

# CHATTANOOGA HISTORY CENTER

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2015.001.095 transcription

2015.001.095(1)

Dear Sister feeling lonely & dejected on account  
of your fast declining health I fell into a  
train of thought & composed these verses  
whilst on camp guard at Chattanooga Tennessee  
Nov 10<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dearest Loved one though far-distant  
Still my heart to the doth cling  
And how oft upon my napsack  
Thought of gifts to the would bring

Many are the precious moments  
In solitude I think of thee  
For my Country I have left you  
And your Pleasant company

When at home with the how pleasant  
Were the hours I passed away  
But my absence neer can swerve me  
From the scenes of younger days

Many scenes of blood & Carnage  
Have I witnessed oer the Plain  
Many aching hearts are throbbing  
For the peaceful home again

Why should I for-ever murmur  
When so many brave brave hearts  
Have been called to thus surrender-  
All their comforts to impart

To their offspring sacred rights  
Which for us our Fathers fought

And with their blood yes oh how precious  
Was the boon thus dearly bought

2015.001.095(2)

Why shouldst thou mourn my departure  
When the traitor would destroy  
Our bright hopes on freedoms banner-  
Neer again to thus enjoy.

Never will I be discouraged  
Whilst a single hope remains  
To restore our sacred banner  
Oer the land of slavish chains

Rather would I than such rebels  
To our once famed happy soil  
Be swept from the land of freedom  
Neer again with us to dwell

I may neer again behold you  
Disease & death my lay us low  
But I hope in heavens bright mansion  
Blessings on you to bestow

Accept these proffered lines Dear Sister  
From a friend for-ever-true  
And will neer forget thy goodness  
On me home bestowed by you

Dearest Sister these few verses  
Would I to you thus impart  
From the one who thus hash written  
Feelings of a sincere heart