



[Return I. Holcombe Papers.](#)

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EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
THE CENTURY MAGAZINE
UNION SQUARE NEW YORK

Jan. 14, 1887.

R. I. Holcombe, Esq.,

Nevada, Mo.

Dear Sir,

We thank you sincerely
for the information concerning Black
Hawk, and shall incorporate the
correction in the Lincoln when
published in book form. The authors
obtained their supposed facts from two
gentlemen well known in the West, both
formerly governors of States.

Again thanking you we remain

Yours very truly,
Editor Century Mag.
L.F.S.



EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
THE CENTURY MAGAZINE
UNION SQUARE NEW YORK

January 22, 1887.

R. I. Holcombe, Esq
Nevada, Mo.

Dear Sir: Your favor in regard to General Shields has been duly received and read, and in accordance with your request has been forwarded to Messrs Hay and Nicolay. We have no doubt it will go far to modify their opinion of General Shields and perhaps the language in which they shall wish to speak of him when "The Life of Lincoln" is printed in book form. This is, however, a matter for them to determine and not for us.

We remember and have referred to your favor of the 2nd of March 1885 in regard to papers on the war in Missouri. You will be glad to know that we have a most interesting article from Colonel Thomas L. Snead of Price's campaign of 1861 touching upon the chief battles. General Pearce has also kindly offered to submit to us some reminiscences of Wilson's Creek.

We note that in your letter you speak of "interesting views &c." We are very much in need of just such material together with authentic maps of the chief Missouri battles, Carthage and Lexington especially. We should be glad to know if you were in these two battles, and also whether you have any anecdotal reminiscences which you would care to sub-



EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
THE CENTURY MAGAZINE
UNION SQUARE NEW YORK R.I.H.2

mit for our consideration, in which case we should like to see them at once. The illustrations desired ~~would~~ include portraits, pictures of the field, photographs of typical costumes or uniforms, and any other subjects tending to present the individual character of the border conflict. Since knowing the accuracy of your mind, as shown in your last letter, we are more impressed with the desirability of obtaining your assistance in this matter. We need hardly say that it would give us pleasure to compensate you for any material which you can find.

Yours very truly,

Editor Century Magazine
R.I.H.



EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
THE CENTURY MAGAZINE
UNION SQUARE NEW YORK

1887

Feb. 5.

R. J. Holcombe,
Nevada, Mo.

Dear Sir: We have
your interesting and obliging
favor of the 27th of Jan.

We have portraits of Scho-
field and Sturgis and the
standing portrait of Lyon (looking
like a mannikin). We should like
a better of him, and all the other
^{illustrations} material you speak of, and shall
be obliged for it as soon as pos-
sible. We guarantee its return to
you in good order as when received.
Please write full notes of de-
scription, especially of the Wilson's
Creek view, showing points of view, &c.
We shall probably be able only
to give maps of Missouri & of

Wilson's Creek and Plea
Ridge fields and perhaps a
small one of Lexington. Certainly
we gave up on closer inquiry.

With thanks for your
assistance in a somewhat bar-
ren field,

Very sincerely yours,
Editor Century
Magazine.

R. W. Johnson
Associate Ed.

Have you seen the article
by Mark Twain ^{in the Century a year ago} on his Campaign,
and will you tell us whether
the illustrations violate the facts?
and are they true to Missouri types?
I write after office hours to save
time.

We could hardly use the portrait
of the Surgeon, thanks.



EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
THE CENTURY MAGAZINE
UNION SQUARE NEW YORK

February 7, 1887.

R. I. Holcombe, Esq
Nevada, Mo.

Dear Sir: I did not discover until after my letter of the 5th your postscript in which you inquire as to the papers on the War. Permit me to inclose a circular of the book which is to be made of the War Series and other material. The Lincoln Life is also to appear in book form after its publication in the Magazine. We appreciate very sincerely all you say in compliment to these papers.

Yours very truly,

R. U. Johnson.

P. S. Could you include with the other material a map of Missouri in 1861, sending all these things by express at our expense?

A. B. Mr. Elder, the Editor-in-chief, who has had charge of the Lincoln Life, begs to say that he is obliged to you for the Shields defense, a part of which he will be glad to use in a footnote to another communication on the same subject which he has accepted and which covers the ground. The probability is that the objectionable part will be modified when the book republication is made.

Editorial Department Century Magazine
Union Square, New York
February 17, 1887.

Mr R. I. Holcombe
Nevada, Mo.

Dear Sir: The package of illustrated material which you were kind enough to send has duly reached us. We shall engrave the Confederate scrip for Colonel Snead's article, and perhaps the portrait of Jesse James for an article on the campaign of 1864. The Lyon is identical with a print which we already have. The Jackson we shall use unless we get something better from his daughter to whom we have written.

Your notes are most interesting, as is your letter. We are a little sorry you did not send the "blackberry cavalryman" and the "jay-hawker" since they would at least form a point of departure for Mr Kemble's sketches. By the way, he desires to make some changes in his drawings for Mr Clemens's article before they are reproduced for the War Book.

* On second thoughts, we think it would be a beautiful thing to print a picture of James under my portrait. This case of notoriety is at the bottom of that sort of crime.

Feb. 17, 1887.

R.I.H.2

Could you put us in the way of getting the loan of copies of some of Bingham's pictures? We suppose he is dead.

The sketch by Grimes which you have kindly offered we have already seen.

For the present we beg to retain the material which you have sent that we are not able to use, as it will be of assistance to us in making clear whatever we do use.

With appreciation of the trouble you are taking in this matter, ~~we are~~

Very sincerely yours, R. W. Johnson.

P.S. Oh, how about the Lexington Bank business? We want to be very sure of our ground in that matter.

Your sketch of the 12" is just here, but I must take another time to reply to it.

3223 Lucas St

St Louis Feb 18/87

My dear Sir & Comrade

Your note of the 14th has
just been received. The paper which
you refer was one of two on "Anarchy"
in 1861 "written for & by request of the
"National Tribune" newspaper - I was
satisfied with the illumination & suitable
wrote it at the Rousseau Art meeting
before sending it to the paper as I had
intended. The two articles either
have been or will be published

Feb. 18, 1887.

in the National Tribune -

Yours truly Thane

With a printed copy to send you as I

should be glad to do.

Sincerely yours

J. W. Fiske

R. J. Holcombe Esq

Wash

Me



EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
THE CENTURY MAGAZINE
UNION SQUARE NEW YORK

Feb. 19. 1887

W. R. G. Adenbe,
Nevada, Mo.

Dear Sir: As we shall not
have room for the portrait of
Col. Brown I return it at
once with thanks for your thought-
fulness in sending it.

The Atlanta Campaign will
be described by Howard with a
refutatory letter from Gen. Sherman.
We've exhausted words in trying to
set the General in "under the sun-
bella".

We wrote to A. J. Smith months
ago and received no reply. Can you
give me his more definite address.

Thanks for your helpful suggestions.

Yours sincerely

R. W. Johnson.

(Over)

As to Wilson's Creek — is there
not in Springfield a more satisfactory
view of the battle-field? We shall use
the wheat-field one you send, and should
like an effective one from Sigel's position,
showing road, Skegg's Branch & the Confed. positions.
If these can be had soon at anything like
a reasonable cost we authorize you to ar-
range the matter. Some one ought to go
with the photographer who knows the
positions.

Yours very sincerely,

R. U. Johnson.

R. J. Halcombe

Mar. 1887.

In Account with Brown & Co.,

		<u>Dr</u>			
1886	July 6	Cash ^{3.00}	19 Board, R.R. Fare & Wife ^{18.75}	21	20
	22	" ^{1.00}	26 Paper ^{1.35}	2	35
Aug	2	" ^{5.00}	3 Cash to wife ^{1.00}	6	
	9	Board W. W. Prewitt		20	
	10	Cash ^{2.25}	19 Board ²⁴	26	25
	20	Washing ^{.35}	25 Cash ^{2.00}	2	35
Sept	1	Board ^{8.00}	3 Washing ²⁵	8	25
	9	" ^{8.00}	7 Cash ^{1.00}	9	
	7	Express ^{.50}	17 Washing ²⁵	7	5
	17	Stamps ^{.30}	Oct, Washing ²⁵	5	5
Oct	7	Board,		40	
	"	Livery at Bridgford's		4	50
	8	Cash, wife ^{2.00}	Medicine ²⁵	2	25
	12	Cash ^{.50}	Livery at Souley's ^{.50}	6	
	16	Washing ²⁵	Board ^{8.00}	8	25
	18	Board		8	
	25	Cash, wife ^{1.00}	27 Do ^{.50}	6	05
	30	Washing ³⁰		30	
Nov.	15	Sundries		35	
	22	Washing ²⁵	27 Do ²⁵	50	
Dec	11/16	" ^{.50}	25 " ²⁵	75	
	22	Cash, wife		1	40
Jan	8	Washing ²⁵	17 Wife ^{2.00}	2	25
	18	Cash ^{15.00}	Board ^{110.00}	110	50
	24	Cash		10	
Feb		Washing		15	
		Board from Jan 24 to Feb 14		58	
Total				346	05

from Oct 18 to 24

By writing History
per contract

300 00
46 05
13 35
359 40

June 11 Cash to Ticket Returned

Rec'd. Paym
Brown & Co.

Personal



EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
THE CENTURY MAGAZINE
UNION SQUARE NEW YORK

1887.

March 7.

R. G. Holcombe, Esq.,
Nevada, Mo.

Dear Mr. Holcombe: We've
concluded that we must have
the photographs of Wilson's
Creek though the charge is rather
high, & have telegraphed Sittler.

We have heard from Mr.
Wilson and have his map, photo-
graph of the Hungarian picture of
the fight, & can get from Col.
Ineed the Bird's eye view.

The Price Monument Association
is helping us, and altogether
we hope to illustrate Lexington,
Wilson Creek & Pea Ridge pretty well
& have good maps of the three.

You are probably right
about Sherman. He and Sheri-
dan are the two most timid
brave men I ever knew - afraid
of controversy I suppose. We
find Gen. Sherman rather poor-poorish.
When the series began he was sure
it could not succeed - now he says
the series is all right in the magazine
but nobody will "care for the book!"
So we feel encouraged. All the
same we should have liked him
to write an introductory article
on this war as compared & contras-
ted with other wars - but he
sniffed controversy with the English
Generals! Now, if some one
would only attack him in the
press for some thing he didn't do
& say the Century editors were
right in leaving him out of a
monumental (!) work -!

On Vicksburg - we have
two diaries of the siege (one not
yet printed, Grant's "Campaign" as well
as the "Siege" (we gave up the first publica-
tion of the former to the Grants), a paper
by Col. Lockett, the engineer of the

R.I.H.



EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
THE CENTURY MAGAZINE
UNION SQUARE NEW YORK

Confederate

works, and a chance at a long
controversial article by Pemberton

Have you sent the "Civil War"
to Bingham? It hasn't reached
me yet, to my knowledge.

By a print of Lyon I meant
photographic print. Ours is the same
as yours.

As to our Missouri material
here it is:

1. The First Year of the War Col. Sneed
down to & inc. Pea Ridge
a general article but vividly done.
2. In Command in Missouri ^{Gen} John C. Frémont
including Pope's Operations & Grants (Belmont)
3. The Defense of Lexington ^{Col.} James Mulligan
4. Notes on Wilson's Creek & Pea Ridge ^{Gen} F. Sigel
5. (?) Wilson's Creek Gen N. B. Pearce
6. Belmont (Gen. Marcus J. Wright).

Ought these not to cover the

ground pretty well? The
Campaign of 1864 must wait,
for the present. Too busy with
earlier things. Thanks all the
same for the suggestions which we
shall salt down.

War history has suffered a
great loss in the death of Col.
R. N. Scott who has had charge
of the publication of the Record
of both armies — a most impar-
tial and obliging man,

But I must say goodbye.
When we get through this No. work
we shall have something ^{to} offer you
other than thanks.

Yours very sincerely,

A. N. S. M.

Oh! can you give us Gen. A. G.
Smith's address. We may want him
for the Red River expedition.



EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
THE CENTURY MAGAZINE
UNION SQUARE NEW YORK

March 22, 1887.

R. I. Holcombe, Esq
Nevada, Mo.

Dear Sir: We have at last made arrangements with General Sherman for a paper on the characteristics of the War.

We do not yet seem to have received the pictures, the County Election, and the Public Sale. Will you kindly say how they were sent, and when? We have the "one of War" which is in Mr. Kunkle's hands.

As to Vicksburg: we are already pretty well filled up, and whatever we should consider now would have to be on approval. I hardly think we could ask Senator Cockerell to write on that basis.

We shall always be glad to examine anything you might desire to send to us.

Please do not take any further trouble in regard to General A. J. Smith, as we have made arrangements which will preclude our asking him to write.

I write in great haste, and with apologies for the long and necessary delay in answering your favor of the 12th of March.

Yours sincerely,

R. W. Johnson



EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
THE CENTURY MAGAZINE
UNION SQUARE NEW YORK

April 13, 1887.

My dear Mr Holcombe:

In writing you a day or two ago I omitted to reply to your favor of the 27th of March. The facts are about Banks, as I tell you confidentially, that we have asked General Banks himself to write the inside history of the Red River expedition, and we are in hopes that he will do so, after which it might not be impracticable to ask General Smith also, or in case General Banks should decline. As soon as we are able to get a final answer from Banks we shall approach General Smith.

The papers on the war in the West will probably appear in the second part of our War-Book, which you know is to be published in parts. It is just possible that they may go over to the third part, in which case they will not appear until June. We are trying very hard to make them adequate to the subject.

I am not informed who is to succeed Colonel Scott, whose loss to the country is irreparable.

Very truly yours,

R. I. Holcombe, Esq
Monticello, Mo.

R. W. Johnson.

Springfield, Ill., April 27th 1887

R. J. Halcomb Esq
Monticello Mo
Dear Sir

I have your favor of April 19th in which
you inform me that you are engaged in compiling
for publication in book form a History of Anti Slavery
disfranchisement and ask me for information as to my
views to conform with my signature in July 1861

I do not know what were your sympathies as
between the Union and Secession but assuming that
you are now at least impartial they stand that
the truth of History if fairly written would show that
in 1861 there were very few Secessionists in Anti Slavery
disfranchisement in 1861

During the night of July 4th 1861 I was informed
by ^{Dr. J. H. Hanks} Gov John Wood, that on the day before
(July 4th) a man named "Somer" had killed a Captain
Homer and he handed me an order or request for
official approval to Cauldon Mo and then asked
Somer as the name is local you can correct it and
also notice the Union people who were friendly to the

April 27, 1887

Springfield, Ill., _____ 188

in danger from Lechismul ~~the~~ who under the influence
of Hon James S Green and his brother Martin Green
was organizing in or near Monticello.

I took a steamer at Quincy loaded a company
of Cavalry with orders to proceed to the residence of
Samuel Green and arrest him and then ^{the following day} ~~then~~ ^{my} ~~the~~
Regiment loaded at Canton arrested James and sent
him to Leavenworth. The force with me was about 800
men. My Regiment 14th Ill. Infantry was full 1000
men took and held the Cook Professor of the College
Building in Monticello and occupied it during my stay.
He arrested Samuel Green and kept him in custody
a number of days much to his disgust and indignation.
I sent a Battalion (4th Regt) out to Monticello which
arrested Mr. Sage I think his name was a member
of the Legislature and brought him in. He agreed
with me that under the Constitution of the United States
and the State of Missouri my soldiers could take
possession of his property his consent. I told him he
had the law and the logic but my thirty men had the
musket as it seemed and I dismissed him.

April 27, 1887

Springfield, Ill., _____ 188

I kept Canton about the ^{13th} ~~15th~~ of July, then down
Adams' and from there after a day or a
day I took out some very sheep with
I learned them and told to Mr. Loring that
if he would authorize Col. John Glendon a message
to do so no one of them would 2/3 of the able
bodies men in Northern Illinois into Union Regiments
but that would like mine simply imitated the people
with no meaning them a thin. Sympathies while all the
hollers demand come ^{so} into the Southern Army, at any
time and it was certain that these hollers would
take them somewhere

While he delighted to see your book when
published
Respectfully
John Palmer



Library of Congress,

Washington, ^{To} April 28, 1887.

R. I. Holcomb, Esq

Dear Sir,

Col. Nicolay
having shown me some sheets
of your County History, I write
to say that none of your his-
torical works are in this
National Library, where they
ought to be, for the use and
reference of all.

Will you please write me the
names of the Counties whose histories
you have written, with the publisher's
name? Oblige

Very respectfully,

A. R. Spofford

Librarian of Congress.

(Three Envelope Enclosed)



EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
THE CENTURY MAGAZINE
UNION SQUARE NEW YORK

May 25, 1887.

Mr R. I. Holcombe
Monticello, Mo.

Dear Sir: We have your favor of the 16th of May inclosing portrait of General Joseph Bailey, for which, and for your continued interest in the matter of the Missouri articles we thank you. We have asked our illustration department to send you the inclosed check in acknowledgment of your trouble in the matter of the pictures.

Sincerely yours,

R. U. Johnson
Associate Editor.



EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
THE CENTURY MAGAZINE
UNION SQUARE NEW YORK

June 30, 1887.

Mr R. I. Holcombe
Monticello, Mo.

Dear Sir: Will you permit me to put aside the flattering and honorable title of Colonel which you have kindly bestowed upon me. As I was but twelve years old at the close of the War I cannot stretch my conscience to the acceptance even of a brevet.

I thank you very much for your offer to read the proofs of the Missouri articles. We shall try to send you at least part of them, though we are so closely pressed for time that we shall probably not be able to avail ourselves of your corrections in the first edition.

Sincerely yours,

R. W. Johnson.

Inead's & Fremont's go to press today (July 1) but any errors in them may be corrected in the other articles. We send the proof herewith.

Canton, Mo. July 19th 1887.

R. J. Holcombe Esq.

Kirksville, Mo.

Dear Sir

As you have been canvassing N.E. Missouri. And must have become well acquainted with all the incidences of the war on the border I have only picked a few of them taken from personal observation. And as I have no desire for notoriety you will oblige me by including my name with the events, as stated as much as possible. And by this mail I send you a brief manuscript for your consideration and action.

Hoping this will find you in as good health as is your happy disposition. I am very respectfully your obedient servant.

D. Moore

July 28, 1887

Dear Sir

¹⁴ Yours of July 25/87 just
recd. I should have done some-
thing towards complying with
your kind request & my own promise
in regard to Material in regard to
the Kikesville Campaign and have
done it before now - only for
the prostrating effects of the
terrible heated term of the last
month. The Drey Star & the
rages and I find myself
quite incapable of exertion
mental or physical.

Service by Sumner's ~~or~~
 Layal old officer and we
 had no time to loose in
 Orgies for spilt milk.

The false statements in the
 Capt H. Davis account of the
 'Murder' of McCallough I am
 assured will be corrected in
 the next volume of that
 Historical work.

I am sure you that Porter's
 mistake was that he found me
 at Pickens. If he had
 kept on the run or scattered

July 28, 1887

a gain like Partidas, we
would have been defeated by
our own torments. The Counties
near there not ours. The
union men in those Counties
had been murdered, driven off
and their families had gone
with them. The Confederates as
they went and left us nothing,
but the help we showed them
from before they could cook it.
And the know must be told they
put up with privations and sub-
sistence on fire that our army

would not. ¹⁴Porter's Corn
In weeks would have hardly
have satisfied our Boys. after time as military bag
I fully concur in your estimate and honour. I am sorry
of Porter he was a soldier that Miller did not respond
of fine abilities and to you for he writes well
believe a good man - altho and knows much that would
a Garilla. He made those interest the readers of your
Green Country boys fight like look. But he is now much
lives. He was a hard getting richer and I suppose
Commander. Thinks that is the chief

There are a great many end of man.
incidents I could furnish. Please remember me to my
you but in my report at old friend Porcelles. He is
the time and in all subsequent neighbours may thank him
writings I have tried to avoid for the Normal school

and furnished good and
Kutervoie in the Past.

I have not the address of
Cal Franklin. Thanks for
offer of Poor Hunts they shall
be promptly attended to.

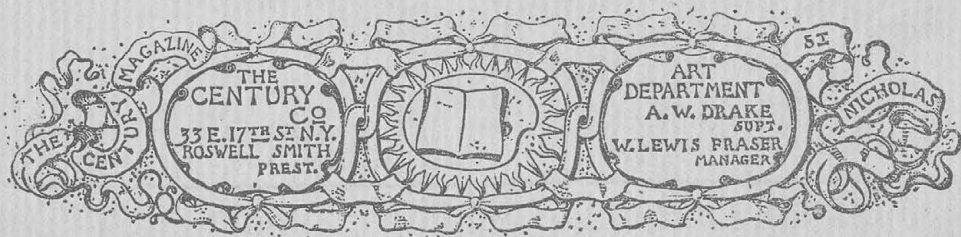
Poor Catch! Being a gentleman
he is sadly out of place
with such a brutal Constitution
as to have been obliged to deny
that he had rendered
gentlemanly Courtesy to a politi-
cal opponent & a quarrelsome
But such is politics — and
I suppose politicians must

July 28, 1887.

9

they
The low demands of their
followers.

My further assistance
I can render you I should
gladly as it is if the weather
will permit. Command me
Yours in fervent heat
John M. Merrill
Capt. D. H. Comb
Rakewell
Md



Oct. 20/87.

R. S. Holcombe, Esq.
Edina, Mo.

Dear Sir:

We returned to Major
Perritt the photo "Civil War" as
you desired, two days since, noti-
fying him that we had done so.
Will you kindly advise us whether
we shall return the material
you lent us (1 Piece of Scrip. 1 Linotype
of Jackson. 1 Stereo. Bloody Hill) to you
at Edina or Nevada, and we
will forward it without delay.

Headquarters Department of Texas, 1889

San Antonio, Texas, May 12th, 1889

Dear Sir, Gen James Frazier
was present in Camp at Kansas City
the day I came a day of time,
and which I ascribe to you as
being fired on at or near Rock
Creek, My rank was Captain of
Co E 4th Cavalry. You are
right about the date of the night
expedition to Liberty, Prince gave
back all the arms and horses
with very few exceptions, the
prisoners taken very peaceably
and really deserve Prince.

I did not see Col Wrightman
but learned he was present

At Rock Creek, I have
formerly known Peyton
in New Mexico. These things
have passed by so long, that
our memories are apt to fail
us, but the Confederates who say
the Union troops fired, are
entirely mistaken, but perhaps
not wholly so.

M. R. F. Holcombe Yours Truly
L. H. Sawyer

All Official Letters to this Office must be addressed to the "Register of the Treasury."

Dictated.

Treasury Department,

No.

REGISTER'S OFFICE,

Washington, D. C., May 21, 1889. 1889

R. J. Holcomb, Esq.,
486 Cedar St. St. Paul, Minn.

Dhar Sir:--

I very well remember Gen. John B. Sanborn when he was Colonel of the 4th Minnesota, and recall his gallantry at luka and my general confidence in his courage, prudence and military ability. Have heard of him of late years as being alive, and even of his having been in Washington, but have not had the pleasure of meeting him.

While serving with me, and as long as I knew him, he had my confidence both as a soldier and as a man, and he has my best wishes for his continued prosperity.

With thanks for your kindly words and good wishes expressed for yourself and others, I am

Very truly yours,

W. S. Parsons

June 24, 1889

34 Henry St (Cambridge)

Capt R. H. Wood Philadelphia Pa June 24/89
(Pamph. Thompson)

Yours of June 10th was forwarded to me some days since from St Louis by my good wife. I have delayed replying that I might give you the address you ask for which is "Col F. W. Denton Box 118 Atlanta Ga". I have carefully looked over the manuscript of Col. Sanborn of service on the Price Raid. In my own part of that inclosure and a private journal I would refer to my own report on file at the Dept of Records Washington D.C. These things are not history, but they are that out of which history will be made, and none can have more confidence in the report of Col. Sanborn than I have. He tells us what saw and what he did. I saw things that he did not, and my report of what I saw and tried to do is of record. I think it will appear in an early issue of Rebellion in Records. Col. Denton will tell you when I crossed the Mississippi

And Genl A I Smith will tell you why
his division of Infantry did not cut the
important figure they could have done in
that pursuit. I know something of all this
that I shall tell when my turn comes.

Plasenton seeing Genl Sanborns eagerness
to fight and his fine & clearly qualities
gave him every chance. and when he had
those chances taken advantage of. He was
prejudiced against me and when I had
a chance to smash Pries free and scatter
his army. He ordered me to desert and make
no further attack. About this ask Benton.

I am looking for employment in an
Government. Be sure that I am very poor & I
would not do this. I can only expect what I ask
for. Old age is against me - It is not a lucky
figure. But I have health & vigor and may
have to run my post for years to come.
The Century Magazine of July promises to insert a letter
from me in regard to Palmyra. Yours respectfully
Thos M. Smith



Capt R D Holcomb
No 4th Ca mounted
Y P Paed Minn

Have gone to the Bakery
& with Mrs Olnstead
will be back soon
Mollie



P.O. Box, 118, Atlanta, Ga.

June 30. 1889.

Dear Sir;

Yrs. of 26th

I regret, very sorry that I cannot
corroborate the assertion of
General Sauborn inasmuch as
I have not received any orders
from him to take my brigade
into action at Mine Creek Mo.
though, what orders he may
have given Col. Phelps, if any,
I was present in a position to
know. - General Sauborn stands
in need of no reflected light-
or borrowed glory. - Do exhibit
to you that I am S. ...

Such claim in his official report of the campaign in question, I quote from his report of same, which is quite lengthy, but that I cannot give it in full.

Cope. Ex."

The enemy had already opened his artillery, and General Pleasanton was at the ford, throwing forward troops and artillery as rapidly as possible. x x x
x x A section of artillery now came up and was immediately placed in position on our left, within good range of the guns of the enemy, and opened fire rapidly. Colonel Phillips came forward with his entire brigade upon the gallop, and advanced upon the enemy's left, and Colonel Bentzen brought his brigade upon the field with similar spirit, although two of his regiments had been on duty nearly the entire night, and advanced against the enemy's centre the 3d Brigade bearing strongly to the left at this time. The enemy

gave way immediately, followed rapidly by Phillips and Bentzen's brigades, and fled with such precipitation that it seemed improbable that he would form again soon. My brigade (Reid, Sabourin's) having been on duty all night, and engaged all the morning without anything for horses or men to eat, by permission of the General commanding, I fell to the rear for a few moments. Hardly were the horses unbridled, when instantly firing was again heard beyond a ridge to the front, which was soon followed by artillery. "Go Horse" was immediately sounded, and the brigade moved off on a gallop to the scene of the conflict. Before it could reach the spot, however, the impetuosity and gallantry of the 1st and 4th brigades had broken the enemy's line, captured his artillery, and put to him a complete rout. From this report it would seem that Phillips and myself had two separate and distinct

"Whirls" at the Marmaduke's force
before breaking him up & how
easy, & without effort.

To show that there
was no concert of action be-
tween Phillips brigade and mine,
I simply say that when I found
the evening formed - and with
four or five batteries to receive
the Phillips brigade was very
nearly a mile on my right,
formed in line, and were en-
gaged in firing with carbines
at the evening in an irregular
manner; some being mounted,
some dismounted. I immediat-
ely sent an aide, Capt. Titch,
14th Iowa Cavalry, to the C. O.
of the brigade on my right,
telling him whose I was -
telling him I was going
charge at once, and for
God's sake to support me!
Putting my brigade in readiness,
in close column of regiments,
my own, the 10th Mo. Troop advance,
and seeing the aide well off at
at Staff Gallop, I had the
Assembly of the trumpets sounded.

E.D.

The Trumpeters ~~got~~
 together - and formed on the
 right of leading Regiment,
 were ordered to sound the
 "Charge" and as we had
 an excellent Corps of them,
 they did their part in fine
 shape, while we, well,
 we struck Marmaduke's
 formation obliquely, and
 tumbled it over like well
 so many bricks that had
 been piled for the occasion.

The last view I got
 of Phillips' brigade, it was
 intact, in just the same
 position as when I first
 saw it: what it did after-
 wards, I leave for others to
 find out, but in breaking
 up Marmaduke's line, who
 during the most desperate

being in the world if this
brigade had anything to
do with it, and I
corroborate this statement
with information given to
me the same night by
General Maraudette himself,
and to the effect, that,
when he saw my forced
line, (front of one small
regiment) appear over brow
of hill, he thought it but
a feint, that the attack
would be made by the other
and greater force; and
General Cabell then spoke
up, and said, "Yes, you
were just in the nick of
time, for I had been
ordered to charge the other
brigade by General Mar-
audette." This is ad-
ditional to the questions

you ask, i.e. material, but,
if Genl. Sauborn was given
the authority to order a charge
on the immediate field of
battle would it not have
been more to the point better,
and of infinitely more satisfaction
to him then and now to have
been at the place from which
he might have judiciously ordered
the charge, and had his own
brigade up, in supporting dis-
tance? You see these absolutes
suffice to make me think
that the claim of the Sauborn
vanish of an afterthought,
and the more so, because
I have heard the same claim
advanced before, by one R.D.
Stunt, Vice to Genl. S.P. Curtis,
Chief of Art., - or something - a Major.
He claimed that in the
name of General Curtis, he ordered
us to charge Maraudette's
forces, which is just as R.D. St.

and N. at the Sanborn's slaying.
though none was made since
thereafter, while the others
as if they were of century but
in coming to the front
now the truth of the
matter is that neither one
of the champions had a
single voice in the matter,
for at that time I had
never seen, and did not
know either of them, I
never thought it of sufficient
importance to sit on a stump
as I was engaged then in
doing a little sitting up Col.
Phillips, and anyway, the
fight was now, and that
was all the great public
cared about, and in truth,
was principally what I was
always setting for, not
for personal glory, by a
great deal, as I don't be-
lieve there was a man in the
U.S. Forces then or now
that cared as little for the same
as do I.

"The Army of the Border,"
 a book paid for by Major
 Selmont, of Genl. Curtis' Staff,
 referred to, and written by
 Captain ~~Richard~~ J. Dinton,
 though of a somewhat partisan
 character, was published by
 Church & Goodman, Chicago,
 in 1865, from which you
 will get an account of
 the campaign against
 Price in Mo. in 1864. I had
 a copy, but lost the same
 by the burning of my
 residence here a short time
 ago. I cannot think
 of writing anything for
 glory's sake, it is too
 ephemeral.

" No, I am not a Miss
^{Samuel} ~~Samuel~~, and from Petersburg,
 Va. - bred & born, but was
 taken Mo. at breaking out of
 the war, and differing from
 my people as to the
 right of Secession, and
 having been educated at a
 military Institute in Va. pro-
 ceeded to put to practice
 what military knowledge I
 had not forgotten, and to
 furnish up what I had.

You will see that
 I can't bear out Sauborn's
 statement. No General officer,
 nor no Staff officer of any
 rank, officer was on the field
 of Mine Creek to my knowledge.

Very Truly Yours, &c.

D. M. Brewster -
 Brevet Colonel U. S. Army.

P. O. Box, 118, Atlanta, Ga.

R. I. G. Colcombe, Esq.
No. 486 Cedar Street,
Saint Paul,
Minn.





EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT
THE CENTURY MAGAZINE
UNION SQUARE NEW YORK

1887

R. I. Holcombe Esq.
Kirkville, Mo.

July 11.

Dear Mr. Holcombe:

I have received your suggested corrections and am hoping by them. In one or two cases you are I think in error. I'll write you in detail later.

Will you try your hand on these proofs and send them back post haste.

The Bank matter we expect to treat in a footnote to Mulligan who is singularly inaccurate as I found even before your proofs were sent back. I have the letter from Mr. Wentworth.

Thanks, thanks, thanks.

Yours sincerely R. U. Johnson

in
not
even
"Judge"
through
my
letter
was
before

No. 1307 Pine St., St. Louis, Mo.
September 18th 1889.

R. J. Walcott, Esq.
486 Cedar St. St. Paul, Minn.

My Dear Comrade and fellow Soldier:

I was much pleased to receive
from you a copy of the able and
eloquent Oration of Genl. J. B. Sanborn,
before the Army of the Tennessee, Sept. 9th
1885, at Chicago. I had never seen it.

I must write to him my Thanks
for the full justice he does our
Brigade, at Champion Hill. The
work done was theirs; it was enough
for me that I was able to keep
my head on my shoulders enough
to order what ought to be done,
and it is their glory that they
did it.

Genl. Sanborn's judgment of Genl.
Grant is just and admirable.
He must know from me how

he restored me to the Command
of my Brigade in the nick of
time, and almost under fire,
on that occasion, an incident
never yet fully known.

Please give my respects to
General Auburn, when you see
him, and Oblige

Yours Truly,
Alfred A. Holmes,
Acting Col. 10th & 40th Mass Regt.



State of Minnesota,
Executive Department

St. Paul,

Sept. 21st, 1889.

R. I. Holcombe, Esq.,

486 Cedar St., City.

My Dear Sir:

Press of business prevents Governor Merriam from personally acknowledging your communication of the 18th inst., and he desires me to do so, and requests that I ~~ask you to~~ ask you to call and talk this matter over with ~~him~~ *him*.

The Governor is a very modest gentleman, and I don't think he takes very kindly to the idea of putting a "counterfeit presentment" of himself in the work you refer to.

Yours respectfully,

R. C. C. Smith
Governor's Private Secretary.

Please call on your convenience

AMONG THE MANY TOPICS OF INTEREST TREATED THE FOLLOWING MAY BE MENTIONED.

Topographical, Geological, and Geographical descriptions; Pre-Historic Inhabitants; Mounds and Relics; Early French Explorers and Missionaries; Hennepin, Carver, La Hontan; Indian History of the Northwest; Pike's Treaty with the Indians; Establishment of Fort Snelling; First Settlement of St. Paul in 1838; Natural Advantages; Growth and Improvements; Early Struggles for Railroads; Municipal Government; the War Period; the Bench and Bar; the Medical Profession; Churches, Schools and Academies; Transportation Interests; Manufactures and Commerce; Banks and Bankers; Press and Literature; Stock and Grain Interests; Ice Carnivals; Social, Secret, Literary and Benevolent Societies; Biography, etc.

Memorial History of the City of St. Paul, Minn.

Edited by GEN. C. C. ANDREWS.

D. MASON & CO., Publishers.

St. Paul, Minn., Sept 26 1887

Madam
Dear Sir: Having assumed editorial charge of the History of the City of St. Paul which is now being prepared by Messrs D. Mason & Co of Syracuse, N.Y. it is my wish to make it as perfect as possible in every department. With this object in view it has been deemed proper to devote some space to memorial sketches of the lives of some of the representative men of the city who have been identified with its earlier history and later development. These memorials will consist of biographies and portraits of such men only as will be creditable to the city and to a standard work of this kind.

It is thought appropriate that your ^{late husband} occupy a place in this department of the work and in order that the matter may be properly placed before you I have requested the bearer ^{Mr. Holcomb} ~~L. L. Rob.~~ ^{lett} ~~Eag~~ to call upon you in person and explain it.

Respectfully and truly yours
C. C. Andrews.

Mrs. Adam Gotzian

Quincy Ill November 9th 1889
A. I. Holcomb St Paul Minn.

Dear Comrade:

From present indications I am afraid the getting of a history of our Regiment from a financial point of view will be a failure, as I have so far only had \$177.⁵⁰ subscribed toward the guarantee fund. I get a number of answers to my card stating they are too poor &c. Now my idea is if a few of us could make up the guarantee fund, for instance I subscribed \$15.⁰⁰ I would be willing to double it; if therefore ten or fifteen could be got to go into the scheme, it will be about the only way we can get the thing started. Your 4 copies are included in above figures.

Yours very truly
G. H. L. Packlin

DAM & DE REVERE PROPRIETORS.



UNION SQUARE, COR. 15TH ST.

54 East 25th St.

New York 19 Nov. 1889

The Baltimore Lith. Co.

Dear Holcombe Cousin,

With very great satisfaction I recd. your letter & Photograph of Return Ira Holcombe.

I am delighted that any one ^{lives} of that old name - and he too a young man compared with myself - born 2 April 1827 in Sterling, Massachusetts, son of Augustine - born 1797 & Grand son of Nahum born 1763, ~~who was son of~~ ~~Sicut David born 1733~~

G.G. son of Reuben born ¹⁷³⁰ ~~1733~~, & G.G. son of Sicut David H. born 1698/99 in Simsbury Ct. where ^{also} Return was born ~~at~~ I think in 1730 or thereabouts - I just cannot now look it up.

It may be that you are unin-
formed as to the older Hol-
combes. I can not write
all about them all of
your line. But the first
English Holcombe came here
1630 & had Three Sons^{surely}
~~2~~ ~~five~~ & perhaps four sons^{surely}
& 3 or 5 daughters, ^{all} possibly
born in America. — Any how
Joshua, your Ancestor was one;
Nathaniel, my Ancestor, was two;
Benajah another was three;
^{these} Sons ^{were} born in Connecticut
nearly 250 years ago. —

I have an English Holcombe
Record going to about 1100. —

DAM & DEREVERE, PROPRIETORS.

(2)



UNION SQUARE, COR. 15TH ST.

The Baltimore Lith. Co.

New York

188

It may seem foolish to look
up human pedigrees - but
I prefer that kind, to looking
after pedigrees of quadrupeds -
though both are necessary,
especially if one wishes to ascertain
carefully - as to "blooded" humanity.

Your letter is a model one
& you have a rare talent to
condense thoughts admirably &
your chirography is charming.
In 1835 my father's brother
Milo H. went to Iowa & settled
in the vicinity of Keokuk & went

to work building dams & Mills
on Skunk River: About 1840
he took a malarial fever &
died - leaving a son Milo
who died as Lieut. in Iowa
Infantry. His loss was
dephred, as he was beloved
& had no brother & we have
few male Holmeses & wanted
him. His mother is now near
Washington, Iowa aged about 65.
Married again. - In 1859 I
went to Northern Iowa & bought
(by what I thought then good advice)
land in Winnebago Co. - It was
far too northerly as I learned
my pecuniary loss - though
I blamed no one. - So I lost go to
Iowa. -



UNION SQUARE, COR. 15TH ST.

The Baltimore Lith. Co.

New York

188

In Mt Pleasant lived my own
Cousin & Son - Daniel Irving H.
(Son of Webster H. of Berg Hill, Ohio
who was son of Wilton Holcombe,
of same town, but born in Smithburg
in part now called Westly
about 1799. — How I wish I could
have known of there being a
Holcombe oblong near Dr. Morris
& with what pleasure I would
have gone to see them. —

I was very ignorant then of
the "gone out West" Holcombes
Indeed I did not know where 3 Brothers
of my Grand Pa Holcombe were "out West."

But I have hunted Holambes
ever since 1850 & I know
of 5 or 6 thousand & if I can
ever get them into the family
traces & harneper properly
I shall feel that my life
of Holambe hunting for pleasure
& not to kill ~~them~~, but to
save the family from ignorance
of themselves, has been, or will
eventually be, of service to all
future owners & a pleasure
to some of the live one, ~~at~~
who go on hunting a while longer.

I found many Holambes
in "Holambe Addition" at
Des Moines - & in 1880 saw
the old settler - then not rich at
all.

DAM & DE REVERE, PROPRIETORS.



4

The Holliston Lith. Co.

New York 188

The Des Moines Holcumbes are of
New Jersey Origin & I have
all of them on record back
to 1686. They came over after
our Ancestor did & always
lived near Trenton, N.J., and
do now—hundreds of them.

Now I must close & will
finish later on. — In case
haste & believe me glad to
print you & to read your
excellent letters. — More later
on the morrow perhaps.

Wed. 20 Nov. In my office & with my pen. - I am delighted to see the sketch of the graves & cemetery of your Iowa Holscombes. - They must have been a determined lot of brave brethren.

I hope to see some portraits of those older ones. I hope John Mudge H. will send me his Photo. - ^{John Mudge H. married Chloe Mudge about 1800 or before, a few years} In Dubuque & down river at Burlington & Davenport there have long lived old Holscombes of whom I know. Mostly hail as "Vermont Holscombes" - for they were born there - but of Connecticut Parents & of Joshua H. Ancestry - as you are. -

They & few can ^{or do} appreciate that many generations lie between 1889 & 1630. Indeed Peter M. H. born in 1713 leaves several generations between him & the English immigrant. - I have ~~scribbled~~ ^{scribbled} though I have used money & am still using money, been unable to hitch exactly upon the town or parentage of our common Ancestor & his wife's maiden name is unknown. But I shall find it yet if I live but a short time longer. I have full records of several branches of English Holscombes down to present date & Photos of many whom I visited several times in England & who are still writing true & real now has caught heavily the genealogical fever. ^(just)

DAM & DE REVERE, PROPRIETORS.



UNION SQUARE, COR. 15TH ST.

The Baltimore Lith. Co.

New York

188

I do not intend to have him get better of it until he has succeeded in completing our English records. Luckily I have helped him greatly & he can & will help me. His Photo I just rec'd & I had an engraving of his father. Now, I want to help me especially with reference to getting a Photo of Walker H. of your town. I may have his record - but I have a dozen Walters H. Obtain his Record & names in full of his Paternal Ancestry & maiden names of women married to Holmes, Towns, Cos. & States & P. Chad. & copies of any of them, & dates of births, marriages & deaths. I know about Capt Edwin L. B. H. son of late Ex. Lieut. Gov. of Minnesota. My best regards to his sons & their sister & to the Parents - all - very nice people - of New Jersey origin.

2ndly please see if you can find out who
Harry Holcombe is - I believe I have
to do Harry H^{is}; He is of New England origin
I think. If you will, kindly call
on Wm W. H., 724 E. 5th St. Agent
(for Pianos) & get his middle name
in full & ask is Parents full names
& Grand Parents full names (male & fe-
male). He called on me & we looked
it up - but I forgot to index his full
name & I can only remember that
his Aunt lived in Rockford, Ill. (I
think) - can only find it by looking long
in old letters. - He looks like you, as I
^{now} judge - i.e. "fine looking" as my wife
says. Tell him he ought to be forgotten
for not calling with his wife - as he prom-
ised, to see us. Come yourself & do better.
I know Capt. Benj Franklin W. of Galesburg
Ill. I think the Piano M^{rs} H. - he knows Harry
H. & his pedigree. - I know of several Holcombes
in jail & many who ought to be there &
many who should have gone to h^{ell} - long ago.
& many who ought to have been at hard labor
years ago. But generally through ignorance & our getting

DAM & DE REVERE, PROPRIETORS.



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The Baltimore Lith Co.

New York

188

May be that you will be glad to see how this old Antique ^{How old - come!} ~~He~~ looks so I send my photo.

In Minneapolis there is a Jasper H. He sent me a long record.

He is ignorant as to English - but is said to be a successful builder & architect.

If in M. call & see him & ask him if he will rec'd ^{the} ~~my~~ Genealogical Record which I made & sent to him to correct - amend & put all names in full & say that I would like it returned corrected & with this photo. I will write soon & answer your letter. This is only to thank you for your kind, excellent letter &

I to tell you that I am glad
 that you have 1 child. I have
 "none - to speak of" - & none that
 can speak to me. Alas a
 wedded life & no issue! I have
 had no relatives (but cousins) for
 20 yrs. Am a childless orphan
 old & poor & somewhat spare
 You with best regards.

My sons "I am glad that I am not a Holcombe"
 "It is so true of me"

to yourself & wife. Is your
 daughter in St. Paul? I ^{very sympathetic}
 with her - having no brother - only one ^{Holcombe}
man.
 With cordially affection
 for the Holcombes in general
 & you in particular.

Wm. Fred. Holcombe
 54. E. 25th St
 NY

20 Nov. 89
 The best Genealogical Library I know of out
 of Boston is in Hist. Lib. of St Paul. Remembers me
 to the Librarian most kindly please.

DAM & DERÈVERE, PROPRIETORS.



The Baltimore Lith. Co.

New York

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P.S. Can we find out
by tradition what kind of
a man Return H. was?
What was his history?
Who resembles him?
What is the description
of your type of Habermes.
Was he dark or light?
tall or short? fat or thin?
What are your Habermes
generally as to type? —

Department of the Interior,

Office of the Commissioner.

Bureau of Pensions,

Washington, D. C., December 9, 1889.

R. I. Holcombe, Esq.,

No. 486 Cedar St.,

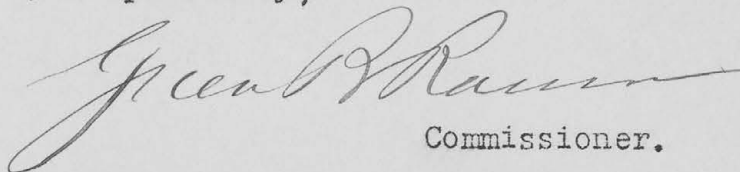
St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of the 30th ult., in regard to right of a dependent mother, though living in a foreign country, to claim pension on account of her son's service, and fully note contents.

In reply I beg to state that the question of residence of a dependent is immaterial in the consideration of a claim. The claimant should make her declaration and proof of dependence before the U. S. Minister or Consul, or before some officer of the country duly authorized to administer oaths for general purposes.

Very respectfully,



Commissioner.

Department of the Interior,

Bureau of Pensions,

Office of the Commissioner.

Washington, D. C., December 10 18 89.

H. I. Holcombe, Esq.,

No. 486 Cedar St.,

St. Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

I have your valued favor of the 30th inst., addressed to me personally, and fully note contents. I am certainly glad to hear from one of my old soldiers, and I have read your letter with interest. I am very much gratified to know that my appointment gives such satisfaction to my old comrades and hope they will be as much pleased at my administration of the office.

Very truly yours,

Green B. Raum