

William J. Black Civil War diary and VMI account bookMS.0015

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1862-1865



Title Statement

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Publication Statement

Publisher: Virginia Military Institute Archives

VMI Archives
Preston Library
Lexington, VA 24450
Business Number: 540-464-7516
archives@vmi.edu
URL: <http://www.vmi.edu/archives>



Profile Description

Creation: This finding aid was produced using ArchivesSpace on 2026-05-12 03:02:30 -0400.

Language Usage: Description is written in: Undetermined, Code for undetermined script script.

Descriptive Summary

Unit ID

MS.0015

Unit ID

/repositories/3/resources/99

Unit Date

1862-1865

Language

English

Creator

Black, William Johnson, 1845-1935

Extent

1 items

Physical Location

Manuscripts stacks

Repository

Virginia Military Institute Archives

Administrative Information

Conditions Governing Access

There are no restrictions

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Preferred Citation

William J. Black Civil War diary and VMI account book, 1862-1865. MS 0015. VMI Archives, Virginia Military Institute, Lexington, Virginia.

Biographical / Historical

William Johnson Black was born in Lynchburg, Virginia on August 2, 1845 to Allen J. Black and Mary Haythe, both of Campbell County, Virginia. Black entered VMI in 1862 and resigned in 1864 to join the Confederate Army. He served in Captain John J. Shoemaker's Battery (Breathed's Battalion, Stuart Horse Artillery).

Following the Civil War, Black was in the express company business in Lynchburg. He married Virginia Price on March 5, 1871 and the couple had two children (Charles and E. Stockton). Black died at the Confederate Soldiers' Home in Richmond, Virginia on January 24, 1935.

Scope and Contents

This collection consists of the one volume diary of Confederate soldier William J. Black. The diary entries date from October 1864 to January 1865, and were written while Black was serving in Captain John J. Shoemaker's Company, Virginia Horse Artillery. Included are brief accounts of various skirmishes, the Battle of Cedar Creek (Virginia), and campsites and positions that are recorded daily.

Following the diary entries are copies of two of Shoemaker's reports detailing Battery activities, dated September 1, 1864 (covering the period May-August) and December 25, 1864 (covering the period September-December 25). The volume also contains Black's VMI account book that lists expenses incurred while a cadet (1862-1864) prior to joining Confederate Army.

Keywords

Confederate States of America. Army—Virginia Artillery—Shoemaker's Battery

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

Virginia—History—Civil War, 1861-1865—Personal narratives—Confederate

Cedar Creek, Battle of, Va., 1864

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

Virginia Military Institute—Class of 1867

Virginia Military Institute—Cadet life—1860-1869

Diaries

Soldiers—Virginia—Diaries

Account Books

Shoemaker, John J.

Description of Subordinate Components

Diary and account book**Unit ID** /repositories/3/archival_objects/5327**Unit Date** 1862-1865**Language** English**Scope and Contents**

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Account Books

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Diaries

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

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

Soldiers—Virginia—Diaries

Virginia—History—Civil War, 1861-1865—Personal narratives—Confederate

Virginia Military Institute—Cadet life—1860-1869

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Shoemaker, John J.