

NUCMC Catalog Record

Creator: Bowers, John E., b. ca. 1843.

Title: John E. Bowers Civil War letters.

Date Created: 1862 Jan. 2-1864 Aug. 20

Extent: 98 items.

Location: Rutherford B. Hayes Presidential Center, Fremont, Ohio.

Biographical Data: Soldier, of Earl Township, Lancaster County, Pa.; served with Company G, 148th Pennsylvania Volunteers; saw action at Bull Run, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, the Wilderness, Spotsylvania, Cold Harbor, and Petersburg; sentenced by court martial in the spring of 1863 for falling asleep while on picket duty and was fined half of his pay for four months; captured by the Confederates at Ream's Station, Va., on Aug. 25, 1864 and confined at Richmond, Va., and later Salisbury, N.C. It is unknown if he returned to his original regiment after the war as he was never discharged. His family, later in Flat Rock, Ohio, applied for his pension in 1891 but this was denied due to the absence either of a discharge or death certificate.

Summary: Letters and notes from Bowers to his family providing insight into the life of a Union soldier. Includes list of sutler's prices and outlines in minute detail of preparations for a march and the execution of several deserters, for which he includes a sketch. Subjects include his wartime experiences, bodies on the Bull Run battlefield, plundering of homes, and trade with Confederate soldiers. Includes doodles and sketches, which may or may not have been done by Bowers. Places represented include camps near Fredericksburg, Morrisville, Warrenton, Brandy Station, and Petersburg, Va.

Subjects: Bowers family -- Correspondence.
United States. Army. Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment, 148th (1862-1865). Company G.
United States. Army -- Military life.
United States. Army -- Supplies and stores.
Bull Run, 2nd Battle of, Va., 1862.
Desertion, Military -- United States.
Military camps -- Virginia.
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives.

United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Campaigns.
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Destruction and pillage.
United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Desertions.
Pennsylvania -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865.
Pennsylvania -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Equipment and supplies.
Fredericksburg (Va.)
Morrisville (Va.)
Warrenton (Va.)
Brandy Station (Va.)
Petersburg (Va.)
Earl (Lancaster County, Pa. : Township)
Soldiers -- United States.
Soldiers -- Pennsylvania.