



**State of Tennessee
Department of State
Tennessee State Library and Archives**

**Pvt. Kinsey C. Hooper Civil War Diary, 1862-1865,
and Transcription, undated
Co. A, 8th Tennessee Infantry Regiment, USA**

COLLECTION SUMMARY

Creator:

Hooper, Kinsey C., 1829-1904

Inclusive Dates:

1862-1865

Scope & Content:

Consists of the small diary of Pvt. Kinsey C. Hooper of Raht, Bradley County, Tennessee, which records his daily activities from Dec. 25, 1862, to July 12, 1865. Hooper's typical entry consists of only a few words describing the main activity or location of the regiment that day. He occasionally mentions some event, such as a battle or the death of a fellow soldier. The Battle of Franklin (11/30/1864) and the Battle of Nashville (12/15/1864) are specifically noted, although no further details are given.

Hooper sometimes makes note of tasks performed, such as "apinted bugal man" (2/28/1863); "garded mules" (6/20/1863); and "drove ambulance to the railroad" (8/15/1864). He also mentions a few unusual occurrences, such as the May 15, 1863, entry telling that "one of the [F]irst Tennessee kild another with a spade handle." Hooper's spelling is largely phonetic, which may provide insight into pronunciation of words. He mentions many of his comrades by name, important for genealogists as well as regimental historians. He also provides a useful chronology of troop movement during 1863-1865, for example: "left cedar bluf" (10/28/1864); "got in to georgia an campt at Cave Spring" (10/29/1864); "got to rome" (10/30/1864); "got to Calhoon" (10/31/1864).

Hooper's regiment was an active one, moving through numerous places in Tennessee, Kentucky, and Georgia during the war. Prominent place names in Tennessee include Bradley and McMinn counties as well as Franklin, Nashville,

Knoxville, and Spring Hill. In Kentucky, Hooper mentions the “Caintucky” River, Camp Dick Robinson, Somerset, Louisville, and Paducah. In Georgia, places noted include Ringgold, Dalton, Atlanta, Decatur, Altoona, and Rome.

A typed transcription prepared by the diary’s owner includes clarifications of spelling or meaning in brackets. Additional information about larger events of the war is also included and is helpful for placing the activities of Hooper’s regiment in context.

The original diary is written in pencil and many pages exhibit dark staining from water damage.

Physical Description/Extent:

1 volume + 25 p. transcription

Accession/Record Group Number:

Mf. 2033

Language:

English

Permanent Location:

Mf. 2033 (Available only on microfilm)

Repository:

Tennessee State Library and Archives, 403 Seventh Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee, 37243-0312

Administrative/Biographical History

Kinsey C. Hooper was born in 1829 in McMinn County, Tennessee. He married Elizabeth Geren prior to his Civil War service and fathered seven children: James, Isaac Huston, Etha Linda, Jenetta, Martha, Alice, and Andrew J. Hooper. He was the son of Andrew Hooper and Martha Seabourn of Bradley County, Tennessee. He enlisted with Co.A, 8th Tennessee Infantry Regiment, USA, on December 25, 1862, at Nicholasville, Ky., and was discharged at Company Shops, N.C., on June 30, 1865. His discharge certificate lists his occupation prior to enlistment as saddler. He returned to Bradley County after his Civil War service and lived there until his death on June 6, 1904.

Organization/Arrangement of Materials

Diary and transcription entries arranged chronologically.

Conditions of Access and Use

Restrictions on Access:

None

Restrictions on Use and Reproduction:

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Index Terms

Personal/Family Names:

Hooper, Kinsey C., 1829-1904

Corporate Names/Organizations/Government Bodies:

United States. Army. Tennessee Infantry Regiment, 8th.

Subjects:

Soldiers -- United States -- Diaries

Geographic Names:

Georgia -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Sources

Kentucky -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Sources

Tennessee -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Sources

United States -- History -- Civil War, 1861-1865 -- Personal narratives

Document Types:

Diaries

Acquisition and Appraisal

Provenance and Acquisition:

Loaned for microfilming by James R. (Rick) Hooper of Cleveland, Tennessee.

Processing and Administrative Information

Preferred Citation:

Pvt. Kinsey C. Hooper Civil War Diary, 1862-1865, Tennessee State Library & Archives, Nashville, Tennessee.

Processing Information:

Prepared for microfilming by Cathi Carmack, October 2012.

Existence and Location of Originals:

Privately held.

Electronic Location and Access:

<http://www.tn.gov/tsla/history/manuscripts/findingaids/mf2033.pdf>

DETAILED COLLECTION DESCRIPTION

CONTAINER LIST

Contents/Item Title	Date	Box	Folder
Diary	1862-1865	1	1
Diary transcription	Undated	1	2