Marcus A. Gage

- born October 1841 on the family farm in Coldwater township
- enlisted May 28, 1861 at Detroit for three years, age 19
- was a 1st corporal on a gun crew in Battery A, 1st Light Artillary - Loomis Battery (Coldwater Battery)
- wounded Dec. 31, 1862 at the Battle of Stones River, TN (Murfreesboro)
- died on Jan. 13, 1863 - result of blood poisoning from wounds received in battle
- his information engraved on family (Gage) stone in old Oak Grove cemetary

Huntsville Ala May 25. 62

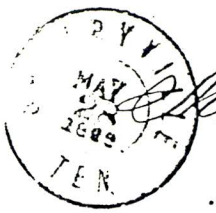
Dear Uncle

yours of the 20 of apr was received some time ago but I have not been where I could write you before so you must excuse me for not writing before we have had some work to do I have been in camp 3 nights out of 3 weeks we went first to athens about 35 miles from huntsville and drove the rebels across the river and then returned to camp on friday evening and on sunday morning we were ordered out and we are went to winchester 45 miles northeast from huntsville where the rebels had A small force of about 2 thousand and drove them out of town and got back in 7 days we have now been in camp one night and expect to leave again in A very short time as the rebels in this part of the States will not allow us in any one place so we have to drive them in small fores from one town to another and it keeps us on the march most of the time so we dont get much time to rest I am well I never was healthy in my life you said you thought father had D[illegible] of he has

nk He had better
t at intrest with
od man where it
be safe and I will
as much as I can
I am in the army
hen I come home
put it with his
y A small place
ine A home there
t much prospect of
tting our pay verry
we have not had
ay in 7 months
ere is no prospect
tting any verry soon
A private and jerry
is A private also
dont think that
ill get promoted
soon for he is not

Civil War

MAY 1889 TEN.



Mr Geo W Vanaken
Coldwater
Branch Co
Mich

the rite kind of A
mann to have an office
given him yo will
please excuse my
poor riting for I have
A poor place to rite
give my respects to
Grand ma and all
the rest of the folks
write soon

From your Nephew
Marcus A Gage

Huntsville Ala
June 20. 62

Dear Sister
I now take my pen in hand to answer yours of the [illegible]

I am well and enjoying good health and hope these few times will find ye enjoying the same we are still encamped at Huntsville and every thing is quiet here and the soldiers are healthy in general I think we shall stay here some time For general mitchel has got his family here and I guess he intends to stay some time or he would not fetch them here if he did not intend to stay some time

there was one of our boys died last week he had been sick some time there is a news paper just started here in huntsville it is called the huntsville revolee I have just been eating bread and milk for dinner And it makes me think of home the weather is warm and pleasant and passes quickly by I have had a letter from orson since I received yours I have sent father 80 dollars I sent it A short time ago we have had some very warm weather here we have had new potatoes and green peas and beans squashes raspberries and black berries are ripe butt rather scarce garden sauce is rather scarce here for ther is so many

Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto—"In God is OUR TRUST."
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Huntsville Ala
July 11. 62

Dear sister

I received your letter and was glad to hear from yo and to hear that yo was well and enjoying yourself and was going to school yo and florence must be good girls and learn as fast as yo can tell florence if she learns to read pretty fast and is a good girl to school that if I get home I will get her A nice book to

read yo must help mother all yo can when yo go to school I should like to bee there to go to school A day or just to see the school give my love to all the bys and girls that I know and to the school teacher to so good by for this time write as soon as yo get this and let me hear how yo get along this from your Brother

Marcus A Gage

Please excuse my poor writing

"The Father of his Country"—Let us cherish his memory and emulate his example.

Bowlingreen Ky
Sept 1862

Dear friends
It is some
time since
I heard from home so
I thought that I would
write and let yo know
how I get along I am
well and hope these
few scribbles will
find yo the same
we left Huntsville the
31 of aug and are now
in bowlingreen Ky but
I dont think we shall
stay here long for
there is a Generall
Movement in the army

and I think that
we shall not stay here
long the rebbles have
been come ing north
untill they have got
where they cannot get
Away it is six weeks
Since I have heard from
Any of yo only as the new
recruits come they have
been here about A week
and I begin to think
that yo have all forgot
how to write or else
yo have forgotten me
I dont know which I wish
that yo would write and
let me now how yo all

this Ever yours Son and
Brother
Marcus A Gage

To Direct to
Bowlingrun Ky
Louise Battery

get along and what
you are doing and how
the folks are in
General and how they
all get along the corn
crop is good in this
state and in tennessee
and alabama they are
harvesting the corn
in these states it
is rather dry here at
present but there is
prospects of rain
it is quite cool here
you will have to excuse
my short letter for I
am in A hurry please
write as soon as you get

how long it will bee
butt I guess not long
I had A letter from orson
A fiew days A go
and he was well and enjoyed
himself as well as A solder
can in camp and I am
doing the same yo must
Excuse me for not writing
Before for we have been
On the march All the
time so that I could
Not write as if I did
I could not send it so
yo must excuse me
yo Spoke A bout my
beeing wounded butt that
was A mistake for
I was not hurt in the
least of Jerry Tudner
is well Give my

Bowlengreen Ky Nov 6

Dear Mother
I received two lett
From yo this forenoon
And was glad to hear fro
Yo once more and
to hear that yo
were All well and
Enjoying good health
I am well and hope
these fiew lines
will find yo the sam
we are in camp about
three miles from the
town of Bowlengreen
On the Big barren
river Our Division is in
camp here I think the
we shall stay here for
A short time to rest
butt I dont know

Respects to All the
folks and write As soon
as yo can And I will
try and write as often
as I can this from
your Affectionate
Son
Marcus A Gage

Direct to
Louisville ky
the same as befor

Dec. camp near Nashville
Dec. 9. 1862

Dear Mother

I recived yours
of the 23 and was glad to
hear from you once more
[illegible]
all well I am well and enjoying
good health and hope that
these few lines will find
you the same and are encamp
ed about two miles from the
city of Nashville on the east
side of the river our division
is encamped there but I don't
think that we will stay
there but a short time for
I think that there will
be a forward movement soon
for the railroad now is compl
eted from Louisville to

Nashville so that the trains
run direct from Nashville
to Louisville without change
of cars so that they can fetch
provisions for the army I suppose
that you think that the
Soldiers have rather a hard
time and they do have rather
a hard time in cold weather
butt it is not so hard in
worm weather the weather is
pleasant to day butt we have
had some rather cold and stormy
weather for some time the snow
has been tow or three inches deep
here in Tennessee potatoes are
worth two dollars per bushel and
apples are worth 75 cents per peck
that is $3 dollars per bushel and
I guess that they are not
worth quite so much as that
in mich you said that uncle George

and Hosson and aunt lucy and susan
Josh and harriet had all been
at your house I wish that I could
have been ther tavo I wish that
the war was over so that I and
All the rest of the soldiers
that are in the field of
battle could return to their
friends at home for I think
that it would make many
A glad heart butt it would
not heal the hearts that
mourn the loss of friends
that have fallen in the field
of strife butt those are gone
from this to A better world
tell Floyd that he must
bee A good boy and when
I get home from the war
I will help him cut wood
for his mother give my best
respects to mr Murphy and

tell him that I should
like to see them to attend
his school this winter for
I think that it would
do me good to go to school
for three or four months
I sent my likeness to Harriet
about two weeks ago she has not
heard from it since give my love
to all the folks and please
write as soon as you get this
From yo affectionate Son

Moses A Gage

Direct to Nashville
Tennessee in care Capt
Loomis

Camp Andrew Johnson Near Nashville Tenn
Dec 21. 1862

Dear Mother

I received yours of the 14 inst this After noon and was glad to hear from you once more And to hear that you were all Well and enjoying good health I am well and enjoying good health And think how much more pleasant it would be were I to beat home to spend the evening with you than it is spend my spare time in camp without anything particular to butt to pass away the time and make it as short as possible butt I now have something to do for A short time while I am writing to you and am glad to have the pleasure of writing

When you write to Jason tell him that I should like to have him write to me for I have written to him and have not heard from him

for there is many more in the army that cannot read nor write and it is a pleasure to know that my letters are kindly received by my friends at home and I take pleasure in writing to them for there are but few who realize the sympathies of their friends when they are far from friends and home and there is a kind of strange feeling in the soldiers mind that makes him feel strong when he thinks of his friends and his home when he is marching on to the field of battle but there is nothing to be gained by fear and that should be the least of the soldiers thoughts he should at all times be cheerful and happy for then the time passes pleasantly along there is preaching this after noon in camp by the chaplain of the 88 ind reg it is between the 88 ind and our camp and they are forming

And there is quite an attendance of officers and soldiers there is preaching almost every week some where in camp and those who have a desire to attend can do so butt there is butt A small portion of the soldiers that attend i wish that I could be at home to go to meeting there for I think that it would be much more pleasant to attend church where one could see his friends butt is it is we must make the best of it and hope that the war will soon be over so that those that are spared can once more see their friends at home and enjoy the comforts of the civil life for I think that it will be for the most preffered ble to live in peace butt if there has got to be one thing or the other union or disunion

union with was as disunion with
out was I think that I would
prefer the union with was
for what is the use of the
Government without the union
And the right must win the
day I think butt who lives to
see it out will know how
It comes out and I cannot tell
who that will bee yo spoke
of sending me some mittens and
some dried fruit it would bee very
exceptable butt it would bee more
trouble to send dried fruit than so
it would not pay the expense
yo may send the mittens if yo git
A chance butt I think that yo
had better eat the dried fruit your
self for ten chances to one the
officers would get the fruit and
that would bee the last of it so
I think that it would not pay to
send it yo said that arson had sent
for a pair of boots I should think that
he could get along butt then it is better
to have boots in muddy weather for then
he can keep his feet dry I have a good
[illegible] to sleep and blanket enough to
keep me was so yo can bee
Contented

Direct to Washington
Team in care of Capt Tom

Pls from your son
Marcus A Gage

In Camp at Murfreesboro Tea
January 24th 1863

Friend George

I am very sorry to inform you that Marcus A. Gage was wounded through the legg in the battle of stone river on the second day of January thoes wounds were at first thought not to be serious at first but he has sin died of his wounds received on the battle feild he died a brave an a true soldier he was first corpl of No five peice he was promoted for his true soldiery baring he was loved by all of his fellow soldier brave in battle in camp a true soldier the company mourn his loss very much the company he lost three that has died from wound since the battle he has left some few little trinkets that his Father Mother brother or sister might want as a last ~~to ken~~ token to remember him by he has some books and som other little things that would not be wort sending home to his friends he has some blankets and some clothing his blankets may of been used to bury him in. I have not had an opportunity of seeing him since he was wounded, he was on being wounded sent back to the rear about ten miles. I have just ~~and~~ been and seen the men that belong with his peice and they tel me that they put all of his trinkets into his valeise and sent them to him at the hospital if I can get a pass to go and get them and send them, I

fought battle but the rebs
left piles of dead on the feild
thare was thousands of their wounded
in this place but they carried
away the most of their wounded
on the cars we could hear the
whistle of the engine from wheare
we was on the battle field and the
cottizens say that they run off
several trains of wounded to tulaho
ma a distance of 245 miles from
this place George I never shal
forget how I spent the last day
of 62 and the first day of 63 and
second third fourth fifth and
so on I sicken at the thought
of what I saw on the feild
of battle you may think that you
can paint something of a picture
but you cannot do it nor anyone else
with seeing it write to me as soon as you
get this.
William J. Culp

Direct to Miniesus Fort Sioux

will do so I will go tomorrow
and see if I can get them and
send them to his folks the first
opportunity. I expect Lorenzo A
Brown will be going home in a few
days if he does I will try and get
the things together so as to send
them by him. — George Marcus
has got a book the first vol. and
a young man in this company
has got the othe vollume and if
I can get it I will do so and send
it to his folks this book was given
to him by a member of this
battery it is a very good book
if I cannot get it without I
will buy it and send it to his
folks. George I am well at present
I did not get hurt but it is mer
cal that I did not for the bullets
flew very thick it was a hard

In camp
Near Murfreesboro Tenn
Febry 20th 1863

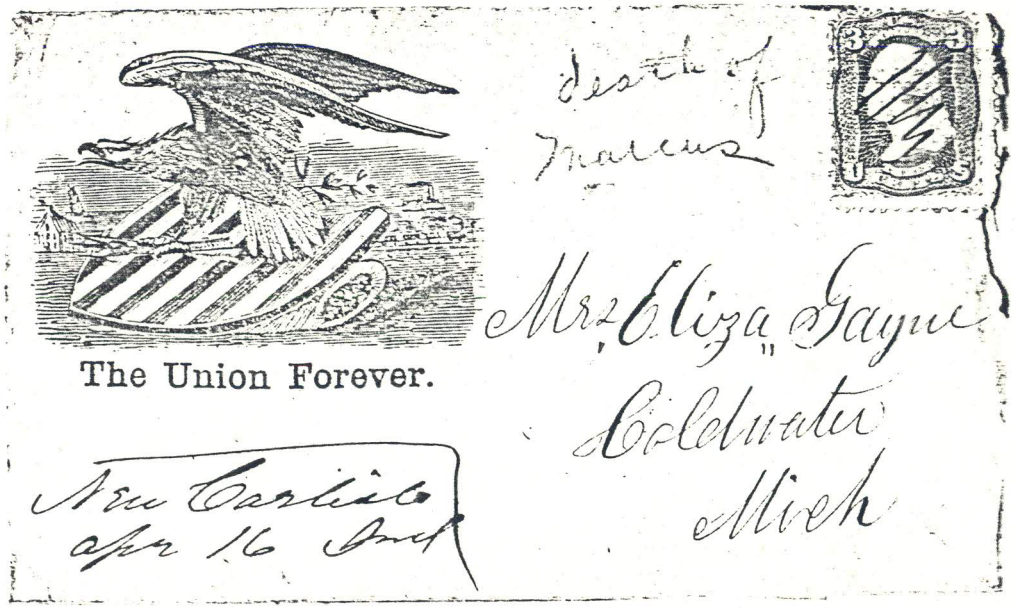
To Mrs Elira A Gage
Kind Friend

I am willing to do any thing and be to any trouble to searve you in your hour of mourning Marcus was a good boy and was loved by the whole company I heared Lt Geo W. VanPelt say that he wished the men would follow his example marcus was thought a greateal of by his officers. I have had no chance to see the hospital steward since Marcus died he has gon home on a furlow to the state of Ohio

his blankets was used for to burry him in I lerned that he had as good a burrial a could be given him. he was burried in a rough coffin it was impossib to do better Marcus had five months pay due him when he died I hav writen to Geo Vanaken about it I do not know just how many odd day over five months but some 8 or 10 I shal send what things thare is to you by Express tomorrow afternoo it is but as smal bunde he did have a larg book but it cannot be found now I send you one shirt one

one razor his portmonie
just as I received it form
the officers and severel other
little things that I will not
naim you will find all in
~~that~~ the bundle that I can
find he has some three or
four dollars owing to him
which I will collect as soon
as the boys gets their pay
and send it to you. I have
just learned that the Erysip
elas set in and took him
away I got your letter this
afternoon therefore have
not had much time to
enquire into the matter
much yet but if I can
learn any more about
the case I will write to
you I will try and oblige
you as much as possible
I have not got much
time to write any more
this evening it is now
nine oclock and must
put out the lite so
says the order good buy
From your obedient servent
Wm J Culp

E. A. Gage



First Division Hospl Dept
March 8th 1863

Mrs Gage

I received your note of 2d inst and now haste to answer your sons and I were stately acquainted the Battery to which he belonged was with us in western va. and the boys seam like Brothers to the boys of my regt the 3d Ohio Infy your son did not suffer much pain or at least bore it patiently. I think he was sensible of the near aproach of death I think arasiphelis set in with the wound he was buried as well as I could have him under the circumstances. he had a testament and pocket book which I turned over to his Lieut Comanding Battery

I did not recieve the letter you forwarded to him the Comander of the Batery will send you his afects I think there was a chaplin in atendance at the Funeral he had some cloaths which I turned over with the rest of his afects

Yours respectfully
W. L. Pettit

Pr 185 Division
14th Army Corps
Murfreesboro
Tennessee

Mrs. Eliza Gage
Coldwater
Michigan

Huntsville Ala May 25. 62

Dear Uncle

yours of the 20 of apr was
received some time ago but
I have not been where I could
write you before as yr must
excuse me for not writing
before we have had some
work to do I have been
in camp 3 nights out of
3 weeks we went first
to athens about 35 miles
from huntsville and drove
the rebels across the
river and then returned
to camp on friday evening
and on sunday morning
we were ordered out and we
are went to winchester
45 miles northeast
from huntsville where
the rebels had A small
force of about 2 thousand
and drove them out of town
and got back in 7 days
we have now been in camp
one night and expect
to leave again in A very
short time as the
rebels in this part of
the States will not
allow us in any one
place so we have to
drive them in small
fosels from one town
to another and it keeps
us on the march most
of the time so we dont
get much time to rest
I am well & never was healthier
in my life you said you thought
father had a cow if he has

I think he had better put it at intrest with some good man where it will be safe and I will save as much as I can while I am in the army and when I come home I will put it with his and buy A small place for him A home there is not much prospect of our getting our pay very soon we have not had any pay in 7 months and there is no prospect of our getting any very soon I am A private and Jerry cutner is A private also and I dont think that he will get promoted very soon for he is not

Civil War

Geo W Sanaker
Coldwater
Branch Co
Mich

the site kind of A man to have an office given him you will please excuse my poor siting for I have A poor place to rite give my respects to Grand ma and all the rest of the folks rite soon

From your Nephew
Marcus A Sage

there was one of our boys
died last week he had been
sick some time there is
a news paper just started
here in huntsville it is
called the huntsville scooler
I have just been eating
bread and sulk for dinner
and it makes one think of
home the weather is warm
and pleasant and passes
quickly by I have had a
letter from orson since
I received yours I have sent
father 60 dollars I sent it
a short time ago we have had
some very warm weather
here we have had new potatoes
and green peas and beans squashes
raspberries and blackberries are
ripe but rather scarce
garden sauce is rather scarce
here for there is so many

Huntsville Ala
June 1. 62

Dear Sister
I now
take my pen
in hand to
answer yours
of the 9th
I am well and enjoying good
health and hope these few lines
will find you enjoying the same
we are still encamped at
Huntsville and every thing is quiet
here and the soldiers are healthy
in general I think we
shall stay here some time
for general mitchel has got his
family here and I guess he
intends to stay some time
or he would not fetch them
here if he did not intend
to stay some time

Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto—"IN GOD IS OUR TRUST,"
And the Star-spangled Banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Please excuse my poor writing

read yo must help
mother all yo can
when yo go to school
I should like to bee
there to go to school
I doy ost just to
See the school give
my love to All the
bys and girls that
I know and to the
school teacher to so
good by for this time
write as soon as yo
get this and let me
hear how yo get along
this from your Brother
Marcus A Gage

Huntsville Ala
July 11. 62

Dear sister

I received
your letter and was glad
to hear from yo and to
hear that yo was well
and enjoying yourself
and was going to school
yo and florence must
be good girls and learn
as fast as yo can tell
florence if she learns
to read pretty fast
and is a good girl to
school that if I
get home I will get
her A nice book to