

Collection #
M 0117
BV 1330–1348
OM 0151

**GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC,
NELSON TRUSLER POST # 60 [WINCHESTER, INDIANA]
RECORDS, 1868–1933**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF COLLECTION: 2 boxes, 19 bound volumes, 1 oversized folder

COLLECTION DATES: 1868–1933

PROVENANCE: Randolph County Historical Society, Winchester, Indiana, April 1968

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE FORMATS:

RELATED HOLDINGS: G.A.R., John A. Hollett Post # 242 (SC2473); G.A.R. George Chapman Post # 209 (BV 3055), G.A.R. James H. Emmett Post #6 (SC 2567); G.A.R. Lindsay Post #11 (SC 2528); G.A.R. Morgan Post # 15 (M 0620)

ACCESSION NUMBER: 1968.0405

NOTES:

HISTORICAL SKETCH

The Grand Army of the Republic, the principal organization of the Union veterans of the Civil war, was founded in Illinois in 1866. Its stated purpose was the “defense of the late soldiery of the United States, morally, socially, and politically.” Two women’s auxiliaries were organized, the Women’s Relief Corps in 1883 and the Ladies of the G.A.R. in 1886.

Nelson Trusler Post # 60 was formed in Winchester, Indiana, in 1882. It enrolled 224 members during the 1880s, and 110 more in the 1890s. Most of the members were farmers; there were a number of laborers and carpenters; a sprinkling of teamsters, draymen, and coopers; and an occasional merchant, lawyer, hotel keeper, and harness maker. Local camaraderie was apparently the principal attraction of the post meeting, along with formal and patriotic ritual. Some modest efforts were made to help members who had fallen on hard times. There were still 125 members in 1908, but twenty years later that number had dwindled to eight. It was disbanded in 1930.

Sources:

Information in collection.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The records contain correspondence, minutes, records, account books, and printed general orders. Among the materials are memorials to deceased members, reports from the post adjutant and quartermaster, and membership records and applications, 1881–1931. Also included are quarterly reports of the post’s Women’s Relief Corps, 1893–1920. There also are printed materials such as General Orders of the G.A.R., Indiana and national, flyers regarding encampments, and relevant advertising. Additional items include bound volumes of the organization’s minutes, 1882–1930; account books, 1894–1912; treasurer’s records; and a descriptive book listing members, their occupations, military service, and their affiliation with the post.

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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, M 0117).
5. When you find the collection, go to the "Full Record" screen for a list of headings that can be searched for related materials.