Biographical Abstract:

Dr. James L. White (1833-1909) was not born and raised in Farmville, Virginia, but he called the town home, nonetheless. Using White’s own accounts, with the aid of medical periodicals, newspapers, and Civil War databases, readers are able to best understand the life of one of Farmville’s former physicians. This biographical sketch, along with accompanying resources, describes not only his professional career as a surgeon and doctor, but his early life, experiences during the American Civil War, and impact on the town of Farmville in the late-nineteenth century and into the early-twentieth century.

About the Project:

The process of research I followed was primarily based on leads and information. I began with a basic search for Dr. James L. White, focusing on his grave’s etchings, correspondence, his family, and education. From there, using his personal information found in History of the Confederate General Hospital Located at Farmville, VA. 1862-65 and the National Park Service’s “Soldiers and Sailors” database, I was able to build an idea of his military service. Other sources include collections found at the Library of Virginia and the Library of Congress, such as for biographies and newspaper articles, in which I located Dr. and Mrs. White’s respective obituaries. As town physician in the post-war, Dr. White was very involved in the Virginia medical community, giving a plethora of information on his later life and even how he was received by the Farmville community.

Books and Other Related Resources:


