**RED DIRT SOLDIER BOY.**

Red Dirt Share Crop Poor.

Born Dead Broke.

Starved.

Momma Cried.

Daddy Tried.

Never Scratched Out No More.

Bare Stayed Alive.

On Table Scrap Fed Hog.

Lean Fat Back.

Sow Belly.

Chitlins. Smoked Ham. Cured Bacon Bits.

What Ever Fits.

Dried Turnips.

Roots. Boiled Acorns.

Wild Greens.

Mushrooms. Garden Peas And Beans.

Possum. Squirrel. Ground Hog.

Fish. Snake. Pidgeon. Snapping Turtle. Gigged Frogs.

Road Kill.

Fried Grubs From Rotten Logs.

Barefoot.

No Summer Shoes.

When Snow Blows.

Worn Out Boots With Holes.

No Socks At All. Permanent.

No Money Blues.

One Tattered Pair.

Of Threadbare.

Overalls.

No Underwear.

Feed Sack. Shirt.

Patchwork. Coat.

What Not Quiet.

Near Bares.

Serves To Turn Fall.

Bitter Wind.

Stave Off The Winter Cold.

Beyond Need Of Need. Nine Hungry Mouths To Feed.

Lung T Struck Mother.

Three Young Sisters.

Four Brothers.

In Three Room.

No Plumbing.

Knot Wood Heat.

Clap Board Shot Gun Shack.

Out Of School.

At Thirteen.

No Way To Go Back.

Had To Work The Mines.

Three Bits An Hour.

Twelve Hour Shift.

No Overtime.

Had To Make Do.

Cope. No Hope.

No Choice.

Cause Pappy Left One Dawn.

To Dig. Grovel. Shovel.

Piece Work Hard Coal.

In Mile Deep Gypo.

Death Trap.

Deep Vein Peabody Hell Hole.

Three Thousand Foot Shaft.

Hammer Spark To Pocket Of Methane Gas.

Blow Out. Cave In.

Never Made It Back.

Lied At Fifteen.

Went To War.

To Draw Buck Private Pay. Room. Board.

Six Bucks A Day.

Sent It All Home To Mom. Young Kids.

For His Safe Return Prayed.

Thankful For All He Did.

Bare Enough To Pay.

Company Shack Rent.

Buy Scraps Of Old Meat.

Moldy Bread.

Wormy Beans.

At Cutthroat Captive Company Store.

Not A Morsel More.

Two Sisters With No Dad Babies On The Way.

Normandy.

D Day.

First Wave.

To Hit The Shore.

Omaha Beach.

Blood Red.

Slaughter.

Two Thirds.

Drowned In The Surf.

Or Mangled. Dead.

Red Dirt Soldier Boy.

Leg Blown Off.

Gut Shot.

Fifty Caliber.

Through The Head.

Just A Poor Boys Destined Fate.

Home In A Second Rate.

Body Bag.

King. Church.

Claim Most Proud.

Parades. Flags Wave.

Family Gets Mere False Thanks.

Token Stars Bars

Dime Store Flag.

Rough Pine Box.

Thin Cotten Shroud.

Shallow Grave.

Purple Heart.

No Benefits.

All Of It.

Just A Cold Quick.

Pass By Hello Good Bye.

Left Them Evicted.

To Starve.

Ignored Their Pleas. Cries.

What More Could They Expect.

For Red Dirt.

No Play No Pay Clay.

Wasted Farmed Out Earth.

Ghetto. Reservation. Birth Doomed Souls.

Are Those First To Go.

Cannon Fodder For Rich Mans War.

What Else Are The Dumb Brutes For.

So Deigned To Die.

As Crushed Broken Mother.

Quietly Sobs.

Then Wails. Moans.

With Sorrow Gasp

Breath,

Why. Why. Why.

Beholds Dark Angel Of Death.

What Else Can She Expect.

No Future. Family Left.

Her Three Younger Boys Are Next.

*PHILLIP PAUL. 8/5/17.*

*Goose Creek At Midnight.*

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