

American Antiquarian Society

Manuscript Collections

Name of collection:

Abbey, Charles Edgar, Civil War Papers, 1862-1901

Location:

Octavo volumes "A"
Misc. mss. boxes "A"

Size of collection:

3 octavo volumes; 1 folder (13 items)

N.U.C.M.C. number:

RLIN id:

Sources of information on collection:

Source of collection:

Gift of Mrs. Donald (Marion) Woodcock, 1991

Collection description:

Charles Edgar Abbey (1843-1923), son of James and Susanna Abbey, was born in Sydney Center, Delaware County, N.Y., on 6 April 1843. He served during the Civil War with Co. A, 22nd Regiment, New York State Infantry Volunteers, from 16 May 1861 until 19 June 1863; then served with Co. H, 4th Regiment, New York State Heavy Artillery Volunteers, from 8 December 1863 until 26 September 1865. He married, on 9 October 1870, Malona Ann Flagg (1846-), of Boylston, Mass. Abbey was a member of the George H. Ward Post 10, G.A.R. He died, on 21 February 1923, in Worcester, Mass.

The collection, consisting of three diaries (for the years 1862, 1864, and 1865), ten documents, two envelopes, and a photograph, deals with Abbey's involvement with the Civil War.

The first diary, Diary and Memorandum for 1862. (New York: Published annually for the trade., 1862), was presented to Abbey by his brother Moses A. Abbey (). It contains brief daily entries regarding his health, the weather, camp life, marches, his military duties, enemy encounters, and letters received and written.

Abbey, along with his regiment, was stationed around the northeast corner of Virginia (e.g., Centerville, Manassas), Washington, D.C., and Philadelphia. They participated in the Second Battle of Bull Run, in late August 1862. On 23 May, he made the reference, "... we was reviewed today by A. Lincoln, President of the United States ..."

The second diary, Pocket Diary 1864. (Albany, N.Y.: S.R. Gray, Bookseller & Stationer, No. 38 State Street, [1863?]), contains daily entries (except while on furlough) regarding the same subjects as in the first diary and includes some cash accounts.

Abbey, along with his regiment, participated in the Battle of Spotsylvania Courthouse (8-21 May), where he was wounded in the face. He spent a brief time at Carver Hospital (Washington, D.C.) and then an extended time (18 June to 21 December) at David's Island, New York harbor, recuperating. While at David's

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