

Lewis Hanback Letter

Head Quarters 2nd Division

4th Army Corps Oct 18th 1863

My Friend

Your letter came to hand two days ago I am very much surprised that you had not heard from me up to the time you wrote

As soon after the Occupation of Chattanooga as Circumstances would admit I Wrote You a short account of Your bereavement accompanied by a statement of Lieut [sic] Moody's affairs here, I think ere this you have recieved [sic] that letter

I read your letter with a heart full of thankfulness I am grateful to You for the Wishes which You expressed I have treasured Up Your words in My heart and I shall not I assure soon forget them

Captain Brown was but partly Correct in the statement he made regarding My being present in the Hospital with Otis I was there I did assist him to take such positions as he wished Still it was not in My arms that he passed away Tired, Worn out with exertion incident to such terrible times at 11 Oclock [sic] at night When he was resting easier than usual I gave him in Care of the Hospital Steward of the 51st Ills Mr [sic] Parsons, and lay down by the fire bidding him to wake me up if needed A little after One Oclock [sic] he waked me up I Knew what the cause was Otis was resting in the Arms of Parsons One glance sufficed to tell Me that all would soon be over from that time on I stood beside the cot assisting whenever needed I watched beside him Until life's fickle flame went out and [crossed out] Until the Spirit left its frail tenemant [sic] and Sped out on its voyage to the land of the blest.

As to expenses accruing to anything I may do I hope You will say nothing about it Whatever I do is but an offering which I willingly Make to the Memory of a cherished friend I simply do what he would have done for me

Please let me hear from You again

Your Friend

Lewis Hanback

Mrs. Moody