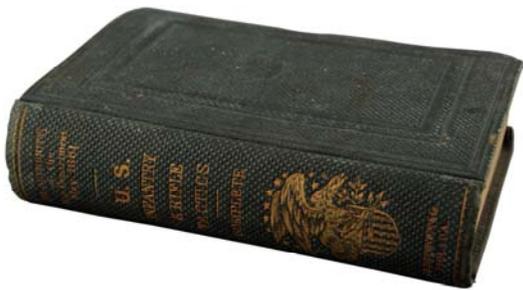


United States Infantry and Rifle Tactics Manual, 1861

This manual belonged to John J. Allen Jr., who served as a private in Company B, Twelfth Regiment, United States Colored Heavy Artillery during the Civil War. Allen, a former slave, gained freedom when he mustered into Federal service at Camp Nelson on July 7, 1864. Camp Nelson, the largest recruiting post for African Americans in Kentucky, trained thousands of troops for the Union army. It is estimated that approximately 24,000 African Americans from Kentucky served in the Union army.



Donated by Terrie Allen, 1990.33.01

War is not just a compilation of dates that represent a series of battles. "[Kentucky Military Treasures](#)," an online exhibition that illustrates the personal stories of bravery, innovation, heartache and perseverance, provides evidence of the people and artifacts history books often neglect. To learn more about this item and others in the military collections of the Kentucky Historical Society, visit "[Kentucky Military Treasures](#)."