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John F. Holahan Diary, 1861-1865

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Special Collections Department
James E. Morrow Library
Marshall University
Huntington, West Virginia
2019

John F. Holahan Diary, 1861-1865

Summary:

Title: John F. Holahan Diary
Span Dates: 1861-1865
Creator: John F. Holohan
Repository: Marshall University Special Collections, Morrow Library (Huntington, WV)
Processed by: Elizabeth James, 2019
Accession Number: 1981/10.0345
Date Completed: October, 2019
Access to Collection: Open
Extent: 0.25 feet
Donor: Ruth Ann Meadows

Search Terms:

Civil War
Diaries
John Frederic Holahan
45th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry.

Biographical Notes:

John Frederic Holahan was a First Sergeant in Captain Curtin's company 'A' of the 45th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry.

Information about the Regiment is taken from the National Park Service's Battle Unit Details (<https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/search-battle-units-detail.htm?battleUnitCode=UPA0045RI>):

"OVERVIEW:

Organized at Camp Curtin, Harrisburg, October 21, 1861. Moved to Washington, D. C., October 21-23. Attached to Jameson's Brigade, Heintzelman's Division, Army of the Potomac, to October, 1861. Unattached, Sherman's South Carolina Expeditionary Corps, to April, 1862. 2nd Brigade, 1st Division, Dept. of the South, to July, 1862. 2nd Brigade, 1st Division, 9th Army Corps, Army of the Potomac, to September, 1862. 3rd Brigade, 1st Division, 9th Army Corps, Army of the Potomac, to April, 1863, and Army of the Ohio to June, 1863. 1st Brigade, 1st Division, 9th Army Corps, Army of the Tennessee, to August, 1863, and Army of the Ohio to April, 1864. 1st Brigade, 2nd Division, 9th Army Corps, Army of the Potomac, to July, 1865.

SERVICE:

Expedition into Lower Maryland November 3-11, 1861. Moved to Baltimore, Md., thence to Fortress Monroe, Va., November 19-21. Sailed for Port Royal, S. C., December 6-8. Companies "A," "C," "D," "E" and "I" assigned to duty at Bay Point; Companies "B," "F," "G," "H" and "K" occupy Otter Island, S. C., December 11, and duty there till May, 1862; Companies "F" and "K" occupy Fenwick Island December 20, 1861; Company "F" at Fenwick Island April 4 to May 20, 1862; Companies "B," "F," "G," "H," "I" and "K" moved to North Edisto Island, S. C., May 21, 1862. Operations against James Island, S. C., May

21-June 28. Action on James Island June 10. Battle of Secessionville June 16. Evacuation of James Island and movement to Hilton Head June 28-July 1. Moved to Newport News, Va., July 18-21; thence to Aquia Creek August 4-5. Operations on the Rapidan and Rappahannock Rivers till September. At Brook's Station August 5-29. Destruction of bridges at Potomac Creek and Brook's Station September 4. Destruction of stores at Aquia Creek September 6. Battles of South Mountain September 14; Antietam September 16-17. Duty at Pleasant Valley, Md., till October 26. March to Lovettsville, Va., October 26-29; thence to Warrenton October 29-November 19. Battle of Fredericksburg December 12-15. Burnside's 2nd Campaign January 20-24, 1863. At Falmouth till February 11. Moved to Newport News February 11, thence to Lexington, Ky., March 19-23. Duty at various points in Kentucky till June. Moved to Vicksburg, Miss., June 7-14. Siege of Vicksburg June 14-July 4. Advance on Jackson, Miss., July 5-10. Siege of Jackson July 10-17. At Milldale till August 5. Moved to Covington, Ky., thence to Crab Orchard August 5-18. Burnside's Campaign in East Tennessee August 16-October 17. Blue Springs October 10. Knoxville Campaign November 4-December 23. Lenoir Station November 14-15. Campbell's Station November 16. Siege of Knoxville November 17-December 4. Pursuit of Longstreet December 5-24. Regiment re-enlisted January 1, 1864. Operations in East Tennessee till March, 1864. Strawberry Plains January 21-22. Movement to Annapolis, Md., March 21-April 6. Rapidan Campaign May 4-June 12. Battles of the Wilderness May 5-7; Spottsylvania May 8-12; Spottsylvania Court House May 12-21. Assault on the Salient May 12. Stannard's Mill May 21. North Anna River May 23-26. Line of the Pamunkey May 26-28. Totopotomoy May 28-31. Cold Harbor June 1-12. Bethesda Church June 1-3. Before Petersburg June 16-18. Siege of Petersburg June 16, 1864, to April 2, 1865. Mine Explosion, Petersburg, July 30, 1864. Weldon Railroad August 18-21. Poplar Springs Church September 29-October 2. Peeble's Farm October 1. Boydton Plank Road, Hatcher's Run, October 27-28. At Fort Rice till April, 1865. Fort Stedman March 25, 1865. Assault on and fall of Petersburg April 2. March to Farmville April 3-9. Moved to Petersburg and City Point April 20-24, thence to Alexandria April 26-28. Grand Review May 23. Duty at Washington and Alexandria till July. Mustered out July 17, 1865."

Scope and Content:

This collection is a copy of a manuscript of "Civil War Diary of John Frederic Holahan: April 19, 1861-April 9, 1865" published in 1972 by John Frederic Holahan and Ann Mary Holahan Roach Anderson and Ruth Ann Meadows. This collection contains the transcribed diary alongside notes from the authors as well as transcribed entries from the diary.

The original diary is held in the collection of Shorter College, per the Georgia Civil War Manuscript Collections: An Annotated Bibliography by David H. Slay. The stub description they have for the diary is as follows: "This diary, April 19, 1861 – April 9, 1865, by John F. Holahan...who served in the 45th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment, provides lengthy descriptions of battles and camp life as well as drawings of troop positions and camps."

Processing Notes:

This collection was already processed at the time the finding aid was created. No changes in folder content or name were made.

Preferred Citation:

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Container	Contents
Box 1	
Folder	Holohan Diary - 1861 (COPY)
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Folder	Holohan Diary - 1863 (COPY)
Folder	Holohan Diary – 1864-1865 (COPY)
Folder	Index of People, Places, and Things (COPY)