

Following is a letter received by Mr. L. V. Fender, Flag Pouch, regarding the death of his son, Private Hubert Fender.

Priv. Fender made the supreme sacrifice on Sept. 29th in what proved to be perhaps the most decisive battle of the year and the most important of which this organization was engaged. His death resulted from artillery shell-fire, and was instant. At this time his organization was assaulting the great Hindenburg defense at the St. Quentin Canal near Hellcourt, France—on the St. Quentin-Somme front, with other organizations. Private Fender moved forward with great courage in the face of determined resistance, proving himself a true and loyal soldier and a man unafraid. It was such spirit as this young man displayed which permits us of a glorious victory in the cause of humanity and through our tears we now realize that such noble sacrifices as this have not been in vain. It is some times difficult to recognize the justice and wisdom of providence but with time healing the wounds of sorrow I am sure there will come the full realization that the great commander doth all things well. The body of Private Fender now rests with those of several of his comrades just west of Hellcourt on a slight eminence near the St. Quentin Canal. It is near the scene of his death and the grave is marked with his name and organization. and will be removed to the place for the removal of the remains of the favored land for which he gave his very all.

Proper and fitting arrangements for the burial were completed and carried out and the services were conducted by the Battalion Chaplain. The personal effects were cared for by the Chaplain and will in due time be forwarded through channels to his mother.

To the bereaved mother and family you will kindly convey my personal sincere condolences and sympathy and say to them for me that Private Fender was a type of the ideal soldier and man. Among his comrades he was highly regarded as a young man of character and principle, blessed with a gracious and charitable disposition. By his officers he was regarded as an especially courteous and obedient soldier, but perhaps his most praiseworthy quality and best of all to be sure was his marked unflinching devotion to duty.

F. L. ST. JOHN,

Capt. 130th Infantry,

Commanding Co. M.

2/31/19

(112)