Civil War Journal 1863 Part 1: - 1 Jan 1863 - 31 May 1863 Thomas Hogarth III (1843-1906)

As transcribed by Denise Hogarth Bumford, 2nd Great Granddaughter

About the transcription:

I understand that historic writing is meant to be transcribed exactly as written; however, I have not done that because I wanted it to be easily readable, and the lack of punctuation would leave each entry a long, run-on of topics. There are surely transcription errors and inconsistencies, which may eventually be corrected by more experienced readers.

The handwriting is a slightly curly script, likely common for the period. It is mostly legible and consistent, but missing punctuation, so I punctuated as I imagined him speaking it. There are many random capitalizations. Every word beginning with C, I, L or Q is capitalized regardless of where it appears in a sentence. Apparently, there was a convention to use periods with numerals, which he does, and which I sometimes included in transcription. His spelling is occasionally poor or may follow conventions of the day – "thay" for they, "plane" for plain, "releaved" for relieved. I intermittently sic'd or corrected these to contemporary spelling. Although his spelling of same words and names may vary, he is careful to improve as he learns corrections – "vetrans" becomes veterans, "fateage" becomes fatigue. Today's compound words are written as two words – to day, to night, to morrow. He seems to use "of" interchangeably for **of** or **off**, and "to" for **to** or **too**, so I made choices from context.

This Italic text represents uncertain, best–guess interpretation of unfamiliar terms or indecipherable writing. It also represents my voice and notes.

About Thomas Hogarth III:

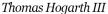
He was born 1843 in New York City to Margaret Anderson Hogarth and Thomas Hogarth II, a stone cutter. Thomas and Margaret had immigrated from the Scottish Borders area arriving in NY in 1834 together with his parents, Thomas Hogarth I and Jean Stoddart Hogarth, and sisters, Jean and Elizabeth Hogarth. The Hogarth and Stoddart families both originated from the same village in Scotland. It is not yet known what prompted this family's migration, but Jean Stoddart Hogarth's brother, Robert Stoddart, was well established in New York by the time of their arrival in 1834.

Both Thomas III's parents had died by the time he was six years old. He was subsequently raised by an aunt and older sisters until the 1860 census finds 17-year-old Thomas in Fort Wayne, Indiana living with Aunt Jean and Uncle James Humphrey and cousins, including 17-year-old Thomas Humphrey. Uncle James' younger brother was Col. George Humphrey, an experienced officer at the start of this war, and Thomas encountered him in the field during 1863. His sweetheart, Desdemona Wilson, shows up variously as Miss Destimonia Wilson, Miss Desty or sometimes D.W. They married after the war. He has his 20th birthday in March 1863; she's 16 the same month.

In September 1861 the two young cousin Thomases, both 18, both born of Scottish immigrant parents, enlisted in the 30th Indiana Volunteers of the Union Army. This diary tells a small part of that story.

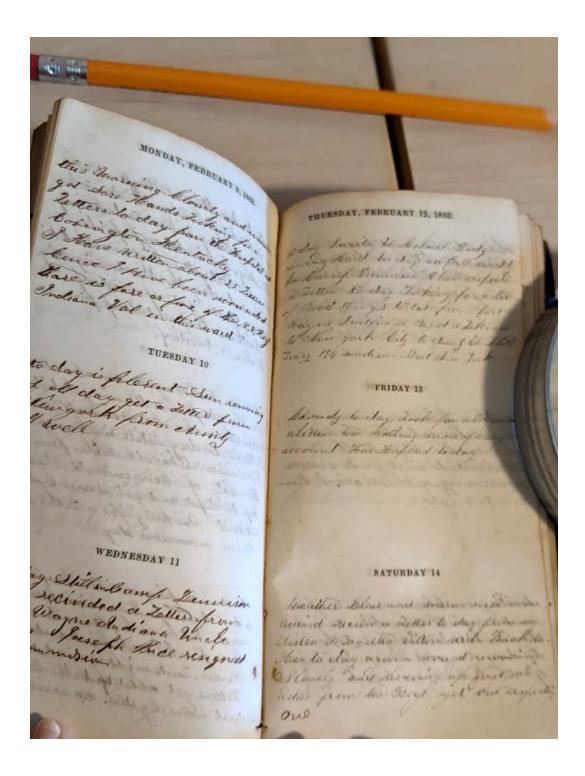
Following the war, Thomas Hogarth III became a railroad engineer in Indiana and Ohio prior to retiring in Stuart, Florida around 1900. He died in 1906.







Col. George Humphrey



TRANSCRIPTION

(Handwritten on the inside cover:)

Ohio
Camp Denison
Feb 4, 1863 *
Thomas Hogarth
C & E 30th Regiment
Indiana Volunteers
His Book

*Apparently he copied all Jan entries to this journal from another source since on Feb 4 he records that Uncle James gave him "this book."

Interior Printed pages include:

"Pocket Diary 1863 Published annually Denton & Wood Cambridgeport, Mass."

The first pages are Almanac-style tables of assorted helpful information: distances between various cities, postage rates, sun-moon rises, etc. The pocket diary section of the journal is laid out with 3 dated spaces for handwritten entries on each page.

JOURNAL

(Part 1: 1 Jan 1863 – 31 May 1863)

For context Thomas was wounded in the left shoulder Dec 31, 1862 (Battle of Murfreesboro, Stones River) and begins the year 1863 in recovery.

Thursday, Jan 1, 1863 – This morning my shoulder feels quite bad. I am at Mrs. Bowers' residence one mile west of Lavergne, Tenn. I get an ambulance and am on my way toward Nashville. I ride to the 16 milestone and I get out and walk and get left behind and go into the 4 Division Hospital and have my arm dressed up.

Fri Jan 2 – Still in hospital 3 miles from Nashville. The doctor takes 4 pieces of bone from the wound that I received at the Battle of Murfreesboro on the 31st of December. Nothing much to eat, put me on sick men's rations. Shoulder hurts quite much indeed. All right other ways.

Sat Jan 3 – Still in hospital, nothing much to eat. 8 men out of the 110 Illinois Regiment in this room sick. The doctor is of the 31 Indiana Regiment. Shoulder hurts as usual. Think of going to Nashville, Tennessee Hospital for better care.

Sun Jan 4 – This morning I get up and get nothing to eat but some coffee, get angry and start for Nashville. On my way I fall in with James Kimberly, Milton Fulton and Dean Slott all setting by a stump. Rest a while with them and then go on to town.

12 o'clock I get to Hospital No. 8. 5 Ward

Mon Jan 5 – Still in Hospital No. 8 Nashville, Tenn. In the afternoon I am moved over in the Rebs Church. I go in, no fire, quite cold. I have William Wright of the 26th III Regiment for a pardner. Talk of sending us wounded to Louisville, Kentucky, but I cannot say how soon they will do so.

Tue Jan 6 – Still in the hospital at Nashville, Tennessee No. 8. Ward. 4. There is 3 of the Fort Wayne Battery in this ward sick with a disease of a Luder Matses Samuel Keelken, William Stenn and Harry I-don't-know-what.

Wed Jan 7 – Still in the Hospital No. 8 ward 4 in the church, take a walk out a little today to go down and see Frank and William Sten and Edward Strack, a corporal in our company. Find them all right ride up with that are up in the Corate House. There is about 300 parrolled men here taken at Murfreesboro.

Thur Jan 8 – Still in the same hospital, get up to take another walk out and down a Collage Street down by the Sulfur Springs and back. Hurts me to walk far at a time. Weather fine and nice and warm.

Fri Jan 9 – Weather cold and cloudy with rain. Streets muddy, plenty of soldiers in town. Take our names for to go to Louisville, Kentucky. Albert Knapp is cook in my ward. They take 18 names to go to KY. Raining very bad and hard.

Sat Jan 10 – This morning cloudy and raining a little. Fall into line and march to the lower landing and get on board the Emma Duncan bound for Louisville with wounded soldiers about 300. Gen. Van Cleave is aboard, wounded in his leg. He is from Minnesota.

Sun Jan 11 – Today we are on the way up the river to Louisville. No more of any account today, only that I have to lay on a hard plank. Louis Straton is on the boat and is wounded. He belongs to the 15th Indiana Regiment. He is wounded in the calf of his leg.

Mon Jan 12 – Pass Clarkville (sic) and another small town today. Night dark. Met the steamer with some .50 Indiana and Illinois ladys on the way down to tend to the wounded soldiers from their two states.

Tues Jan 13 – Still on the boat Emma Duncan a plying our way towards Louisville. Pass Evensville (sic), Indiana this afternoon. Nothing much to eat or nothing much today on at all.

Wed Jan 14 – Well, still on the boat today, but more prospects of getting off tonight. We arrived at Louisville tonight. As soon as we get to the wharf, they put guards on to keep us on board. Lay on deck all night. Rain all night.

Thur Jan 15 – This morning the ambulances all come down and we had to get in and be left around to hospitals. I was put in No.10 on street between Handcoxe and Jackson Streets. Quite sick today, was washed and went to bed and did not get up till 5 days after I had been there, did not eat anything at all.

Fri Jan 16 – Still in the hospital Louisville, KY, No .10. ward .5. bunk .3. Dr. Brown in charge

Sat Jan 17 – Still in the hospital as above. Thomas Humphrey was up and seen me, nothing more of any account happened.

Sun Jan 18 – Still in the hospital Louisville. Bones came from my shoulder today. In Hospital No. 10.

Mon Jan 19 – Nothing of any account today. Thomas came up today. Sargent Robert Murphy came up today to see me. Christ. Boserrken came up today.

Tues Jan 20 – Nothing new

Wed Jan 21 – Nothing new of any account

Thur Jan 22 – More bone came from the wound today. They give me some oyster soup today.

Fri Jan 23 – Nothing new today

Sat Jan 24 – They send me to Cincinnati, Ohio on the Gen Buell

Sun Jan 25 – Get to Cincinnati, Ohio at half past fore o'clock this morning, go up to the Soldiers home and get our dinner and at 2 o'clock was sent acrost the river to Covington, Kentucky and I went to Greenup St Hospital right on the bank of the Ohio River

(Next entry)

Sun February 1 – I was sent acrost the river and was got onto the cars. In a little while I was in Camp Dennison in a little shanty with .36. beds. Go to bed No .18. Ward .42. I sleep better this night then any since I have been wounded.

Tues Feb 3 – Today is cold. Uncle James Humphrey came down to see me today. I was asleep when he came. I was not expecting him at all today. I am in No. 42 Hospital, Camp Dennison, Ohio. The doctor's name is Cartwright, a young man about 35 years of age. Quite lonesome here.

Wed Feb 4 – I received this book today from my Uncle James H. Camp Dennison, Ohio. Staying here on account of a wound received at the Battle of Murfreesboro, Tenn. Received on the last day of December 1862, wounded in the left shoulder.

Thurs Feb 5 – Write to Destimonia Wilson Maysville Harlan Post Office, Allen County, Indiana. I wrote to Homer Robinson of Murfreesboro, Tenn. Snowing very hard today. I am in the No. 42. ward in Camp Dennison.

Fri Feb 6 – Wrote to Mr. Stins at Keyport, N.J. and to Mr. John Smith, same plase. Got my likeness taken today. I received a paper today, the Gazette Cincinnati, Ohio. Clear today. The snow is getting off very fast. Got a pound of butter, beef and soup for dinner today.

Sat Feb 7 – Clear this day. Snow about 8 inches deep and thawing. Received the Cincinnati. No letters today. Still in Camp Dennison 18 miles from the city of Cincinnati. I went up to depot and got some oysters stewed. Looking for a letter from home now every day.

Sun Feb 8 – Today is pleasant. In Hospital No. 42 Camp Dennison, Ohio. I write to Frank Stin direct to Camp Chase, Ohio. I wrote to Minnie Fisher last night. No letters received yet. Went up to the depot to get some oysters. No mail today.

Mon Feb 9 – This morning cloudy and warm, Got sore hands, looking for letters today from the hospital at Covington, Kentucky. I have written about 25 letters since I have been wounded. There is four or five of the 88th Regiment Indiana Vols in this ward.

Tue Feb 10 – Today is pleasant, sun remaining all day. Got a letter from New York from Aunty. All well.

Wed Feb 11 – Today still in Camp Dennison, Ohio. Received a letter from Fort Wayne, Indiana, Uncle James. Joseph Rice resigned his commission.

Thur Feb 12 – Today I write to Colonel Dodge. Raining hard today awfull *(sic)* muddy In Camp Dennison, Ohio. Expect a letter today. Looking for a box of good things to eat from Fort Wayne, Indiana. Send a likeness to New York City to Aunty Elizabeth Leary 194 Madison Street, New York.

Fri Feb 13 – Cloudy today, look for a box and a letter too. Nothing more of any account has happened today

Sat Feb 14 – Weather clear and warm with some wind. Received a letter today from my sister, Margretta Tilton. Write back to her today again wound recovering slowly and healing up fast. No letter from the Regt yet but expecting one

- **Sun Feb 15** Clear today and warm and pleasant. Still in Camp Dennison, Ohio. Wrote to Thomas Humphry at Louisville, Kentucky.
- **Mon Feb 16** Weather clear and warm. The doctor takes the names of a number to go to their regiments and go tomorrow morning on the 10 o'clock train. Rain tonight.
- **Tue Feb 17** Today is cloudy and unpleasant, awful muddy. Rain today. Wrote to Sergeant Jones today, me and Samuel Shain of Co. E. 30th Regiment.
- **Wed Feb 18** Today rainy and cool. Got a letter from Mr. Dick Ivins, from Keyport, Monmouth County, New Jersey. Still in Camp Dennison, Ohio. Wrote a letter to James Ivins in the 48th Regiment New York Vol, Fort Tilaski (sic) Georgia.
- **Thu Feb 19** This morning cloudy and raining, chilly. Received. expecting a box today. Samuel Shain enlists on a gun boat out Co. E. 30th Regiment Indiana Vols now at Murfreesboro, Tennessee.
- **Fri Feb 20** Received a letter from John C. Smith, Keyport, Monmouth Cty., New Jersey, write one back to him.
- **Sat Feb 21** Weather clear and pleasant and a little cool. Received a letter from Aunty Elizabeth and from Cousin Thomas Humphrey in Louisville, Kentucky barrack No. one. Nothing new. The doctor will not let me go to my regiment until it heals up completely. Expect a box today from Fort Wayne.
- **Sun Feb 22** Last night there was five ladies came in to sing to the sick soldiers some songs and we enjoyed ourselves very much. It is snowing very hard today. Wrote to my Uncle James Humphrey Fort Wayne Allen County Indiana
- **Mon Feb 23** This morning clear and cool. Received a letter from Agness Brown Fort Wayne. Awful lonesome in Camp Dennison, Ohio. Wrote back to them today.
- **Tue Feb 24** Weather clear and warm. Received a letter from Thomas Humphrey in Louisville, Kentucky. Write to Aunty Elizabeth
- **Wed Feb 25** Weather clear and pleasant. Receive a letter from Destimonia W. Expect a box from home today and it came tonight, one shirt, two papers, two cans of apples stewed.

Thur Feb 26 – Today weather cloudy and warm, Received two letters, one from Thomas Humphrey and one from Uncle James. Wrote back to them.

Fri Feb 27 – The weather pleasant and warm. Receive my Descriptive Roll from Colonel Dodge Murfreesboro, Tenn. Got a letter from my sister Margretta Tilton Keyport Monmouth County New Jersey

Sat Feb 28 – This is the last day of this month. Received a paper from New Jersey and the Cincinnati. Wrote to sister Margarett Tilton. Took a walk this afternoon up on the hill and seen two tubs set to catch sugar water to make molasses. Went up to draw some clothes and I could not.

Sun MARCH 1 – Rainy today. The brass band played this afternoon.

Mon Mar 2 – Clear today, quite cool. Tried to go to my regiment at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, but they would not let me go there was nothing Pieces of bone came from my wound this morning. Received a paper from Cincinnati, Ohio.

Tue Mar 3 – Weather cloudy and snowing and raining. Snowed about 2 inch deep, quite cold this morning. Received the Cincinnati Gazette. Nothing more of any account. Write to Sergeant Jones. Me and Samuel Shain of my company was wounded in the cheek at Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Wed Mar 4 – Today is pleasant and warm. Received a letter from Miss Desti Wilson Fort Wayne Indiana. Received the Cincinnati Gazette this morning.

Thu Mar 5 – Weather clear and cool. Received 3 letters one from Homer Robinson, James Humphrey and the Ederten (editor?) of the Cincinnati Gazette. Write to Uncle James. Had a oyster supper at the ward. Two ladies was there Mrs. Deaters and Mrs. Teters.

Fri Mar 6 – The weather cloudy and raining a little. Wrote a letter to Uncle.

Sat Mar 7 – Weather raining and snowing, all slush under foot. Received the Cincinnati Gazette this morning. No letters today. Expect to start to my regiment on Monday next.

Sun Mar 8 – Weather cloudy today. Put my name down to go to my regiment, me and Sam Shain.

Mon Mar 9 – Go up to Headquarters and they call my name to go to my Regt. Get on the 10 o'clock train and start for Cincinnati, Ohio. Get there and we have our dinners, a good one too. Expect to start to Murfreesboro tomorrow morning at the Soldiers' Home Cincinnati. Go down on the boat but did not keep on it so came back.

Tue Mar 10 – This morning clear but cold. Still at the Soldiers' Home Cincinnati.

Wed Mar 11 – Leave Cincinnati, Ohio on one way to Louisville, Kentucky. Current with us on the river. We are on the Steamer Goldenean.

Thu Mar 12 – We arrive at Louisville this morning. Lay up until 10 o'clock today. Weather clear and cold, wind very high. Start, pass New Albany, Portland.

Fri Mar 13 – On our way this morning, pass a steamer making its way to Louisville with sick and wounded soldiers. Get to Smithland tonight.

Sat Mar 14 – Start at daylight and get to Fort Donelson today. Lay up till 8 o'clock and start on again towards Clarksville, Tennessee. Get to that place at 4 o'clock today. Lay there all night, get off and take a walk. The 102 Ohio Regiment here doing guard duty. Lay here till morning .4. o'clock.

Sun Mar 15 – This morning clear and warm, start to Nashville at 4 o'clock this morning. Swift current against us all the way. Tomorrow I will be 20 years old. Will get to Nashville, Tennessee this afternoon.

Mon Mar 16 – In Nashville today roaming around the streets waiting for transportation to my regiment at Murfreesboro.

Tue Mar 17 – Came to the Regt today. They are encamped in the brestworks at Murfreesboro, Tennessee. Wrote to the ward master at Camp Dennison, Ohio and to Uncle James Humphrey. Went over and seen Col. Humphrey of the 88th Indiana Volunteers at this place just across the stream.

Wed Mar 18 – Nothing to do today chare Me and Thomas Humphrey went out on the battlefield where I was wounded. Get back, write a letter to sister Jennette. I am 5th Sergeant of Company E.

Thu Mar 19 – The company goes out on the fortification to work. Wrote to Destimonia today.

Fri Mar 20 – The weather cloudy and cool. The Brigade goes out on general review. Nothing much of any account. Chas M Jones is our 1st Lieut and George Murphy Second Lieut., Wheeler Orderly Sergeant. Go over and see Homer Robinson, 72 Regiment Indiana Volunteers.

Sat Mar 21 – This morning cloudy and cool. Heavy firing on the right wing. Nothing much of any account.

Sun Mar 22 – Today me and James gets a pass and goes up to the place called Lavergne, 10 miles. Start from Murfreesboro at 2 o'clock and get there at 3 o'clock. Come back tonight on the 10 o'clock train.

Mon Mar 23 – A little rainy today. Tonight we go up to Capt Whilken quarters and get examined, all the sergeants of Comp. E. 30th Regt.

Tue Mar 24 – This morning still raining. Company drill, the right wing goes on the breastworks this morning and the left wing goes out in the afternoon.

Wed Mar 25 – This morning rainy, clears off about 9 o'clock in the morning. The boys goes out to work on the breastworks. Wind is blowing a little get on a little space.

Tonight I get my papers as sergeant today, fifth sergeant Company E. 30th Regt. Ind. Vols.

Thu Mar 26 – This morning is clear and pleasant. The right wing goes out on the works this morning and the left wing goes out this afternoon. Lieut George Murphy takes the company out on company drill. I am on the Roll of Honor to be mounted to get the revolving rifles. Feel all right this morning, My wound hurts a little.

Fri Mar 27 – Clear and pleasant this morning. The boys has gone out to work on the breastworks. Rain this afternoon.

Sat Mar 28 – Muddy and cloudy this morning. Company drill Lieut Murphy drill them. Awful loud thunder last night.

Sun Mar 29 -

Mon Mar 30 – Cloudy and rain today. We get our new regimental flags. The whole regiment goes out to work on the Breastworks. Got a letter from George Atchins Co. H 10th Indiana Volunteers camped at Stewart Creek, Tennessee.

Tue Mar 31 – The sun comes out today, but the wind is high. Homer Robinson comes over to see us Company E. He is on Gen Renalds (sic) staff orderly. The boys is out on the works today. Still camped at the fortifications Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Wed April 1 – (Fragment of poetry found printed in "Ballou's Dollar Monthly Magazine" 1863, a sort of Reader's Digest collection of literary items. Thomas apparently copied a few lines.) Ballou's Dollar Monthly Magazine Jan-Jul 1863

I think of thee at evening time
When all beside is still
And silvery tinted moonbeams dance
Upon the rippling mill

I hear thy voice – thy low sad tone Thy sweet young smile I see My soul is filled with melody With thoughts sweet girl of thee

Fri Apr 3

(The following song lyric is written on the page for the next 3 days' entries, followed by no entries for the subsequent 3 days. There are many references to this online, such as: "NOTES [399 words]: This is widely believed to be the most popular of the war songs (at least among Union troops)" http://www.fresnostate.edu/folklore/ballads/SCW42.html)

Sat Apr 4 –

Weeping sad and lonely
Dearest Love do you remember
When we last did meet
There you told me that you loved me
Kneeling at my feet.
Oh how proud you stood before me
In your suit of blues
When you vowed to me and your
Country ever to prove true

Fri Apr 5 –

Weeping sad and lonely Hopes and fears how vain Get praying When this cruel war is over Praying that we meet again

(Then written sideways across the page:)

"Written to me by Miss Desty A Wilson, Maysville Harlan Post Office, Allen County Indiana Written down here on the 13th day of November White Sides Depot, Ten 1863"

When the summer breezes is sighing Mournfully along
Or when Autumn leaves are fallen
Sadly breathes the song
Oft in dreams I see thee lying
On the battle plain
Lonely wounded ever dying
Calling but in vain

Next entry: Fri Apr 10 –

The Daughter's Appeal
Save us Father from the Tempter
And his clear seductive charms
Save us if you would not have us
Rushing to big negroes arms
For our hearts are very yielding
And ourselves we dare not trust
With the dear sweet darkies near us
We must love them, aye we must.

(Sat Apr 11)

They are beauties all remembered In their kinky oily hair

And a sweetly scented odor
All around them fills the air
Drive them, Father, drive them from us
For our hearts do hold them dear
And will never cease to love them
While their presence lingers near

(Sun Apr 12)

Can we, Father, e're resist them With the charms they possess While their rolling eyes are telling Movingly their dark distress And while their lips are pleading Eloquently to be kissed Can you think Van leindig hanner That your daughters will resist

Written for the Fort Wayne Gazette

(I did not find this in the FWG or any other source)

Mon Apr 13 – Receive a letter from Destimonia Wilson and answer it today. Am looking for a letter from Camp Dennison and one from Fort Wayne.

Tue Apr 14 – We signed the pay roll this morning, expect to get our pay soon. Rain today

Sat Apr 18 – Expect to get our pay tomorrow. The pay master is paying the 78 Illinois Regiment. They are in this brigade. There is 12 months due me now, 168. The weather is very warm today,

Sun Apr 19 – Received our pay today. I drawed 10 months pay today \$121 dollars.

Mon Apr 27 – Expressed \$40 to James Humphrey by Adam Ex Company

Thu Apr 30 – Today was set apart for fast and prayers by order of Major General Rosecrans

Fri May 1 – Suppose in riding through the west a stranger found a Voosers nest, in other words a Buck eye Cabin just learge (sic) enough to hold Queen Mabin. Its situation was low and airy on the border of a prairie (Rough excerpt of a long form poem The Hoosier's Nest)

Thu May 7 – I think of thee at peep of morn

When slumber quits the soldier's bed

And clanging horn and beating drum

Announces the weary watch hour sped

Sun May 10 – Received my sister's likeness today. Write back to her. Received a letter from Frank Stin today.

Next entry: ("The Soldier's Grave" Found in print here Nov 1863 The Soldier's Grave)

Sat May 16 —

Oh hear you that music so mournful and low As it wails on the banks of the Shenandoah And see you that sorrowful funeral train Round the grave of the warrior who in battle was slain

They dug him a grave full deep and wide
In the flowery dell of the Shenandoah side
With the flag of his country wrapped around his bold form
He sleeps undisturbed by the battle's loud storm

He has fought his last battle O disturb not rest Of freedom's proud sons he was bravest and best A nation shall weep for the loss of her brave Defender who feared not her foes or the grave

Mon May 18 -

His mother or sister or wife will not know
Where the dear one lies sleeping by the dark Shenandoah
No mother or sister or wife will ere weep
Ore the grave where the loved one so calmly doth sleep

Sun May 31 – Frank Stin returned today, looks well and hearty at present. Goes to cooking for Jones and Murphy Company E 30th Regiment Indiana Vols. Camp near Murfreesboro, Tenn. Expect to get our pay soon now.