED HOLDINGS: 8th Regiment Indiana Infantry: M 0199 (Thomas Marshall papers); OM 0233 (Frederick Wysong); SC 2580 (William Van Buskirk); M 0012 (Jacob Bartmess); SC 0447 (David Scott); M 0830 (Lee Harris); SC 2701 (Erastus Burget); E506.4 C5 (Abridged history of 8th Indiana)

ACCESSION NUMBER: 2005.0201

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Philander Smith was born in Indiana on 23 May 1835, son of Samuel Smith. According to the 1860 U.S. Federal Census, he worked as a schoolteacher and resided at his father's house in Jackson Township, Hancock County, Indiana.

At the advent of the Civil War, Smith enlisted as a sergeant in B Company, 8th Regiment Indiana Infantry on 25 August 1861. Smith was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant on 18 January 1863, to 1st Lieutenant on 1 July 1864, and finally to Captain on 30 September 1864. He was discharged on 4 May 1865.

Organized in Indianapolis, the 8th Regiment Indiana Infantry traveled to Missouri, Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Washington D.C., Virginia, Maryland, Georgia, and South Carolina. The regiment saw action at Warrensburg, Pea Ridge, Hill's Plantation, Cache River, Port Gibson, Champion's Hill, Black River Bridge, Vicksburg, Opequan, Fisher's Hill, and Cedar Creek. The regiment participated in the sieges of Jackson and Vicksburg, the pursuit of Price to Cassville, Arkansas, the capture of Mustang Island, and Sheridan's Shenandoah Valley Campaign.

Sources:

"HeritageQuest Online." Search for "Smith, Samuel." 1860 U.S. Federal Census for Jackson Township, Hancock County, Indiana. Series M653, Roll 263, Page 654. Cited 28 September 2005.

"Civil War Research Database." Database search for "Smith, Philander." Available from <http://www.civilwardata.com>. Cited 28 September 2005.

"Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System." Database search for "8th Indiana Infantry." Available from <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/soldiers.htm>. Cited 28 September 2005.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection consists of two papers relating to Philander Smith in addition to the Civil War journal he kept from January 1862 to July 1862.

Folder one contains a 16 July 1864 "Inventory and Inspection Report of Unserviceable and Surplus Ordnance Stores" in Smith's care. The report lists rifles, cartridge boxes, bayonets, and other equipment, the condition of the items, and their recommended disposal. This folder also contains an Adjutant General's Certificate dated 20 May 1885 providing evidence of Philander Smith's enlistment, service, promotion, and discharge from the 8th Regiment, Indiana Volunteers.

In his journal, Smith discusses the movements of his company, weather, lack of provisions and bread, engagements with the enemy (especially as it relates to the cavalry), and general camp activities such as attending sermons, drilling, letter-writing, cooking, washing, guard duty, and reading. Smith describes camp reactions to news of other battles, interactions with citizens, and witnessing dead and wounded soldiers on the battleground.

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1864 Inventory Report and 1885 Adjutant General's Certificate	Folder 1
Journal, January–July 1862	Folder 2

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 Search for the collection by its basic call number (in this case, SC 2775).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.