

**WILLIAM R. MCMAHAN COLLECTION**

**1861 – 1895**

**Collection Number: MSS 278**

**Size: .21 linear feet**

**Special Collections and University Archives**

**Jean and Alexander Heard Library**

**Vanderbilt University**

**Nashville, Tennessee**

## WILLIAM R. MCMAHAN COLLECTION

1861 – 1895

### Biography/History

William R. McMahan was born in 1843 in Indiana. At the age of eighteen, he enlisted as a private for service in the Union Army with the Fifty-eighth Volunteer Infantry on September 10, 1861. His diary relates military life, and various Civil War campaigns: Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain, Chickamauga, and Atlanta. At war's end he was discharged having obtained the rank of First Lieutenant. After returning from the army he studied medicine and in 1868 he graduated from Rush Medical College of Chicago. He was faculty member of Evansville Medical College from 1882-1884.

Listed in the back of the diary is a list of monies borrowed and/or loaned, a list of wounded soldiers. Included in the typescript are notes from John J. Hight's diary [original not available],

The collection was donated by his grandson, A. B. Nickey.

### Scope and Contents

This .21 linear feet collection contains one handwritten diary, a typescript of the diary, and a book.

#### **Book - Published**

*History of the Fifty-Eighth Regiment of Indiana Volunteer Infantry*  
by John J. Hight, 1895

#### **Diary**

1861 – 1865

#### **Diary - Typescript**

1861 - 1865