

By Express \$40,00

Mr. James Parsons

Hagerstown
Way Co
Ind

Care of J. P. Steyer

Herntswill Alabama
February the 6th 1845

Dear Father

as I am going
to send some things to you by
Joseph Myers I thought that I
would write a few lines and send
with him the things that I
intend sending are small and are
not worth a great deal one reason
of me sending them is that I had
all of them in prison with me and
managed to get back with them
the watch like a great many poor
soldiers found prison life too hard
for it and stoped running
the finger rings I made two of
them while in prison and one of
them while we layed behind our
works at Dallas Co. last summer
the neck tie is one that I got when

at home laid spring Ben can make
what ever disposition of it he wants
Too the old knife is one that
John Pety give me while in prison
the testament is one that matter
give me while at home and I read
it through while in prison

the package marked to Mrs Oconnor
is a finger ring and knife handle
that belonged to her son Thomas
tell her that I would have sent
them sooner but did not have a
chance the stocking legs belonged
to Harrison Cox and he said that
he want to keep them for his
wife knit them for him he give
them to me to keep for him and
when we was separated he forgot
them I have keep them and will
now send them to you

I believe that is all that I will
send with Myers please to answer
as soon as you get this)

I have not received that Box
yet some of the Boys are getting
Boxes ever day

The Boys are to start home in the
morning at four o'clock I would like
to start with them I hope that
the day is not far distant when
we can all come home)

This letter leaves me in good health
and I hope that it may find you
enjoying the same

write soon and often

Your affectionate Son

George W. Parsons

To Mrs. Armas Parsons

Jane Parsons

Benjamin Parsons

Mary Parsons

Martha Parsons

Benjamin F. Parsons, Jr., a popular meat dealer of Hagerstown, this county, is one of Wayne's native sons, born in the village of Hagerstown, Feb. 20, 1884, a son of George W. and Priscilla (Mathews) Parsons, the former a native of Jefferson township and the latter of Cincinnati, Ohio. George W. Parsons, born on what is now the "Reynolds Farm," in Jefferson township, in September, 1843, was reared on that homestead, one of five children, all deceased, except B. F. Parsons, Sr., of Richmond, and Martha, wife of D. A. Rudy, of Indianapolis. His educational advantages were those of the district schools, and he left school to enlist as a private in Company I of the Fifty-seventh Indiana infantry for service in the Civil war, later being promoted to orderly sergeant, first lieutenant, and captain of his company. This regiment was recruited in the Fifth and Eleventh Congressional districts and was

organized at Richmond, in November, 1861. It was mustered in Nov. 18, and left the State Dec. 23, reporting to General Buell at Louisville, where it was assigned to the Sixth division, Army of the Ohio, and ordered to Bardstown, Ky. It moved to Lebanon, and on Feb. 12, 1862, to Munfordville, and thence to Nashville. It started for Pittsburg Landing March 21, and was actively engaged at Shiloh. It participated in the siege of Corinth and moved from thence to Northern Alabama, where it remained until July, when it was ordered to Tennessee. It was on duty near Tullahoma and McMinnville until September and then took an active part in the campaign against Bragg in Kentucky, being in the battle of Perryville. It was at Nashville during most of December, guarding forage trains and engaged in frequent skirmishes. At the battle of Stone's River it was attached to the left wing of the army and distinguished itself by its gallantry in resisting the fierce attacks made upon the lines at that point. It was in camp near Murfreesboro during the winter and spring of 1863, took part in Reynolds' "eleven days' scout" in April, and participated in the campaign against Tullahoma. It was in camp near Pelham until Aug. 16, when it joined in the campaign toward Chattanooga and operated on the north side of the Tennessee, opposite that city, its brigade taking possession of Chattanooga on its evacuation after the battle of Chickamauga. Colonel Lennard was assigned as provost-marshal and the regiment was placed on duty as provost guard. It was in the battle of Missionary Ridge and was then assigned to the Second division (Sheridan's), Fourth corps, which formed a part of the column sent to the relief of Burnside at Knoxville. Mr. Parsons re-enlisted with the regiment, Jan. 1, 1864, and was furloughed home in March. With his regiment he rejoined the Fourth corps, May 5, and took part in the Atlanta campaign, being engaged at Rocky Face Ridge, Resaca, Adairsville, Allatoona, New Hope Church, and in the heavy skirmishes about Kenesaw Mountain. In the assault of June 27 the regiment formed the skirmish line in front of the assaulting column of the Fourth corps and was on the skirmish line at Peachtree Creek, where, after a desperate resistance, a portion of the regiment was captured by the Confederates. Captain Parsons was, unfortunately, one of the number, and the next three months he experienced the horrors of Andersonville prison. He was released at the end of that time and, resuming his command, was with Thomas' army which resisted the enemy's invasion of Tennessee. He was engaged at Franklin and was in the battle of Nashville, after which the regiment moved to Huntsville, Ala., in pursuit of Hood, remaining there until spring. It moved into Tennessee in April, 1865, proceeding from Bull's Gap to Nashville, in July was transferred to Texas, being stationed at Port Lavaca, and was mustered out Dec. 14, 1865. Captain Parsons came home via Indianapolis and engaged with his father in the buying and selling of horses, taking them overland to the Chicago market. He was married in 1866 and then engaged in the grocery business, but later entered the meat business and continued in that line of industry until he retired, in 1908, and he died at Hagerstown in August, 1910.