

Head Quarters 2nd Division
4th Army Corps Oct 18th 1863

My Friends

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 Moody's affairs but I think you tho you have recieved 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 assume 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
Sick, worn out with ~~attention~~ incident to
such terrible times at 11 O'clock at night
When he was resting easier than usual.
I gave him in Care of the Hospital Steward of
the 5th Ill. Mr Parsons, would lay down by
the fire bidding him to wake me up if needed.
A little after One O'clock 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} the spirit left its frail
tenement 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 simply do what
he would have done for me.

Please let me hear from you again
Your Friend
Lewis Hanback

Mrs Woodby