Collector. The diary (1861–1865) of Charles Kroff, recording his experiences as a soldier in the Eleventh Indiana Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War and detailing his participation in the battles of Shiloh, Fort Donelson, and Corinth. Also included are letters (1885–1956) about the diary.

This collection is available online at the University of Oklahoma Libraries website.

Folder:
1. Correspondence: J.W. Grant to Charles Kroff, acknowledging letter about the 11th Indiana Infantry Volunteers, near Edwards Station, July 14, 1885. Includes transcription.


2. Correspondence: Erle F. Cress to Paul Cress, regarding the diary of Charles Kroff and its significance as a record of the U.S. Civil War. September 27, 1956.

3. Correspondence: Erle Cress to Paul Cress, regarding the diary of Charles Kroff in relation to the military exploits of General Lew Wallace September 29, 1956.

4. Correspondence: Erle F. Cress to Paul Cress, regarding various battles of the U.S. Civil War, especially those related by the Kroff diary, including the capture of Corinth and the Battle of Shiloh. October 4, 1956.

5. Fragment of a letter about the diary of Charles Kroff.

Kroff enlisted in Company "F" of the 11th Indiana Infantry Volunteers on July 12, 1861, at the age of 23. The diary describes his experiences during four years and one month of service: the battles, the news he heard about the War in other parts of the country, and the problems of soldiering. Kroff's regiment fought fifteen regular battles, including Shiloh, the capture of Corinth, and the battle at Fort Donelson. The regiment was under fire seventy-seven different days. The last official entry of the diary is August 11, 1865, when the 11th Indiana Infantry Volunteers received their pay and went their separate ways. There is an additional entry dated December 11, 1909, the seventy-second birthday of Charles Kroff.