

Keith, William Scott (1844-1919)

Military journal, Louisiana, Aug. 30, 1862-Aug. 14, 1863

1vol. manuscript 12cm

Keith served as 1st Sergeant of Co. A, 52nd Massachusetts Regiment.

A native of Greenfield, MA, William Scott Keith began his somewhat terse "memorandum of dates" on the day of his enlistment. A member of Co. A of the 52nd. Massachusetts Regiment, Keith rose to the rank of 1st Sergeant during his brief period of service. Shortly after enlisting, Keith and his regiment departed from NYC for New Orleans by ship. Keith participated in the siege of Port Hudson, Louisiana, in the winter and spring of 1863, but became ill and was hospitalized. His journal contains a brief account of an incident in June 1863 when, according to Keith, 180 convalescent soldiers under his command defeated an attacking force of 1,000 Confederate troops at Donaldsonville, Louisiana. Keith was mustered out of the Army on Aug. 14, 1863.

Includes a list of field officers of the regiment, line officers, and orderlies of the various companies, and a roll of Company A.

Shelved in the Diary Collection