

Wes at war: how much does he fit Leed's description (p. 27) of "meeting of a young squire and his dependents"?

card 1 of 3

possible details for WWI scenes: see "WWI diary" file, inc. clips

dugout No Man's Land

parapet duckboards

firestep back areas

star shells

piece of shrapnel as souvenir

thunder peals of artillery

soldiers treated like corpses--"buried, forced to line immobile in pit" (Leed)

rats grew fat from eating corpses of men and animals (Leed)

smell of dead pervaded front lines (Leed)

premium upon auditory signals (Leed)

like rabbits concealed (Leed)

WWI possible details/2

no exit from war but wounds, death or neurosis (Leed)

blisters to be lanced

reception for officers @ Clark mansion in NY (diary)

I love those boys.

kid myself to keep from being (sea)sick

cots and clean straw

sand fleas have waded in on me

mud about three inches deep (up to instep?) (step in it to your instep)

patrolling is exciting when a Very light strikes about a foot from where you are hugging the ground

Very light shows position--freeze in place

changed underwear and got rid of cooties

dugoutted together

WWI possible details/3

diary: saw French soldiers draining a pond, ffor the carp

bunting-draped reception room

Wes, in WWI trenches:

--sees them as vast stockyards (the Chicago yards?); from ocean to Switzerland;
look @ Lost Country Life filecard in "Growing Up Western" speech material for
sequence of medieval cattle pens, slaughter yards, tanyards etc.

p. 255

WWI trenches as slaughterhouse:

Oxford Dic of Qns: Shakespeare pp. 423-488

index yields: 461:3, Macbeth "Direness, familiar to my slaughterous thoughts"

--nothing pertinent under "ox" or "oxen" or "tanyard"

Wes brought back Samuel's body (or the fatally wounded Samuel) from No Man's Land?

--or failed to bring it back?

Keegan, The First World War, p. 411--AEF @ St. Mihiel salient

use Orville Anderson WWI diary for Wes's combat experience

unused in final
revision

The stuff I saw there in the Army, guys dead every which way... and
I didn't even get close to the worst of the war. Anyway, it got me
to thinking that the trouble between us wasn't all that big.

UMont--Small collections, #97

lingo

Chas J. Hash

1919 letter to him, evidently on his return from WWI overseas:

"...from all I have heard from the rest of the boys don't blame you for wanting to get away from Frogland."

— me c : I was in Wilson's war. Sent me over to Frogland.

"Pardon, Monsieur Williamson, but the others will be waiting."

Wilson's war.