

The Filson Historical Society

**William G. Pirtle (1832-1911)
Memoirs, 1907**

For information regarding literary and copyright interest for these memoirs, see the
Curator of Special Collections, James J. Holmberg.

Size of Collection:

0.66 cubic feet

Locator Number:

Mss./A/P672d

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Scope and Content Note

Military memoirs, September, 1861 – November, 1864, written by William G. Pirtle, 2nd Lt., 7th Kentucky Infantry Regiment, C.S.A. Includes descriptions of daily military life in the Confederate army, personal reflections on the actions of Confederate generals, and observations of Battles of Brice's Crossroads, Corinth, MS, Shiloh, Tupelo, MS and Franklin, TN. Collection includes over 400 pages of photocopies and original handwritten manuscript.

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Biographical Note

William George Pirtle was born on August 5, 1832 in St. Francois County, Missouri, the son of John A. and Mary B. Pirtle. The family later moved to Water Valley, Graves County, Kentucky. William, a farmer, married Sarah ("Sally") Ann Webb. They had 4 children. He enlisted in the 7th Kentucky Infantry Regiment, C.S.A., on Sept. 12, 1861 and was promoted to 2nd Lieutenant on Sept. 19, 1862. He received a field promotion to captain and put in command of Company A on March 25, 1864. He was paroled on May 16, 1865 and returned to Water Valley, KY where he resumed farming. In 1907 he wrote the memoirs describing his service in the 7th KY Infantry. He died in Water Valley on Sept. 23, 1911 at the age of 77.

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Folder 3: Chapters 1-12; pp. 1-26; Chapters 1-17; pp 1-19; Chapters 13-20; pp. 27-78; description of events from November 1860 – July 1862.

Folder 4: Chapters 21-32; pp. 79-132; description of events from August 1862 – March 1863.

Folder 5: Chapters 33-43; pp. 133-247; description of events from March 1863 – March 1864.

Folder 6: Chapters 44-49; pp. 247-328; description of events from March 1864 – July 1864.

Folder 7: Chapters 49-57; pp. 329-418; description of events from July – November 1864.

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Cheatham, Benjamin Franklin 1820-1886
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Confederate States of America. Army. Alabama Infantry Regiment, 35th
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Confederate States of America. Army. Kentucky Infantry Regiment, 7th
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Lovell, Mansfield 1822-1884
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