

A J Murphy Letter

Andrew J. Murphy, AQM
I Company
8th Tennessee Infantry

Background Information

Andrew J. Murphy, son of Mary Wynn Tinley Murphy Ward, stepson of Bryan Ward fought in the battle in Civil War. Killed in Battle of Resaca, Georgia in 1864.

January 4, 1863
Shelbyville, Tennessee

Dear and Beloved Mother

As Mr. Dice is about starting home, I thought it best to write you a few lines. Our Armis [sic] is falling back to Tullahoma to recruit up. I suppose our boys have suffered immensely [sic]. We have been lying in line of battle for 8 or 9 days. We fought on the 31st day of Dec. Our left and senter [sic] was all that was engaged. We drove them back from 5 to 7 miles with the terribles [sic] and slaughter, my eyes ever beheld. I think the loss of the enemy will nos. in killed and wounded some 8 or 10 thousand. We took 6 or 7 thousand prisoners. I can't tell how many other troops suffer but our Regiment. We lost and killed and wounded 250 or 300 men. Our Colonel was killed and nearly all the officers of the Regiment. I believe we have 7 or 8 of them left. Col. Anderson was not hurt neither was Capt. Burford. Lieut. Kirby was killed and several other Burford company. Tell Mr. Kirby Marshall is all safe after praying strongly and the day pretty well. I was shot through the thigh with a minnie [sic] ball, though did not stop for it some 30 or 40 minutes afterwards.

I was struck on the hip with a piece of shell which knocked me down and bruised up my hip, very much though I can walk about a little with the aid of my stick. Can't ride on horse back. Dear Mother don't suffer and worry about me for I am doing very well. I think I will get well in a short while with proper care and managements. Tell Uncle Bryan I still have both of my horses the horse is not quite sufficient order to sell. I have been offered \$450.00 dollars for him by 4 men. I think one of those men will be very willing to give five hundred dollars for him. I never saw the like of horses killed in my life. We captured forty seven pieces of fine Artillery all of which we got off the field and small Armies [sic] I could not tell, a great deal of other valuable property 3 or 4 hundred

wagons and teams. Tell Uncle Bryan I will write to him by the first opportunity. Give my best respects to all of our family and inquiry friends. I will try and come after while as soon as the Army gets up and settled. May the Lord bless you all is my sincere prayer. I will remain your affectionate son.

A. J. Murphy

I would have written more but this is all the paper I have got.

[memo - Notation on envelope: Mrs. Mary W. Ward, at home. By the pocatalige [sic] of Mr. Dice.]

Death Record

Death record from CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS, SAILORS AND CIVILIANS WHO DIED AS PRISONERS OF WAR AT CAMP DOUGLAS, ILLINOIS 1862-1865 printed by Edward Gray Publications, P.O. Box 181, Kalamazoo, Michigan 49005. This book is located in the Bedford County Public Library in Shelbyville, TN.

Burials for the 8th Tennessee Infantry are as follows:

The rank of all were privates.

Bartlett, John A. Co. K died February 13, 1863

Brown, A.J. Co. F died Feb 6, 1863

Brown, J.H. Co. F died Feb. 2, 1863

Doyle, Jas. Co. I died April 3, 1863

Graham, W.C. Co. G died March 9, 1863

Hudson, W.C. Co. I died March 31, 1863

Page, Daniel Co. A died Oct. 18, 1864

Stone, J.M. Co. H died March 22, 1863

Webb, Geo. Co. D died Feb. 23, 1863