

CONTENTS OF JAMES C. GRIBBEN COLLECTION

Property of Douglas A. Benson, 3091 W. Russell Rd., Sidney, OH 45365
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1. Title page with photo
2. CDV in case; 4 pictures from Savannah, OH cemetery; composite picture of these items
3. Agreement between Gribben and his law partner (Apr. 23/28, 1861)
4. Letter (w/ env) from William G. to parents from Camp Taylor (May 15, 1861)
5. Letter (w/env) from James to sister from Gallipolis, OH (June 29, 1861)
6. Letter (w/env) to parents from (West) Virginia (July 17, 1861)
7. Appointment as 1st Lieutenant of Co. A, 57th OVI -- also official certificate (Sept. 16, 1861)
8. Appointment as Captain of Co. A, 57th OVI (Feb. 8, 1862)
9. Letter (w/env) from William to parents reporting news from 57th sutler (Mar. 28, 1862)
10. Letter from Col. Mungen to William reporting death (Apr. 10, 1862)
11. Letter (w/env) from Lt. Col. Rice to William reporting death (Apr. 13, 1862)
12. Final payroll voucher for \$417.60 (July 8, 183)
13. Inventory of personal effects sent to William
14. Letter (w/env) from William to parents reporting James's death (Apr. 18, 1862)
15. Letter from R.A. Reeder (lady friend) to William enquiring about James (Apr. 22, 1862)

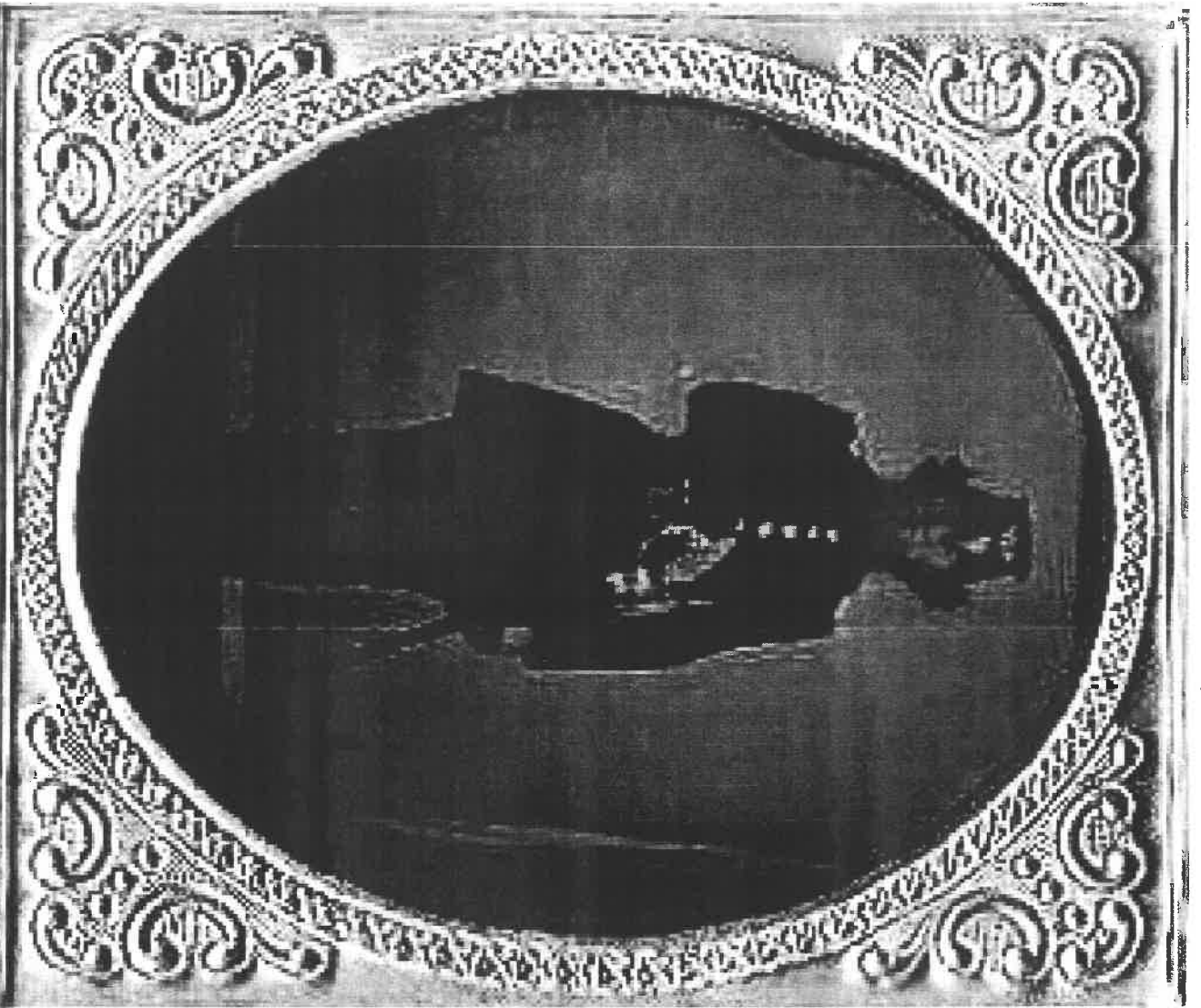


Douglas A. Benson
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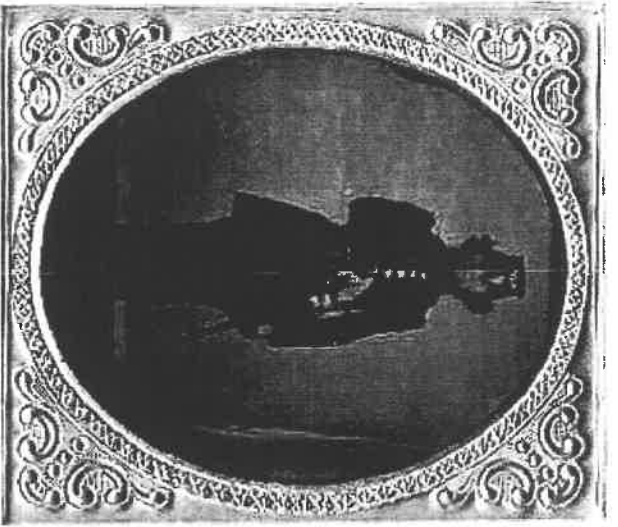
James C. Gribben
Private, Co. E, 21st Ohio Volunteer Infantry*
Captain, Co. A, 57th Ohio Volunteer Infantry

James C. Gribben was born in Ashland County, Ohio, Nov. 27, 1829, to James and Catherine (Aten) Gribben. Apparently his father was a farmer. Both James and his older brother William became attorneys. At the time of his volunteer enlistment, James resided in Kalida and was the prosecuting attorney in Putnam Co. William was Hancock Co. (Findlay) prosecutor from 1854-8 and then instead of joining the Army as he had planned, he was elected to the Ohio House of Representatives in the fall of 1861 and served from 1862 until 1864.

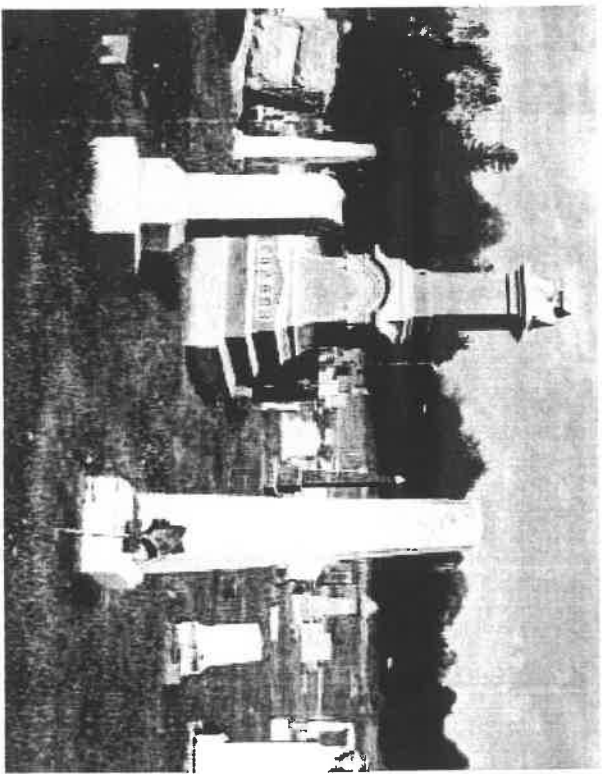
James joined other Putnam County men as a private in Company E of the "ninety-day" 21st O.V.I. The 21st trained at Camp Taylor in Cleveland and then moved to Camp Carrington in Gallipolis. They were deployed to the Kanawha River area of (West) Virginia and saw action against the rebel army at Scarey Creek in July, 1861.

When the ninety-day 21st came home and disbanded, James enlisted with other Putnam Co. men in the newly formed 57th O.V.I., which trained at Camp Vance in Findlay. He entered as 1st Lieutenant in Company A. On Feb. 8, 1862, he was promoted to Captain of Co. A and ordered to Camp Chase. The 57th deployed to western Kentucky and was among the first units to be hit by the Confederate Army at Shiloh. The captain died of a minie ball wound to the chest during the battle. Letters written to his brother William by Col. Mungen on April 10 and by Lt. Col. A. V. Rice on April 13 recounting the events surrounding the captain's death indicate that he was bravely leading his men in the battle.

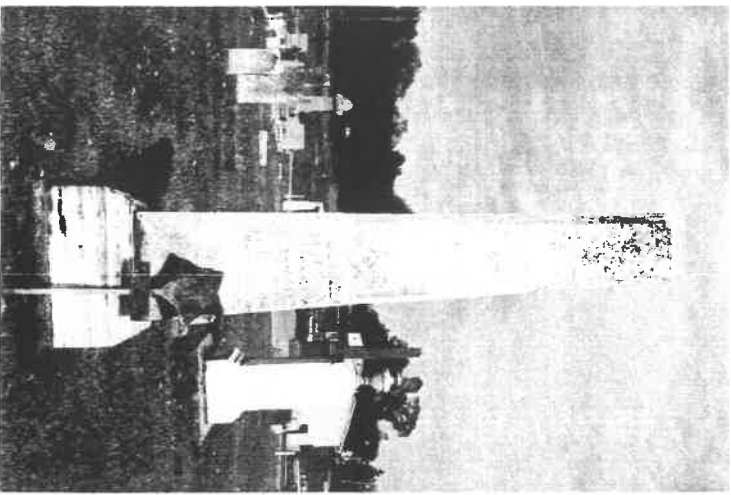
The family had the captain's remains returned to Ohio, where he is buried beside his parents, his sister Margaret, and two infant siblings in the cemetery in Savannah, Ohio, near where he grew up.



CDV probably taken in Ohio before the 57th left for Kentucky.



Family grave site in Savannah, Ohio. James's is the one with the flag marker. The tilted one to the immediate left is his parents, and the small one on the left is Margaret's.



JAMES C. GRIBBEN

Capt. of Co. A

57 Regt. O.V.I.

& Son of

J. & C. GRIBBEN

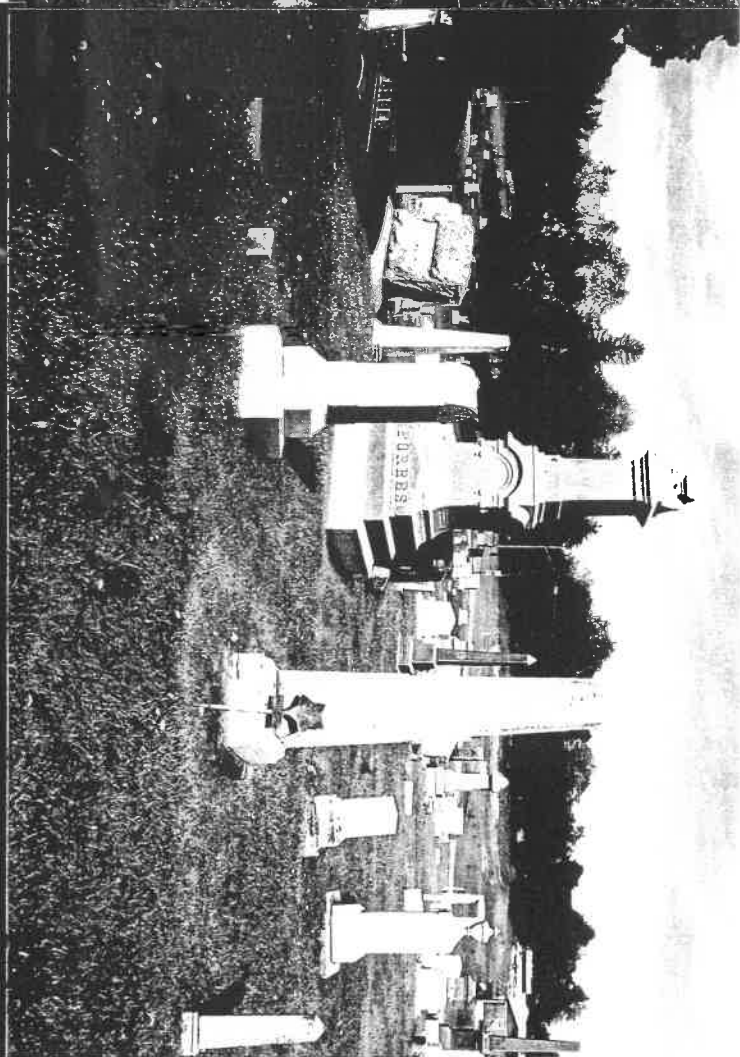
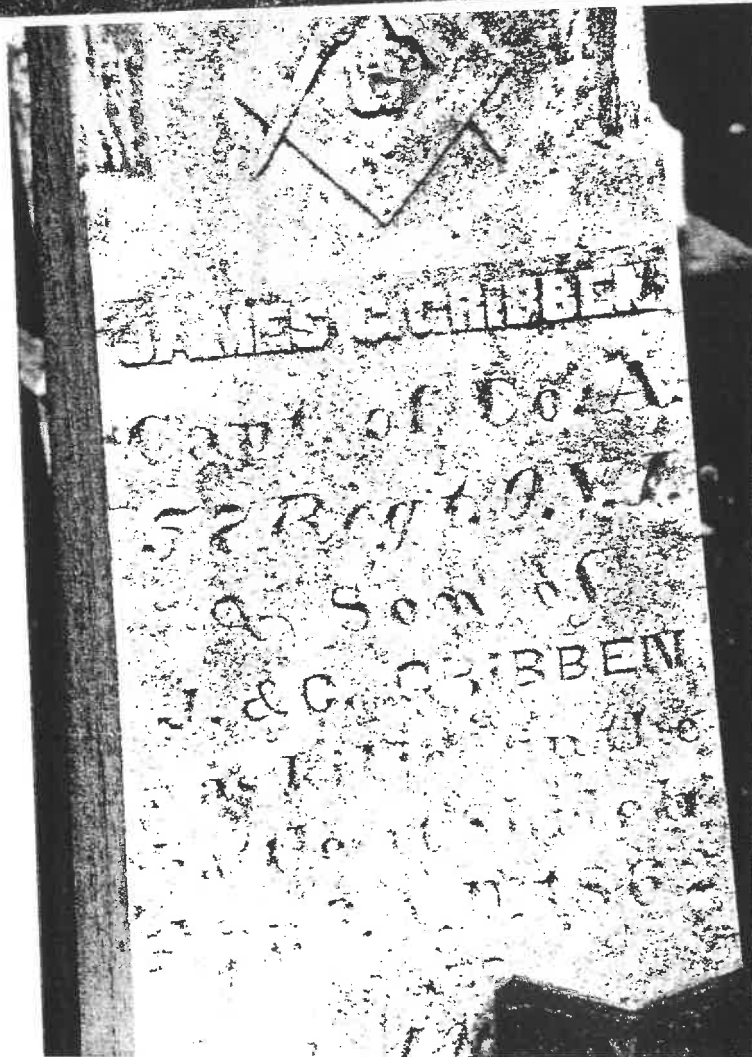
was killed in the

Battle of Shiloh

Apr. 6 A.D. 1862

AGED

32 y. 4m. 10 days



our country, the aforesaid promise and agreement
on my part, shall extend until he becomes
restored to health and strength - and able to dis-
charge his professional duties.

Witness my hand, this 23^d April 1861

John Wilson

Witness my hand, this 23^d April 1861

Witness my hand, this 23^d April 1861

Witness my hand, this 23^d April 1861

Witness my hand, this 23^d April 1861

Witness my hand, this 23^d April 1861

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Witness my hand, this 23^d April 1861

Whereas my Law partner James C. Gribben of Kalida Putman County Ohio has volunteered to join the army of the U.S. in putting down treason and rebellion against the Government Therefore in consideration of the fact. I agree to carry on the business of the firm as it has heretofore been carried on and when the said James Gribben returns to account to him the same as if he had remained at home.

In consideration of his volunteering as aforesaid I agree to discharge the duties of his office of Pros Atty if appointed by the court, free of charge to the best of my ability.

If the said James Gribben my partner as aforesaid should fall in battle or in any other way loose his life while in the service of his country

I agree to dispose of his share of the earnings of said firm together with what is now due as according to any directions he may make, hereafter. Should he become disabled from wounds recd in battle, or otherwise, while serving

our country, the aforesaid promise and agreement on my part, shall extend until he becomes restored to health and strength and is able to discharge his professional duties.

Witness my hand, this 23rd April 1861
John Dixon

Kalida April 28 1861

My debts are to Abner Tewell for a coat, pants, + vest \$

A note to Joseph Rothchilds calling for about #30.00 + interest

A note of thirty dollars (\$30) to

Mr. Henry, + a note to my

brother William. I believe

that these are all th debts that

I owe and I wish them paid

our of my credits + effects

I can not call to my recolle

-ction any other debts unless it would

be to Dixon my law partner on settlement

of our business which is now unsettled

I wish that settled honorably + if any

thing is due Dixon it be paid

James C Gribben

Camp Taylor, Cleveland Ohio

May 15th 1861

Das Gibben sen

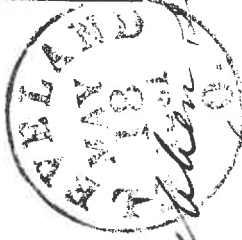
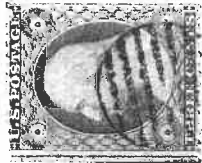
Dear sir

I arrived here yesterday from Columbus, I passed through New London, but had not time to go and see you, James is here he belongs to the Kalida Company, he is well so am I I will leave for Findlay tomorrow, If I go I will go in a three years Company However I am not certain but what I will go into service in the 21st Regiment the one which James is in; However if I do go I will not be a private; I will know in a few days whether I go in the 21st Regiment or not, let me hear from you at Findlay immediately. These are hurrying times; and no telling where I may be in two weeks from now, The Republicans have gained a victory and with it have brought a civil war and as yet there is no telling where it

will end; I have recently met several
Southern men they say they will fight
to the end. We told the Republicans that
if they elected Mr Lincoln that a civil
war was inevitable, the people did not
believe it, but now as terrible as it
is it is on us and Democrats here
got to help them out of a bad job.
I ~~am~~ trust in God that we may be
able to save the union, but I fear
it cannot be done. I will write
you again soon.

Very Respectfully
W. Graham

P.S. The boys in Camp are anxious for
a fight, we have three companies here
from Gaudoy, there is over 3000 troops
here in Camp.
W. Graham



James Graham Esq,
Savannah
Hickland & Co
Ohio

Camp Taylor, Cleveland Ohio
May 15th 1861

Jas Gribben sen

Dear sir

I arrived here yesterday from Columbus; I passed through New London, but had not time to go and see you. James is here he belongs to the Kalida Company, he is well so am I. I will leave for Findlay tomorrow, If I go I will go in a three years Company However I am not certain but what I will go into service in the 21st Regiment the one which James is in. However if I do go I will not be a private: I will know in a few days whether I go in the 21st Regiment or not. Let me hear from you at Findlay immediately. These are harrying times, and no telling where I may be in two weeks from now. The Republicans have gained a victory and with it have brought a civil war and as yet there is no telling where it will end: I have recently met several Southern men they say they will fight to the end. We told the Republicans that if they elected Mr. Lincoln that a civil war was inevitable. The people did not believe it, but now as terrible as it is it is on us and democrats have got to help them out of a bad job. I ~~only~~ trust in god that we may be able to save the union, but I fear it cannot be done. I will write you again soon.

Very Respectfully

W Gribben

PS, The boys in Camp are anxious for a fight, we have three companys here from Findlay. There is over 3000 troops here in Camp.

W Gribben

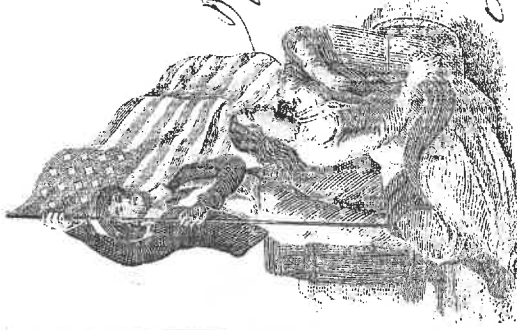
at a distance but as there was
a burst in the road in which
we had got partially round
the bullets whizzed over our
heads as thick as hail & fully
I shot 2 of their own men
& a horse ran off & ran through
our ranks & hurt 2 or 3 men that
was all the damage done

I received Maggie's letter
yesterday. Pretty soon & direct
as before. I will write in
a few days again

Give my love to
all my friends. Keeping a good
portion your selves

I remain as ever
Your affectionate Son

James L. Griffin



They of the dead! Oh secret wars
Thy stars shall glitter o'er the brave.

Dr Kump. Pic
July 13th 1861

Dear Father & Mother
I write to you
once more to let you

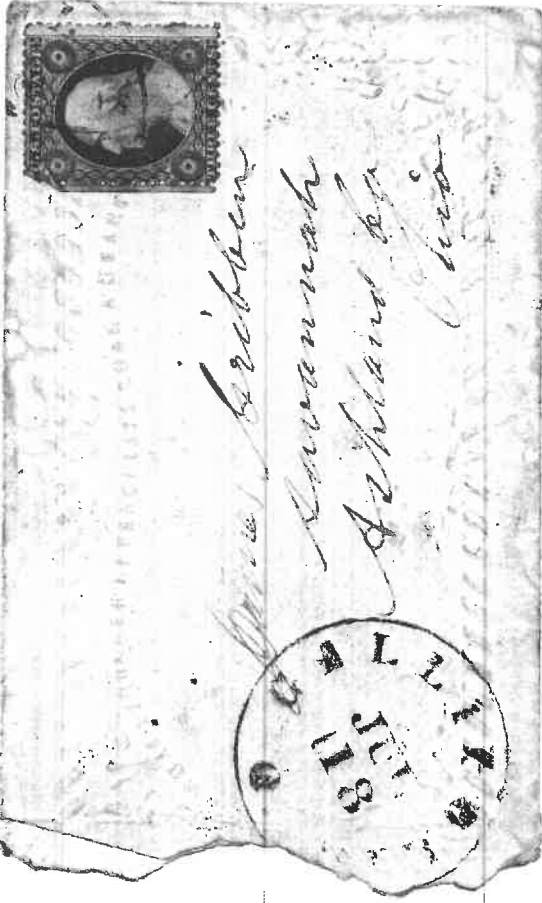
know how I am &
where I am &c

I am now in camp
within 24 miles of the enemy
we have been under a con-
tinual fire of the secession-
picket for the last 36 hours

On the 15th inst our Colonel
with 3 companies and came
up to a little town called
Seery town where the
enemy opened the cannon on
him he retreated back with
3 miles of our camp where
we met him that night

about midnight where we
all slept on our arms on the
bare ground. We had no blankets. The
night so early the next morning
we marched up to where we
are now within $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles of
the devils. We have the 2 reg
ment & $\frac{1}{2}$ of the first Kentucky
boys with us also the 11 & all
the 1st Ohio Regiments with
us & 4 cannon. We have
had several men killed
while scouting & the enemy
have had several of theirs killed
& some horses too. are
preparing to march on
to the succession we will
start in a hour or two
and in two hours from this
time if they don't run & leave
their forts we will have a fight
We intend to march right in

to Charleston which is about
15 miles from here
We will have to take about
3 places between here &
there we are to be at Charlestown
of tomorrow noon
We will be exposed
to a constant fire from
rebels until we get through
A number of bullets has
already whistled over my
head. The day before yesterday
I was sitting by the river
washing my feet and a
sand surrounded shot and
the bullet whistled by
head & went on by and see
near another of our boys.
The other night when we
was marching to Westover
my men thought that they
was an the enemy surrounded by



In Camp Va
July 17th 1861

Dear Father + Mother

I write to you once more to let you know how I am + where I am
I am now in camp within 2 1/2 miles of the enemy. We have been under a continual fire of the secessionists picket for the last 36 hours. On the 15th inst our Colonel with 3 companies left the camp and came up to a little town called Seerry town where the enemy opened the cannon on him he retreated back within 3 miles of our camp where we met him that night about midnight where we all slept on our arms on the bare ground the balance of the night + early the next morning we marched up to where we are now within 2 1/2 miles of the devils. We have the 2 regiment + 1/2 of the first Kentucky boys with us also 1/2 the 11 + all the 12 Ohio Regiments with us + 4 cannon We have had several men killed while scouting + the secessionists have had several of theirs killed + some horses we are preparing to march on to the secessionists we will start in a bout one hour and in two hours from this time if they dont run + leave their forts we will have a fight. We intend to march right into Charleston which is abot 15 miles from here.

We will have to take about 3 places between here + there. We are to be at Charleston by tomorrow noon.

We will be exposed to a constant fire from scouts until we get through. A number of bullets has already whistled over my head. The day before yesterday I was setting by the river washing my feet and a damd scoundrel shot and the bullet whistled by my head + went on by and struck near another of our boys.

The other night when we was marching the Kentucky regiment thought that they was on the enemy + commenced firing at nothing but as there was a bend in the road in which we had got partialy round the bullets whsed over our heads as thick as hail falling. The shot 2 of their own men + a horse ran off + run through our ranks + hurt 3 or four. That was all the damage done.

I received Maggies letter yesterday. Write soon + direct as before. I will write in a few days again.

Give my love to all my friends keeping a good portion yourselves.

I remain ever your affectionate son,

James C Gribben

Head Quarters, Ohio Militia.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Columbus, September 16 1861.

Sir:

You are hereby notified that you have been appointed First Lieutenant of Infantry in the 57th Regiment Ohio Volunteers U. S. A. You will immediately signify to this Department your acceptance or non-acceptance of this appointment, and if you accept, will report in person without delay to Capt A. V. Rice at Camp Vance.

Yours, Respectfully,

R. Mason

Lieut. James C. Eribben
57th Regt O.V.A.

Adjutant General, O.

Columbus January 29 1862

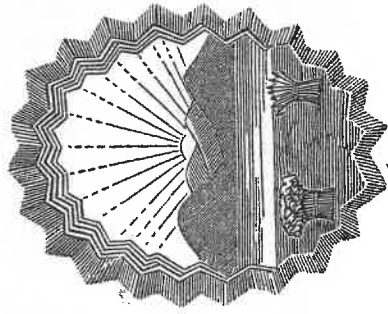
Capt Dow will muster in Lieutenant
James C. Gibbon No 1 57th Reg O.V.I. The
muster to date from Sept 3rd 1861, the time when
the organization of the company was complete.

C. P. Ruskingham

Adj Genl C
Columbus O. 2nd Sept. 1861

I hereby certify that I have this day mustered into the
service of the United ^{States} for three years unless sooner discharged
James C. Gibbon as a 1st Lieut. in the 57th Regt.
O.V. Infantry

Albert B. Dod
Capt, 15th Inf's U.S.A.
Mustering Officer



In the Name and by the Authority

OF THE
STATE OF OHIO.



DAVID TOD,

Governor and Commander-in-Chief of said State.

To *James C. Critter* Greeting:

It appearing to me, that on the 2^d day of September, 1861, you were duly appointed First Lieutenant, of the Regiment Ohio Volunteer Militia, organized and mustered into the service of the United States under Proclamation of the President, dated May 27, 1861.

NOW KNOW YOU, That by the powers vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of said State, and reposing special trust and confidence in your patriotism, valor, fidelity and ability, I do by these presents COMMISSION you as First Lieutenant as aforesaid, for the term of THREE YEARS, unless sooner discharged. And I do hereby authorize and require you to discharge, all and singular, the duties and services appertaining to your said office, agreeably to law and general regulations, and to obey such orders and instructions as you shall, from time to time, receive from your superior officers.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my name, and caused the Great Seal of the State of Ohio to be affixed, at Columbus, the 17th day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, and in the eighty-sixth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

By the Governor:

S. R. DAVIS, Secretary of State.

S. R. Davis

Head Quarters, Ohio Militia.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Columbus, O., Feb'y 8th 1862.

Sir:

You are hereby notified that you have been appointed by the Governor of Ohio Captain in the Fifty Seventh Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry in the service of the United States. You will immediately signify to this Department your acceptance or non-acceptance of this appointment, and if you accept, will report in person without delay to Col. Wm Mungen at Camp Chase near Columbus.

As soon as your Regiment is completely organized and mustered into the service, your appointment will be confirmed and your commission issued.

C. P. Runkle, Jr.

Adjutant General, Ohio.

To James C. Gribben

Capt 57th Reg't O. V. I.

Camp Chase

A

Captain _____ will muster into the service of the United States
from the _____ day of _____ 186

I hereby certify that I have mustered into the service of the United States, for three
years, unless sooner discharged, _____ from the _____ day
of _____ 186

Capt. _____ *U. S. A.*
MUSTERING OFFICER.

Columbus O March 28th 1862

Dear father

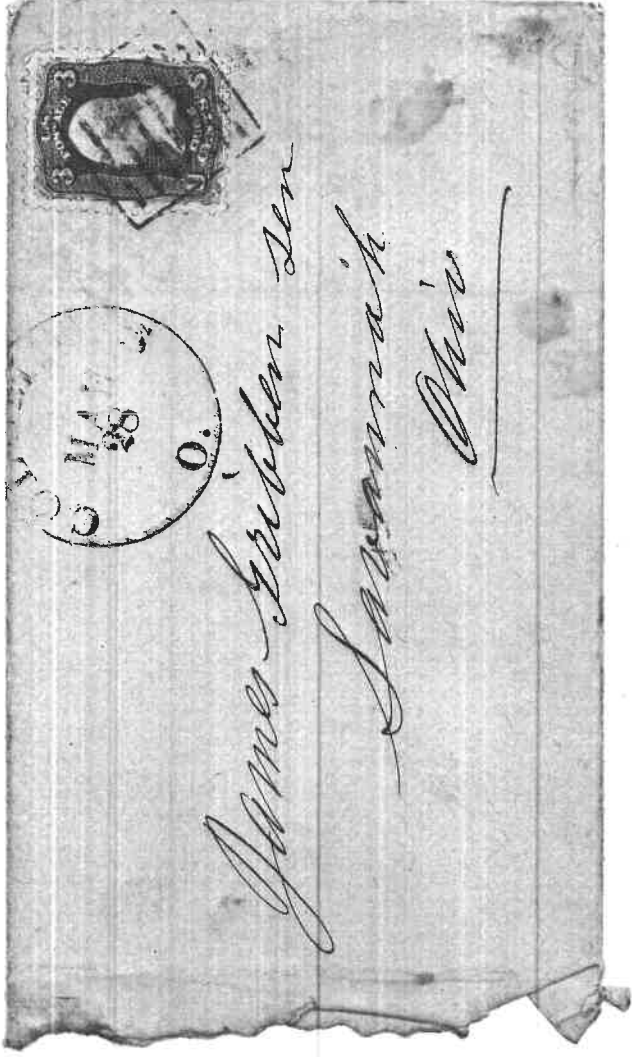
I wish to say that Mr Slade the Sutter of the 57th Regiment arrived here yesterday, he called on me last evening, he says James is well and in good spirits, They expect to have a light fight in a few days at Corinth in Jones. Our forces are at Pitts Landing, but have probably moved before this time we have about 100 000 troops there, General Buell is marching down with a large reinforcement to them, Bragg, Johnson and other prominent generals are at Corinth so we can expect that to be the biggest fight that has been, The 57th Reg has the honor of commanding the right wing of General Sherman's division so that James Carpay is at the head, and I suppose will be in the fight here, Mr Slade says that James is anxious for the task, James sent me a letter by Mr Slade enclosing

\$220.00 to me same for him self and
same for his soldiers to pay some
debts for himself and the soldiers at
Grindley. He also says that he sent you
\$210.00 to be drawn at the County Treasury
at Ashland, if the money is not at
Ashland it is probably in the State
Treasury at this place, in case you do
not get it at Ashland, you had better
send me an order on the State Treasury
to draw it for you and I will attend to
it for you, ~~James~~ I have been quite
unwell for the last two weeks but am
getting much better, James writes me that
he has not heard from home since he
left Calumbers

Please write to me soon
and let me hear from you all Give
my respects to all my friends, also
let me know how the boats are
from New London, as I wish to go home
before a great while

I subscribed and pd \$2.00 for the Crisis
it is a good reliable Democratic paper

Truly your son
W. E. Gilman



James Graham Sen
Lawrence
Ohio

Columbus O March 28 1862

Dear father

I wish to say that Mr Slade the sutler of the 57th Regiment arrived here yesterday, he called on me last evening, he says James is well and in good spirits. They expect to have a big fight in a few days at Corinth in Tenese Our forces are at Pitts Landing, but have probably moved before this time we have about 100 000 troops there. General Buell is marching down with a large reinforce ment to them. Buragard, Johnson and other prominent generals are a Corinth so we can expect that to be the biggest fight that has been. The 57th Reg has the honor of commanding the right wing of General Shermans division so that James Company is at the head, and I suppose will be in the fight here. Mr Slade says that James is anxious for the task. James sent me a letter by Mr. Slade enclosing

\$220.00 to me for him self and some for his soldiers to pay some debts for himself and the soldiers at Findlay. He also says that he sent you \$210.00 to be drawn at the County Treasury at Ashland. If the money is not at Ashland it is probably in the State Treasury at this place. In case you do not get it at Ashland, you had better send me an order on the State Treasury to draw it for you and I will attend to it for you. I have been quite unwell for the last two weeks but am getting much better. James writes me that he has not heard from home since he left Columbus

Please write to me soon and let me hear from you all Give my respects to all my friends. Also let me know how the roads are from Newland on, as I wish to go home before a great while. I subscribed and pd \$2.00 for the Crisis it is a good reliable Democratic paper

Truly your son

W Gribben

Head Quarters 5th Regt., O.V.I.
3 miles from Pittsburg Landing
Tenn. April 10th 1862.

Dear Friend-

It becomes my painful duty to inform you of the death of your brother Capt. James C. Gillen. He fell as becomes a hero and a brave man. He had been at the head of his company cheering, directing and commanding his men during that terrible Sunday morning the 6th of April. He had just been struck with a piece of a shell in the breast which had knocked him down. He got up laughing and was telling some of the boys about the circumstance and laid his hand on his breast to show the place where the shell struck him when a bullet (they were flying thick as hail) - passed through his body entering where the shell had struck him a few minutes before. He fell and laying his hand on his breast said "my God! boys I am dead! Give them hell boys! I'm dead!" He was carried off the field and taken to the landing where he is buried on the bluff beside a large oak tree. He was one of the bravest of the many brave men of the fifty-sevenths. He was a hero and fell in a good cause. The tears of the regiment moistened his grave and his name is deeply engrained in the hearts of his comrades. I will write you again. Your friend & sympathizer, W. Mungen.

Head Quarters 57th Reg't., O.V.I.

3 Miles from Pittsburg Landing

Tenn. April 10, 1862.

Dear Friend--

It becomes my painful duty to inform you of the death of your brother Capt. James C. Gribben. He fell as becomes a hero and a brave man. He had been at the head of his company cheering, directing, and commanding his men during that terrible Sunday morning the 6th of April. He had just been struck with a piece of shell in the breast which had knocked him down. He got up laughing and was telling some of the boys about the circumstance and laid his hand on his breast to show the place where the shell struck him when a bullet--(they were flying thick as hail)--passed through his body entering where the shell had struck him a few minutes before. He fell and laying his hand on his breast said "My God! boys I am dead! Give them hell boys! I am dead!" He was carried off the field and taken to the landing where he is buried on the bluff beside a large oak tree. He was one of the bravest of the many brave men of the fifty-seventh. He was a hero and fell in a good cause. The tears of the regiment moistened his grave and his name is deeply engraved in the hearts of his comrades. I will write you again.

Your friend + sympathizer, W. Mungen.

Head Quarters 5th Regt. U.S.
Camp Shiloh, Pittsburg Landing Tenn -
April 13th 1862 -

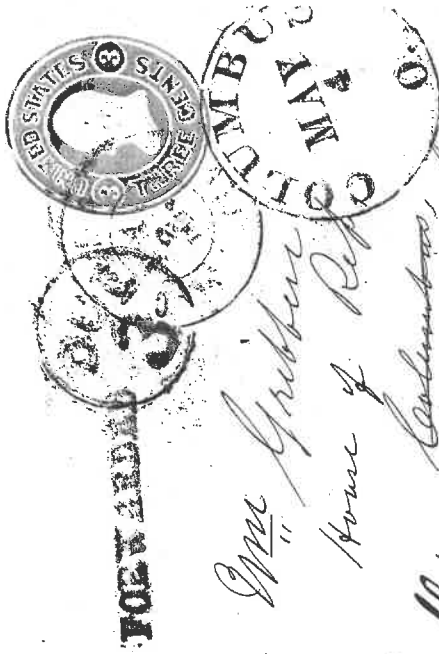
Wm. Gibben,

My Dear Friend

You have been informed by a letter from Col Mangum, & from other sources of information of the untimely fate of your Brother - I hardly know how to write you - I am too full to give expression to my feelings. The Capt had been out with his Company on picket duty on Saturday night - Early in the morning, being relieved, he came into camp with his command & informed us that the enemy was near in great force - He immediately fell into line, & but for the timely information of the Capt would all have been cut up & lost, such was the utter ignorance of affairs by our Generals & Superior Officers - (That we were surprised then can be no doubt, & were it not for the dogged persistence & hard fighting of the Union forces on Sunday all would have been lost - I hope to God that those high in Command who are responsible for this surprise may have to account for it.) We were in line before breakfast - Col Mangum & Major Walker were both quite unwell & it devolved on me to take charge of

of the Regiment - He fought long + well + fairly repulsed them + protected our own camp, where they, driving out the 33rd from their quarters out flanked us, + we had to change front + receive them on our left - The Capt led his men on most bravely through the thickest of the fire regardless of personal danger - He fell, near the middle of the day having been in the fight about five (5) hours, pierced with a Minie ball just above the right nipple - As he fell he threw his hand to his breast + exclaimed "Oh my God, give them Hell Boys, I'm dead." He said no more - I rode up to him, got off my horse, spoke to him + asked him if he did not know ^{me,} + for him to speak to me, but he was unconscious, I was fast breathing his life away - For a moment I was unarmed - I was discouraged + almost gave up - He was to me more as a Brother than any thing else, + I could hardly give him up - We were in much danger now of being captured, but I succeeded in having him taken away + placed in an Ambulance + taken to the river, where he is interred as well as possible, as we are expecting you here in a few days with a Metallic Coffin for his remains - He remained on the field all day + slept (not slept but laid) on our arms all night in the rain, with the enemy but a short distance from our lines - But what a night - A gloom has been cast over the whole Regiment, for he was universally

beloved & esteemed - And I would give to you &
the rest of the family my Condolence in this deep hour
of affliction - We loved him for his bravery, his
talents, his kind pleasing disposition & his noble daring -
He died the "bravest of the brave" - 'Tis hard to give
him up, but his image will ever be green in
our memories - We hope we have in part
avenged his death - The Regiment withstood
the first onslaught of the enemy, & acted most
nobly & gallantly - We ^{were} on the field both
Sunday & Monday, also followed them on
Tuesday, when we had a very sharp en-
counter about 6 miles in advance, when
they routed our Cavalry & would have done
much injury had not the 5th Chasged Bay-
onet & routed them - Our loss is over
one hundred killed & wounded - You see
we have suffered very much - I have sent you
by Dr Lemen the Capt's Effects, which were saved
from the enemy, most of which were on his person -
Give my kindest regards to Drs Godfrey & Moore
& Hon Marshall - Write me when you can
& believe me ever very Truly Yours
A. B. Rice



Adm Mrs Grubb
House of Reps
Columbus, Ohio
Indigo

By Express where no return
P.M. will please forward
to Franklin, Ohio

Head Quarters 57th Regt. O.V.I.
Camp Shiloh, Pittsburg Landing Tenn.

April 13th 1862

Hon. Wm. Gribben,

My Dear Friend

You have been informed by a letter from Col Mungen, & from other sources of information of the untimely fate of you Brother. I hardly know how to write you--I am too full to give expression to my feelings. The Capt had been out with his Company on Picket duty on Saturday night. Early in the morning, being relieved, he came into camp with his command + informed us that the enemy was near in great force. We immediately fell into line, + but for the timely information of the Capt. would all have been cut up + lost, such was the utter ignorance of affairs by our Generals + Superior Officers. (That we were surprised there can be no doubt, + were it not for the dogged persistence + hard fighting of the Union forces on Sunday all would have been lost. I hope to God that those high in Command who are responsible for this surprise may have to account for it.) We were in line before breakfast. Col Mungen + Major Walker were both quite unwell + it devolved on me to take charge of

of the Regiment. We fought long + well + fairly repulsed them + protected our own camp, when they, driving out the 53rd from their quarters outflanked us, + we had to change front + receive them on our left. The Capt led his men on most bravely through the thickest of the fire regardless of personal danger. He fell, near the middle of the day having been in the fight about five (5) hours, pierced with a minie ball just above the right nipple. As he fell he threw his hand to his breast + exclaimed "Oh my God, give then Hell Boys, I'm dead." He said no more. I rode up to him, got off my horse, spoke to him + asked him if he did not know me + for him to speak to me, but he was unconscious + was fast breathing his life away. For a moment I was un^{NERVED (?)}~~MANNED~~. I was discouraged + almost gave up. He was to me more as a Brother than any thing else, + I could hardly give him up. We were in much danger now of being captured, but I succeeded in having him taken away + placed in an ambulance + taken to the river, where he is interred as well as possible, as we are expecting you here in a few days with a metallic coffin for his remains. We remained on the field all day + slept (not slept but laid) on our arms all night in the rain, with the enemy but a short distance from our lines. But what a night. A gloom has been cast over the whole Regiment, for he was universally

beloved + esteemed. And I would give to you + the rest of the family my condolence in this deep hour of affliction. We loved him for his bravery, his talents, his kind pleasing disposition + his noble daring. He died the "bravest of the brave". 'Tis hard to give him up, but his image will ever be graven in our memories. We hope we have in part avenged his death. The Regiment withstood the final onslaught of the enemy, + acted most nobly + gallantly. We were on the field both Sunday + Monday, also followed them on Tuesday, when we had a very sharp encounter about 6 miles in advance, when they routed our cavalry + would have done much injury had not the 57th charged bayonet + routed them. Our loss is over one hundred killed + wounded. You see we have suffered very much. I have sent you by Dr. Lemur the Capt's effects, which were saved from the enemy, most of which were on his person. Give my kindest regards to Drs Godfrey + Munroe + Hon Marshall. Write me when you can + believe me ever very truly yours

A. V. Rice

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

SECOND AUDITOR'S OFFICE,

Aug. 2 1863

Enclosed you will receive a certificate, No. 19,098,
for \$417.60 payable to your father of the deceased
or to your order, by any paymaster of the U. S. Army,
being for pay due James C. Gibben, a late captain
~~in Captain~~ of Company "A", Fifty-second
Regiment of Ohio Vol., for services from the 31st day
of December 1861, when last paid, to the 6th day
of April 1862, time of his death

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Mr James Gibben

E. B. Funch

born to
William Gibben

Second Auditor.

Fridley

Hancock Co.

Ohio.

S.S.

Inventory of the Effect of Capt

Jas C. Gribben, late of Co A 57th Regt. OVI

- 1 Trunk, broken + worthless, it + the contents having been pillaged + destroyed by the Rebels.
- 1 Sword + belt, 1 Revolver
- 1 Bugle for Cap
- 1 Pr shoulder straps (capts)
- 1 Gold pen - 1 Gold Ring (in pocket Book)
- 1 Pocket Book. Cash \$42 45/100 cash + a few papers. All the rest of his goods were stolen by the Rebels.

Inventory of the Effects of Capt

Jas C Gribben, late of Co A 57th Regt. OVI

- 1 Trunk, broken + worthless, it + the contents having been pillaged + destroyed by the Rebels.
- 1, Sword + Belt, 1 Revolver
- 1 Bugle for Cap.
- 1 for shoulder straps (capts)
- 1 Gold Pen - 1 Gold Ring (in Pocket Book)
- 1 Pocket Book. Cash \$42 $\frac{45}{100}$ cash, + a few papers. all the rest of his goods were stolen by the Rebels

Columbus O April 18th 1862

My dear friends

I say to you with
a sorrowful heart that Capt
J. C. Gibben was killed on Sunday
the 6th inst. in the fight at Pettibury
Landing. I received this morning his
Sword belt & pistol, hugh off his cap
and his shoulder straps, also his
pocket book containing \$42.00 in
money, a very so. I will at the
earliest possible period secure his
remains, and bring them home
When he was shot, he was at the
head of his company urging his
men on to action. Col. Mungen
says he died as one of the bravest
of the brave. My friends, led not
this affliction, bereave you too
much

Your affectionate
son W. Gibben

Columbus O April 18th 1862

My Dear friends

I say to you with
A sorrowful hear that Capt
J. C Gribben was killed on Sunday
the 6th inst. In the fight at Pittsburg
Landing. I received this morning his
sword belt + pistol, bugle off his cap
and his shoulder straps, also his
pocket book containing \$42.00 in
money, a ring, +c. I will at the
earlies possible period secure his
remains, and bring them home
When he was shot, he was at the
head of his company urging his
men on to action. Col Mungen
says he died as one of the braves
of the brave. My friends, let not
this affliction bereave you to
much Your affectionate
 Son *W. Gribben*



Quincy Ill. April 22 1862

Mr. Gribben

Sir I know
you will be surprised to receive
this from one whom perhaps you
have never heard of; but I hope
you will not think me impudent
for it is feelings of deepest anxiety
which impells me to address you

In the list of the killed
at the battle of Peiburg Landing

I see the name of your
brother J. G. Gribben I have been corresponding
with your brother for four years.

I have not heard of him since
he left Peiburg N.Y.

I know there is some mistake
in the report, some of our friends
who been wounded are reported among

The killed. I hope that you be
some mistake about Mr. Grover
but I learn.

Will you be so kind
as to tell me of him?

yours with much
respect

Wm. R. G. Reader

Quincy
Ill

+

It is with with entangled feelings
that I write for I do not know
that this will ever reach you

I have heard your brother often
speak of you but I am not certain
that I know your address!

will you please write soon. Yours

W. R. G. Reader

Quincy Ill. April 22 1862

Mr. Gribben

Sir I know
you will be suprised to receive
this from on whom perhaps you
have never heard of, but I hope
you will not think me impertinent
for it is feelings of deepest anxiety
which impells me to address you

In the list of the killed
at the battle at Pitsburg Landing
I see the name of your Brother
J.C. Gribben, I have been coresponding
with your brother for four years.

I have not heard of him since
he left Paducah Ky.

I know there is some mistakes
In the reports, some of our friends
who been wounded are reported among

the killed. I hope there can be
some mistake about Mr Gribben
but I fear.

Will you be so kind
as to tell me of him.

Yours with much
Respect

Miss R.A. Reeder

Quincy
Ill

X

It is with with mingled feelings
that I write for I do not know
that this will ever reach you.
I have heard your brother often
speak of you but I am not certain
that I know your address.

will you please write soon. Yours

R.A. Reeder

CONTENTS OF JAMES C. GRIBBEN COLLECTION

Property of Douglas A. Benson, 3091 W. Russell Rd., Sidney, OH 45365
(937) 492-5133, dbenson@woh.rr.com

1. Title page with photo
2. CDV in case; 4 pictures from Savannah, OH cemetery; composite picture of these items
3. Agreement between Gribben and his law partner (Apr. 23/28, 1861)
4. Letter (w/ env) from William G. to parents from Camp Taylor (May 15, 1861)
5. Letter (w/env) from James to sister from Gallipolis, OH (June 29, 1861)
6. Letter (w/env) to parents from (West) Virginia (July 17, 1861)
7. Appointment as 1st Lieutenant of Co. A, 57th OVI -- also official certificate (Sept. 16, 1861)
8. Appointment as Captain of Co. A, 57th OVI (Feb. 8, 1862)
9. Letter (w/env) from William to parents reporting news from 57th sutler (Mar. 28, 1862)
10. Letter from Col. Mungen to William reporting death (Apr. 10, 1862)
11. Letter (w/env) from Lt. Col. Rice to William reporting death (Apr. 13, 1862)
12. Final payroll voucher for \$417.60 (July 8, 183)
13. Inventory of personal effects sent to William
14. Letter (w/env) from William to parents reporting James's death (Apr. 18, 1862)
15. Letter from R.A. Reeder (lady friend) to William enquiring about James (Apr. 22, 1862)



Douglas A. Benson
Retired teacher

3091 West Russell Road
Sidney, OH 45365

(937) 492-5133
dbenson@woh.rr.com



James C. Gribben

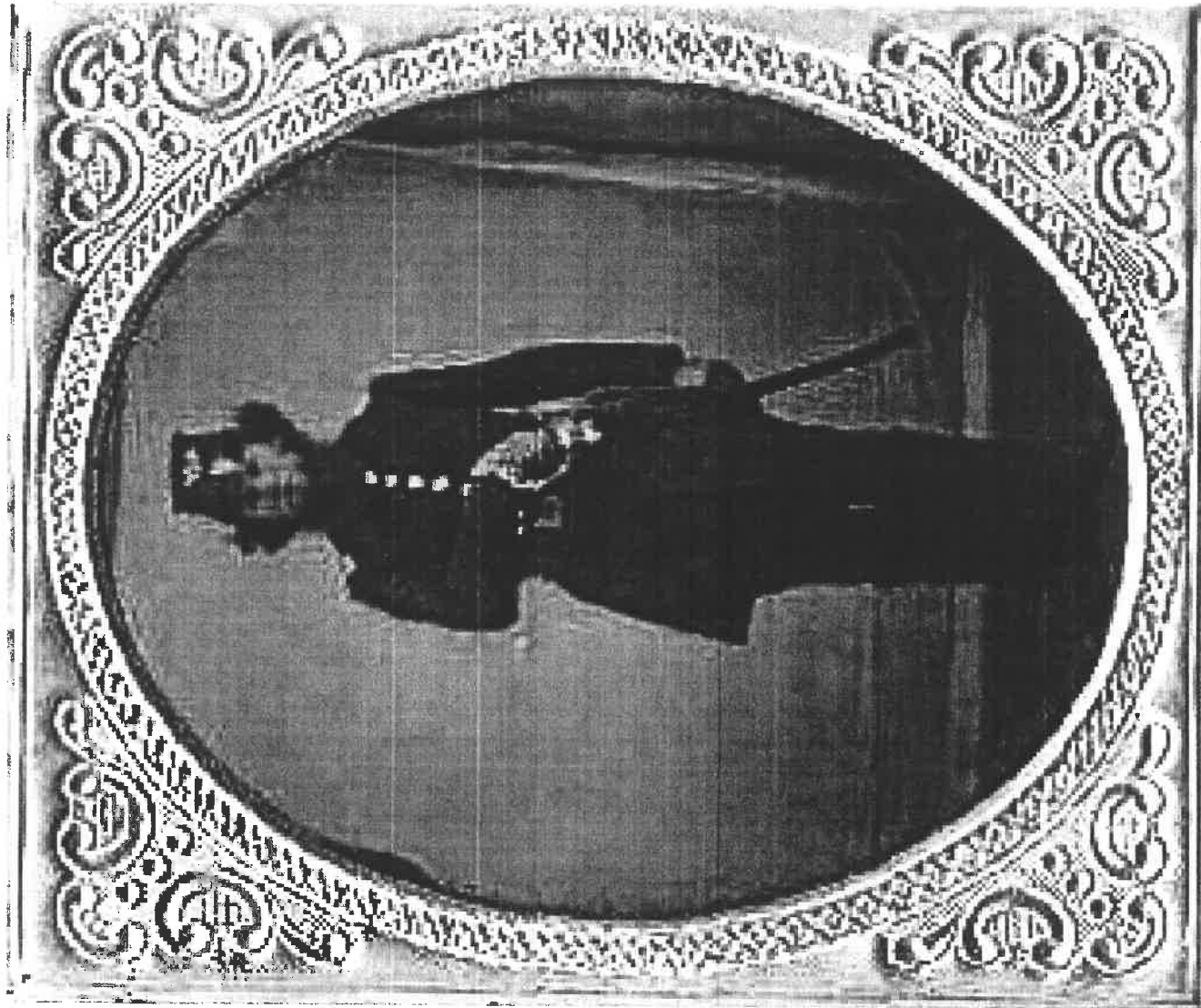
**Private, Co. E, 21st Ohio Volunteer Infantry*
Captain, Co. A, 57th Ohio Volunteer Infantry**

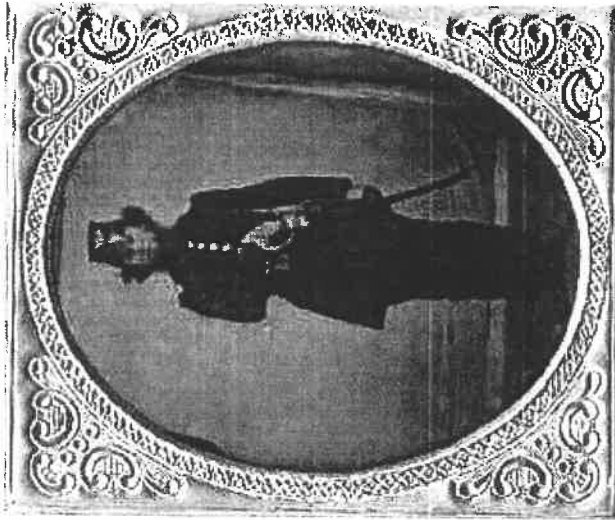
James C. Gribben was born in Ashland County, Ohio, Nov. 27, 1829, to James and Catherine (Aten) Gribben. Apparently his father was a farmer. Both James and his older brother William became attorneys. At the time of his volunteer enlistment, James resided in Kalida and was the prosecuting attorney in Putnam Co. William was Hancock Co. (Findlay) prosecutor from 1854-8 and then instead of joining the Army as he had planned, he was elected to the Ohio House of Representatives in the fall of 1861 and served from 1862 until 1864.

James joined other Putnam County men as a private in Company E of the "ninety-day" 21st O.V.I. The 21st trained at Camp Taylor in Cleveland and then moved to Camp Carrington in Gallipolis. They were deployed to the Kanawha River area of (West) Virginia and saw action against the rebel army at Scarey Creek in July, 1861.

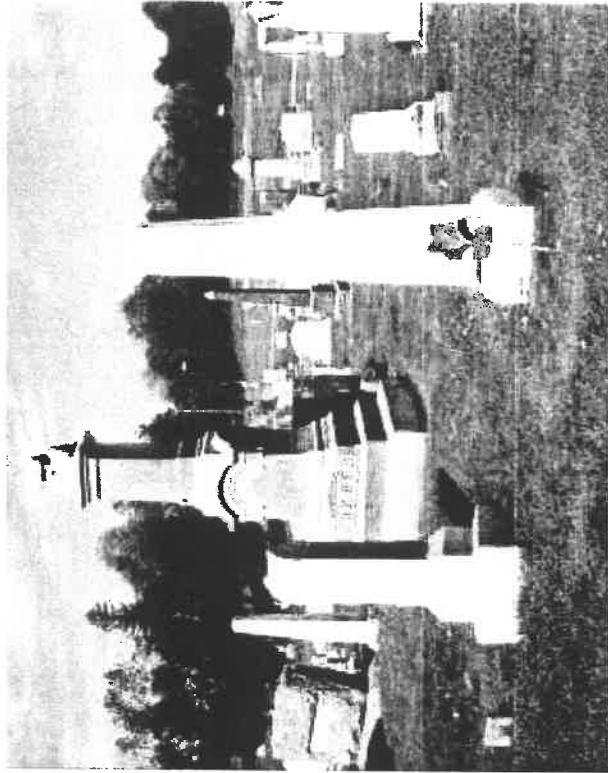
When the ninety-day 21st came home and disbanded, James enlisted with other Putnam Co. men in the newly formed 57th O.V.I., which trained at Camp Vance in Findlay. He entered as 1st Lieutenant in Company A. On Feb. 8, 1862, he was promoted to Captain of Co. A and ordered to Camp Chase. The 57th deployed to western Kentucky and was among the first units to be hit by the Confederate Army at Shiloh. The captain died of a minie ball wound to the chest during the battle. Letters written to his brother William by Col. Mungen on April 10 and by Lt. Col. A.V. Rice on April 13 recounting the events surrounding the captain's death indicate that he was bravely leading his men in the battle.

The family had the captain's remains returned to Ohio, where he is buried beside his parents, his sister Margaret, and two infant siblings in the cemetery in Savannah, Ohio, near where he grew up.

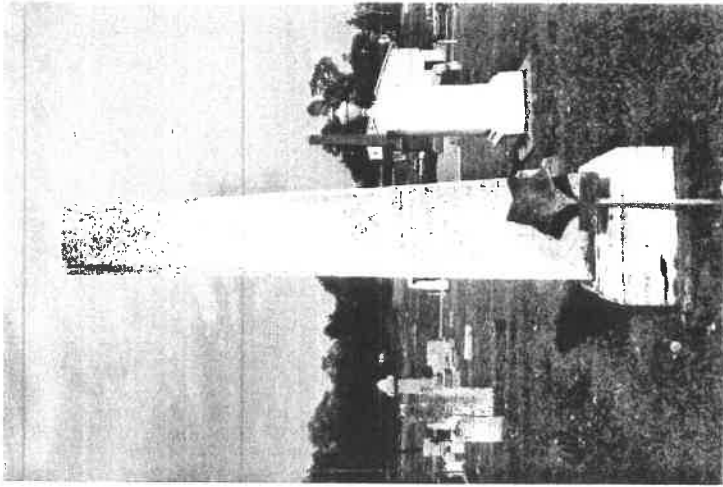




CDV probably taken in Ohio before the 57th left for Kentucky.



Family grave site in Savannah, Ohio. James's is the one with the flag marker. The tilted one to the immediate left is his parents, and the small one on the left is Margaret's.



JAMES C. GRIBBEN

Capt. of Co. A

57 Regt. O.V.I.

& Son of

J. & C. GRIBBEN

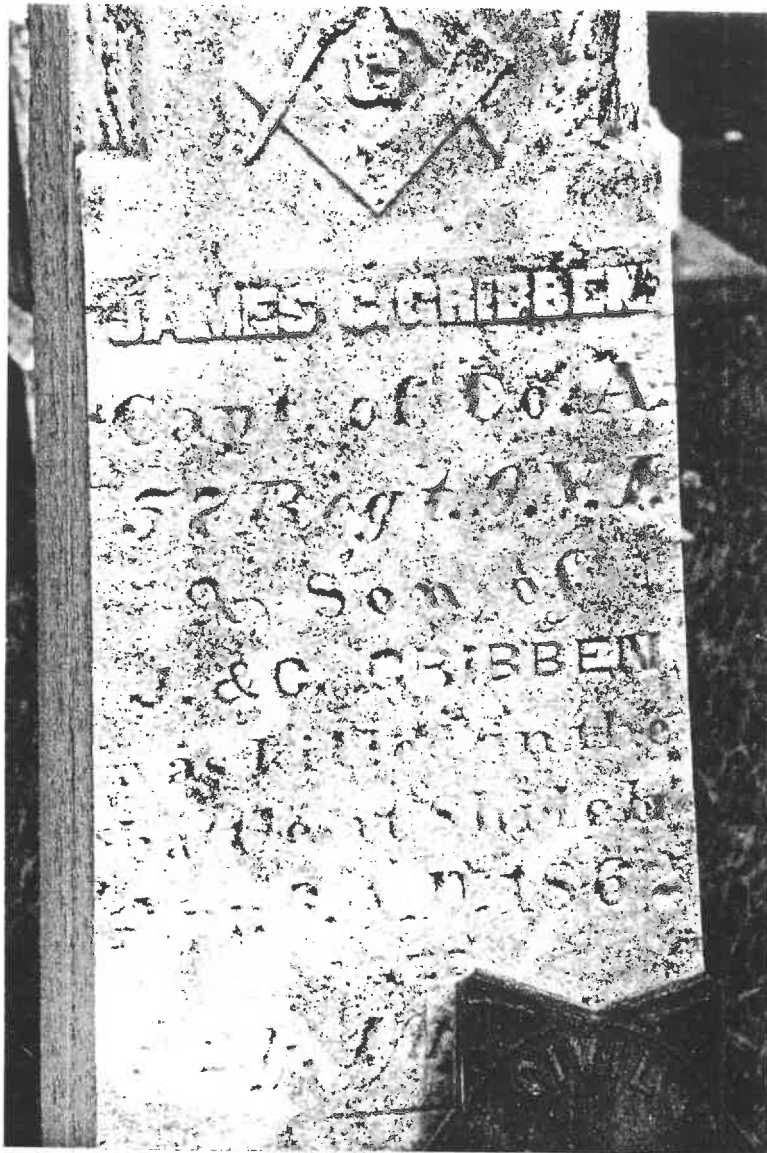
was killed in the

Battle of Shiloh

Apr. 6 A.D. 1862

AGED

32 y. 4m. 10 days



JAMES CORRIBBEN

Capt of Co. A

52 Regt. N.Y.

Son of

J. & C. CORRIBBEN

Killed in the

War of 1861

Sept 1861

and country, the aforesaid promises and agreements
on my part, shall extend until he becomes
restored to health and strength - and able to dis-
charge his professional duties.

Witness my hand this 13th April 1861

John Dixon

Salary April 13 1861

to the amount of £4000

to be paid in three instalments

of £1333 6s 6d each

the first to be paid on the 15th

of the month of April

the second on the 15th

of the month of May

the third on the 15th

of the month of June

our country, the aforesaid promise and agreement
on my part, shall extend until he becomes
restored to health and strength - and able to dis-
charge his professional duties.

Witness my hand, this 23^d April 1861

John Dixon

Calicut April 28 1861

My debts are to Abner Jewell
for a coat, pants, & vest, \$

A note to Joseph Matthews calling
for ~~about~~ \$30.00 & interest

An note of thirty dollars (\$30) to

Mr Wilson & much to my
brother William, I believe
that these are all the debts that
I owe and I wish them paid
out of my credits & effects

⁶⁹ I do not call to my recollection
- upon any other debts unless it would
be to Dixon my law partner on settlement
of our business which is now unsettled
I wish that settled honorably & if any
thing is due to me it be paid

James C. Sullivan

Whereas my Law partner James C. Gribben of Kalida Putman County Ohio has volunteered to join the army of the U.S. in putting down treason and rebellion against the Government Therefore in consideration of the fact. I agree to carry on the business of the firm as it has heretofore been carried on and when the said James Gribben returns to account to him the same as if he had remained at home.

In consideration of his volunteering as aforesaid I agree to discharge the duties of his office of Pros Atty if appointed by the court, free of charge to the best of my ability.

If the said James Gribben my partner as aforesaid should fall in battle or in any other way loose his life while in the service of his country I agree to dispose of his share of the earnings of said firm together with what is now due as according to any directions he may make, hereafter. Should he become disabled from wounds recd in battle, or otherwise, while serving

our country, the aforesaid promise and agreement on my part, shall extend until he becomes Restored to health and strength and is able to discharge his professional duties.

Witness my hand, this 23rd April 1861

John Dixon

Kalida April 28 1861

My debts are to Abner Tewell

for a coat, pants, + vest \$

A note to Joseph Rothchilds calling for about #30.00 + interest

A note of thirty dollars (\$30) to

Mr. Henry, + a noter to my brother William. I believe

that these are all th debts that

I owe and I wish them paid our of my credits + effects

I can not call to my recolle

-ction any other debts unless it would

be to Dixon my law partner on settlement of our business which is now unsettled

I wish that settled honorably + if any

thing is due Dixon it be paid

James C Gribben

Camp Taylor, Cleveland Ohio

May 15th 1861

Das Gubheri Sen

Dear sir

I arrived here yesterday from Columbus, I passed through New London, but had not time to go and see you. James is here he belongs to the Walida company he is well so am I I will leave for Findlay tomorrow if I go I will go in a three year company However I am not certain what I will go into service in the 21st Regiment the one which James is in; However if I do go I will not be a private I will know in a few days whether I go in the 21st Regiment or not, yet, we hear from you at Findlay immediately. These are hazy times and no telling where I may be in two weeks from now, The Republicans have gained a victory and with it some change is said to be made as yet there is no telling whether

will still I have recently, and several
members since they say they will go
to the south. He told the Republicans that
if they wanted the Union that a man
was made in fact the people did not
desire it, but now as we will not
it it is our duty and demands have
got to be put down and a good
many trust in God that we may be
able to save the Union, but I fear
it cannot be done. I will write
you again soon.

Very Respectfully
W. G. Garrison

P.S. The boys in camp are considered
a freight, and have three companies, three
from Providence. There is only 3000 troops
left in camp. W. G. Garrison

James G. Hubben Gen.
Savannah
Appland Co
Ohio



Camp Taylor, Cleveland Ohio
May 15th 1861

Jas Gribben sen

Dear sir

I arrived here yesterday from Columbus, I passed through New London, but had not time to go and see you. James is here he belongs to the Kalida Company, he is well so am I. I will leave for Findlay tomorrow, If I go I will go in a three years Company However I am not certain but what I will go into service in the 21st Regiment the one which James is in. However if I do go I will not be a private: I will know in a few days whether I go in the 21st Regiment or not. Let me hear from you at Findlay immediately. These are harrying times, and no telling where I may be in two weeks from now. The Republicans have gained a victory and with it have brought a civil war and as yet there is no telling where it will end: I have recently met several Southern men they say they will fight to the end. We told the Republicans that if they elected Mr. Lincoln that a civil war was inevitable. The people did not believe it, but now as terrible as it is it is on us and democrats have got to help them out of a bad job. I ~~only~~ trust in god that we may be able to save the union, but I fear it cannot be done. I will write you again soon.

Very Respectfully
W Gribben

PS, The boys in Camp are anxious for a fight, we have three companys here from Findlay. There is over 3000 troops here in Camp.

W Gribben

Camp Carrington
June 29th 1861

Miss Margaret Gribben

Dear sister

I received Georges letter a day or two ago and was very sorry to learn that our uncle had not got well yet. I am in hopes that _____ and she will be so that we can have a good time when I am home. I will be there in the course of two months or sooner. The health of the regiment is very good at present much better than it has been since we came here there is at the present time about twenty five in the hospital and only two of them are from our company. When I last wrote to George the rumor was that we would leave here in a day or less that a regiment was just coming in to join us which was false it was only 1000 stand of arms came in. I don't think that we will leave here before the three months are up but we are subject to order and may move at any time. I am going to go 3 years if our company goes and if it does not I am a going to get up a horse company and go.

I was out on an other scout yesterday + went up the Kahanawa river 10 or 12 miles I am a going a gain tomorrow.

Give my respects to all my relatives and tell them to write often and not wait for me the have a much better chance to write than I have

I remain as ever your affectionate brother

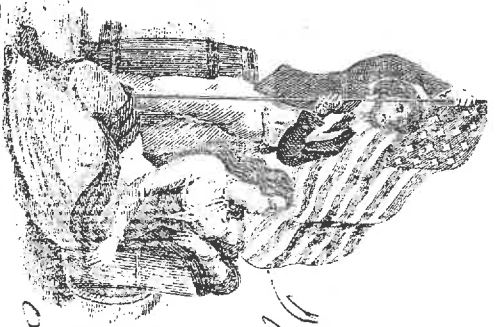
J.C. Gribben

WB direct as George did + write soon + oblige yours

JC Gribben

at 10 AM. Yesterday there were
 a heavy rain in the night
 we had got packed, packed
 the tickets which were
 ready as they were
 My shot 2 of them were
 exchange for other
 our hearts about 300 feet
 was all the damage done

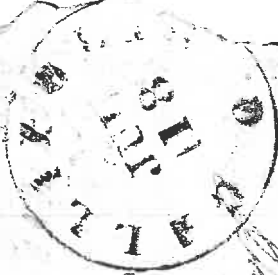
I received a message
 yesterday. What does it
 as before. I will write in
 a few days again
 I have my love to
 all my friends. Keep up
 with you. I will be
 I remain as ever
 your affectionate
 James to Sir John



The King of the sea. On great waves
 they shall gather for the hour.

My dear
 July 19th 1861
 Dear brother
 I write to you
 once more to let you
 know how
 where I am

I am now in camp
 within 2 1/2 miles of the camp
 we have been under a con-
 tinual fire of the
 picket for the last 36 hours
 On the 15th our
 left the camp and
 up to a little from
 seeing them where the
 camp opened. The
 then he retreated
 3 miles of our camp
 we met them that night



*Miss Sarah
Cammack
Philadelphia Pa*



In Camp Va
July 17th 1861

Dear Father + Mother

I write to you once more to let you know how I am + where I am

I am now in camp within 2 1/2 miles of the enemy. We have been under a continual fire of the secessionists picket for the last 36 hours. On the 15th inst our Colonel with 3 companies left the camp and came up to a little town called Seerry town where the enemy opened the cannon on him he retreated back within 3 miles of our camp where we met him that night about midnight where we all slept on our arms on the bare ground the balance of the night + early the next morning we marched up to where we are now within 2 1/2 miles of the devils. We have the 2 regiment + 1/2 of the first Kentucky boys with us also 1/2 the 11 + all the 12 Ohio Regiments with us + 4 cannon We have had several men killed while scouting + the secessionists have had several of theirs killed + some horses we are preparing to march on to the secessionists we will start in a bout one hour and in two hours from this time if they dont run + leave their forts we will have a fight. We intend to march right into Charleston which is abot 15 miles from here.

We will have to take about 3 places between here + there. We are to be at Charleston by tomorrow noon.

We will be exposed to a constant fire from scouts until we get through. A number of bullets has already whistled over my head. The day before yesterday I was setting by the river washing my feet and a damd scoundrel shot and the bullet whistled by my head + went on by and struck near another of our boys.

The other night when we was marching the Kentucky regiment thought that they was on the enemy + commenced firing at nothing but as there was a bend in the road in which we had got partialy round the bullets whsed over our heads as thick as hail falling. The shot 2 of their own men + a horse ran off + run through our ranks + hurt 3 or four. That was all the damage done.

I received Maggies letter yesterday. Write soon + direct as before. I will write in a few days again.

Give my love to all my friends keeping a good portion yourselves.

I remain ever your affectionate son,

James C Gribben

Columbus January 29 1862

Capt Dow will muster in Lieutenant
James C. Libben No 57th Reg U.S. The
muster to date from Sept 2^d 1861, the time when
the organization of the company was complete.

L. P. Ruskingham

Adj. Genl. C.
Columbus O. 2nd Sept. 1861

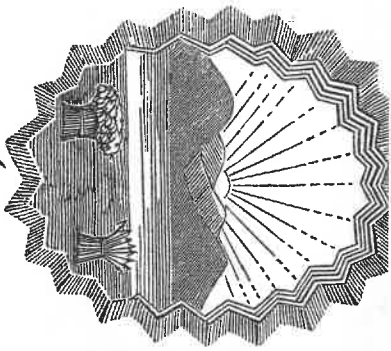
I hereby certify that I have this day mustered into the
service of the United States for three years unless sooner discharged
James C. Libben as a 1st Lieut. in the 57th Regt.
U.S. Infantry

Albert B. Dod
Capt. 15th Inf. U.S.A.
Mustering Officer

THE GREAT SEAL OF THE

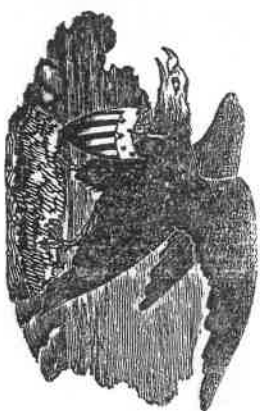
OF THE

STATE OF OHIO.



GOVERNOR AND COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF SAID STATE.

DAVID T. OGDEN,



To James C. Smith Greeting:

It appearing to me, that on the 2^d day of September, 1861, you were duly appointed First Lieutenant, of A Regiment Ohio Volunteer Militia, organized and mustered into the service of the United States under Proclamation of the President, dated May 3d, 1861.

NOW KNOW YOU, That by the powers vested in me by the Constitution and Laws of said State, and reposing special trust and confidence in your patriotism, valor, fidelity and ability, I do by these presents COMMISSION you as First Lieutenant as aforesaid, for the term of THREE YEARS, unless sooner discharged. And I do hereby authorize and require you to discharge, all and singular, the duties and services appertaining to your said office, agreeably to law and general regulations, and to obey such orders and instructions as you shall, from time to time, receive from your superior officers.

In Testimony Whereof, I have hereunto set my name and caused the Great Seal of the State of Ohio to be affixed, at Columbus, the 17th day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, and in the eighty-sixth year of the Independence of the United States of America.

By the GOVERNOR:

R. R. Johnson, Secretary of State.

David T. Ogden

Head Quarters, Ohio Militia.

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Columbus, O., Feb'y 8th 1862.

Sir:

You are hereby notified that you have been appointed by the Governor of Ohio Captain in the Fifty Seventh Regiment Ohio Volunteer Infantry in the service of the United States. You will immediately signify to this Department your acceptance or non-acceptance of this appointment, and if you accept, will report in person without delay to Col. Wm. Munger at Camp Chase near Columbus.

As soon as your Regiment is completely organized and mustered into the service, your appointment will be confirmed and your commission issued.

C. P. Runkle

Adjutant General, Ohio.

To James C. Gribben
Capt. 57th Reg't O. V. I.
Camp Chase

Colander O March 28th 1862

Dear father

I wish to say that Mr Slade the Letter of the 57th Regiment Arrived here yesterday, he called on me last evening, he says James is well and in good spirits, They expect to have a big fight in a few days at Corinth in Tennessee. Our forces are at Pitts Landing, but have probably moved before this time we have about 100 000 troops there, General Hull is marching down with a large reinforcement to them, Burnside, Johnson and other prominent Generals are at Corinth so we can expect that to be the biggest fight that has been, The 57th Reg has the honor of Command the right wing of General Sherman's division so that James Campbell is at the head, and I suppose will be in the fight sure, Mr Slade says that James is anxious for the task, James sent me a letter by Mr Slade enclosing

\$220.00 to me same for him self and
same for his soldiers to pay some
debts for himself and the soldiers at
Grindley. He also says that he sent you
\$20.00 to be drawn at the County Treasury
at Ashland, if the money is not at
Ashland it is probably in the State
Treasury at this place, in case you do
not get it at Ashland, you had better
send me an order on the State Treasury
to draw it for you and I will attend to
it for you, ~~I~~ I have been quite
unwell for the last two weeks but am
getting much better, James writes me that
he has not heard from home since he
left Calumbers

Please write to me soon
and let me hear from you all Give
my respects to all my friends, also
let me know how the roads are
from Newlandon, as I wish to go home
before a great while.

I subscribed and pd \$2.00 for the Crisis
it is a good reliable Democratic paper

Truly your son
W. E. Gibson

Columbus O March 28 1862

Dear father

I wish to say that Mr Slade the sutler of the 57th Regiment arrived here yesterday, he called on me last evening, he says James is well and in good spirits. They expect to have a big fight in a few days at Corinth in Tenese Our forces are at Pitts Landing, but have probably moved before this time we have about 100 000 troops there. General Buell is marching down with a large reinforcement to them. Buragard, Johnson and other prominent generals are a Corinth so we can expect that to be the biggest fight that has been. The 57th Reg has the honor of commanding the right wing of General Shermans division so that James Company is at the head, and I suppose will be in the fight here. Mr Slade says that James is anxious for the task. James sent me a letter by Mr. Slade enclosing

\$220.00 to me for him self and some for his soldiers to pay some debts for himself and the soldiers at Findlay. He also says that he sent you \$210.00 to be drawn at the County Treasury at Ashland. If the money is not at Ashland it is probably in the State Treasury at this place. In case you do not get it at Ashland, you had better send me an order on the State Treasury to draw it for you and I will attend to it for you. I have been quite unwell for the last two weeks but am getting much better. James writes me that he has not heard from home since he left Columbus

Please write to me soon and let me hear from you all Give my respects to all my friends. Also let me know how the roads are from Newland on, as I wish to go home before a great while.
I subscribed and pd \$2.00 for the Crisis it is a good reliable Democratic paper

Truly your son
W Gribben



James Gibben sen
Savannah
Ohio

Head Quarters 57th Regt, O.V.I.

3 miles from Pittsburg Landing

Tenn. April 10th 1862.

Dear Friend-

It becomes my painful duty to inform you of the death of your brother Capt. James C. Gillen. He fell as becomes a hero and a brave man. He had been at the head of his company cheering, directing and commanding his men during that terrible Sunday morning the 6th of April. He had just been struck with a piece of a shell in the breast which had knocked him down. He got up laughing and was telling some of the boys about the circumstance and laid his hand on his breast to show the place where the shell struck him when a bullet - (they were flying thick as hail) - passed through his body entering where the shell had struck him a few minutes before. He fell and laying his hand on his breast said "my God! boys I am dead! Give them hell boys! I'm dead!" He was carried off the field and taken to the landing where he is buried on the bluff beside a large oak tree. He was one of the bravest of the many brave men of the fifty seventh. He was a hero and fell in a good cause. The tears of the regiment moistened his grave and his name is deeply engraved in the hearts of his comrades. I will write you again. Your friend & sympathizer, W. Morgan.

Head Quarters 57th Reg't., O.V.I.

3 Miles from Pittsburg Landing

Tenn. April 10, 1862.

Dear Friend--

It becomes my painful duty to inform you of the death of your brother Capt. James C. Gribben. He fell as becomes a hero and a brave man. He had been at the head of his company cheering, directing, and commanding his men during that terrible Sunday morning the 6th of April. He had just been struck with a piece of shell in the breast which had knocked him down. He got up laughing and was telling some of the boys about the circumstance and laid his hand on his breast to show the place where the shell struck him when a bullet--(they were flying thick as hail)--passed through his body entering where the shell had struck him a few minutes before. He fell and laying his hand on his breast, said "My God! boys I am dead! Give them hell boys! I am dead!" He was carried off the field and taken to the landing where he is buried on the bluff beside a large oak tree. He was one of the bravest of the many brave men of the fifty-seventh. He was a hero and fell in a good cause. The tears of the regiment moistened his grave and his name is deeply engraved in the hearts of his comrades. I will write you again.

Your friend + sympathizer, W. Mungen.

of the Regiment. He fought long & well & fairly repulsed them & protected our own camp, when they, driving out the 33rd from their quarters out flanked us, & we had to change front & receive them on our left. The Capt led his men on most bravely through the thickest of the fire regardless of personal danger. He fell, near the middle of the day having been in the fight about five (5) hours, pierced with a Minie ball just above the right nipple. As he fell he threw his hand to his breast & exclaimed "Oh my God, give them Hell Boys, I'm dead." He said no more. I rode up to him, got off my horse, spoke to him & asked him if he did not know ^{me,} & for him to speak to me, but he was unconscious, & was fast breathing his life away. For a moment I was unmanned. I was discouraged & almost gave up. He was to me more as a Brother than any thing else, & I could hardly give him up. We were in much danger now of being captured, but I succeeded in having him taken away & placed in an Ambulance & taken to the river, where he is interred as well as possible, as we are expecting you here in a few days with a Metallic Coffin for his remains. He remained on the field all day & slept (not slept but laid) on our arms all night in the rain, with the enemy but a short distance from our lines. But what a night. A gloom has been cast over the whole Regiment, for he was universally

If Legis. letter has adjourn
P.M. will please forward
to Findlay, Ohio



Hon Mr Gribben
House of Reps
Columbus,
Ohio.
Findlay O

Head Quarters 57th Regt. O.V.I.
Camp Shiloh, Pittsburg Landing Tenn.

April 13th 1862

Hon. Wm. Gribben,

My Dear Friend

You have been informed by a letter from Col Mungen, & from other sources of information of the untimely fate of you Brother. I hardly know how to write you--I am too full to give expression to my feelings. The Capt had been out with his Company on Picket duty on Saturday night. Early in the morning, being relieved, he came into camp with his command + informed us that the enemy was near in great force. We immediately fell into line, + but for the timely information of the Capt. would all have been cut up + lost, such was the utter ignorance of affairs by our Generals + Superior Officers. (That we were surprised there can be no doubt, + were it not for the dogged persistence + hard fighting of the Union forces on Sunday all would have been lost. I hope to God that those high in Command who are responsible for this surprise may have to account for it.) We were in line before breakfast. Col Mungen + Major Walker were both quite unwell + it devolved on me to take charge of

of the Regiment. We fought long + well + fairly repulsed them + protected our own camp, when they, driving out the 53rd from their quarters outflanked us, + we had to change front + receive them on our left. The Capt led his men on most bravely through the thickest of the fire regardless of personal danger. He fell, near the middle of the day having been in the fight about five (5) hours, pierced with a minie ball just above the right nipple. As he fell he threw his hand to his breast + exclaimed "Oh my God, give them Hell Boys, I'm dead." He said no more. I rode up to him, got off my horse, spoke to him + asked him if he did not know me + for him to speak to me, but he was unconscious + was fast breathing his life away. For a moment I was un^{NERVED (?)}~~MANNED~~. I was discouraged + almost gave up. He was to me more as a Brother than any thing else, + I could hardly give him up. We were in much danger now of being captured, but I succeeded in having him taken away + placed in an ambulance + taken to the river, where he is interred as well as possible, as we are expecting you here in a few days with a metallic coffin for his remains. We remained on the field all day + slept (not slept but laid) on our arms all night in the rain, with the enemy but a short distance from our lines. But what a night. A gloom has been cast over the whole Regiment, for he was universally

beloved + esteemed. And I would give to you + the rest of the family my condolence in this deep hour of affliction. We loved him for his bravery, his talents, his kind pleasing disposition + his noble daring. He died the "bravest of the brave". 'Tis hard to give him up, but his image will ever be graven in our memories. We hope we have in part avenged his death. The Regiment withstood the final onslaught of the enemy, + acted most nobly + gallantly. We were on the field both Sunday + Monday, also followed them on Tuesday, when we had a very sharp encounter about 6 miles in advance, when they routed our cavalry + would have done much injury had not the 57th charged bayonet + routed them. Our loss is over one hundred killed + wounded. You see we have suffered very much. I have sent you by Dr. Lemur the Capt's effects, which were saved from the enemy, most of which were on his person. Give my kindest regards to Drs Godfrey + Munroe + Hon Marshall. Write me when you can + believe me ever very truly yours

A. V. Rice

TREASURY DEPARTMENT,

SECOND AUDITOR'S OFFICE,

July 8 1863

Enclosed you will receive a certificate, No. 19,098,
for \$417.00 payable to your father of the deceased
or to your order, by any paymaster of the U. S. Army,
being for pay due James C. Gribben, a late captain
~~in Captain~~ of Company "A", Fifty seventh
Regiment of Ohio Vols. for services from the 31st day
of December 1861, when last paid, to the 6th day
of April 1862, time of his death

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

Mr James Gribben
born to
William Gribben
Friedley
Hancock Co.
Ohio.

E. B. French

Second Auditor.

15.

Inventory of the Effect of Capt

Jas C. Gribben, late of Co A 57th Regt. OVI

- 1 Trunk, broken + worthless, it + the contents having been pillaged + destroyed by the Rebels.
- 1 Sword + belt, 1 Revolver
- 1 Bugle for Cap
- 1 Pr shoulder straps (cpts)
- 1 Gold pen - 1 Gold Ring (in pocket Book)
- 1 Pocket Book. Cash \$42 45/100 cash + a few papers. All the rest of his goods were stolen by the Rebels.

Inventory of the Effects of Capt

Jas C. Gribben, late of Co A 57th Regt. OVI

- 1 Trunk, Broken + worthless, it + the contents having been pillaged + destroyed by the Rebels.
- 1, Sword + Belt, 1 Revolver
- 1 Bugle for Cap.
- 1 pr shoulder straps (cpts)
- 1 Gold Pen - 1 Gold Ring (in Pocket Book)
- 1 Pocket Book. Cash \$42 $\frac{45}{100}$ cash, + a few papers. all the rest of his goods were stolen by the Rebels.

Columbus O April 19th 1862

My dear friends

I say to you with a sorrowful heart that Capt J. C. Scribner was killed on Sunday the 6th inst. in the fight at Pittsburg Landing. I received this morning his sword belt & pistol, hugh off his cap and his shoulder straps, also his pocket book containing \$42.00 in money, a very se. I will at the earliest possible period secure his remains, and bring them home. When he was shot, he was at the head of his company urging his men on to action. Col. Mungen says he died as one of the bravest of the brave. My friends, led not this affliction, bereave you too much.

Your affectionals
son W. Scribner

Columbus O April 18th 1862

My Dear friends

I say to you with
A sorrowful hear that Capt
J. C Gribben was killed on Sunday
the 6th inst. In the fight at Pittsburg
Landing. I received this morning his
sword belt + pistol, bugle off his cap
and his shoulder straps, also his
pocket book containing \$42.00 in
money, a ring, +c. I will at the
earlies possible period secure his
remains, and bring them home
When he was shot, he was at the
head of his company urging his
men on to action. Col Mungen
says he died as one of the braves
of the brave. My friends, let not
this affliction bereave you to
much Your affectionate
 Son *W. Gribben*



The Hills by the Blue River
near Grants about the location
of the ...

the ... of ...

hours with much
Secretary
of the ...

+

It is better with ...
... for ...

...
... of ...

...
... with you

W. A. ...

Quincy Ill. April 22 1862

Mr. Gribben

Sir I know

you will be suprised to receive
this from on whom perhaps you
have never heard of, but I hope
you will not think me impertinent
for it is feelings of deepest anxiety
which impells me to address you

In the list of the killed

at the battle at Pitsburg Landing
I see the name of your Brother
J.C. Gribben, I have been coresponding
with your brother for four years.

I have not heard of him since
he left Paducah Ky.

I know there is some mistakes
In the reports, some of our friends
who been wounded are reported among

the killed. I hope there can be
some mistake about Mr Gribben
but I fear.

Will you be so kind

as to tell me of him.

Yours with much

Respect

Miss R.A. Reeder

Quincy

Ill

X

It is with with mingled feelings
that I write for I do not know
that this will ever reach you.
I have heard your brother often
speak of you but I am not certain
that I know your address.
will you please write soon. Yours

R.A. Reeder