

Collection #
M 1232

WILLIAM HENRY RECORDS LETTERS, 1862–1865

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Processed by

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June, 2016

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William Henry Smith Memorial Library
Indiana Historical Society
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Indianapolis, IN 46202-3269

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION: 2 boxes

COLLECTION
DATES: 1862–1865

PROVENANCE: Rachel Jenkins, Greentown Indiana, April, 2014

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ALTERNATE
FORMATS:

RELATED
HOLDINGS:

ACCESSION
NUMBER: 2014.0100

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

William Henry Records (1836–1906) was born in Neville, Ohio, but he soon moved to Ohio County, Indiana, and later to Tippecanoe County, Indiana. Records was originally a teacher in Indiana and Shelby County, Illinois, but he later became a farmer. In August, 1862, Records joined Company I of the 72nd Indiana Regiment along with his brother, Elisha. He was promoted to corporal in November, 1862, and was mustered out in June, 1865. In January, 1866, he married Isabelle "Belle" Pate (1841–1919) of Rising Sun, Ohio County, Indiana, and two years later they moved to Rising Sun where he continued farming.

Sources:

Ancestry Library Edition: Accessed 7 June 2016

Information in

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The collections contains over 130 letters that William Henry Records wrote to family members and friends while serving in the 72nd Indiana Regiment, August, 1862–June, 1865. Among those receiving letters were his parents and siblings in Montmorency, Tippecanoe County, Indiana, and his future wife Belle in Rising Sun, Ohio County, Indiana. Records writes from Kentucky, Tennessee, Georgia, Mississippi, and Alabama. Records' letter to Belle, whom he had known while living in Ohio County, indicate their relationship that evolved over the course of the war.

Records primarily describes the regiment's activities including their service as mounted infantry with Wilder's Brigade, and their efforts in obtaining horses near Murfreesboro, Tennessee, 16 June 1863. He also describes the actions at Chickamauga in September of the same year, and the battlefield at "Big Shanty Station," Georgia, near Kennesaw Mountain,

He also relates information about the well being of his brother, Elisha, and other friends serving in Company I.

Other materials in the collection includes one letter written by Elisha Records to his parents. In addition there is a resolution tribute written by William H. Records on behalf of the regiment upon the death of Lieutenant William Speer of the Company F of the 37th Indiana Regiment who was killed on 27 May 1864.

Most of the letters have been transcribed in a soft bound volume, *Civil War Letters of William H. Records*, which was printed by Rachel Jenkins in August, 2013.

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