

Collection #
SC 3467

**WILMON W. BLACKMAR
LETTER, 1 JUNE 1863**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
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COLLECTION
DATES: 1 June 1863

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Wilmon Whilldin Blackmar (1841–1905) was born in Bristol, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and practiced as an attorney in Boston, Massachusetts. In August 1862, he enlisted in Company K of the 15th Pennsylvania Cavalry, and was promoted to sergeant in May 1863. In March 1864, he transferred to Company H of the 1st West Virginia Cavalry. Blackmar was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for his actions at the Battle of Five Forks, Virginia on 1 April 1865, for leading a successful unordered charge against the enemy. He was also promoted to captain for his gallantry and was mustered out in July, 1865. Blackmar returned to his legal practice in Boston and married Helen Renouf Brewer in November, 1880. Blackmar was also active in GAR activities and held several elected positions in the organization.

Sources:

American Civil War Research Database, accessed 21 July 1865
Ancestry, Library Edition, accessed 21 July 1865

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

Blackmar wrote this letter to his mother on 1 June 1863 from Louisville, Kentucky, while serving in the 15th Pennsylvania Cavalry. He writes of his improved health but says the surgeon has ordered him to remain in Louisville longer in order to regain his strength. Blackmar also writes about the arrival of a Miss Browning from Indiana and tells of a conversation they had regarding Black troops and hers and other friends disdain for them. Most of the letter's content, however, is Blackmar writing about what a magnificent time he is having with his friends and young ladies in Louisville.

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