

told me about Nat Bradley's folks. But
the whole of it would be too long a story.
It seems her Irish girl asked her one day
what she supposed Mr B came into her
(the girl) ~~room~~ room. so much might for
Blattie did not stop to learn the truth
but flew into a terrible rage, and called
her all sorts of names, and when Mr Bradley
came home, she told him of it, and told
him to kick her out doors. The girl faced
him to it, and declared it was true, before
them all. He settled with her and sent her
off. but she still declares its true. I should
think that would take Mrs Blattie down
a peg or two. That old Jewish hypocrite
D Henry Miller is home, and stands up
in his church and says the reason Stone
will pack don congress so much is be-
-cause he prays so much. so of course
Miller must think Jackson is on the
right side of the Lord answers his
prayer. They say old Wright and

Wilmington Sunday afternoon Oct. 5th

My own dear husband,

I looked for a letter from you yesterday
but received none, and am afraid you
are sick. I have a very hard cold, and
baby has a cold too. We have had a damp
dampy week. Edwards Lewis baby died this
morning. You know at was sick a long time
before you met every. I went to Meriden
yesterday and went to Mrs Morrison's. She has
a very pretty baby. I staid there to dinner.
She told me lots of news, as usual. I guess
Bob has feathered his nest pretty well
feeling. He owes a good deal for Meriden.
I have been to Southwicks twice, and
got shoes for Mrs Vandegift. He is very
polite to me, and always enquires about
you. He says he dont think he can ever
get any thing of the doctor, and I guess
has given it up. I asked Ella Barnes

of that, but her mother had, never
ever taken out of her rages. She said
she believed so, and I wish you would
write me, if it was, for I want to know
Anne is in the hospital in Hartford
yet. Mr. Manson does not think she has
got a very smart husband. She says she
does not believe he will ever be worth five
dollars in the world. I found Dora at
work in the shop. She has left Mr. Butters
and gone to work there. He said I might
tell you she was boarding at Cooks, and
you could direct a letter on him. I suppose
she meant to his care. Edger seems to get
very very well at the shop. I shall not
go there very often, it looks dreadful
lonely without you. I saw Mr. Eaton of
Wanona at the corner. He was wounded
at the battle of Antietam, and the ball
is in his leg yet. William Pratt was also
wounded in that battle. I believe
pretty severely in the hip. Edward Par-

-cells remains here covered there from
Hartford on the one o'clock train, and
buried up town, when his mother was
buried. Mr. Washburns body has not come
yet. Poor Gertrude says it seems as if
it was more than she could bear.
Edmund Blake. (The man made Albert
introduced you to, in your text.) went
through the battle unscathed. He is in Com
Co. I wish you would make his acquaintance
for he is a very nice man, and I know
you would like him. Mr. Hillard preached
a splendid sermon this afternoon, on the
Proclamation of Emancipation. It has en-
raged the rebels terribly, and they say no
quarters shall be given to northern men.
Oh I hope you will never be taken prisoner.
This is a dreadful war. I hope and pray
it may come soon. There is a rumor
that the President is to call for more
men. I hope it is so. I wish I could tell
you one or two funny little things was

numerous incidents about our address
Mr Hillard thinks the majority of
our men become better instead of
worse men, by going into the army,
and related a good many incidents
of thoughtless young men becoming Chris-
tians there, and I think it is often so.
He thinks it enables men to make
such a great sacrifice, as to leave their
families and friends, and risk their
lives for their country. He mentioned
the case of George Horton of this place.
that was a wild boy here, and almost
given over by good men. He is now near
New Orleans in the sixth regiment, wasting
away with some disease, and never expecting
to get home although he has his discharge.
He is perfectly resigned to the will of God,
and willing to die for his country. I wish
dear husband I could hear such news
from you. If I only knew that you was
prepared to die, I should feel manly
about you but it does not seem as though
I could bear it to hear you taken away

without the assurance that you now send
I was glad that you had reading of the
Bible and prayer, in your tent. Father
prays for you every morning, I wish you
would write to Mr. Hildard you know he
seemed to seek every opportunity to make you
acquainted while you was here, and he
called to enquire after you, after the battle
I think you would get a reply that would
well repay you for visiting to him, I hope
this trial will make us both better,
and that you will come home to us, and
we shall each be more worthy of the other,
and shall lead honorable and useful
lives, a great many years, but if it should
be otherwise, and we were both true christians
so we were sure of meeting in heaven, if not
upon earth, I think I should feel easier.

Please write me long letters often, it cheers
me up, and makes me step more lively
for some time, to get one of your good cheer-
ful letters. Are my letters interesting to you,
if my letters don't satisfy you, tell me what to
write about. You'd laugh to hear little I
try to talk. The trick to say "gingerbread" and
it is a jaw breaker for her.

Ever your loving friend
Emily

Kensington [Connecticut]

Sunday afternoon, October 5th [1862]

My own dear husband,

I looked for a letter from you yesterday but received none and am afraid you are sick. I have a very hard cold and baby has a cold too. We have had a damp, rainy week. Edward Co____'s baby died this morning. You know it was sick a long time before you went away. I went to Meriden yesterday and went to Mrs. Munson's. She has a very pretty baby. I staid there to dinner. She told me lots of news as usual. I guess [Samuel] Colt has feathered his nest pretty well in failing. He owes a great deal in Meriden. I have been to [Daniel Franklin] Southwick's twice and got shoes for Mrs. Vandegrift. He [Southwick] is very polite to me and always enquires about you. He says he don't think he can ever get anything of the doctor and I guess has given it up. I asked Ella Barns if that butter her mother had was ever taken out of the wages. She said she believed so, and I wish you would write me if it was for I want to know. Anna is in the hospital in Hartford yet. Mrs. Munson does not think she has got a very smart husband. She says she don't believe he will ever be worth five dollars in the world. I found Dora at work in the shop. She has left the Butler's and gone to work there. She said I might tell you she [is] now boarding at Cork's and could direct a letter on him. I suppose she meant to his care. Edgar seems to get along very well at the shop. I shall not go there very often—it looks dreadful lonely without you.

I saw Mr. [Jacob] Eaton of Hanover at the corner. He was wounded at the Battle of Antietam and the ball is in his leg yet. [Pvt.] William Pratt was also wounded in that battle, I believe, pretty severely in the hip. [Sgt.] Edward Parmelee's remains were carried there from Hartford on the one o'clock train and buried up town where his mother was buried. ¹ Mr. [Wadsworth Asahel] Washburn's body has not come yet. Poor Gertrude says it seems as if it was more than she could bear. Edward Blake (the man Uncle Albert introduced you to in your tent) went through the battle unhurt. He is in Co. F. I wish you would make his acquaintance for he is a very nice man and I know you would like him. ²

[Rev.] Mr. [Elias Brewster] Hillard preached a splendid sermon this afternoon [in the Congregational Church] on the Proclamation of Emancipation. It has enraged the rebels terribly and they say no quarters shall be given to Northern men. Oh, I hope you will never be taken prisoner. This is a dreadful war. I hope and pray it may cease soon. There is a rumor that the President is to call for more men. I hope it is so.

I wish I could tell you one or two funny little things. Ma told me about Nat Bradley's folks but the whole of it would be too long a story. It seems her Irish girl asked her one day what she supposed Mr. Bradley come into her (the girl's) room so much nights for. Hattie did not stop to learn the truth but flew into a terrible rage and called her all sorts of names and when Mr. Bradley came home, she told him of it and told him to kick her out doors. The girl faced him to it and declared it was true before them all. He settled with her and sent her off but she still declares its true. I should think that would take Mrs. Hattie down a peg or two. ³

That old seesech hypocrite D. Henry Miller is home and stands up in his church and says the reason Stonewall Jackson conquers so much is because he prays so much. So of course Miller must think Jackson is on the right side if the Lord answers his prayers.

They say Col. Wright and Mr. Hillard thinks the majority of our men become better instead of worse men by going into the army and related a good many incidents of thoughtless young men becoming Christians there and I think it is often so. He thinks it ennobles men to make such a great sacrifice as to leave their families and friends and risk their lives for this country. He mentioned the case of George [Washington] Horton of this place that was a wild boy here and almost given over by good men. He is now near New Orleans in the Ninth [Connecticut] Regiment [Co. I] wasting way with some disease and never expecting to get home although he has his discharge. He is perfectly resigned to the will of God and willing to die for his country. I wish, dear husband, I could hear such news from you. If I only knew that you was prepared to die, I should feel more easy about you but it does not seem as though I could bear it to have you taken away without the assurance that you was saved. I was glad that you had every morning.

I wish you would write to [Rev.] Mr. Hillard. You know he seemed to seek every opportunity to make your acquaintance while you was here and he called to enquire after you after the battle. I think you would get a reply that would well repay you for writing to him.

I hope this trial will make us both better and that you will com home to us and we shall each be more worthy of the other and shall lead honorable and useful lives a great many years. But if it should be otherwise, and we were both true Christians so we were sure of meeting in heaven if not upon earth, I think I should feel easier. Please write me long letters often. It cheers me up and makes me step more lively for some time to get one of your good cheerful letters. Are my letters interesting to you? If my letters don't satisfy you, tell me what more to write about. You'd laugh to hear little Yat try to talk. She tries to say "ginger bread" and it is a jaw breaker for her.

Ever your loving Emilie

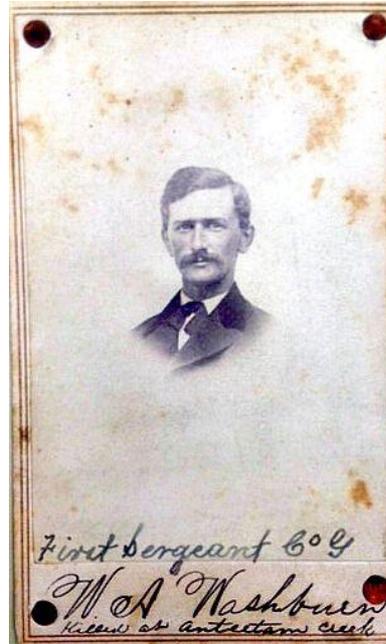
¹ Sgt. Edward Augustus Parmelee (1842-1862) was the son of Luther Parmelee (1806-1877) and Lavinia Maria Farrington (1806-1853). Edward served in Co. G, 16th Connecticut Volunteers. He was not quite 20 years old when he was killed at the Battle of Antietam on 17 September 1862. His funeral was conducted by Rev. E. R. Beadle at the home of Edward's father, Hartford dentist Luther Parmelee.

² Edward A. Blake was a corporal in Co. F., 16th Connecticut Infantry. Born in Vermont. Married 29 Dec 1850 to Frances C. Strong at Kensington, CT. Enrolled 11 Aug 62, a Grocer from Hartford, CT. Mustered 24 Aug 62. Discharged 24 Jan 63 with disability of Anemia from Typhoid Fever at Fredericksburg, VA. Died 2 Feb 1863 from Chronic Diarrhea and extreme Anemia at the Ninth Army Corps Hospital at Windmill Point, near Acquia Creek, VA.

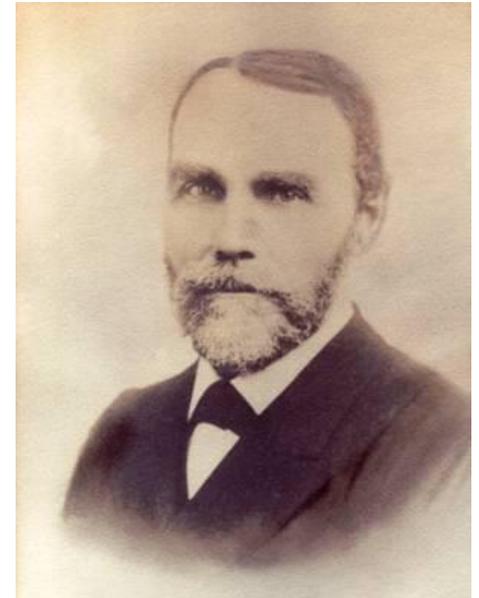
³ Nathaniel Lyman Bradley (1829-1915) started in the clock business in Meriden, Connecticut, in 1852 but by 1856 he and his partners in the firm Bradley and Hubbard had become successful manufacturing call bells and sewing machines as well as clocks. By 1859, with the discovery and expanded use of oil, the firm began to manufacture kerosene lamps. "Nat" was married to Harriet ("Hattie") Emily Peck (1834-1920) in 1860. In the census that year, the Bradley's had two Irish servants, Kate (age 22) and Mary (age 26).



1st Sgt Jacob Bauer & wife Emily at
Suffolk, Va.—Sept 1863 (Conn. State
Library)



Orderly Sergt. Wadsworth A.
Washburn



Rev. Elias Brewster Hillard
— the “war minister” of
Kensington, Connecticut

Purchased at a Connecticut flea market, this correspondence gives us a glimpse into the world of Jacob Bauer, a German immigrant who served in the 16th Connecticut. He and his wife lived in Berlin, Conn.

At the Battle of Antietam—the regiment’s first fight of the Civil War—Private Bauer survived physically unscathed. But the 16th Connecticut was routed in a 40-acre cornfield outside the village of Sharpsburg, Md., on Sept. 17, 1862, suffering 43 killed and 161 wounded.

Bauer helped cheer wounded 16th Connecticut Private George Chamberlain at the German Reformed Church hospital in Sharpsburg, giving his friend his watch “to amuse him” and perhaps to take back home when he was well.

On April 20, 1864, Bauer, a sergeant, was captured at Plymouth, N. C., with most of the rest of his regiment and sent to Andersonville, the most notorious POW camp of the Rebellion. He somehow survived the camp where 13,000 other Union soldiers died; he was paroled on Dec. 10, 1864.

After the war, Bauer was active in veterans’ organizations. He died in 1931 at age 92, outliving his wife, Emily, and most of his fellow veterans. Bauer’s wife, with whom he had four children, died in 1900.