


George Davis to his wife, July 10, 1864

Born in Adams County, 34-year-old George Davis enlisted in Company D, 25th United States Colored Troops in January 1864. Seventeen months later, he died of tuberculosis at a Florida hospital. During his service, Davis wrote several letters home to his wife, including this one, in which he expresses his fear of death on the battlefield.

Gift of Frances Topper Sweney



Sound the praise of heroes gone,
Sound the praise of WASHINGTON.

My Dear Wife I take The Pleasing [Pleasure] of adresing [sic] you these Few Lines Hoping It May Fine [sic] you in Good Helth [sic][.]. I My Self [sic] are Well and Injoying [sic] Good helth [sic] at Present i am at Norleans [sic]. I am waiting for trans Portation [sic] and i will Go to My Regement [sic][.]. [T]he Regement is at Foart Pickens Pencicola [sic] Florida. [Y]ou must Not Answer this until you Recs a nother [sic] Letter From Me. For I dount [sic] What time I will Leve [sic] New oleans [sic]. I will Write Soon again[.] Please take Good Care of your Self [sic]. I am on Fighting Ground Though I Expect to se [sic] you a gain [sic] If Life Last-and If We Dount [sic] Meet- on Earth[,] May We Meet in Heeven[.] Excuis [sic] My Short Letter But Remember Me When this you Se though [sic] many a Distance apart We be Change oftin take Place and Friends Part-But Nothing on Earth can Change[.]

My Heart yours until Death
Georg W. Davis Co. D 25 Reg us ct

PS Hare is a nother [sic] Little Present[.] [T]he Present that I sent you must Put in Frame[.] When you Write you Must Put Sergt. George W. Davis on my Passage[.] I Saw a number of Diferent Fishes [sic] Shark[,] Perpus [sic], Flying fish[,] alley gators [sic][,] and various others[.]