

Tarr, Horace G. Letter

G. Horace Tarr Letter

1863



Title Statement

Tarr, Horace G. LetterG. Horace Tarr Letter, 1863 Ms.1987.028

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Profile Description

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

Ms.1987.028

Unit Date

1863

Language

The materials in the collection are in English.

Abstract

The G. Horace Tarr Letter, written May 4, 1863, gives a detailed eye-witness account of the Battle of Chancellorsville.

Creator

Tarr, G. Horace, 1844-1922

Extent

0.1 Cubic Feet 1 folder

Repository

Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research.

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Source of Acquisition

A copy of the G. Horace Tarr Letter was donated to Special Collection in 1987. The original letter was donated in 1989.

Processing Information

The processing, arrangement, and description of the G. Horace Tarr Letter was completed in 1987. Additional description was completed in April 2011.

Preferred Citation

Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: [identification of item], [box], [folder], G. Horace Tarr Letter, Ms1987-028, Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, Va.

Biographical Note

G. Horace Tarr (also Horace G. Tarr and Horace G. H. Tarr) was born about 1844 in Missouri. During the American Civil War, he enlisted with Company K, 20th Regiment, Connecticut Infantry Volunteers in September 1862, around the age 17. Following Chancellorsville, he was promoted to Sergeant Major; following Gettysburg, he was promoted to 1st Lieutenant. He later served as Captain of Company F during the Atlanta campaign. He mustered out June 13, 1865. Following the war, Tarr worked as an engineer and manager for a series of businesses, including two iron companies (an industry in which his family was well established) and later, Otis Elevator Co., and several water utilities. By 1886, he was married with six children. Tarr died on March 2, 1922, at his home in Philadelphia. Although 78 years old at the time, he was still actively employed with the R. D. Wood & Co.

Tarr's name appears in 1863 and 1885 correspondence between Walt Whitman and his brother, Thomas Jefferson Whitman that suggests the Whitmans were on friendly terms with Tarr's uncle Moses Lane (1823-1882), and later Tarr himself.

Tarr died in 1922 and is buried with his wife Carolyn in Arlington National Cemetery, Arlington, Virginia.

Source: "Capt. Horace G. H. Tarr" entry, Findagrave.com, https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/49322668/horace-g_h-tarr.

Scope and Content

The G. Horace Tarr Letter collection contains a letter dated May 4, 1863, giving a detailed eye-witness account of the Battle of Chancellorsville during the American Civil War.

Keywords

Civil War

United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865

Chancellorsville, Battle of, Chancellorsville, Va., 1863

Existence and Location of Copies

This collection has been digitized and is available online.

Rights Statement for Archival Description

The guide to the G. Horace Tarr Letter by Special Collections and University Archives, Virginia Tech, is

Description of Subordinate Components

Letter

Unit Date 1863

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