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Robert G. Shaver papers, 1912

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Robert G. Shaver papers

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Describing Archives: A Content Standard

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Summary Information

Repository	Arkansas State Archives
Title	Robert G. Shaver papers
Date	circa 1912
Extent	0.02 Cubic feet 1 folder
Language	English
Language of Materials	Materials entirely in English.
Microform [Reel]	MG00202

Preferred Citation

Robert G. Shaver papers, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas.

Biographical/Historical Note

Robert Glenn Shaver was born April 18, 1831, in Sullivan County, Tennessee, to David and Martha (May) Shaver. In 1850, he and his parents moved east of Batesville into what was then Lawrence County, Arkansas. On June 10, 1856, he married Adelaide Louise Ringgold, and they had eight children.

Shaver practiced law until 1861 when the Civil War broke out. He received an order to organize a regiment of ten companies, which he did on June 10, 1861, at Smithville, Lawrence County. He was elected colonel, and the regiment came to be known as "Shaver's Regiment." In April 1862, he was severely injured in the Battle of Shiloh and transferred to the Trans-Mississippi Department. In September 1862, he organized the 38th Arkansas Infantry and was elected colonel. He served until the end of the war and was among the last organized Confederate forces to surrender.

After the war, he became involved in the Arkansas Ku Klux Klan and was charged with murder, arson, treason, and robbery. In 1868, he fled to New Orleans, where he boarded the British ship Mexico and sailed to the British Honduras. He returned to Arkansas in 1872, after his good friend Elisha Baxter was elected governor of Arkansas. The charges were dropped, and he was appointed sheriff for the newly-created Howard County.

He and his family moved to Mena, Polk County, in 1899, to live with his son. In 1911, he was appointed commander-in-charge for the annual reunion of Confederate veterans held in Little Rock. The camp was known as "Camp Shaver." He died January 13, 1915, in Foreman.

Scope and Contents

This collection includes the Civil War reminiscences of Robert G. Shaver, written for Mrs. C.A. Forney-Smith, the first President of the Grand Chapter, United Daughters of the Confederacy.

Administrative Information

Publication Information

Arkansas State Archives 1/19/2011

Conditions Governing Access

This collection is open for research use. The ASA possesses the material listed in this finding aid in the original format, but due to preservation concerns this collection is accessible to the public through microfilm format.

Conditions Governing Use

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17-U.S. Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. The person using this material is liable for any infringement.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

Unknown, 1927.

Collection Inventory

Undated: "Raid on and Capture of Van Buren, Arkansas: An Incident of the Civil War"

Undated: "Recollections and Reminiscences of the Last Days of the Confederacy, Trans-Mississippi Department, Marshall, Texas"

Typed transcription: "Recollections and Reminiscences of the Last Days of the Confederacy, Trans-Mississippi Department, Marshall, Texas"