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Faces of the Civil War

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Faces of the Civil War

Abstract

As the internship enters its final month of the summer, I've been processing and looking at various Civil War collections. This era in history is well known for the bloody conflicts that separated the nation. However, not much is known about most individuals that fought in different regiments across the country, or even what they looked like. Special Collections is home to a few faces that at Gettysburg, out West, prisoners at Andersonville, or stationed in places like Florida. The collections I have recently processed included photos of those soldiers at different stages in their life. [*excerpt*]

Keywords

Musselman Library, Gettysburg College, Brian C. Pohanka Internship, Special Collections, College Archive, Civil War

Disciplines

Archival Science | History | Library and Information Science | Military History | United States History

Comments

The Interns at Gettysburg College's Musselman Library captured their internship experiences since the spring of 2011. Over time the blog has featured Fortenbaugh, Smith, and Holley interns. They shared updates on semester long projects, responded to blogging prompts, and documented their individual intern experience.

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Faces of the Civil War

July 13, 2015

Steven Semmel '16

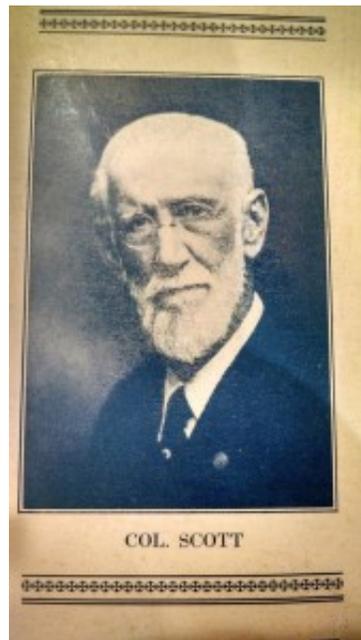
As the internship enters its final month of the summer, I've been processing and looking at various Civil War collections. This era in history is well known for the bloody conflicts that separated the nation. However, not much is known about most individuals that fought in different regiments across the country, or even what they looked like. Special Collections is home to a few faces that at Gettysburg, out West, prisoners at Andersonville, or stationed in places like Florida. The collections I have recently processed included photos of those soldiers at different stages in their life.



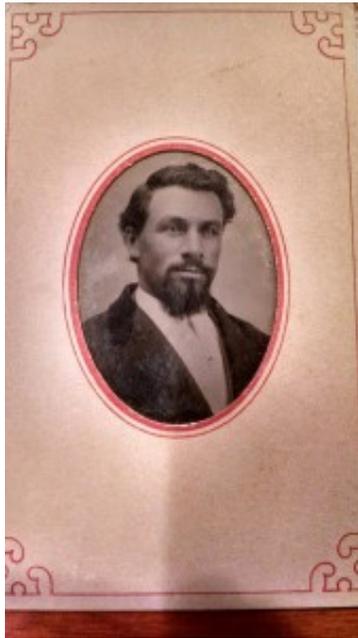
Hoaldey G. Hosford 1st Sergeant,
Co I., 44th New York

I mentioned in my first post that my main project was processing the Hoadley George Hosford papers. The dairies provide great information about an individual's experience during the Civil War. The three

diaries are not the only thing in this collection. There is an entire folder of tin types and photographs of Hosford, showing how he aged after the war and left some puzzling picture that we cannot identify. The earliest pictures of Hosford were from his time as a soldier. In his tintype, he looks very proper and distinguished in his New York State uniform. The same man was wounded at Second Bull Run, saw the battles of Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville and Gettysburg before this picture was taken. When reading his accounts during this battle, especially after Gettysburg, he was very cool under pressure but is absorbed in the chaos that the battle descriptions are not very detailed. He mentions key information but does not go down into the deep detail that is seen in other diaries. It's very hard to tell what Hosford was thinking during the time that the picture was being taken but it definitely shows an example of a young man that joined the Union Army to protect the United States.



James K.P. Scott, Bugler
Co H. 1st Pennsylvania Cavalry



Herman A. Stowe, Private
Co. D., 1st Wisconsin Cavalry

Hosford is one of many tintype/ photographs that we at Special Collections have in the collection. Two collections that I recently processed contained images of the individuals that fought in the Civil War, both in different Theaters. Their collections completely differ from each other but both help identify soldiers who fought. Herman A. Stowe was a member of the 1st Wisconsin Cavalry, which served in raiding parties across the west. He would serve two years and helped aid the unit in capturing Jeff Davis. His collection included two diaries (1865 & 1871) and a tintype from 1874 of himself. The other collection is a large manuscript collect that contains some of the original drafts of *The Story of the Battles at Gettysburg* by "Col." James K. P. Scott. Scott enlisted with his father in the 1st PA Cavalry in October of 1861. He was only 16 at the time but enlisted as a bugler. He was capture in August of 1862 but was released due to a prisoner exchange in December of 1863. Even though his book was written about Gettysburg, he did not participate in it. He moved to Gettysburg in the 1910's and wrote until 1927 when the book was published. "Col." Scott was never promoted to Colonel during the Civil War and had no indication of his promotion. However, everyone refers to him as Col. Scott is buried in the Gettysburg National Cemetery. The picture of Scott was taken in the early 1900's, showing a very old Scott. There are no pictures of Scott before this point to my knowledge.

The men pictured in this post show the various faces that went through the Civil War. Special Collections contain more tintypes of Civil War soldiers that tell completely different stories. I am very fortunate in being able to work with these collections and hopefully discover the stories of the other photographs in the collection.

<http://blogging.musselmanlibrary.org/2015/07/>