

William G. Watson Civil War memoirsMS.0037

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circa 1866

Title Statement

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Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

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Unit ID

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Unit Date

circa 1866

Language

English .

Creator

Watson, William G. (William Gerard), 1837-1922

Extent

1 items 77 pages

Physical Location

Manuscripts stacks

Repository

Virginia Military Institute Archives

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

There are no restrictions

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Biographical / Historical

William Gerard Watson (1837-1922) was a Union soldier who served as a sergeant with the 3rd West Virginia Cavalry. His unit fought in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia during the summer of 1864.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of two versions of the Civil War memoirs of William G. Watson, a Union soldier who served during the Shenandoah Valley Campaign, 1864. The unbound manuscript consists of 77 pages, and was probably written soon after the end of the War.

This detailed account of Watson's service includes information about the burning of VMI by General David Hunter in June 1864, the advance on Lynchburg, Virginia, and his unit's retreat after the Battle of Lynchburg to Charleston and Parkersburg, West Virginia.

Version 1 consists of 41 pages. Version 2 (36 pages) covers much of the same material but also includes a section entitled "Our Cavalry and their Services."

Keywords

Virginia Military Institute—Civil War, 1861-1865

Shenandoah Valley Campaign, 1864 (May-August)—Personal narratives

United States—History—Civil War, 1861-1865—Personal narratives—Union

Lexington (Va.)—History—Civil War, 1861-1865

Virginia—History—Civil War, 1861-1865

Lynchburg, Battle of, Lynchburg, Va., 1864

Lynchburg (Va.)—History—Civil War, 1861-1865

Memoirs

United States. Army—West Virginia Cavalry Regiment, 3rd (1861-1865)

Hunter's Raid—Virginia—Lexington

Hunter, David, 1802-1886