

Collection: TAYLOR, COLONEL JOHN DOUGLAS, PAPERS
Wilmington, North Carolina

P.C. ~~1000~~

1860-1912

Physical Description: Typescript, 15 pages, letter, poem, newspaper clipping. Photostats. 4 items.

Acquisition: Original loaned for copying by Mrs. Taft Bass
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Division of Archives and Manuscripts
State Department of Archives and History
Raleigh, North Carolina

Description: The typescript is entitled "Personal Recollections of Col. John D. Taylor: - Thirty-Sixth North Carolina Regiment." He begins with his successful candidacy for the State Senate from the counties of Bladen, Brunswick, and Columbus. After adjournment of the legislature in February, 1862, Taylor organized a military company in Brunswick County which became a part of the 36th North Carolina Regiment and he was elected major and commander of Company K with a promotion to lieutenant colonel by commission from Governor Vance in 1864. The regiment was assigned to Fort Fisher and later transferred to Fort Caswell. From Caswell, Colonel Taylor took command of Fort Campbell, recently erected, about a mile below Caswell. His reminiscences include his estimation of General Whiting, his view of the fall of Fisher from his post at Fort Campbell across the bay, the retirement of his troops to Fort Anderson at old Brunswick, the march from there to Wilmington and to Kinston to join Bragg. Taylor was with the army retreating to Goldsboro and then to Bentonville; he describes the battle and retreat to Raleigh. There he stayed at the McIlhenny home where he met Generals Sherman and Blair, who came to visit his host, whom they had known in the days before the war. He discusses briefly his return to private life and the days of Reconstruction. Taylor concludes his account with a quotation from Thomas McNeill's history of the 9th Battalion of Colonel Lamb's 36th North Carolina Regiment in Clark's Histories of the Several Regiments and Battalions from North Carolina in the Great War of 1861 to 1865.

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A letter from William Lamb, Norfolk, May 10, 1895, to Colonel John D. Taylor, acknowledges information and praises Taylor's company, the Brunswick Artillery, and his conduct at Bentonville.

The poem "Red Infantry" is dedicated to Colonel Taylor and explains how the battalion received that name.

A newspaper clipping from Wilmington, dated May 22, 1912, reports Colonel Taylor's death and gives a sketch of his life.