

me in performing any kind of labor. I remained in the hospital 5 months and was discharged two days after my term of service expired.

Engagements:

Tranter's Creek, Rawle's Mills, Kingston, Whitehall, Goldsboro in North Carolina; Siege of Forts Wagner and Gregg in South Carolina; Drury's Bluff, Va.; at Bermuda Hundred, the 16th & 17th of June 1864; where I lost my right arm by a shell.

" Gentlemen, please accept my sincere thanks for the interest you take in the "crippled Soldier".

J. S. Pendergrast,
North Truro, Mass:

"late Corporal of Co "F", 24th Regt. Mass: Vols:



http://lcweb2.loc.gov/master/ipo/qcdata/qcdata3/treasures/tiffs/at0040_12b.tif

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State of Michigan } ss.
County of Washtenaw }

Personally appeared before me, Thomas A Perrine

who being duly sworn, deposes and says that he enlisted in the service of the United States on the
twenty first day of August 1862, and was a member of Company G,
One hundred & fourth (140) Regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, that he was
wounded in the service of the United States, on the third day of May

1863, at Chancellorsville, Virginia, and that his right arm, in consequence
of said wound, is amputated near the shoulder. He further deposes and says
that he has learned to write with his left hand since the date of said wound, and that he did not write
with his left hand previous to that time, and that the specimen of writing subscribed and presented by
him to the Committee of Award for the distribution of premiums to soldiers and sailors who had lost
their right hand, or the use thereof, during the late war, was written by him with his left hand, and
that the contents thereof are true to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Sworn to before me this third day of March A.D. 1866
John M. Chase Notary Public
Washtenaw County, Michigan



EXHIBITION
OF
LEFT-HAND PENMANSHIP.

\$1,000 DOLLARS IN PRIZES.

[This collection of nearly three hundred Manuscripts, written by Soldiers and Sailors who lost their right arms during the late war, was made in response to an offer of prizes for the best specimen of Left-hand Penmanship, proposed by the Editor of the "SOLDIERS' FRIEND," New York.]

COMMITTEE OF AWARD.

His Excellency R. E. FENTON,
Governor of New York,
Rev. H. W. BELLOWS,
Pres. of the U. S. San. Com.,
WM. CULLEN BRYANT,

GEORGE WILLIAM CURTIS,
WILLIAM E. DODGE, Jr.,
HOWARD POTTER,
THEODORE ROOSEVELT,
WM. OLAND BOURNE.

LETTER OF MAJOR-GENERAL O. O. HOWARD.

WAR DEPARTMENT, BUREAU OF REFUGEES, FREEDMEN AND ABANDONED LANDS, }
Washington, February 27th, 1866. }

REV. DR. H. W. BELLOWS—*My Dear Sir*: I am grateful to you for the kind letter just received from you, and hasten to reply. I was invited to write for the prize, but for two reasons I abstained. First, I was too deeply engrossed in my present peculiar work, and secondly, I was conscious of my inability to write a fair hand. However, my penmanship is quite as good as that formerly with the right hand.

I heard a lady in the cars lately detailing the sufferings, mortification and repinings of a young man who had lost his right arm in the service. He said at first everybody received him kindly, showed him sympathy, and gave him aid, but now it had come to be an old story, and he received no special attention and found it difficult to find a position where he could gain a livelihood.

I will say to you, my dear sir, that there are times when the deformity and inconvenience come across the mind, and disturb the equanimity of those who are full of ambition to make the best of whatever befalls. I do not believe that even the plaudits of a grateful people, or the conscious pride arising from the glorious rewards bestowed upon patriotic efforts, will be enough to sustain the one-armed man so as to make him cheerful, hopeful, and happy at all times, so as to enable him to forget all the nervous pains and sensitive feelings that constantly assail him.

My only prescription is a complete surrender of the heart to Christ.

Affectionately,

O. O. HOWARD, *Major-General.*