

Wilmington Oct 8<sup>th</sup> 1866  
Dear Father & Friends  
Sunday the 5<sup>th</sup> was  
a beautiful day at one  
o'clock P.M. the people of all  
the churches and a great  
many that seldom, if ever, are  
seen at church convened at  
the Central Church to attend  
the funeral of our beloved  
Isaac. After the singing of  
an appropriate hymn, Mr  
Clark took his text, Prov-  
14-37 and preached one  
of his best productions  
prepared especially for the  
occasion. I furnished him  
with many extracts from  
Isaac's letters which he used  
to good advantage. At the  
close of the sermon a large  
choir arose and sang the

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Hymn "Ere" in the Intelligencer  
on the 266 page the words are  
as follows. 10<sup>3</sup>  
Go to thy grave in all thy glorious  
prime, In full activity, and free  
of zeal and power; A Chris-  
tian cannot die before his  
time, The Lord's appointment  
is the servant's hour,  
Go to thy grave; at noon from  
labor cease; Rest on thy shoes,  
thy harness-work is done,  
Come from the heat of battle  
and of peace, Solely go home,  
with thee the fight is won.  
Go to thy grave, for there  
thy Saviour lay, In death's  
embraces, ere he rose on high;  
And all the ransomed by  
that narrow way, Pros to eternal  
life beyond the sky.

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there is not room on this sheet  
to write the hymn in verse  
order, but it is punctuated  
right, & selected the pieces,  
as the Church would not hold  
the people that assembled  
James & E. Ralph & Ab, Uncle  
A's family Mary & myself  
were the mourners,  
since writing before, I have  
received some verses comp-  
osed by one of Isaac's mates  
composed on his death, I  
will send a copy also some  
composed by another. James  
received a letter from Capt-  
Sergey saying that Isaac  
was buried on Monday  
the 15<sup>th</sup> alone, and a head  
board put up at his grave  
with his name, company &  
regiment on it, also Capt-

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Sergey has sent the papers to  
Washington that are necessary  
for you to draw pay, and the  
bounty, by your applying,  
The draft came off in Ohio  
Oct 1<sup>st</sup> Huntington had her  
full quota, so some were  
drafted from here, Wellington  
had 19 drafted, no one was  
drafted that you know  
Sapranz had 13 drafted and  
Ralph was one, they have  
broken up house keeping  
Martha is coming to Hunting-  
ton and Ralph goes to  
camp this week.

We are all well and doing  
well, crops are very good  
I have 4 acres of corn  $\frac{1}{2}$   
acre of potatoes, have thrashed  
24 bushels of wheat and 128  
bushels of oats, fruit very  
plenty, My health is good  
I have all that I can do in  
the shop - yours as ever Geo. E. Blake

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Huntington [Lorain county, Ohio]

October 8th 1862

Dear Father & Friends,

Sunday the 5th was a beautiful day. At one o'clock P. M. the people of all the churches and a great many that seldom if ever are seen at church convened at the Congregational Church to attend the funeral of our beloved Isaac. After the singing of an appropriate hymn and a prayer, [Rev.] Mr. [Ansel Russell] Clark took his text, Proverbs 14-37 and preached one of his best productions prepared expressly for the occasion. I furnished him with many extracts from Isaac's letters which he used to good advantage. At the close of the sermon, a large choir arose and sang the hymn "Enon" in the Jubilee on the 266 page. The words are as follows.

“Go to the grave in all thy glorious prime, In full activity of zeal and power; A Christian cannot die before his time, The Lords appointment in the servant’s hour. Go to the grave; at noon from labor cease; Rest on thy sheaves, thy harvest work is done; Come from the heat of battle, and in peace, Soldier, go home; with thee the fight is won. Go to the grave, for there thy Savior lay In death’s embraces, ere He rose on high; And all the ransom’d, by that narrow way, Pass to eternity life beyond the sky.”

There is not room on this sheet to write the hymn in verse order, but it is punctuated right. I selected the piece. The church would not hold the people that assembled. James & E., Ralph [Horr] & M[artha], Uncle A’s family, Mary & myself were the mourners.

Since writing before, I have received some verses composed by one of Isaac’s mates on his death. I will send a copy. Also some composed by Mother. James received a letter from Capt. [Howard S.] Lovejoy saying that Isaac was buried on Monday the 15th alone and a headboard put up at his grave with his name, company, and regiment on it. Also Capt. Lovejoy has sent the papers to Washington that are necessary for you to draw pay and the bounty, by your applying.

The draft came off in Ohio October 1st. Huntington had her full quota, so none were drafted from here. Wellington had 19 drafted. No one was drafted that you know. Lagrange had 13 drafted and Ralph [Horr] <sup>1</sup> was one. They have broken up house keeping. [His wife] Martha is coming to Huntington to live and Ralph goes to camp this week.

We are all well and doing well. Crops are very good. I have 4 acres of corn, ½ acre of potatoes, have thrashed 24 bushels of wheat and 125 bushels of oats, fruit very plenty. My health is good. I have all that I can do in the [wagon-making] shop.

Yours as ever, — George E. Blakely

# Bio of George E. Blakely/Blakelee

Born in 1812 George was the son of Philemon Blakelee (1809-1853) and his wife Amanda (1812-1895). who became a physician and a newspaper editor. He was eight years the editor of the state agricultural paper the Ohio Farmer before moving to Chicago and earning a degree in homeopathic medicine. He was an editor of the New York Tribune, the Farmer's Home Journal, and the Weekly Novelist. He practiced medicine in New York for 16 years. In 1860, at the age of 24, George resided in Huntington, Lorain county, Ohio, where he earned a living as a "carriage maker." Residing in the same household and assisting him in the business was 18 year-old Isaac W. Barker whom this letter is written about. Pvt. Isaac Watkins Barker (1841-1862) of Co. D, 23rd Ohio Volunteer Infantry (OVI) who was killed in action during the Battle of South Mountain on 14 September 1862. George passed away in 1909

<sup>1</sup> Ralph Turner Horr (1835-1882) was the son of Roswell Horr (1796-1841) and Caroline Turner (1805-1894). He was married to Martha Watkins Barker (1834-1872). Ralph was a harness maker by trade.