

BOWMAN, HENRY CLAY, 1824-1924.

Henry Clay Bowman diaries, 1863-1864

Emory University
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Descriptive Summary

Creator: Bowman, Henry Clay, 1824-1924.
Title: Henry Clay Bowman diaries, 1863-1864
Call Number: Manuscript Collection No. 381
Extent: 1 microfilm reel (MF)
Abstract: Microfilm copy of the diaries of Pennsylvania Union soldier Henry Clay Bowman from January 1, 1863-December 13, 1864.
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 William T. Maxson, 1961.

Custodial History

Provenance unknown.

Citation

[after identification of item(s)], Henry Clay Bowman diaries, 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, 1961.

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Collection Description

Biographical Note

Henry Clay Bowman was born October 28, 1842. He resided in Schuylkill Haven, Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. On October 21, 1861, he enlisted in the United States Army. He served as a private in Company. A, 93d Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. During the period covered by the diary he was serving in Virginia. On May 5, 1864, during the Battle of the Wilderness, he was shot in the mouth and was sent to the hospital in Washington and later to one in Philadelphia. Returned later to Harewood Hospital in Washington, he was detailed to duty as a ward master. On December 13, 1864 he was mustered out of the army and returned home. From entries in the diary made during the period June 11 - July 5, 1864, it appears that Bowman was a farmer. It is believed that Bowman died in 1924.

Scope and Content Note

The collection consists of the a microfilm copy of the diaries of Henry Clay Bowman from January 1, 1863 - December 13, 1864. The entries detail military life, including trades between Confederate and Union pickets, the weather, mail, visits of friends and relatives, marches, the receipt of Springfield rifles, military engagements, and occasional observations about officers and other soldiers. Bowman describes his regiment's participation in the Battle of Gettysburg (June-July 1863), the Mine Run Campaign in Virginia (November-December 1863), and the Battle of the Wilderness (May 1864).

In addition to the diaries, the following items found in the pockets of the diaries, are filmed: a hospital admission slip, Hospital No. 16877 (giving his rank as corporal), dated July 18, 1864; a pass issued Nov. 17, 1864 and another issued Nov. 24, 1864; a copy of a poem; a clipping, "The Price of Gold," from an undated and unidentified newspaper; a Valentine; a clipping from the *New York Tribune*, November 5, 1864, of a letter to the editor and a poem by Thomas Buchanan Head, "Sheridan's Ride;" and fragments of a piece of paper bearing Bowman's name and address and dated March 21, 1864 (?).

