

Elkhart County, Clothing Records of Deceased Soldiers of the Forty-Eighth Indiana Infantry, 1862

Natalie Burriss and Rachel Christine Fulk

Born in the South but raised in the North, Edward Jesup Wood attended and graduated from Dartmouth, earning a civil engineering degree that he used in his work on the Michigan Southern and Northern Indiana Railroad.¹ His work on the railroad took him to Goshen, Indiana, where he settled with his wife, Jane. Wood was there when the Civil War broke out, but it was not until the end of 1861 that he turned his attentions to the war effort, raising a regiment and becoming a captain in the Forty-Eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry.² At this post, Wood was responsible not only for seeing to regular recruitment duties, but also for the distribution of “the public property, such as arms, equipments, camp equipage, &c, issued to and in use by [his] men.”³

Upon entering the Union Army, a soldier was provided with the following clothes: a forage cap, a great coat, a uniform coat and jacket, a flannel sack coat, stable frock, fatigue overall, trousers, flannel and cotton drawers, flannel and cotton shirts, boots, shoes, socks, and a blanket.⁴ The government kept meticulous records of all that it issued and presented each soldier with an “Account of Clothing” certificate that recorded all he was given. Additional forms existed to request replacements, confirm inventories, and record the return of a soldier’s gear at the end of his service.⁵ In the event of a soldier’s death, the clothes in his possession would be inventoried and recorded and his accounts with the army settled.

Below are two sets of lists. The first set consists of names extracted from a clothing inventory of soldiers who belonged to the Forty-Eighth Indiana in which Wood served as captain. Listed are the names of each deceased man, his mustering officer, and, in some cases, the name of another supervisor. The second set is a clothing account statement. Originally intended to authorize discharged volunteers to be paid, the form was instead used as a final statement of pay and clothing inventory upon a soldier’s death. The data abstracted includes the

names of each deceased soldier, his mustering officer, who he was indebted to, and the names of the soldier's commanding officer and paymaster.⁶

Notes

1. Stephen E. Towne, ed., *A Fierce, Wild Joy: The Civil War Letters of Colonel Edward J. Wood, 48th Indiana Volunteers Infantry Regiment* (Knoxville: University of Tennessee Press, 2007), xiv, xvi.
2. *Ibid.*, xviii, xx; Edward Jesup Wood Papers, OMB 0094, Box 1, Folder 1, Indiana Historical Society.
3. United States War Department, *Regulations for the Recruiting Service of the Army of the United States, both Regular and Volunteer* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1862), 10; United States War Department, *Instructions for Making Muster-Rolls, Mustering into Service, Periodical Payments, and Discharging from Service Volunteers or Militia* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1863), 21; HathiTrust, <http://babel.hathitrust.org/cgi/pt?id=miun.abf1301.0001.001> (accessed September 16, 2016).
4. Edward Jesup Wood Papers, M 0794, Folders 11, 12, Indiana Historical Society.
5. There is a slight discrepancy between lists of clothing that men were expected to have during their time of service. *Regulations for Recruiting Service of the Army of the United States*, although not published until the very end of 1862, provides a more extensive list on page 58 than is given on the "Inventory of Effects of Deceased Soldiers" form. The form, already in use at the beginning of 1862, provides a more compact inventory. A possible explanation for this difference could be a change in policy in what the men needed or were given upon enlistment.
6. United States War Department, *Regulations for the Recruiting Service of the Army of the United States*, 6-7; Wood Papers, OMB 0094, Folder 4; M 0794, Folders 11, 12, 13.

Clothing Inventory Records, 1862

Folder 11

Soldier Name	Enlisted By	Signed By
Private North H. Neff	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	
Private Joseph Stump	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	
Corporal G. N. Brown	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	James Wright, G. H. Master
Private Joseph Walker	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	Edward J. Wood, Capt.
Private Henry Wooster	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	Edward J. Wood, Capt.
Private Benjamin Myres	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	
Private Jacob L. Dawson	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	T. J. Varney
Private William R. Huffard	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	
Private Solomon Fisher	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	Edward J. Wood, Capt.
Private Myhem Blackman	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	

Folder 12

Soldier Name	Enlisted By	Signed By
Private Noah Burnhart	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	Edward J. Wood, Capt.
Private Lewis Bolm[?]baugh	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	
Private George Moorhouse	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	Edward J. Wood, Capt.
Sergeant Samuel L. Counell	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	Edward J. Wood, Capt.
Private Martin Cavanaugh	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	Edward J. Wood, Capt.
Private Charles Fike	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	
Private Americus Philbrook	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	
Private Collins Taylor	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	
Private Phillip Dilsaivor	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	
Private Frederick Beaublossom	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	
Private John Cook	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	

Clothing Account Statements, 1862

Folder 11

Soldier Name	Mustered By	Indebted To	Signed By	Paymaster
Private John Cook	Adgt. E. P. Staufield			
Private North H. Neff	Adgt. E. P. Staufield			
Private Joseph Stump	Adgt. E. P. Staufield	Lot Day, Sutler		Maj. Hanna
Sergeant Samuel L. Connell	Adgt. E. P. Staufield	Lot Day, Sutler	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	Maj. Jordan
Private Joseph Walker	Adgt. E. P. Staufield	Lot Day, Sutler	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	Maj. Jordan
Private Henry Wooster	Adgt. E. P. Staufield	Lot Day, Sutler	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	Maj. Jordan
Private Martin Cavanaugh	Adgt. E. P. Staufield		Edward J. Wood, Capt.	Maj. Jordan
Private George Moorhouse	Adgt. E. P. Staufield	Lot Day, Sutler	Edward J. Wood, Capt.	Maj. Jordan
Private Benjamin Myres	Adgt. E. P. Staufield	Lot Day, Sutler		Maj. Hanna
Corporal George Brown	Adgt. E. P. Staufield		Edward J. Wood, Capt.	Maj. Jordan

Folder 12

Soldier Name	Mustered By	Indebted To	Signed By	Paymaster
Private Jacob L. Dawson	Adgt. E. P. Staufield		Edward J. Wood, Capt.	Maj. Jordan
Private Solomon Fisher	Adgt. E. P. Staufield		Edward J. Wood, Capt.	Maj. Jordan
Private Myham Blackmam	Adgt. E. P. Staufield			
Private Americus Philbrook	Adgt. E. P. Staufield			Maj. Hanna
Private Collins Taylor	Adgt. E. P. Staufield			
Private Phillip Dilsaivor	Adgt. E. P. Staufield			

Soldier Name	Mustered By	Indebted To	Signed By	Paymaster
Private Frederick Beaublossom	Adgt. E. P. Staufield			
Private Charles Fike	Adgt. E. P. Staufield			
Private Noah Burnhart	Adgt. E. P. Staufield		Edward J. Wood, Capt.	Maj. Jordan
Private William R. Huffard	Adgt. E. P. Staufield			
Private Lewis Bolm[?]baugh	Adgt. E. P. Staufield			Maj. Hanna

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