

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:
.66 cubic feet**

**Locator Number:
Mss./A/P672d/1-7**

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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 pg. 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 List

Folder 1: Preface, index, appendix (original, photocopy and typewritten transcription).

Folder 2: Chapters 1-12; pp. 1-26 (photocopy of original fragments).

Folder 3: Chapters 1-12; pp. 1-26 (fragments of original); Chapters 1-17; pp 1-19 (typewritten transcription); Chapters 13-20; pp. 27-78 (original and photocopy); description of events from Nov., 1860 – July, 1862.

Folder 4: Chapters 21-32; pp. 79-132 (original and photocopy); description of events from August, 1862 – March, 1863.

Folder 5: Chapters 33-43; pp. 133-247 (original and photocopy); description of events from March, 1863 – March, 1864.

Folder 6: Chapters 44-49; pp. 247-328 (original and photocopy); description of events from March, 1864 – July, 1864.

Folder 7: Chapters 49-57; pp. 329-418 (original and photocopy); description of events from July – November, 1864.

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Added Entry List

- 1) Alabama-History-Civil War, 1861-1865
- 2) Belmont (Mo.), Battle of, 1861
- 3) Brice's Crossroads, Battle of, Miss., 1864
- 4) Buford, Abraham 1820-1884
- 5) Champion's Hill, Battle of, 1863
- 6) Cheatham, Benjamin Franklin 1820-1886
- 7) Confederate States of America-History, naval
- 8) Confederate States of America. Army. Alabama Infantry Regiment, 35th
- 9) Confederate States of America. Army. Bell's Tennessee Brigade
- 10) Confederate States of America. Army. Kentucky Infantry Regiment, 7th
- 11) Confederate States of America. Army. Kentucky Mounted Infantry Regiment, 3rd
- 12) Confederate States of America. Army. Kentucky Mounted Infantry Regiment, 7th
- 13) Confederate States of America. Army. Kentucky Mounted Infantry Regiment, 8th
- 14) Confederate States of America. Army. Kentucky Mounted Infantry Regiment, 12th
- 15) Confederate States of America. Army. Louisiana Infantry Regiment, 12th
- 16) Confederate States of America. Army. Mississippi Infantry Regiment, 15th
- 17) Confederate States of America. Army-Recruiting, enlistment, etc.
- 18) Confederate States of America. Army-Supplies and stores
- 19) Confederate States of America. Army-Surgeons
- 20) Confederate States of America. Army-Transportation
- 21) Corinth (Miss.), Battle of, 1862
- 22) CSS Arkansas (Ironclad ram)
- 23) Desertion, military-Confederate States of America
- 24) Espionage-Mississippi
- 25) Forrest, Nathan Bedford 1821-1877
- 26) Fort Pillow (Tenn.), Battle of, 1864
- 27) Franklin (Tenn.), Battle of, 1864
- 28) Grant, Ulysses S. (Ulysses Simpson) 1822-1885
- 29) Hood, John Bell 1831-1879
- 30) Indians of North America-Sports
- 31) Jackson (Miss.)-History-Civil War, 1861-1865
- 32) Johnston, Joseph E. (Joseph Eggleston) 1807-1891
- 33) Kentucky-History-Civil War, 1861-1865
- 34) Lice-United States
- 35) Loring, William Wing 1818-1886
- 36) Louisiana-History-Civil War, 1861-1865
- 37) Lovell, Mansfield 1822-1884
- 38) Lyon, Hylan Benton 1836-1907

- 39) Military pensions-United States-Civil War, 1861-1865
- 40) Mississippi-History-Civil War, 1861-186
- 41) Paducah (Ky.)-History
- 42) Pemberton, John C. (John Clifford) 1814-1881
- 43) Pillow, Gideon Johnson 1806-1878
- 44) Polk, Leonidas 1806-1864
- 45) Price, Sterling 1809-1867
- 46) Roddey, Philip Dale 1826-1897
- 47) Shiloh, Battle of, 1862
- 48) Small pox- Mississippi
- 49) Smith, Andrew Jackson 1815-1897
- 50) Sturgis, Samuel Davis 1822-1889
- 51) Tennessee-History-Civil War, 1861-1865
- 52) Tupelo (Miss.), Battle of, 1864
- 53) Typhoid fever-Tennessee
- 54) United States-History-Civil War, 1861-1865
- 55) United States-History-Civil War, 1861-1865-African Americans
- 56) United States-History-Civil War, 1861-1865-Campaigns
- 57) United States-History-Civil War, 1861-1865-Casualties
- 58) United States-History-Civil War, 1861-1865-Destruction and pillage
- 59) United States-History-Civil War, 1861-1865-Equipment and supplies
- 60) United States-History-Civil War, 1861-1865-Hospitals
- 61) United States-History-Civil War, 1861-1865-Medical care
- 62) United States-History-Civil War, 1861-1865-Naval operations
- 63) United States-History-Civil War, 1861-1865-Prisoners and prisons
- 64) United States-History-Civil War, 1861-1865-Scouts and scouting
- 65) United States-History-Civil War, 1861-1865-Transportation
- 66) United States-History-Civil War, 1861-1865-Underground movements
- 67) United States. Army-African American troops
- 68) United States. Army-Barracks and quarters
- 69) USS Mississippi (Sidewheeler)
- 70) Vicksburg (Miss.)-History-Siege, 1863