

Held for
biographer

1890-95

Found Among
my father books
recognized as having been
written and type by him
Probably during a period of unemployment
1949? or 1950?

MY CHALLENGE.

As a child , before I reached the 'Teen age, my Father ~~was~~ John Berry who had served a
War of
Volunteer~~ed~~ soldier in the Civil /used to thrill my young life with stories/~~and~~ his experien
cies of Army life.) Following the proclamtion by President Lincoln which gave young Negroes
ced
an opportunity to fight for their freedom, my Father/~~did not~~ this opportunity as a mere boy
and joined the Union Army at his home St. Mary's County Maryland.

My Father who was a ^{Artilleryman} Cavalryman, and drove the ^{two} prize hor ses which ^{draw?} hauled
the carriage carrying the gun known as No 4 ^{field} piece gun, in the heavy Battery of Captain
Choate, ^{Artillery} and who was honorably discharged from the Army at Brownsville Texas 1866 was my
Hero in all matters.

As a child I saw many of the soldiers of the Civil War visit my father's home
and I was allowed to sit in the midst of the ^{old} veterans whils they related their experiences to
each other of the ^{life} life of a soldier.. One day I asked my father if any one wrote about the
things he did as a soldier, and he said "No". So through the years I think of what was told
me by this parent, of what he did as a private soldier, ^{his} ^{life} hard life, expo sure, ~~###~~ to death
and every thing else he had to do at the command of his superior officer, and no mention to
to be made of it, only what may be recorded in the War Department at Washington, D.C.

telling when he joined the Army giving he regiment and Company and that he was honorably
discharged on a certain date. But following all of this he said to me "NO" when I asked for
for written history. So from that time until now history has been my challenge.