

Hi Beverly,

Thank you for your letter and for the information on your family member's book. I had never heard of it before, but thanks to your reference, I just finished reading it. It was very interesting, although some of this information conflicted with my research, in which I will get to in a little bit but wanted to answer some of your questions first. Yes I do have a photograph of Andrew Hoge in which I will include with this letter. It is an Ambrotype photo that my guess would have been taken around the late 1850s to around 1860. The similarities to the Devil's Den "Sharpshooter" are remarkable and for this fact had me convinced that this was true for quite some time. This and the fact that Capt. Howe (who was with him when he died, I will also include that article) mentioned that he placed a canteen between his elbow and body before he left him. Mysteriously Gardner had wrote in a rough draft of the image for his *Sketch Book*, " as the canteen and surroundings indicate". This is very strange since there was no canteen in any of the six photos taken of the soldier in the famous image. His rough draft was never made public and the mention of the canteen never made the final. This inside information was compelling to me, but something still did not make sense. Why the 4<sup>th</sup> Virginia was even in that area? Subsequent research indicated however that they had not been. This brings me back to the discrepancies in your family member's book. Capt. (then Lt.) was indeed wounded and captured at Gettysburg, but not on the field of Pickett's charge as the book claims, nor in Devil's Den, but at the base of Culp's Hill. The stone fence that they availed themselves to in the book and the article was near Spangler's Meadow at the base of the hill, where the battle history has the regiment located throughout the fight on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. This is most likely where Andrew Hoge lost his life, and I'm fairly certain that the details as related by Capt. Howe are true, just that the speculation that this took place in Devil's Den is incorrect. Benning's Brigade occupied that entire area until 7pm on July 3<sup>rd</sup>. It is therefore highly unlikely that after leaving Hoge at Devil's Den he would traveled back to Culp's Hill on a wounded knee (the records state that it was a severe wound to his knee) to rejoin his regiment in which he was commander of Company E, and to have been captured there on the afternoon of July 3<sup>rd</sup>. I can certainly understand why Gov. Hoge would have rationalized this, because of the likeness. Your family first saw the photograph through an advertisement for Miller's book in 1911 two years after Capt. Howe passed away. John Ash on the other hand died in Devil's Den on July 3<sup>rd</sup> and shares the exact facial features (all features) with the Devil's Den Sharpshooter, but I must admit, him and Andrew Hoge could pass for brothers.

Andrew Hoge is most likely buried in Hollywood Cemetery in Richmond Va. His remains were identified by Dr. Rufus Weaver in 1871 or 72 through Rev. Hoge. He had faded papers in his pocket and a photograph of his cousin Helen Hoge ( this was common for soldiers to have photos of relatives, sweethearts and such at that time) that he was buried with that Rev. Hoge confirmed. Dr. Weaver did send individual remains back to their families but this was expensive and was done mostly for high-ranking officers. Since Hollywood was in Virginia, it most likely was not objected to by his (your) family, although it should have been. Unfortunately a lot of Dr.

Weaver's work was undone by the haphazard way in which the soldiers were buried in Hollywood Cemetery. It was one mass grave with no markers. Some soldiers who were identified now became unknown. Sorry to say, your family member was one of them. The only record was a hand drawn map with numbers and letters that corresponded to Dr. Weaver's shipping manifests. Most unfortunately the records for the last shipments to Richmond were lost over time before markers were placed, so now those soldiers graves are unknown to us today. I believe that Andrew Hoge was one of the victims to the mishandling of the burials there.

If I can be any more help to you, please let me know. Thank you again for sharing your information, your family history is fascinating.

Sincerely  
Scott Fink



been the aim of the undersigned, to save every man possible, your severe loss will show that the part you have taken has not been a light one.

WILLIAM STEELE,  
Brigadier General, Commander of Division."

### THE TRAGEDY OF DEVIL'S DEN.

CONTRIBUTED BY MISS JANE NELLIE HOGE, RICHMOND, VA.

The Rev. B. Lacy Hoge, pastor of the Baptist Church at Beckley, W. Va., died there on September 12, 1924. He was born in the Roanoke Valley, in Montgomery County, near Blacksburg, Va., the son of James Fulton and Eliza Johnston Hoge, the youngest of ten children.

The eldest son of this family, Andrew J. Hoge, was killed at the battle of Gettysburg. A picture of the young soldier, who entered the army at the age of sixteen, can be seen in Volume IX of the "Photographic History of the Civil War." He lies stretched at the foot of "Devil's Den," with his gun leaning against the cliff. His handsome form caught the eye of the photographer, and under the original was written: "Whatever the results of the war, for this fine manly young Southern boy it is over."

He and several comrades had gone to this place after the battle was over, thinking they were safely hid, and were resting with their backs against the wall of stone, when a stray bomb fell and burst in his lap. All of the crowd fled except his cousin, Capt. John T. Howe, who, in danger to his own life, remained and cut the blanket from his shoulder and placed it under his head, brought water from a near-by stream and gave him drink, then placed the canteen between his elbow and body, received his dying messages, and closed for him his eyes, then himself fled from where stray bullets were falling. For years a father and mother wept and yearned and hoped, all in vain, that their boy might come up among the "missing" of those times.

When the Confederate dead were removed to Hollywood his remains were identified by the Rev. Moses D. Hoge from faded papers in his pocket and a daguerreotype (which was buried with him) of his beautiful cousin, Helen Hoge, who later became Mrs. D. W. Mason. The "Photographic History" says he lay unburied in this secluded spot for a year.

The first intimation the family had of this picture was from an advertising sheet sent out by the *Review of Reviews*. The figure of the young soldier was recognized by ex-Gov. J. Hoge Tyler as that of his cousin, Andrew Johnston Hoge, and the leaflet was given to his sister, the writer of this article, by a friend.

Of the family of ten, to which he belonged, only two remain.

Copy negative made  
and filed in series

or return reg, and making ...  
C Buchanan Arm, I B Umberger Arm, Total 5  
Missing Lieut R C Vaughn Lieut W B Lander Sergt  
A J Staley Privates W Savage I H Gayers I Brown  
I J Wolf Hy Webb Total 8  
Company "E" Lieut John T Howe commanding  
Killed Corpse A J Hoop, Private R H Cabret Total 2  
wounded Lieut John T Howe knee <sup>severely</sup> <sup>& mifing</sup>, Corpse  
D J Robinson, Back severely, Private R H Kinsley knee  
severely and missing Pvt I Linkens knee slightly, Pvt  
A S. ... Hand severely John H Wilson hand slight