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MS-078: John B. Young, Company H, Pennsylvania 5th Heavy Artillery Regiment

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Description

This collection contains the diary of John B. Young from October 30, 1864 to May 20, 1865, mainly commenting on the day to day happenings in his regiment during the winter picket post and guard duty. Entries include daily comments on the weather and the pace of work. Some entries include mention of men captured by rebels, rebel deserters/prisoners, and the progress and frustrations of building the stockades with some comments regarding the African Americans who worked with the timber train.

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Keywords

Civil War, Civil War Diary, Union Army, 204th Pennsylvania Infantry, 5th Heavy Artillery, Camp Reynolds, Civil War Camp Life

Disciplines

History | Military History | United States History



**Guide to
John B. Young, Company H,
Pennsylvania 5th Heavy Artillery
Regiment**

**Gettysburg College, Musselman Library
Special Collections & College Archives**

**Processed by Amy Sanderson
September 2006**



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*Processed by Amy Sanderson, '07
September 2006*

Provenance: Purchased from Charles Apfelbaum Rare Books and Manuscripts in 2003.

Biography:

John B. Young, from Rochester, Beaver County, Pennsylvania, enlisted for a one year term as a private with "Batty F" Co. of the Pennsylvania 204th Infantry, 5th Heavy Artillery Regiment on 5 September 1864 [official records say the 2nd] at Camp Reynolds in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The regiment was led by Colonel George S. Gallupe. Private Young served in the 2nd Brigade of Harding's 3rd Division in the 22nd Corps. He was posted with his regiment at Prospect Hill in Vienna and then outside of Fairfax Courthouse during the winter for picket and guard duty and the building of stockades and block-houses. Private Young was mustered out with his unit on 30 June 1865 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Source: *The Union Army, Vol. I*, on the Civil War Research and Genealogy Database and diary entries.

Scope and Content:

This collection contains the diary of John B. Young from October 30, 1864 to May 20, 1865, mainly commenting on the day to day happenings in his regiment during the winter picket post and guard duty. Entries include daily comments on the weather and the pace of work. Some entries included mention of men captured by rebels, rebel deserters/prisoners, and the progress and frustrations of building the stockades with some comments regarding the African Americans who worked with the timber train. There are other entries about men in the unit dieing of illness, a speech by the Colonel to the company, and the march to Fairfax Courthouse where new shanties for the men, corduroy streets, and entrenchments were built. An attack by Mosby's command, the capture of Petersburg and Richmond, and the death of President Lincoln are briefly mentioned. The last entries of the diary pertain to the battalion's march to Flint Hill via the Bull Run battlefield. The last pages of the diary also include inventories of items sent and received by men in the company with prices and a list of the members of his unit.

Also included are three pages printed from the Civil War Research and Genealogy Database (CWRGD) regarding John Young, the 5th Pennsylvania Heavy Artillery, and the Pennsylvania 204th Infantry Regiment.

Diary Description: Black Leather, 4cm x 6.5cm, 88 pages (some ripped), written in pencil.

Box 1

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- Finding Aid
- Diary of John B. Young
- CWRGD Printouts