

Sharpsburg Sept 21 1862

Mother

I will now try to write a few lines to you to let you know that I am still alive. We have just had a battle at Sharpsburg there is nine left in this Co. Ben is all right but I wasn't quite so lucky I was hit in the breast with a piece of shell and knocked about forty feet. I am badly bruised but not dangerously. Had the regt that you is in was in the battle but have not seen him yet but will hunt him up there is no more to write at present so good by

H M Whipple

Dear Father

I will write a line that you may hear from me I am better than when I last wrote but have not got entirely well yet I have kept with the regt all summer we had a ruff time Wednesday our regt went in the fight with 200 men came out with 40 I have not time to write any more now but will write the first chance write to me Dear Ben

This is a rebel envelope piece of an the field



Harpers Ferry [Virginia]

September 21, 1862

Mother,

I will now try to write a few lines to you to let you know that I am still alive. We have just had a battle at Sharpsburg. There is nine left in this company. Ben is alright but I wasn't quite so lucky. I was hit in the breast with a piece of shell and knocked about forty feet. I am badly bruised but no dangerously hurt. The regiment that Jim is in was in the battle. I have not seen him yet but will hunt him up. There is no more to write at present so goodbye.

— E. M. Whipple

Dear Father,

I will write a line that you may hear from me. I am better than when I last wrote but have not got entirely well yet. I have kept with the regiment all summer. We had a ruff time Wednesday. Our regiment went in the fight with 230 men, came out with 70. I have not time to write any more now but will write the first chance. Write to me soon.

— Ben

This is a Rebel envelope picked up on the field.

Bio of Edwin Martin Whipple

Born in 1842 Edwin was the youngest son of Herman Whipple (1774-1842) and Phoebe Boa Lafferty (1816-1904) of Erie County, Pennsylvania. Edwin served in two different regiments during the Civil War. He first enlisted in Co. A of the 23rd Illinois Infantry—the “Irish Brigade” led by Col. James A. Mulligan of Chicago. He then enlisted in late November 1861 to serve three years in Co. C, 111th Pennsylvania.

As far as we know, Edwin remained with the regiment and was with them at the Battle of Gettysburg where he shot the hat off a rebel Colonel while skirmishing in the twilight of 2 July 1863. Edwin is listed among the wounded at the Battle of Lookout Mountain on 24 November 1863. The company roster indicates he mustered out of the 111th in late November 1864. Edwin passed away In 1904.