

1-2-2008

Ferguson, Champ, 1821-1865 (MSS 1)

Manuscripts & Folklife Archives

Western Kentucky University, mssfa@wku.edu

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_mss_fin_aid



Part of the [United States History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Folklife Archives, Manuscripts &, "Ferguson, Champ, 1821-1865 (MSS 1)" (2008). *MSS Finding Aids*. Paper 301.
http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_mss_fin_aid/301

This Finding Aid is brought to you for free and open access by TopSCHOLAR®. It has been accepted for inclusion in MSS Finding Aids by an authorized administrator of TopSCHOLAR®. For more information, please contact topscholar@wku.edu.

Manuscripts & Folklife Archives
 Department of Library Special Collections
 Kentucky Library & Museum
 Western Kentucky University
 Bowling Green, KY 42101-1092

Descriptive Inventory

MSS 1 FERGUSON, Champ, 1821-1865

2 boxes. 11 folders. 7 items. Originals and photocopies.

1956.7.1

BIOGRAPHY

Champ Ferguson was born November 29, 1821, on a branch of Spring Creek in Clinton County, Kentucky, to William and Zilphia (Huff) Ferguson. His education was limited. He became a farmer and owned a few tracts of land in Clinton County, Kentucky. In 1844 he married Eliza Smith who died three years later; in 1848 he married Martha Owens, a native of Clinton County, and they had a daughter, Ann, born in 1849.

Caught up in the Civil War border tension between Kentucky and Tennessee, Ferguson participated in guerrilla warfare. His band of guerillas claimed respectability by riding with General John Hunt Morgan, where Ferguson first started as a scout in 1862. Ferguson spent most of the war commanding, with the commissioned rank of captain, an independent guerilla company.

Federal authorities declared Ferguson an outlaw in Kentucky and threatened him with summary execution if captured. After the war Ferguson returned home to his family in White County, Tennessee, but unlike many of the guerilla leaders he was not given amnesty. On May 23, 1865 Ferguson surrendered under verbal promise of parole. He was arrested at his home on May 26, 1865 and charged with fifty-three counts of murder. The military trial, held in Nashville, Tennessee, lasted from July to October 1865. Ferguson was sentenced to be hanged; he was denied the opportunity to provide a defense on his behalf, and the sentence was carried out on October 20, 1865. Ferguson's body was turned over to his wife and daughter, who fulfilled his last request which was to be buried at his home in White County, Tennessee, on a branch of Calfkiller Creek.

COLLECTION NOTES

Original transcription from the trial of Champ Ferguson held in Nashville, Tennessee in 1865. Transcription was compiled from official records by Dr. Frank R. McGlasson, U.S. Army surgeon.

Due to their physical condition, all originals and a typescript have been removed and placed in safe storage; they are available upon request (Box 1). Identical copies of the typescript are available for patron use (Box 2).

SHELF LIST

BOX 1	IN VAULT	July-Oct. 1865	7 items
Folder 1	Inventory		
Folder 2	Proceedings of the trial of Champ Ferguson, Book A (original, 56p., and photocopy of typescript, 40p.)	July 1-20, 1865	1 item
Folder 3	Proceedings of the trial of Champ Ferguson, Book I (original, 48p., and photocopy of typescript, 35p.)	July 20-24, 1865	1 item
Folder 4	Proceedings of the trial of Champ Ferguson, Book II (original, 56p., and photocopy of typescript, 42p.)	July 25-28, 1865	1 item
Folder 5	Proceedings of the trial of Champ Ferguson, Book III (original, 51p. and photocopy of typescript, 36p.)	July 29-August 2, 1865	1 item
Folder 6	Proceedings of the trial of Champ Ferguson, Book IV (original, 45p., and typescript, 38p.)	August 3-7, 1865	1 item
Folder 7	Proceedings of the trial of Champ Ferguson, Book V (original, 91p. and typescript, 118p.)	August 6-26, 1865	1 item
Folder 8	Proceedings of the trial of Champ Ferguson, Conclusion (original, 22p. and photocopy of typescript, 10p.)	October 3, 1865	1 item
BOX 2		July-October 1865	3 items
Folder 1	Proceedings of the trial of Champ Ferguson (photocopy of typescript, p. 1-76)	July 1-24, 1865	1 item

Folder 2	Proceedings of the trial of Champ Ferguson (photocopy of typescript, p. 77-192)	July 25-August 7, 1865	1 item
Folder 3	Proceedings of the trial of Champ Ferguson (photocopy of typescript, p. 193-321)	August 8-October 3, 1865	1 item

BIBLIOGRAPHIC RECORD

MSS FERGUSON, Champ, 1821-1865 1865
1

An account of Ferguson's military trial for murders committed during the Civil War by him and his band of outlaws, held at Nashville, Tennessee. Transcript compiled from official records by Frank R. McGlasson, U.S. Army surgeon. 2 boxes. 11 folders. 7 items. Holographic transcript and typescript.
1956.7.1

SUBJECT ANALYTICS

African Americans – Civil War – Treatment of
African Americans – Civil War – Virginia – Saltville, Battle of, 1864
Civil War – Campaigns, battles and military actions
Civil War – Campaigns, battles and military actions – Tennessee
Civil War – Campaigns, battles and military actions – Virginia
Civil War – Confederate troops, 1861-1865
Civil War – Guerrilla activities – Adair County, 1863
Civil War – Guerrilla activities – Clinton County, 1863
Civil War – Guerrilla activities – Cumberland County, 1862
Civil War – Guerrilla activities – Russell County, 1863
Civil War – Judges
Civil War – Trials – Murder
Clinton County – Civil War – Guerrilla activities, 1863
Confederate States of America – Army – Guerrilla activities, 1861-1865
Guerrillas and guerrilla warfare – Civil War – Confederate States of America, 1861-1865
Judges – Civil War
McGlasson, Frank R. – Relating to
Trials – Murder – Civil War
Tennessee – Civil War – Fentress County – Guerrillas, 1862
Tennessee – Civil War – White County – Guerrillas, 1864
Virginia – Civil War – Saltville, Battle of, 1864

Jeffrey 06/27/2011