

# LISTED 'DEAD' IN CIVIL WAR, HE'S 101

## Findlay Man to Observe Birthday Tuesday

(Plain Dealer Special)

FINDLAY, O., March 4.—John Hart, sole survivor of the 21st Ohio Volunteer Infantry and one of the oldest Civil War veterans in the United States, will be 101 Tuesday.

He is far more animated today than when he was in a hospital in Nashville, Tenn., during the war.

He was hospitalized by typhoid fever. So serious was his condition that he overheard a physician, making the night's last round of patients, tell a nurse that Hart would not live to see another sunrise.

But Hart's strong constitution and will to live pulled him through.

Some 20 years later, Hart learned for the first time that he was "off-

cially dead" in the files in Washington when he made application for a pension. The nurse had put him on the list. Supporting affidavits soon corrected the records.

"Time is kinda wearin' me down," said the centenarian today, although he said he still felt "pretty good."

The gray-haired great-grandfather grinned as he recalled that a few years ago a doctor told him that "anyone as old as you knows better what he needs than I do."

When he reached life's 100th milestone last year, he was honored in a "people" program sponsored by Stoker Camp No. 9, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.

Hart enlisted in the army when he was 19 and after serving two years re-enlisted with the "100-day men."

He fought in the memorable battles at Stone Ridge, 30 miles from Nashville, and it was while engaged in the fighting there that he became ill of typhoid.

By being hospitalized, he said, he missed an opportunity to be in Gen. William T. Sherman's march to the sea.

Age has not appreciably dimmed his eyesight and he keeps abreast of

the war news by reading two daily newspapers and listening to news casts.

Asked to what he attributed his longevity Hart replied:

"I eat moderately, have never smoked and never drink anything intoxicating."

He plans to observe his 101st birthday quietly in the home of his daughter, Mrs. E. A. Buntis, with whom he lives.



JOHN HART