

Feb.-19 37.

This was written by W. R.
Lovell, Age 91 yrs. 8 mo.
(Livonia Township, Sherburne County)

What are they going to use
this for? If it is rewritten
in some form will you please
send me a copy?

Francis Barth
Big Lake, Minn.

W. R. Lovell 1846
Francis Barth

26 Feb 37

4440

I Enlisted August 10th 1862 at Fort Snelling
 Minn with 6 of our Neighbors sons.
 Was given Furlough for eight days, but was called
 back before the eight days had expired and
 Ordered to Glencoe and Forest City. 6 or 8 Citizens
 joined us on this March from Hutchinson
 to Cretin. Camped on the yard of the
 place where the Indians had killed two Men and
 one Woman. About eleven 30 that night
 one scout came in and reported that about
 three hundred Indians were Camped about
 three or four miles from us. We were
 ordered to get into line and were to have rounds
 ammunition Mass Call at 3 o'clock.

We were on the March at 3-30. and about
 two miles from Camp saw the Indians on
 a Hill. we Deployed in skirmish formation
 Marched on drove, then from the hill.
 We didn't show up very strong as there was only
 forty of us and 8 Citizens. We were ordered
 to lay down loads and fire. one of the
 Boys stood up to get a better sight and
 was shot, and another raised up on
 one knee sat on the heel of his shoe
 I heard a Bullet strike him but he seemed

to be all right I asked him if he was hit?
 he felt around but found nothing.

I looked at his shoe the Ball was sticking
 in the Heel, he had been sitting on
 One of the Citizens, Ely Stone, was killed but when we
 took up our dead and wounded we could not
 locate him anywhere so he was left on the battle
 ground. About four in the afternoon
 the Indians retired to some woods on the
 south of Pipe Lake. Two Dead Fifteen wounded.
 We then began our March to Hutchinson.
 arrived there about 6-30. The wounded were
 taken care of the first thing by our Surgeon
 R. H. Twitchell.

The Citizens had made a stockade consisting
 of small logs driven in the ground and
 about 8 feet high above the ground. It was not
 very large, about an $\frac{1}{8}$ th of an acre. It enclosed
 a Building which was used for a Hospital.
 Two days later the Captain sent a Squad
 of men to find the Body of Stone. They
 found him. Scalp and his heart was
 held in his hand by a pair of corner Shears.
 The Captain sent men out to locate some
 People who had settled on Land in the

ENCLOSURE

vicinity of Hutchinson. At one place one woman and her two Daughters were killed; at another a man was cut up in small joints and layed on the Table.

And a little Childs Head was stuck on a small gate in front of the House.

Two Women were taken captive by the Indians Mrs Baker and Mrs Adams but were given up at Camp Release in 1863. Mrs Adams was the Daughter of Mr. Simpson who had a Farm a mile from Hutchinson. He and his Son in the year of 1863 went to the Homestead to pick Raspberries while they were at that work someone shot at them but did no damage. Mr. Simpson looked up saw two Indians. He fired at one killed him, the other one ran.

The one he killed was the Indian Chief, Little Crow, his Scalp now decorates the walls of the Historical Society in St Paul Minn. I almost forgot to state that the Night after the Indians attacked us in Hutchinson I was on guard at Post No. 5 near a Grove of Woods. My turn came about 10 P.M. two hours on and four off. About an hour after I had been on duty

The Guard at Post No. 6 fired his Rifle I called Sergeant of the Guard Post No. 6 He was soon there with four men but nothing happened.

Soon after that I heard a slight rustling in the small Brush at my Post I layed down on the ground brought my Gun into position and ready. Something was moving towards me. It was a very Dark Night soon I saw something like two Feathers on a head. I got a good sight on it and was just going to shoot when I saw what it was. It was a Pet Deer belonging to a young Lady in Town. Oh what a Relief when my Scalp got down to normal and my Heart began to act all right. I felt better. The Deer layed there until the Relief guard came.

The Indians followed us from Cleton to Hutchinson during the night and early in the morning attacked again. Burned two or three Buildings. Casualties that day, six or seven Indians were killed, ~~and~~ about four in the Evening they struck out to go west from Hutchinson.

ENCLOSURE

5

Going South.

On Sept 23. 1863 The Ninth Regiment received Orders to Return to Fort Snelling to Prepare for our journey Down South. Five Companies Left Fort Snelling on the Steamer, Chippewa Falls took on the remaining Companies at Winona. At La Crosse Boarded a Train for St Louis. Where we got Orders to take Steamer to Jefferson City. Missouri. We were there about four months. on May 16. 1864 received Orders to Assemble at Camp Gamble, St Louis to go to Memphis, Tennessee. Where we were to be known as the Second Brigade, First Division, Sixteenth Army Corps, Army of the Cumberland. On the 10th of June we had a scrap with the Confederate General Forrest. It was an all day Battle but pretty sharp. we lost about 140 Killed and wounded and a few missing. The next day started back to Memphis. on 22nd of June left Memphis. with four Minnesota Regiments in our Division the Third, Seventh, Ninth, Tenth. Minnesota was pretty well Represented. Under Command of Maj. Gen. A. J. Smith, Fighting Joe, as he was called and he surely was.

6

The Battle of Tupelo. Miss.

On the 22nd of June 1864 left Memphis enroute into Miss. over the same route of our last Battle. only about 70 Miles farther South. It was a sad day for our Boys, our (Col. Wilkin) was killed. He had just recently been Promoted Brigadier Gen. but we gave Gen Forrest the Licking he would always remember. ^(Note Wilkin County Minn is named for him) Returned to St Louis. 3 Days later left by Boat for Cairo, ^{Ill} arrived Nov 27-64. The 29th went by Steamer up the Cumberland River to Nashville Ten.

I can not give the exact and true description of the Battle but it was a Glorious Victory. The confederat Gen. Hood's loss was 3,500 Killed and Wounded and Fifty one Pieces of Artillery. He started the Battle with Sixty. He lost about 800 Prisoners he

Moved on Nashville with 40,000 Men when he crossed the River on his Retreat had lost half of his Force.

Myself with 5 or 6 of my Company were Detached to search for Wounded and were Captured and Taken to Andersonville Prison, Ga.

ENCLOSURE

DEFECTIVE PAGE

How I and My Wounded Comrade were Captured. I went through a large Grove of Timber and became separated from the other Boys. But I found one of My Company Wounded and Unconscious, he was still Breathing about normal. I saw at the bottom of the Hill, a place that I thought might be some water. There was a small stream, I filled My Canteen and his too I went back to him. he was feeling quite a bit better by this time I gave him a drink and in a short time he could manage to talk. He had been shot on the Right side of his Head but the Bone was not Fractured, A red mark from back of his ear to very nearly over his eye it was about an hour and a half before he could walk. He Begged not to leave him I assured him I would not, but eventually we came to a Road that seemed to lead in the right direction, but eventually proved to be the ^{wrong} way. We were lost and it almost Dark. We had some hard Tack in haversacks so concluded to Camp for Night. Early in the Morning we found another Road followed that for a mile or two till we came to a large Clearing in the Timber where some Negroes were working in a Cotton Field.

we were getting quite Hungry by this time so decided to ask the negroes if they could get us something to Eat? A Middle Aged Man said he would. He was gone about Twenty Minutes he had a Big chunk of Corn Pone and three or four Sweet Potatoes we thanked him, he asked Me if we were Yankees. I said we were and we went a long distance back into the woods we came to a Brook quite wide but very deep and sluggish there was a windfall fallen across it I wanted to cross over to Eat our Lunch but Billie Cituator (that was his name) was tired and sat down by a Big Tree we ate our lunch and went to Sleep. a short time after I thought I heard some strange noise woke up and saw Four Rebel Soldiers Rifles aimed at us asking if we Surrendered we were not armed so had to. The negroes had given us away. We Marched about a mile and half. came into a Road and a Big Brick House and the headquarters of the Eighteenth Miss. Infantry. Two of them searched us took Billie's Watch some Money from both of us My Knife and a Photograph. then an Orderly came he said the Colonel wanted us ⁱⁿ the House. we went

ENCLOSURE

and soon met him. he dismissed the Col. asked us to be seated asked what part of the Army we were from I named the Reg. Brigade Division. &c. he asked if his Men had taken anything from us. I informed him what had happened he said come with Me. he lined up the Reg. and told them that the Men who had taken the watch Money &c. to step out of Ranks and give it Back. which they did. the Col. was a Gentleman in every respect we slept in the Big House ate Three Meals at the Family Table. dressed the wound on Billie's Head. Took us about 1/4 of a Mile up the Road to see the young Lady Friend who had never seen a Yank. the Colonel's Name was Joel H. Bougarde. when we leaving his Mother filled our Haversacks with Food said good bye. we Camped fifteen Miles from that Night we Marched and had a ride in a wagon ~~22~~ twenty two Miles that day. about noon the next day we arrived at Mariidian Miss. From there we went by Rail to Columbus Georgia. From there to the Prison at Andersonville Sumter County Georgia on Dec fifth 1864

Andersonville ^{Prison} consisted of about Eight Acres of Land. inclosed with a Wall of Large Pine Logs Chunks in the ground. Four feet. Ten feet above the surface. with Guards Posted on the top Fifty feet from each other. A small Brook flowed through the center. On the inside was the Dead Line Ten feet from the wall. Posts set twelve feet apart with a Board nailed on the top. was the Forbidden line. any one crossing that line was shot. (that is if the Guard was good Marksman) I was greatly Surprised to find eight of My Company in the Stockade. My Comrade Citwater could scarcely Believe it. Our first Rations the next day. was Corn Meal Mush. shoveld out of a Wagon Box to a Blanket on the ground for a Hundred Men. Citwater and Myself did not want any but we ^{draw} our Ration and gave it to the other Boys who had been in Prison nearly two weeks. About a Month after we had been the Guests of Confederates. a new man was brought in he was from a Maine Regiment he had Fifteen or Twenty Dollars. and had shown it to some Prisoners from a New York Reg. two days later he did not Answer Roll call and no one could find him. two or three days passed and a Man from the

ENCLOSURE

Gunboats was admitted as another guest. a few days later he also failed to answer at Roll call. then the Hunt began. it happened that some of the Men was talking to a young Man eighteen or twenty years of age he was Apparently not very Bright in his Conversation and told them he knew what became of those two Men and if they would not hurt him he would tell about it. under a kind of a poor Shelter Tent where Eight Men and this Boy slept he said those two Men were Buried about two feet deep. it was found to be just as he said. the Men were arrested and were tried by a jury of six of our boys and six Confederate Officers six of them were to be hung, and two to run the Gauntlet. The Gallows was Built inside the Stockade and they were executed without delay.

on Jan. tenth we were Ordered into line by Hundreds. the Guard said for Exchange they took about three Hundred sent them outside and My Comrades were among the Lucky ones but it was no Exchange. there was five or six Thousand left in Prison yet. we were loaded in in Box Cars and with a heavy Guard were taken to Savannah Georgia.

There are a few incidents that happened while I was in Andersonville that I will mention one of these took us by Surprise, near the last days of Nov, in the Night there came a Thunder storm. Rain came down in Torrents and washed out some of the logs of the Stockade at the Entrance and exit of the Brook they rushed a heavy guard to both of the Gaps. with Artillery Fearfull that we might escape. the other incident took place two days later, on the Eastern slope a few yards up from the Brook a Spring had Broken out quite a little stream running down into the Brook a God Send as the water in the Brook was Filthy it still running (so I heard)

Well at Savannah there was no Prison we were told to get into line; an Officer walked down the line selected Men for Exchange those that were taken stepped out and formed another line.

Frank Sutton and Billie Atwater was taken which left^{me} alone one of My Company (B) there was Three of Co A with us yet.

on The Morning of the next day we left Savannah went to Charleston S.C. two hours later on same Train started on our way to Florence S.C. was in a small Stockade and the Command

ENCLOSURE

of the Confederate Gen. Winder. four days later
 he Died from Heart Attack. one week in
 Florence and we again Boarded Train our
 Destination being Goldsboro N.C. at Wilmington
 N.C. situated on Cape Fear River which joins
 the Atlantic there at Cape Fear. we crossed
 the River and twenty Miles from there
 arrived at Goldsboro no Prison or Stockade
 there Camped in Woods. five days, took
 the Train back to Wilmington about
 ten Miles out they found the Track ripped
 up and on each side of the Track about
 Three Hundred Union Soldiers appeared.
 the Train and Guard Captured Track laid
 went on our way to Wilmington the
 Town had been taken by our Forces
 while we were at Goldsboro we were Free
 once more the Union Army was camped
 just out of Town. we drew rations
 and went to our Tents. in the Morning
 those of us that was able were sent on
 to Town and. on Board the Steamer
 Black Fish. to Annapolis Maryland I was
 at that place three days. I was Transferred to
 Baltimore Maryland. I was in Hospital

three six weeks. was given Furlough
 for thirty days. at the expiration of
 same reported at Baltimore ten days
 later I was Transferred to Madison Wis
 on the twenty fifth day of August
 Eighty Six I was Discharged
 Cordially yours W. R. Lovell.

ENCLOSURE

William Lovell Dies at Home In Livonia on January 10¹⁹⁴⁵



WILLIAM R. LOVELL
1845 1945

Came to Livonia in 1877

In 1874 Mr. Lovell was married to Miss Isabelle Hurt at Prescott, Wis., and three years later they came to Minnesota and settled on the farm in Livonia township, where he has since made his home. There were six children, four of whom survive their father: Mabel, Eugene, Grace (Mrs. Albert Swanson), and Winnifred (Mrs. Roy Iliff), all of Zimmerman. Mrs. Lovell died on April 21, 1925. Mr. Lovell is also survived by eight grandsons, two granddaughters, and six great-grandchildren. One daughter, Sarah (Mrs. Charles Swanson), died February 3, 1920, and a son, Arthur, died November 23, 1932. Since Mrs. Lovell's death Mr. Lovell has made his home with his daughter, Mabel, and son, Eugene, on the old homestead.

Veterans Assist at Services

Reverend John Lowe of the Zimmerman Methodist church, of which Mr. Lovell was a member, conducted the services on Sunday, assisted by Mrs. Ina Peters, secretary of the G.A.R. post in Minneapolis; Roland Wilson, chaplain of the Paul Corey Legion post at Elk River; George Anderson, Fred Anderson, and Charles Harmer of the Fremont Woodcock Legion post at Princeton and Members of Company C of the State Guard of Princeton under command of Lieutenant Raleigh Herdliska.

Mrs. Kline McDonald, accompanied by Mrs. Ed Hanson on the piano, sang two hymns, "Shall We Gather at the River," and "No Night There." Mr. Lovell's grandsons acted as pallbearers. The body was laid to rest at Bellwood cemetery with military honors. The members of Company C of the State

(Continued on Page 4)

Wm. Lovell of Livonia Dies January 10

(Continued from Page One)

Guard who composed the firing squad were Wm. Peterson, Wm. Hamann, Jess Ady, Van Swanson, Alfred Guimont, Albert Peterson, Loren Swenson, Lynn Saterstrom, and Aaron Fadden. Among the out-of-town relatives who were in attendance at the funeral were Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Swanson and family of Willmar, Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Swanson of St. Paul, Charles Swanson, William Swanson, Mr. and Mrs. Merrill Swanson and daughter, and Mr. and Mrs. Dwayne Swanson.

Two Hundred at Funeral Services at Methodist Church in Zimmerman Sunday

STATE GUARD ASSISTS

Last Remaining Civil War Veteran in Community; Almost 100 Years Old

William Richard Lovell, 99, the last remaining Civil war veteran in this community has joined his comrades on the other shore. He passed away peacefully in sleep at his farm home in Livonia township on January 10. Approximately two hundred were in attendance at the funeral services conducted on Sunday afternoon at the Methodist church in Zimmerman, and he was buried with military honors.

Mr. Lovell, although a man of small stature and wiry, had a really remarkable constitution. He remained physically active until a year before his death and was mentally alert until the end. He was a great reader and took a keen interest in the affairs of the day. He lived in the present and not in the past although his life had been colorful and when urged to do so he could relate the most interesting incidents which occurred during the time he was serving in the Union Army during the Civil War. He was respected and honored by all who knew him. He was an honorary member of the Fremont Woodcock Legion post of this village and also the Corey Legion post of Elk River. He made it a rule to alternate his attendance at the annual memorial day exercises in the two villages. He was a member of the Wallace T. Rines post of the Grand Army of the Republic and later of the G.A.R. post in Minneapolis.

In July, 1938, Mr. Lovell and his grandson, Loren Swanson, attended a reunion of the Civil War veterans at Gettysburg. When he returned to Livonia he was honored at a homecoming celebration in Zimmerman, which was attended by hundreds of persons from that community and the surrounding villages. Of him it can truly be said, he received flowers from his friends while he was living. Zimmerman was planning to have another celebration on his one hundredth birthday next September. Mr. Lovell really desired to live until he passed the century mark.

Born in England

William Lovell was born at Leamington, England, on September 6, 1845. Leamington is beautifully situated on the River Leam in the county of Warwickshire, only two miles from Warwick, the county seat and where the famous Warwick castle is located.

When he was 12 years old William Lovell came to the United States with his parents. On August 10, 1862, William Lovell, who was then only 16 years of age, enlisted at Fort Snelling. During that summer he was with the troops engaged in Indian warfare in this state and fought against Little Crow near Hutchinson, Minn. Later he went south with the Union Army. Among the important battles in which he fought were those at Fort Fisher, Ala., Fort Blakely, Ala., and Tupelo, Miss. In 1864 he was sent to the Andersonville prison, which was notorious for its mismanagement and cruelty. He was confined there for three and a half months. The sights he saw there were the worst he ever witnessed. Between February, 1864, and April, 1865, there were received at Nashville 20,485 prisoners from

on more died.
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discharge at
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INTENTIONAL DUPLICATE EXPOSURE

DAKOTA CONFLICT OF 1862 MANUSCRIPTS COLLECTIONS

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY. ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA 55102

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