

John R. Jones Papers  
(Undated Article)

#### A WARTIME TRAGEDY.

Killing of Confederate Soldiers  
Near Bloomfield.

Danville News: A few days since a lady whose name we withhold handed the editor of the News the following clipped from one of the daily papers:

"There is a small spot of ground about a quarter of a mile south of Bloomfield, on the bank of Simpson creek, that has a bloody history attached to it. It is the place where two young Confederate soldiers named Hamilton and Berry were brought from the military prison at Louisville, and shot to death during the civil war by the order of Gen. John M. Palmer, who had supported Burbridge, in retaliation for the death of John R. Jones, a Union man, who was killed by guerillas at his home.

Those who witnessed the tragedy say that the youngest soldier a mere boy, begged them not to shoot him in the face. After the order to fire had been given and the smoke had cleared away, they were left where they were shot for the citizens to bury. Their bodies were removed to a residence in Bloomfield. Col. Isaac Stone, an ardent Southern man, bought two handsome coffins and had the two Southern men laid away in the little city of the dead at Bloomfield.

We have a lady friend who was a schoolgirl in Bloomfield at the time of the execution of the brave young Southerners. She, with other schoolgirls, were permitted to see and copy a note written by one of the young men (Berry) and furnished us a copy of it, which we publish. It was to his father and written just before the execution. It read:

BLOOMFIELD, KY., Aug. 6.

Dear Pa:—I am to be executed in a few moments. I do not want you, ma and the children to grieve after me. Bear it with as much fortitude as possible. I think I am prepared to die. I have been living as a Christian ever since I have been in prison, reading the Testament, and praying. So don't grieve for my sake. Assure yourselves I am prepared, and not scared.

Signed, your son,

R. BERRY.