

**Collection ID:** WCT009

**Collection Name:** Civil War Personal Papers and Currency

**Dates:** 1861 - 1862, 1864

**Size:** 1 document box, 0.25 li.ft.

**Creator:** Edward Andrus, James L. Bates, William Jones, Joshua L. Torrey, A.E. Vining, Confederate States of America

**Biographical / historical note:**

**Edward G. Andrus** (1820-1897). Andrus served in Company H, 12th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry as a Private. He enlisted on 26 Jun 1861 shortly after the regiment was formed in Boston, and was mustered out on 25 Jun 1862. During that year, the regiment performed uneventful picket duty near Frederick Maryland until April 1862 when it exchanged fire across the Rappahannock River with the Confederates. It later, after Andrus' service had ended, incurred major casualties at Antietam. Andrus was born in Vermont, married Elizabeth A. Pember and died in Weymouth. The Archivist found no other information.

Sources:

Find a Grave website.

<http://www.findagrave.com/cgibin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=40229255>

History of the Twelfth Massachusetts Volunteers (Webster regiment)

Published 1882 Available on Internet Archive.

<https://archive.org/details/07094896.3195.emory.edu>

**Colonel James Bates.** James L. Bates (1820–1875) was a colonel in the Union Army during the American Civil War who was awarded the honorary grade of brevet brigadier general after the war. He was born in Weymouth, Massachusetts and, in civilian life, was a merchant in the leather trade.

Information from:

Massachusetts in the War, 1861-1865 by James L. Bowen. Springfield, C.W. Bryan & Co., 1889 on which a wikipedia entry is based.

**William Jones.** The Archivist found no information.

**Joshua L. Torrey** (1824-1884) Torrey served in the 1st Massachusetts, Cavalry, Company A according to the inscription in the dictionary. His name appears in [A History of the First Regiment of Massachusetts Cavalry Volunteers](#) as mustered in October 1863 and expiration of service Company B in June 1865.

**Adoniram E. Vining** (1841 - ? ). Vining enlisted in 1862 and is described in military records as "mechanic". He served in Company F, First Artillery, First Massachusetts Heavy Artillery. The unit was assigned to the defenses around Washington, D.C. and saw no action until 1864. On 17 May 1864 many heavy artillery regiments filled in as infantry units and joined the Army of the Potomac as part of Grant's 1864 campaign. Their first real engagement as a regiment was as part of Ewell's Division at Harris Farm on the Fredericksburg Road near Spotsylvania VA on 19 May 1864. They were a reserve unit for the Battle of North Anna on 23-26 May. They moved on to Cold Harbor, losing 2 during trench warfare from 4 - 12 June. They then took part in the assault on and siege of Petersburg. At the Battle of Jerusalem Plank Road or First Battle of Weldon Railroad on June 22, 185 men, including Private Vining, were captured. All told, 1200 men were captured and for about a month traveled from Petersburg to Richmond, Danville Prison, Greensboro, and Augusta, arriving at Andersonville Prison on July 12. Vining survived Andersonville and was released on December 31, 1864.

Above information from:

National Park Service <http://www.nps.gov/abpp/battles/bycampgn.htm>

History of the First Regiment of Heavy Artillery, Massachusetts Volunteers, formerly the Fourteenth Regiment of Infantry, 1861-1865. Published 1917. Available online at [openlibrary.org](http://openlibrary.org) or [internetarchive.org](http://internetarchive.org)

Vining Diary entries.

**Scope and Contents:** This small collection consists of five unrelated Civil War items:

1) Andrus diary. An 1861 diary from 21 October through December 31. An entry in another hand on 22 February 1862 indicates that the diary, a miniature of Andrus, a letter, and 30 dollars were delivered, most likely to his wife. The miniature is mentioned in the diary. Entries describe daily military life.

The diary's pages are not numbered. It is leather covered board measuring 3 x 4 1/2 inches. The diary has not been transcribed; nor has it been conserved but NEDCC prepared a proposal in May 2016.

2) Cabinet card photograph of Colonel James L. Bates who served in the 12th Massachusetts during the Civil War. It shows him in his uniform. The photographer is George W. Tirrell of East Weymouth. Colonel Bates was not related to the Bates/Weston family.

The archivist has added a folder containing three booklets for Reynolds Post 58, Department of Massachusetts, G.A.R. Weymouth and dated 1880, 1883, and 1904. Bates is mentioned in the text as one of the ten charter members of the Post. Note: The 1880 booklet was previously cataloged as W.C. 973.74; the 1883 one was found in another location and has no markings. Also included is a Reynolds Post program for the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Surrender of Lee held on 9 April 1915.

3) A letter from William Jones to Mr. and Mrs. Ryan, no address, about the death of their son Jimmy in 1862 and describing the battle. Typed transcription. Conserved by Northeast Document Conservation Center [NEDCC] in 2015.

4) Torrey dictionary. The Army and Navy Pocket Dictionary by William G. Webster, NY: Mason Brothers, 1864. Missing cover. No annotations but inscribed Joshua L. Torrey, 1st Mass, Calvary, Co. A. Also inscribed O.G. Runtlett. Missing its front cover.

5) Vining diaries. An 1864 diary and partial transcription of that diary, dating from 1910. The diary of A.E. Vining describes daily military life and his capture and captivity at Andersonville prison.

The Diary of A.E. Vining is 150 pages, and measures 120 x 75mm. The partial transcription of the diary c. 1910 also is in a small notebook. For the period Jan - Jul 15 it may be written in the same hand; from Jul 20 to Aug 13 by a different hand. The original diary is in phase box; the transcription between two archival boards. Both are in a single folder. The original diary was conserved and digitized by NEDCC in 2015. It has not yet been transcribed.

6) Confederate currency contains several bills, some of a larger number sent by the Treasury Department in 1913 to Tufts and other libraries across the United States. The letter signed by Franklin Mac Veagh Secretary of the Treasury and two notes were conserved by NEDCC. All are displayed in archival quality polyester sleeves. A Virginia Treasury Note, 1862, evidently was donated to the Library in 1930.

**Conditions governing access:** Open for researchers. NEDCC scanned the Vining Diary; the digital copy should be used.

**Language:** English

**Source:** Not known.

**Subjects:**

Andrus, Edward G. (1820-1897)

Bates, James L. (1820-1875)

Reynolds Post 58, G.A.R.

Torrey, Joshua L. (1824-1884)

U.S. - Civil War, 1861-1865

Vining, Adoniram E. (1841 - ? )

**Location:** Tufts Library, Weymouth MA

**Preparer:** C.G. Swank, Mar 2016

## Container List

<b>Box</b>	<b>Folder</b>	<b>Title/Description</b>	<b>Date</b>
1	1	Edward Andrus. Journal	1861-1862
1	2	James L. Bates in uniform. Photographic print on board. George W. Tirrell, Photographer, East Weymouth. Mass	c. 1865
1	3	Reynolds Post 58, Department of Massachusetts, G.A.R.	1880-1915
1	4	William Jones. Letter to Mr. and Mrs. Ryan. Note. Conserved by NEDCC 15-094-B1 in 2015.	1862
1	5	Joshua L. Torrey. Dictionary	1864
1	6	A.E. Vining. Diary and transcription	1864
1	7	Confederate currency, 1913 letter from Treasury Department. Virginia Treasury Note, 1862 and 1930 envelope addressed to Abbie L. Loud. Note. Two notes conserved by NEDCC in 2015, Objs 18 & 19.	1861-1864, 1913, 1930