

What Might Have Been

Have you ever wondered about things that *might have been*? Life Care's headquarters is Cleveland, located in Southeast Tennessee, near the North Georgia border. It is an area in which several important battles of the Civil War occurred.

When I think about that national conflict and the many men and women who paid the ultimate sacrifice on both sides, I wonder what *might have been* if those individuals had lived. Perhaps their genius would have led to a cure for some disease, or a great literary work, or a statesman would have emerged to make significant contributions to the world. Of course, we'll never know.

But, sadly, what *might have been* also has application to those who procrastinate – people who have been given abilities to do great and mighty works, but never get around to it. Someone gave me a poem – its author is unknown – that offers a cheerless commentary on such folks:

*They were going to be all that they wanted to be – tomorrow.
None would be braver or kinder than they – tomorrow.
A friend who was troubled and weary, they knew, would be glad of a lift – and
needed it, too. On him they would call, see what they could do – tomorrow.
Each morning they stacked up the letters they'd write – tomorrow.
The greatest of people they just might have been,
The world would have opened its heart to them.
But, in fact, they passed on and faded from view,
And all that they left when their living was through
Was a mountain of things they intended to do – tomorrow.*

– Beecher Hunter