

**Collection #
BV 5348**

**JOHN WOOLLEY
SCRAPBOOK, 1856-1874**

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COLLECTION INFORMATION

VOLUME OF
COLLECTION: 1 bound volume

COLLECTION
DATES: 1856-1874

PROVENANCE: Purchase from Forest H. Sweet in Battle Creek, Michigan

RESTRICTIONS: None

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ACCESSION
NUMBER: 1952.1208

NOTES:

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Born in New York in 1824, John W. Woolley served in the Union Army during the Civil War from 1861 to 1866. He enlisted in April 1861 in Indiana. Later, he was commissioned as an officer in Company S, Indiana 2nd Cavalry Regiment and promoted to Full First Lieutenant on 3 October 1861, then transferred to Indiana 5th Cavalry that same month. He mustered out on 1 June 1862 but re-commissioned on 11 June 1862. He was promoted to Full Major in Indiana 5th Cavalry on 23 March 1863, then promoted again to Major in Company S, Indiana 5th Cavalry Regiment on 27 March 1863. He was promoted one final time in 1863 to Full Lieutenant Colonel on 16 December.

Two years later, Woolley was promoted to Brevet Colonel and Brevet Brig-General on 13 March 1865. During that time, he was appointed by Major General Lew Wallace to Provost Marshal General for Middle Military Department 8th Army Corps in Baltimore, Maryland. Woolley held this position from 28 March 1864 until 5 February 1865, when the services of the office were discontinued. Finally, he mustered out on 15 June 1865 at Pulaski, Tennessee.

Though Woolley worked as a banker before the war, he worked as a real estate agent until 1870. That year, he received the post of Deputy Governor and Commandant of the National Asylum for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers in Milwaukee, Wisconsin (Northwestern Branch).

Woolley ran the asylum until December 1872 when he was transferred to Fort Monroe in Hampton, Virginia, amid allegations of embezzlement and stealing government property. He returned to Milwaukee in March 1873 for an investigation into the allegations, but died on 4 April 1873. He is buried on what would be the grounds of the National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers in Milwaukee (now Wood National Cemetery).

Sources:

Material in collection

Ancestry.com

Eicher, John and David Eicher. *Civil War High Commands*. Stanford University Press, 2002. Page 581.

National Park Service. "National Home for Disabled Volunteer Soldiers Study." Accessed April 19, 2018. <https://www.nps.gov/nhl/learn/specialstudies/nhdvs.htm>.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

This collection includes a scrapbook containing entertainment programs, letters, business cards, and newspaper clippings from 1856 through Woolley's death in 1873, with a few posthumous clippings about his funeral and tributes to him. The last page contains clippings about a benefit for his wife on 5 November 1874.

Of note is a letter Woolley addressed to Major General Lew Wallace on 29 August 1865 detailing all his activity during the Civil War—active duty from April 1861 to March 1864, and then serving as Provost Marshal General for 8th Army Corps (Middle Military Department) beginning 28 March 1864.

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CONTAINER

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