

1 Jan 2009

## **The Civil War Excerpts of the Life of George Griswold during his service with Co. A of the 61st. Regiment of Illinois Volunteers in the United States Army**

**From the Diary of His Brother Henry Adonijah (H.A.) Griswold along with letters from family and friends and articles from the Carrollton Gazette newspaper  
Compiled by Gary L. Griswold**

### **INTRODUCTION**

George Griswold was born September 26, 1839, the son of Henry and Mariah (Post) Griswold. This line of the Griswold family had been living on the North American Continent since the 1630's when Michael Griswold came to Wethersfield, Connecticut, well before the country became the U.S. Born near White Hall, Greene County, Illinois George grew up with many unfortunate events in his life... his father dying when George was only 11 years old and his mother when he was 14. Apparently his older brother Henry Adonijah (called H.A.) assumed the duty of running the farm and bringing up the family. H.A. was only 21 when his father died. The only one of the children married by this time was Loyal Post Griswold who had married Nancy C. Swallow.



In 1861 H.A. made periodic notes of the beginning of the Civil War. H.A. had been keeping a diary since about 1858 and continued until his death in 1909. George worked the farm with H.A. until December 1861 when he signed up to Co. A 61st. Regt. of Illinois Volunteers of the United States Army. What follows are excerpts from that diary that pertain to the life of George Griswold along with letters from George himself, Mary E. Griswold, H.A. Griswold and Minerva L. Baker. I also included news articles from the Carrollton Gazette.

H.A. Griswold married Sallie Baker in 1862 and named their 1st. child George (born Nov. 6, 1863) after the subject of this sketch, a poignant memory of H.A.'s brother who had died the year before due to illness while serving in the Union Army.

What follows is a brief but telling story of the Civil War, in particular the Griswold family of Apple Creek Prairie in southern Illinois. One story of thousand stories anxiously waiting to hear from a brother at battle, of hope then heartache. A story repeated many times over all across the divided county.

## **From the Diary of H.A. Griswold 1861-1862**

### **January**

**19 - Sat.** Clear and pleasant over head. Went to White Hall. Great Excitement. South Carolina has left the union and more states talking of it. Took a note of \$65.70 on John H. Potts.

**25 - Fri.** Clear and pleasant. Went up to Manchester Prairie. Stopped at Mr. L.E. Cobbs. Took his note for \$110.00 in favor of George Griswold.

### **February**

**6 - Wed.** Pleasant and warm. Finished threshing at noon. George had 700 bush. oats, 35 bush. wheat. I had 181 bush oats.

### **April**

**16 - Tues.** Clear and pleasant. Hauled off some manure. Heard that Fort Sumter was taken by the South and the President had called 75,000 volunteers.

**20 - Sat.** Got the potatoes and came to W.H. (White Hall, Illinois). Great excitement there. Several union flags were floating in the breeze. War has commenced in earnest and the people are much excited.

### **May**

**18 - Sat.** Clear. Finished planting this morning at 8 o'clock and went to Carrollton. They are to meet there to raise volunteers a horse company and foot-? company.

### **August**

**3 - Sat.** Clear and still warm. Went to W.H. Had very exciting times over there about the war.

**5 - Mon.** Clear and very warm. Capt. Winters Co. of Greene Co. Volunteers left today for Saint Louis.

**14 - Wed.** ...Went to W.H. to the organization of Home Guards.

**17 - Sat.** Went to W.H. to drill in the Company of Home Guards.

**24 - Sat.** Went to W.H. to muster

## October

**2 - Wed.** Clear cut up corn in the orchard. Green Garrison and George helping.

**3 - Thurs.** Pleasant. George and myself cut corn.

**28 - Mon.** Clear and pleasant and getting very dry. Helped George thrash and clean up some beans.

## December

**12 - Thurs.** Clear and pleasant. George enlisted in the United States Army of Volunteers in Capt. Orr's Co.

**27 - Fri.** Clear and most pleasant. Hauled some hogs down to Joseph \_\_\_? that George traded him.

## 1862

### January

**2 - Thurs.** Still very cold. Came home. George went down to Carrollton to camp in Col. Fry's Regt. of Volunteers.

**3 - Fri.** This morning raining and sleeting and continued to do so all day. Went to J.D. Tunison's and got George's horse he left there when he went to Carrollton to camp.

**4 - Sat.** Clear and cold. Sold George's hogs to Amos & B for \$200 gross. 14 hogs weighed gross 3920. Averaged 280 lbs. a head.

**13 - Mon.** Last night was the coldest night there has been this winter...helped Sam Lockhart kill a hog George sold him.

**18 - Sat.** Cloudy. Went down to the camp at Carrollton to take George some things. They have a nice time there.

### February

**5 - Wed.** Cloudy but cleared off. Warm and pleasant. Went down to Carrollton to see the soldiers mustered in the United States service.

**18 - Tues.** Clear and pleasant. Went to Carrollton. They had a great demonstration there on hearing that Fort Donaldson was taken with 15,000 prisoners.

**22 - Sat.** Still pleasant. Went to W.H. and got my buggy spring mended. George came home on a furlough as they have orders to leave Carrollton in a few days.

**23 - Sun.** Clear. Mended George's boots as he has to go back to camp tomorrow morning. At night went down to Hank Tunison's to supper.

**24 - Mon.** Clear and pleasant. Took George down to camp. They are calculating to leave there next Thurs, morning.

**27 - Thurs.** Cloudy and cool. Went down to Carrollton to see Col. Fry's Regt. of Volunteers leave Carrollton for the seat of War. There was said to be 870 of them.

## CARROLLTON GAZETTE ---- Mar. 1, 1862

### Departure of Col. Fry's Regiment

On Thursday last at 10 o'clock, A.M., Col. Fry's regiment took its departure from Camp Carrollton for St. Louis. In passing through town the most imposing military spectacle ever presented in these parts was witnessed. A large number of citizens were here from all parts of the county, and as the soldiery departed the shouts of the multitude signaled that their mission was appreciated and approved.

On their way to Jerseyville we learn the people met them with enthusiastic huzzahs (hurrahs -?) and other manifestations of pride. At the home of Col. Fry, near Kane, the regiment halted and partook of a magnificent dinner prepared by the family of the gallant "front" and popular leader. At half after 2 o'clock, the line of march was resumed to Jerseyville, where the regiment "quartered" and partook of the hospitality of the good people of that place, again resuming its march on Friday morning. It is expected to arrive in St. Louis to-day.

Quartermaster Vedder and his assistant, J.G. Reed, accompanies the regiment with military stores.

Capt. T.F. Ladd, commandant of the post, remains at camp Carrollton and is now recruiting for another company to be attached to the regiment. Good quarters, good pay and excellent military attire will be supplied by Capt. Ladd, and he invites all persons who wish to go with the brave old soldier, Col. Fry, to "Dixie land," to report themselves immediately.

*Carrollton Gazette ---- March 1, 1862*

*Carrollton, Greene County, Illinois*

*Pg. 3 Col. 2*

## April

## CARROLLTON GAZETTE ---- Mar. 8, 1862

We were misinformed in our last in saying Col. Fry's family gave a dinner to the regiment when on its way to Alton. The regiment did, however, halt at the residence of Col. Fry and "lunch on its regular rations." Our item did not pretend to a positive on this point, and was properly prefixed it "as we learn."

Notwithstanding this, there are some characters in the community who frisk about like hungry dogs under a "dinner table." to catch stray crumbs of "a varia- encss from the shadow of truth," and in their wolfish propensities are ready to "nail (us/me) to the cross."

*(The left edge of the newspaper on microfilm was cut off so article may not be word for word.)*

*Carrollton Gazette ---- March 8, 1862*

*Carrollton, Greene County, Illinois*

*Pg. 3 Col. 1*

**11 - Fri.** Still rainy and disagreeable. Heard that Union forces have taken \_\_\_?. Also heard they have had a hard battle at Pittsburgh Landing. Suppose that George was in it.

**12 - Sat.** Still rainy. Went to White Hall. Heard that Beauregard and 80,000 men were taken prisoner. Also that David Culver was mortally wounded but haven't heard none of the rest of them. Some 4 or 5 have gone down from W.H.

**17 - Thurs.** Cloudy and rainy. Went to W.H. Seen David Culver. He was wounded in the battle of Pittsburgh Landing and lived 6 days. They brought his remains here yesterday.

**18 - Fri.** Clear. Went to the funeral of David Culver. A great many there. He was wounded in the side on Sun. morning. The Rebels striped off his clothes and he lay on the field until Mon. evening.

**19 - Sat.** Cloudy. Fixed some fence and went to W.H. Heard that George was in the battle both days and went through safe.

## LETTER ---- Mary E. Griswold

**Whitehall, Illinois Apr. 25, 1862**

**Dearest Brother George,**

Your long. Long looked for letter came to hand this morning I have been anxiously looking for lo these many long & weary weeks & days to hear from you it seemed a long time. We heard of several but could not hear a word from you. We did not know whether you had been killed, wounded or taken prisoner or what had become of you. I could not rest or sleep. Ellick came home with us from Dave Culver's funeral. He said that he seen you a few days before the battle & you was quite sick. I was in town yesterday & Henry saw Dr. Dewitt. I did not get to see him as I was down to Dr. Culvers haveing my teeth pulled. He told Henry you was very sick. He said that him & Sam Higby both tried to get them to let you come home but they would not. If they let one come they would more have to go. Who is the one that would not let you come? I think he must be a secesh. Did they make you walk to where they moored. Dr. Dewitt said that the old Dr. there said you could walk & he said you was not able & was going to hire something to take you in & when they found it out they said you could ride in the baggage wagon. I expect they made you walk at last after he came away. He says they have curious doings there. He thinks Loyal was down today. He stoped & seen Dr. Dewitt to hear the news. I told him that him or Henry must go down to see you and if there was any possible chance to bring you home. I fear you will never be any better to stay there & have no one to take care of you. Had I wings George I would have been there lone e'es this. I hope they will get their hard hearts a little softened by the time Loyal gets there if he can get there. I do not know whether they will let him go any farther that Caro (Cairo, Ill. -?) or not. They would not after the battle. General Halleck gave orders that no citizen should go down. He said there was so many going down that they could not bring the wounded there was so many. Mr. Potts started to go down but could not get any farther that Caro. I am afraid that Loyal cannot go any farther but should think he could now as they have got all their wounded taken care of \_er-? this. He is going to bring you home if there is any possible chance. Oh how I wish you had never gone. I cannot bear the idea of my dear good brother being way down there sick with no one to care for you & in such cruel hands. You are the first of my thoughts in the morning & the last at night. I dreamt you were home the other night. You cannot imagine how I felt. I thought you were safe now at home with us. You can well sing do they miss me at home; it is all true every word of it. It is not only a momentary vision but a reality. Your face is missed \_? everyplace. I was in hopes this war would soon end & bring our loved ones back to us but fear that will never be. I have almost given up in despair the last lingering ray of hope has almost fled. Ellick is going down next week. I am going to send a few little notions with him. I am going to bake you a sponge cake in the morning & have Henry get a little Mackerel & a piece of cheese but you must be very careful. I don't expect it would do to eat it while you have the fever but it will keep some time. The Mackerel would not hurt you I don't think if he can get any. Lide sent you some of her wedding cake & I will send that. She has gone to keeping house sometime ago. She is living near Jacksonville. She said she was in hopes that you would stay in Carrollton until after the wedding. They did not invite very many. Uncle Allen was here last Tuesday. He had just come from Sadoras on Sunday evening. He said that Sis Craw was married the evening before he went up there. Sis was married to a Mr. Lockery that lives up there. Uncle Allen thinks she ought to have married the preacher. I received a letter from Clarisa a few days ago. She says that Uncle Hocker is at home & while she was writing to me she happened to look out to the gate & who should be coming through

*but Tommy. She asked him what word he had to send to me. He said to tell me that he was a rebel & was just from the southern army & in fine spirits. I hope his fine spirits will fall. He went to St. Louis to see you but you had gone. Clarissa says they call them rebels & she glories in the name. Mr. Whitford is building a house in Bonhomie & they are going to move there this spring. Have you drawn your money yet & did the secesh take it from you? Did they take all your things? Several has written back saying that they took everything. I will send you a shirt & pair of socks & towel around the cake. Write soon tell all the news. Emily said to send her love to you, not only her but all send much love to our poor distressed & wandering brother.*

*M.E. Griswold*

*Let us know how you are if only a few lines. \_\_\_? has come back but did not get any mackeral as the stores was all shut up on account of the funeral. Mr. William Potts was buried today. I heard he was worse but had not heard that he was dead. I will try and have Elick get some on his way there. I think it would be good for you. If he gets any boil them and put butter on. I sent you a little box full. I am so disappointed about the mackeral & cheese. I don't know what to do. I send you some paper & pens \_\_\_?. Could not get any stamps. I presume you can get them there if you have the money. They think I had better not send any hickory nuts for it will hurt you. I guess I will send you a few but do not by any means eat them until you get well, not for the world.*

*Good bye, Mary E. Griswold*

**27 - Sun.** Clear and pleasant. The roads getting good. Went up to Loyal's to see about going down to Pittsburg Landing to see George. He is there sick.

## **May**

**15 - Thurs.** Clear and pleasant and started down to St. Louis to find George. Went on the \_\_\_?. Got down to St. Louis about sundown. Put up in the Virginia Hotel.

**16 - Fri.** Clear and pleasant. Tried to find George. Got a man to find him in the Benton Barracks.

**17 - Sat.** Clear. Went to see George. He looks very bad. Tried to get a furlough for him but they would not let him have one. Went out to Bridgeton to Aunt Sally's (Prob. Sally Post).

**18 - Sun.** Clear and pleasant. Went with the folks out to the Barracks to see George and came back to Bridgeton.

**19 - Mon.** Clear and cool. Went down to Benton Barracks to try to get a furlough for George. Could not get one today but got a \_\_\_? and went out to Bridgeton.

**20 - Tues.** Cloudy and rain. Took George back to the Barracks. Succeeded in getting him a furlough but not in time to get out on the boat. I went back to Bridgeton with Uncle Erastus (Post).

**21 - Wed.** Cloudy and cool. Went to St. Louis on the carrs then to the Barracks. Took out George and went on board the Steamer \_\_\_? for Grand Grass-? landing.

**22 - Thurs.** Clear. Arrived at Grand Grass landing at about 9 o'clock. Had to cross the lakes in a skiff and got home about 2 o'clock in the afternoon.

**23 - Fri.** Had a hard rain last night. Went to W.H. &c.

**24 - Sat.** Clear and pleasant. Helped Clark plant corn. George is not quite so well as he was when he came home.

**25 - Sun.** Clear. Staid at home. Several visitors were here to see George.

**26 - Mon.** Clear and pleasant. Went to W.H. to get some things for George.

**29 - Thurs.** ...George is not improving very fast. Is still very weak.

## June

- 1 - Sun.** Clear and cool. Staid at home. Several visitors to see George. He is improving.  
**2 - Mon.** Cloudy. Went down to the steam Mill to get some whiskey for George.  
**3 - Tues.** Cloudy and cool. Took George to White Hall. Commenced to rain. Left him at Uncle Vets (Prob. Sylvester Griswold).  
**16 - Mon.** Clean and warm. Went and shot some squirrels for George &c.

## July

- 17 - Thurs.** Clear and warm. Had another hard rain last night. Took George down to the river to go to St. Louis. The roads was very bad.

## August

- 11 - Mon.** Clear. Went to town. Dr.-? Culver's Co. of Volunteers were organized. There is great excitement. They are volunteering very fast.  
**13 - Wed.** Went to White Hall to a war meeting. A great many there raising volunteers for the war...  
**21 - Thurs.** ...Jordan Lakin raising volunteers for the war.  
**23 - Sat.** Clear and pleasant. Went to White Hall. The ladies presented Capt. Culver and Company with a very nice flag.  
**25 - Mon.** Clear. Went to W. H. and other places. Am making calculations to go to St. Louis.

## LETTER ---- George Griswold

*(envelope addressed to)*  
*Miss Mary E. Griswold*  
*White Hall Greene Co.*  
*Illinois-Aug. 25*

**Gen. Hosp. New House of Refuge Aug. 23, 1862**

**Dear Sister,**

*I take the present opportunity of writeing you A few lines to let you know how I am getting along. For the two or three first weeks I was here they put me on low diet and low it was too and what little they did bring I could not eat. I come very near starving but at last they got me on half rations then I begin to pick up. For breakfast we have bread, coffee and hash, for dinner bread, soup roasted meat and pudding one day and tomatoes the next. And for supper coffee, bread and good strong butter. Last night we had some (butter) the ward master said it came up stairs alone for he saw it coming. Some of the boys said they could plainly see B.C. in it. That meant it was made before christ.*

*(page 2 on back)*

*I have been expecting Uncle Erastus here for over a week but since they have got Lorrence (Lawrence-?) at Alton I expect they think the Union (union or unknown-?) soldiers may go to grafs (grass-?). I do not know whether Aunt Sally and the boys has got through ranting or not. Loyal said when he was there they was in a good way. I hope they will keep him there or hang I don't care which. I heard from the old 61 (61st. Ill. Vol.) a few days ago they were at Bolivar, Ten. About 450 in number and in good spirits. I would like to be in old Greene to eat some water melons. I suppose the peaches are not ripe yet up there. When is Henry coming down? There was a man here this week from the richwoods, his name was Gambol. He came to see his son. Tell Henry to settle up with Dr. Dewit for me. How is my bounse getting along? Put it down cellar so it will keep good. I suppose every (one) almost have gone to the war. Some of them will get their eye teeth cut before they get back. Has there any out of our neighborhood that I was acquainted with? Write soon tell all the news give my respects to all inquiring friends.*

George Griswold

**George Griswold was a soldier in Co. A of the 61st' Regt. Ill. Vol. He contracted dysentery around the time he was involved in the battle of Pittsburg Landing. This letter was written while he was a patient at the hospital near St. Louis. Some of the original spelling was left in this transcription. Names: Erastus Post (his mother's brother), Sally (poss. Sally Post his mother's sister), Loyal Post Griswold (his brother), Henry Adonijah Griswold (his brother).**

**27 - Wed.** ...made preparations for going to Saint Louis.

**28 - Thurs.** Clear and warm. Went down to the river and went on board the Sam Caty for St. Louis. Arrive there at sunrise next morning.

**29 - Fri.** Went to the New House of Refuge to see George. Found him up and around. Was calculating to go to Bridgeton but was too late for the curry.

**30 - Sat.** Clear and pleasant. Strolled around St. Louis in the afternoon. Took the carrs for Bridgeton and staid at night at \_\_\_? Sally Long.

**31 - Sun.** Went over to Aunt Mariah Post's. Went with them to church at Fee Fee and staid at Aunt Mariah's at night. (Mariah Post was prob. married to one of H. A.'s mother's brothers. Mariah Post and Maria Post Griswold are buried at Fee Fee Cemetery N. W. of St. Louis).

## September

**1 - Mon.** Had a good hard rain last night. Staid at Aunt Mariah's until after dinner. Went over to Uncle Erastus Post. Staid there all night. (Erastus Post is the brother of H. A.'s mother and is buried at Fee Fee Cemetery).

**2 - Tues.** Clear. Visited around among the connections. Staid at night at Aunt Sally's.

**3 - Wed.** Clear and pleasant. Staid most of the day at Uncle Erastus.

**4 - Thurs.** Was calculating to go to St. Louis but Uncle Erastus could not go.

**5 - Fri.** Went to St. Louis. Drewed the money for Aunt Abby Lusetta Husted. Mary and myself amounting in all to \$1,340.18. Staid at night at Uncle Erastus. (Poss. Lusetta Post who married Henry L. Husted).

**6 - Sat.** Left for St. Louis on the carrs. Went and seen George. Came back to the city, got a pass, went on board steamer Brazille. Was advised to leave at 4 o'clock but did not get off.

**7 - Sun.** The boat not started yet. They are repairing the machinery. They got off this afternoon at 4 o'clock.

**8 - Mon.** Landed at Grand Pass after breakfast this morning and walked home. In the afternoon went and paid Lusetta.

**LETTER ---- Minerva L. Baker**

*(envelope addressed to)*

*Mr. George Griswold*

*General hos new house of reffuge*

*St. Louis, MO*

*(stamped White Hall, Ill. Sept. 1\_?)*

**Sept the 11 (-?) 1862**

**New providence Green Co. Ills.**

**Friend**

*George. I have concluded to write to you. I have got my paper and pen several times to write to you but my heart would fail because I thought you would not like to be bothered with letters from me. I have been gone for the past week. When I came home tonight Rosetta handed me a letter she had received from you. I was truly glad to hear from you but sorry to hear you was no better. I am sorry you have nothing to eat that you can relish, George I do not profess to be any cook but I wish I had the privilage of fixing something for you to eat and I would value it a great privilage too. Henry and James got back on Monday last. I received a letter from Mr. (?) Huffman last week. He was well. I also received one from Dave, he is at Camp Butler but I heard they was going to Benton Barracks. Dave was very well pleased with camp life. I guess Rosetta when she writes will give you the news. I am writing unbeknown to any one, all are a bed and asleep whilste I am writing to you this late hour of the night. I am in hopes you are better and resting good. What do you think Mr. North come down the other night to see if Sallie or I would go to a party with him. We did not go so he taken Miss Dallas and Sunday night he went to see Miss Tempa Davis. Now what would you do with him, to think the one that folks say I am to marry forsakes me that way? It almost breaks my heart. He got mad at me some time ago but has got over it now. I will tell you sometime what it was about, enough on this subject. Emily is down here this week. George do not think strange of my writing to you. The reason is this, I cannot hear from you very often and I thought if I would write first perhaps you would then write. I thought likely you had forgotten there was such a person as me and I would just write and let you know that I am on the land of the living yet. I know if you knew what pleasure it would give me to hear from you, you would write every week. In your letter to Rosetta you said give your respects to all enquiring friends if any. You know by this letter is one in no more. When you write to Rosetta do not say anything about my writing to you. Not that I am ashamed of it but I have a reason for not letting anyone know it and I will tell you sometime. George what is the reason you cannot get a discharge? I wish you would thrash some of them down there and come anyway. I will bring my uninteresting letter to a close for fear I weary your patience. If you wish to write pleas direct to*

*Minerva L. Baker*

*New Providence*

*Green Co. Ill.*

*For Sallie opens all my letters that comes to White Hall.*

*Yours truly M.L. Baker*

**Minerva Lunette Baker is a sister to Sallie E. (Baker) Griswold, wife of H.A. Griswold. She was about 22 at the time of this letter. In 1867 she married James E. Tunison. Two years later she died.**

**14** - Clear and pleasant. Went up to Lofers Grove to an association with Sally Baker. Had a good time. (Sally Baker was to become H. A.'s wife).

**23 - Tues.** Went and took Mary (H. A.'s sister) down to the river to go to St. Louis to see George.

### LETTER ---- H.A. Griswold

*(Outside of letter says)*

*This for Mary Griswold. Please find one for yourself inside of this. She started for your neighborhood and probably got there unless she took up with somebody along the road.*

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**Sept. 25, 1862**

*I was up at Loyal's yesterday. He had just received a letter from George that he was worse and had been on his back for a week and was very anxious to get out from there and thought that I would write over there. You must get him out. He is liable to a discharge and they can not keep from giving him one. All those that has been away from the regiment for 60 days and are not fit for duty at the end of that time are ordered to be discharged and they know it but will keep them there as long as they can to make money. When I was there he was getting better so fast that I thought that it was useless to attempt it but he can get out. Dr. Dewitt got a letter from Col. Fry says that George was out of his immediate command but thought that if his friends would go that they would have no trouble to get him out. Tell the Doctor that he has been away from the regiment 5 months. He ought to have been discharged 3 months ago and that he is no better now then he was then. Loyal was calculating to start right down there and get him if you had not gone and thought that you could get him out as he is very busy. He said that Dr. Dewitt said that he would go down if he could leave his patients. He thought that he could get him out but I think that you will have any trouble to get him out. Write as soon as you get this how you succeed for if you do not so somebody can come down and try it. Also write what time you are contemplating leaving for home. Col. Tunison is dead. He died with Cholera Morbus at his residence. I will look for an answer by return mail.*

*Yours &c HA Griswold*

*P.S. My love to all over there. In great haste HAG*

To M.E. Griswold

**30 - Tues.** Cloudy and rainy. Went to town. Uncle Sylvester went down to St. Louis to try to get George out of the hospital.

**October**

**3 - Fri.** Clear. Cut corn. Uncle Vet (Sylvester) got back from St. Louis. Did not bring George. He was not well enough. Is coming next Monday.

**6 - Mon.** Clear. Went to town at night. Went down to the river to get George.

**7 - Tues.** George landed this morning. Brought him home on a bed. He is very weak.

**9 - Thurs.** This morning rainy and rained all day. Went to town to get some things for George.  
**12 - Sun.** Clear and cool. Staid at home. Several came to see George.  
**15 - Wed.** Clear and pleasant. Went down to the Dutch Mills to get some whiskey for George.  
**16 - Thurs.** Clear. George does not get any better. Have to set up with him nights.  
**19 - Sun.** Clear. Went to Carrollton for another Doctor to see George.  
**20 - Mon.** Clear. Dr. DeWitt and Dr. Samuels came to see George. Thought it was very doubtful chance for him to get well.  
**21 - Tues.** Clear and pleasant in the afternoon. Went up to Glasgo after Dr. Myers to see George. He could not get here before Thurs.  
**22 - Wed.** Clear and pleasant. George keeps about the same.  
**23 - Thurs.** Dr. Myers came. He thought he could help George.  
**25 - Sat.** Very cold. Had a little snow. George is not so well.  
**26 - Sun.** George is still worse. Was out of his head all the better part of the night and at 10 o'clock this morning he died.  
**27 - Mon.** At 11 o'clock was George's funeral. It was very hard to give him up.

**Note: About 2 months after the death of his brother, H. A. made the following entry in his diary:**

**Dec. 21 - Sun.** Clear and pleasant at night. Went to J. D. Tunison's to see Sallie E. Baker. We agreed to unite ourselves in the bonds of matrimony.

### **Final Thought**

In the span of little more than a year H. A. had seen his brother join the U.S. Army, was probably very anxious upon hearing of the first major battle his brother was in and relieved that he had survived. Then learning that his brother George had an illness that slowly weakened him until he finally succumbed to death. And ending the year with an announcement of his engagement to Sallie Baker whom he married January 14th. of the following year.

George Griswold is buried in the North Cemetery, about 3 miles west of White Hall, Illinois along with many of his close family. His father Henry (Harry) Griswold is buried there along with his grandfather Adonijah Griswold who had served in the Revolutionary war. George's mother was buried in Fee Fee Cemetery near St. Louis, Missouri. She had gone to visit her Post relatives, contracted Cholera, died and was buried immediately. H. A. was the one who had to come back and tell the other children that their mother was gone.

The Griswold home still stands on Apple Creek Prairie where George lived and died. The North Cemetery is close by where George is buried. I recommend that you try to visit these sites.

[griswold41@juno.com](mailto:griswold41@juno.com)