

Purson
1867-26
A. M. M. 3576
4

John Loveland, Co. C. 16th Ct. Hartford Ct.

Admitted on the 17th Sept at the battle of the Antietam - Admitted to this Hospital Oct 5 - Condition at this date (Oct 6th). The fracture is on the external aspect of the left limb a little above the upper border of the patella and made its exit on the internal aspect at about the same relative position to the knee joint. The distance between the two openings being not more than half as great measuring in front of the limb as measuring behind the limb. From the numerous openings now projecting for the space of an inch what appears to be the extremity of the fractured femur - upper extremity - at any rate from its immobility under considerable pressure it is the end of a large fragment of part of the whole shaft. In addition to the two openings already mentioned there is a third & larger than either, caused by pressure on the upper extremity of the femur - this is merely a bed sore - Scaras, from flies are in all the wounds - Treatment - easy position & wet sores to wounds after patient cleansing - Duties to other patients prevent further P. to day - Oct 7th evening - Amputated the middle of the thigh this morning - Circular operation - Lost more blood than I could have wished in the operation & the patient sank quite low after the removal of the limb - was long in coming from the influence of Chloroform - but to night he has good pulse, good color in external, feels hopeful & the case appears very promising.

Oct 8th Morning - feeling well - ate breakfast - pulse good - slept well - Sleep apparently in good condition

John Loveland, Co. C, 16th Conn., Hartford, Ct.—wounded on the 17th September at the battle of the Antietam. Admitted to this hospital October 5th. Condition at this date (Oct. 6th). The ball entered on the external aspect of the left limb a little above the upper border of the patella and made its exit on the internal aspect at about the same relative position to the knee []. The distance between the two openings being not more than half as great measuring in front of the limbs as measuring behind the limb. From the inner most opening is now projecting for the space of an inch what appears to be the extremity of the fractured femur—upper extremity—at any rate from its immobility under considerable pressure it is the end of a large fragment if not of the whole shaft.

In addition to the two openings already mentioned, there is a third & larger than either, caused by pressure on the upper extremity of the fibula. This is merely a bedsore. Larvae from flies are in all the wounds. Treatment—easy positive & wet oakum to wounds after patient cleansing. Duties to other patients prevent further treatment today.

October 7th evening. Amputated at the middle of the thigh this forenoon. Circular operation. Lost more blood than I could have wished in the operation & the patient sank quite low after the removal of the limb & was long in coming from the influence of chloroform. But tonight he has good pulse, good color, is rational, feels hopeful & the case appears every way promising.

October 8th morning. Feeling well. Ate breakfast. Pulse good. Slept well. stump apparently in good condition.

Bio of Surgeon Edward McDonnell

the German Reform Church on Main Street in Sharpsburg became a makeshift hospital for the Federal IX Corps, including many soldiers from the 16th Connecticut—a rookie regiment that suffered significant losses in the 40-Acre Cornfield. Irish-born surgeon Edward McDonnell kept a casebook in which he detailed the treatment of some of the wounded in the small brick building.

Surgeon Edward McDonnell's casebook is housed in the National Archives at Washington D. C.

Bio of John Loveland

Most likely born in 1840, Private John Loveland, a 23-year-old barber from Hartford, drifted in and out of consciousness as he lay wounded among the cornstalks of John Otto's cornfield. His fractured femur protruded two or three inches from his left leg. Loveland was found alive and taken to field hospitals. Loveland was eventually transferred to the German Reformed Church hospital in Sharpsburg. Loveland, who had his leg amputated, died there in October when an artery in his leg disintegrated, spewing a gusher of blood.