

CW/VFM-78: J. (Judah) Touro Robertson

Diary, 1861, written while serving in Co. D., 12th Regiment New York State Militia

The regiment was formed originally as the 11th Regiment under the command of General Butterfield. It left New York City for Washington, D.C., where it was mustered in for three months service in early May of 1861. It was mustered out at New York City in early August of 1861. Many of its members entered the 12th Militia, which was consolidated into the 12th Volunteers. It was surrendered with Harper's Ferry. It was mustered out at New York City on October 8th, 1862 and exchanged on January 11th, 1863. June 20th, 1863, the regiment moved to Harrisburg. It was mustered out for the final time on July 20th, 1863.

The regiment was engaged in the siege and surrender of Harper's Ferry (9/12-15/1862).

Diary of Robertson:

Key entries in this document include:

July 22nd & 23rd, 1861-captured a rebel captain in Harper's Ferry.

While there is not any mention of skirmishing, this presents a very detailed account of camp life among the US Regular Troops at the beginning of the war.

Original document: 70pp.

Typed copy: 70pp.

Regimental History and Casualty figures: 6pp.

Keywords: Union – East – New York – 12th; Diaries Army – Infantry; Soldiers – Privates

Location: Civil War Vertical File Manuscripts, Special Collections & College Archives, Musselman Library at Gettysburg College.

See also: [Civil War Sources in Special Collections](#)