

Privates Albert and Thomas Tate, Co. "H"

Privates Albert and Thomas Tate were born in Harford County, Maryland, to Martha M. Tate. Albert was born on August 15, 1840, and Thomas two years later. By 1860 Albert and Thomas were working as farm laborers and Martha had two additional children, daughters Ann Jane (born 1844) and Hannah (born 1849).

Albert and Thomas enlisted in Company H of the 7th Maryland in Baltimore in August 1862. Thomas was detailed as a brigade teamster, also assigned to the ambulance corps. While the 7th Maryland was spending its first winter on Maryland Heights near Harpers Ferry both brothers were charged with being absent without leave in February 1863. It's possible they were visiting their mother and sisters in Harford County.

Sadly, during the 7th Maryland's second winter camp outside Culpeper Thomas died in the division hospital on January 22, 1864. He was recorded as suffering from typhoid, pneumonia, and severe diarrhea. Albert wrote to Martha on February 1, 1864, to let her know of his death; "you sent a few lines to Thomas but poor fellow he did not live to see it he died with the chronic diarrhoea and bad cold."

Thomas was buried in a temporary grave and after the war moved to Culpeper National Cemetery, where he rests today. Albert served with the 7th Maryland until the end of the war. He was wounded in the left thigh on April 1, 1865, during the Battle of Five Forks outside Petersburg and treated at Douglas General Hospital in Washington, D.C.

Albert mustered out in June 1865 and returned to Harford County. He married Phebe A. Walker in 1869 and the couple settled in York County, Pennsylvania, where Albert continued working as a farm laborer. They apparently had no children. Phebe died in 1917 and Albert on January 18, 1918. They are both buried in Prospect United Methodist Cemetery (or Gatchelville Cemetery) in York County. Martha moved to York County as well to be close to Albert and Phebe. She passed away on December 12, 1883, and is buried in Slate Ridge Cemetery.



Above, Thomas was buried in a temporary grave and after the war moved to Culpeper National Cemetery, where he rests today. Above right, Albert Tate's headstone in the Prospect United Methodist Cemetery (or Gatchelville Cemetery) in York County, PA. At right, the Battle of Five Forks, April 1865.