

BENNAGE, ENOS.
Enos Bennage diary, 1864-1865, 1914

Emory University
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Bennage, Enos.
Title: Enos Bennage diary, 1864-1865, 1914
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 383
Extent: 1 microfilm reel (MF)
Abstract: Microfilm copy of the diary of Pennsylvania Union soldier Enos Bennage, who served in the 199th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment and the 99th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment during the Civil War.
Language: Materials entirely in English.

Administrative Information

Restrictions on access

Unrestricted access.

Terms Governing Use and Reproduction

All requests subject to limitations noted in departmental policies on reproduction.

Source

Loaned for microfilming by Bennie Bridges, 1961.

Custodial History

Provenance unknown.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Enos Bennage diary, Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library, Emory University.

Appraisal Note

Acquired as part of the Rose Library's holdings in Southern history.

Processing

Processed by EK, July 1961.

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Collection Description

Biographical Note

Enos Bennage was sergeant, Company I, 199th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment, and before that sergeant, Company L, 99th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment. The date of his transfer is not given, but it was apparently in the latter part of 1864. He enlisted at Harrisburg, Pa. on September 23, 1864, went to Fort Monroe and was in the battle of Boydton Plank Road, Hatcher's Run, Va., October 27-28, 1864. He served in this vicinity until the spring of 1865, when he helped in the breakthrough of the Confederate lines at Petersburg. He was in the pursuit of Lee to Appomattox, but not actually at the surrender of Lee, though near by. He then went to Richmond, where he did garrison duty until shortly before his discharge in the summer of 1865. Nothing is known of his life before or after he joined the army, except that he may have been a farmer, judging by some of the random entries in the diary following his army service. The spelling and grammar of the diary show him to have been a person of little education.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of a microfilm copy of one small pocket diary of Enos Bennage from September 23, 1864 to July 8, 1865. At the end of the year he starts writing in the first part of the book on the pages for January and continues, using the dated spaces, until he leaves the service in July 1865. The last entry is dated July 8, except for some random entries after that. Most of the entries are routine, but occasionally there is one of some importance. The diary shows that Grant and Meade put their troops through a heavy course of drill and inspection in the early weeks and months of 1865, getting them ready for the spring campaign. Bennage mentions Confederate deserters frequently during February 1865, showing deterioration of Southern morale. He mentions some fraternizing and exchange of visits between Union and Confederate soldiers. Filmed with the diary are some notes by Dr. Bell I. Wiley, Emory University History Department; the pension certificate of Susannah Bennage, dated September 9, 1914; and 3 photographs of unidentified persons.

