

Handout 3: What happened to wounded soldiers during and after the U.S. Civil War?

Instructions: Respond to the following questions based on the materials presented in the “Honorable Scars” and “Sacrifices Forgotten” exhibition sections (<http://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/LifeandLimb/honorablescars.html> and <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/exhibition/LifeandLimb/sacrificesforgotten.html>).

1. *“It is not two years since the sight of a person who has lost one of his lower limbs was an infrequent occurrence. Now, alas! There are few of us who have not a cripple among our friends, if not in our own families.”* Whose quote is this?

What does the quote tell you about what living in post-Civil War America was like?

2. What were the conditions of and attitudes toward disabled soldiers during and after the Civil War?

3. Examine the photos and illustrations in the “Honorable Scars.” Explain what these images tell you about the experiences of disabled soldiers during the civil war that the words alone could not?

Examine the photos and illustrations in the “Sacrifices Forgotten.” Explain what these images tell you about the experiences of disabled soldiers after the Civil War that the words alone could not?

4. What new understanding have you gained about treatment of wounded soldiers in the Civil War ?