

McCleary, James

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English

Describing Archives: A Content Standard

University Libraries Division of Special Collections, The University of
Alabama May 2012

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Summary Information

Repository:	University Libraries Division of Special Collections, The University of Alabama
Title:	James H. McCleary Diary, Letter, and Photograph
ID:	MSS.1610
Date:	1862-1864
Physical Description:	0.1 Linear feet 1 diary, 1 photo, 1 letter, 1 typescript copy of diary and letter (photocopy)
Language of the Material:	English
Abstract:	Collection includes a photograph, letter, and diary of a Civil War soldier from Pennsylvania, who died during the battle of Gettysburg.

Preferred Citation

James H. McCleary Diary, Letter and Photograph, W.S. Hoole Special Collections Library, The University of Alabama.

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Biographical/Historical note

James McCleary entered the Pennsylvania Light Artillery Regiment, 1st Battery B (also known as Cooper's Battery), as a private on October 6, 1861. During his time in Battery "B", he participated in engagements on the James-York River peninsula (Mechanicsville, Beaver Dam Creek), Second Bull Run, South Mountain, Antietam, and Fredericksburg. He was killed at the battle of Gettysburg.

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Scope and Contents note

This Civil War diary by a Pennsylvania soldier begins on January 1, 1863, and includes daily entries until McCleary's death during the battle of Gettysburg. Entries remark upon day to day activities and

duties, weather and housing conditions, movement orders, leadership changes, and rumors concerning the war. McCleary's unit was stationed at Belle Plain, Virginia, until late April, when it began moving to the Chancellorsville area on the Rappahannock River. In June, McCleary discussed the march that would lead him to Gettysburg. The last entry is on July 1, 1863, the day before he was killed at Gettysburg. The collection also contains a photo of McCleary and a letter dated 25 February 1864, notifying John McCleary that his brother's tombstone will be placed once the ground thaws.

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Provenance

Gift of William M. Evans, 2003; additional gift (transcription) from Charles Richards, 2009

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Controlled Access Headings

- War and Military

Collection Inventory

Title/Description	Instances	
diary, 1863 <u>Date:</u> 1863	Box 1548	Folder 2
letter and photograph, 1862-1864	Box 1548	Folder 2

Date: 1862-1864

Box 1548

Folder 2

Diary, James H. McCleary, January-July 1863

Digital Object: [u0003_0001610_0000001](#)

Letter from Cannon and Adair, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, to James McCleary, February 25, 1864

Digital Object: [u0003_0001610_0000002](#)

Tintype portrait photograph of Civil War soldier, James McCleary, in uniform, circa 1862

Digital Object: [u0003_0001610_0000003](#)

transcription

Box 1548

Folder 3