

Civil War flags

S1536

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March 31, 2015

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

Rare Books and Manuscripts
140 North Senate Avenue
Indianapolis, Indiana, 46204
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Summary Information

Repository	Rare Books and Manuscripts
Creator	Banks, George L.
Creator	Burrows, Joshua
Creator	United States. War Department.
Title	Civil War flags
Date	1862-1921
Extent	0.01 Cubic feet 1 folder
Language	English
Text [Folder]	S1536

Preferred Citation

Civil War flags, Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library

Biographical Note

George L. Banks was the Color Sergeant of the 15th Indiana Volunteers during the Civil War. He served in Company C. In 1911, Mr. Banks, residing in Independence, Kansas, was Director of the 3rd District of The Old Soldiers' Southern Kansas Reunion Association when he wrote to Major D. I. McCormick about carrying the flag in battle. The flag had over 100 bullet holes.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of six items, beginning with "The Dying Drummer Boy" narrative by Joshua Burrows, New Albany, Indiana, published in the *Indianapolis Journal* on December 5, 1862. The four-page typed story tells about Jerry, a drummer boy from the 101st Indiana Regiment, who died of fever in Lebanon, Kentucky. Mr. Burrows served as his nurse, and wrote the story on November 25, 1862.

The 2nd item is a two-sided, printed order No. 20 from Headquarters of the Fourth Army Corps in November 1863, commending the soldiers for their "brilliant achievement" and "gallant conduct" in the assault on Mission Ridge, Chattanooga, Tennessee, on November 25, 1863.

The 3rd item is a one-page, handwritten letter to George L. Banks from the War Department, September 21, 1897, informing him that he has been awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for "most distinguished gallantry in action" at Missionary Ridge on November 25, 1863. When "near the summit, he was wounded and left behind insensible, but having recovered consciousness, rejoined the advance, again took the flag, and carried it forward to the enemy's works when he was again wounded." The flag of the 15th Regiment was the first one planted on the parapet.

The 4th item is a four-page, handwritten letter by George L. Banks in Independence, Kansas, to Major D. I. McCormick, in Indianapolis, Indiana, telling him about battles of the 15th Indiana at Stone River on December 31, 1862, and Missionary Ridge on November 25, 1863. His letter concludes: "The boys differ as to the number of times it was hit. Comrade Coles says 29 times. Capt. Nicar says it had over 100 bullet holes in it. Who is nearest right, I do not know."

The 5th item is a four-page typed paper to "Comrades of the 15th Indiana" which gives "an imperfect history of the flags under which we marched and fought for three years during our civil war," written by George L. Banks.

The last item is a three-page, typed list of "Flags That Are Encased," giving the regiment, case, flag, and banner numbers.

Arrangement

This collection is arranged chronologically.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Rare Books and Manuscripts

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Rare Books and Manuscripts, Indiana State Library, Indianapolis, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Rare Books and Manuscripts.

Custodial History

This collection was received by Rare Books and Manuscripts as a records donation.

Accruals

No further additions are expected.

Processing Information

Collection processing and finding aid completed 2015/03/12 by Nikki Stoddard Schofield.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- United States. Army. Indiana Infantry Regiment, 15th (1861-1865).

Geographic Name(s)

- Chattanooga (Tenn.)
- Independence (Kan.)
- New Albany (Ind.)

Personal Name(s)

- McCormich, D. I.

Subject(s)

- Congressional Medal of Honor
- United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Flags