

Hawks, Horatio (1819-1865)

Journal, April 1, 1857-Dec. 30, 1864. Deerfield, Mass.

1 vol. manuscript 24.5 cm.

Journal kept by a farmer in the Wapping section of Deerfield. Hawks was active in town and church affairs, and served as moderator of town meeting, justice of the peace, and state representative. He also held the rank of colonel in the Franklin Cadets before the organization disbanded in 1854. In single line entries, Hawks notes the weather and his farming activities (planting, hoeing, harvesting, slaughtering animals), and mentions elections, meetings, social events, deaths, funerals, visitors, and his local travels. Hawks does not comment on the events of the Civil War that had gripped the nation, other than noting that the 52<sup>nd</sup> Regt., composed of many local men, had "left camp" in Nov. 1862, and that his brother Charles had departed for Port Royal, SC, to work with freed slaves, a few weeks later. Hawks' final entry occurred on Dec. 30, 1864, just before he left Deerfield to go to South Carolina to claim his brother Charles' body. Horatio Hawks died at sea when the ship he traveled on sank.