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### [Transcribing the Past: Civil War Manuscripts](#)

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#### **A Soldier's Life: The Diary of Charles Kroff**

This leather-bound diary was kept by Charles Kroff during the years 1861-1865. It describes his experiences as a soldier in the Eleventh Indiana Volunteer Infantry during the Civil War and details his participation in the battles of Shiloh, Fort Donelson, and Corinth. This diary is from the [Western History Collections](#)' Sherry Marie Cress Collection.

Charles Kroff was born in Monroe County, Ohio, December 11, 1837. He enlisted as a private in Company "F" of the 11th Indiana Infantry Volunteers on July 12, 1861. He was mustered out as captain of that company on August 10, 1865. After the war he practiced law, dealt in real estate, and farmed in Missouri. He became the first county attorney for Hickory County, Missouri, in 1867. He died February 18, 1917 and is buried at Calhoun Cemetery in Calhoun, Missouri.

Charles Kroff's Book. Dec. 2d/60.  
Bought in Milford Indiana,  
on the 1st of December A.D. 1860.  
Price 85 cents.

This is a specimen of my  
Penmanship December 31st one  
thousand eight hundred and/60  
Penmanship. Penmanship. December A.D./60

This is a specimen of my hand  
Penmanship May 2d A.D. 1861.

This is a specimen of my hand  
writing, October 30th one thousand  
Eight hundred and sixty five

Milford, Indiana, January 13th, 1861

There is something in the memoirs of a persons life, that cheers and gives edification to the heart when we look back upon a well spent life: in our old age.

I will in this book give a few instances of weekly occurrences. In the year 1853, on the 26 of Feb. I left my parental home. I was at time thirteen years of age.

My knowledge of literature at that time was limited in Arithmetic to proportion and in Orthography I was as far advanced as the common school teachers could take me and was as good reader as my teachers, and was as good pensman as I am at the present time. That summer I worked on a farm near my birthplace, and when winter came I went to school, And in the following spring March 13th 1854, I started for Barhtolomewe County, Indiana, and arrived there safe on the 18th inst. and from that

January 27th 1861. This day at 4 P.M. finds me seated in a split bottom chair 2 and one half miles south west of milford, and the third story of the widow Hedrick's domicile sitting by a hot stove, with a friendly cigar in my mouth; surrounded with old books, and cigar stubs, and tobacco spit, finds me contemplating what would be the best course for the north to pursue in the present crisis.

March 2d 1861. This day finds me in Greencastle Putnam co. Indiana sitting by my stand writing letters to my friends, and contemplating upon the course that I will pursue during my course in college.

Greencastle Ind. April 7th 1861.

This day finds me well and hearty - enjoying good health - but my mind is not here - only my body. During the last week I have been reading Humes History of England. Tomorrow school commences again.

Greencastle Ind. May 2nd 1861.

Every thing is an uproar - the war commenced on the 11th ult. - the president of the U.S. called for 75000 volunteers, and recd them within 10 days. And yesterday he has called

for 82000 more; to enlist in the regular service of the U.S. for three years: and all the free states are responding to the call - every one is eager to send more men than their quota. Up to this time there has been no battle fought: only one at Charleston, where we have no account of any one being killed.

Greencastle June 2d, 1861.

This day finds me well and hearty, and situated in the town of Greencastle. The war excitement is still raising higher, and higher, and the probability is now that there will be a general war between the north, and the south. Both sections are preparing as fast as they can, for the battlefield. No battle has been fought yet, only the one at fort Sumter; but many of the rebels have been taken at different points without any bloodshed on either party. The war has affected the financial affairs of the country already; produce and other

articles of trade, and live stock have fallen thirty per centum.

Greencastle Indiana June 15, 1861

This is the last Sabbath that will find me a student. Although I am far from having a thorough education; but will have to remain content for a time with the partial knowledge I have of many branches of literature.

I have enjoyed myself well during the time that I have been here; but it has been far from being the most happy period of my life; from the fact that I have been confined to my room to constantly in study, and when I was not in my room I was attending lecture, church, or reciting at college; hence my chief enjoyment was in the Platonean society.

I now look back upon my past life with impunity, when I thought that I was a good

Schollar when I could read, write and cypher through the single rule of three, (in the Western Calculator) But I find that the more I know the more I see my ignorance. I have now come to the conclusion that it is an impossibility for one man to understand one tenth that is to be, or in other words can be learned. For my part I am going to confine myself to three or four branches and perhaps to one or two: for it is better to be master of a few arts and sciences, than the "Jack of all, and master of none.

When I think of departing from college, it almost makes the tears flow from my eyes, for I love to study above all things; - it is food to my mind and pleasure to my heart, my companion when alone and protector when abroad. I now bid adieu to college life and all I learn hereafter will be without an instructor. C. K.



Clifty, Decatur, Co. Ind. July 10, 1861.

When a person contemplates upon the horrors of war, the many hardships and trials with which they have to endure; A person would naturally hesitate before enlisting in the service of his Country, however urging the necessity of his service may be demanded.

Our country at this time demands the service of every Union loving and constitutional abiding man. When we look abroad over this once flourishing Country and its inhabitants the most happy people on the face of the Earth, it is enough to shock and arouse the patriotism of every man who has any love for his country whatever, and fly to arms in defence of the Constitution of the U.S. My position at this time is exceedingly critical, if I join the Army it will be a great

sacrifice on my part both in a pecuniary and intellectual point of view. By joining the army at this time, three years of the best portion of my life would be spent with a low groveling set of men: taking them as a mass. I have lived but twenty two summers, and it seems to me as though it was folly for me to go south to be shot at by rebels; rebels who are far inferior in intellectual propensities; but perhaps superior with the rifles. But as young as I am and as little as I have seen of this world, young and robust, I am going to enlist and it will be likely that I will be handed down to an untimely grave by having a rebel bullet to pass into my body.

My few days that I have passed upon this earth seems as though it was a dream, and that I was passing in one day from

the cradle to the grave. Many friends I will leave behind, perhaps never to see again. Many are the kindred ties which bind my affections closely to them; but I will leave all willingly and serve my country during the war. If rebellion is not crushed, and peace once more instituted; unborn millions will curse their ancestors for not having put an end for ever to the cursed slavery question in all its bearings in this government. Put down rebellion and made the Southern leaders, and monopolists sensible that there was a government which was one and inseperable. It is now as it has ever been in all countries a divided people throughout the U.S. South, as well as North; although we find not a single man north of Masons, and Dixons line who does not claim

to be a Union man; yet they differ materially in the manner which the war should be conducted, and the rebels punished. Many men are in favor of the Administration offering a compromise to the rebels, and accepting one on most any conditions for the sake of peace. But for my part I think that no true patriot would ever talk, or even dream of a compromise to rebels; for not a man in any Slave State has ever been oppressed by this government, or failed to reach its protection, or its benefits. When we turn to the South itself we find that the secession of those states was not the express wish and will of a majority of their citizens. They were dragged into secession by political demagogues and monopolists; and then impressed into the army, and now the majority of the people

of some of the ceded states are calling for protection from the Federal Government, and the Government is responding to to their call; but enough on this subject for the present, and let me turn to other things Which may interest the reader of this comment in years after the buzzards first flew over my dry bones in the sunny South.

Clifty Decatur County Ind.

July 13th 1861. Yesterday I enlisted in the army for three years. After thinking over the matter, in regard to enlisting - my mind became composed and I took the oath to obey my superior commander and the President of the U.S. and allegiance to the Constitution of the U.S. Next Monday I will commence serving Uncle Sam. x x

But when I look round and

see my numerous friends and acquaintances, It is truly hard to leave them. - My trunks are now packed and the hour of my departure is nigh at hand. - But when I look at my numerous books which I will have to leave behind, it seems as though I was losing my best friend; for I could always interest myself by reading them when no person could. I will now have to bid adieu to my friends and relatives. Perhaps I will never see them again on this world; but trusting in God as my protector I hope that he will bring me back the same man as I was when I left. If I am killed by the rebels "in a far and distant land I will lie. And no friend to shed a tear when passing by."

And my remains will for ever be unknown to my friends and relations. Consequently there can never be a monument erected in memory of one who gave his life for his country; but had I not gone posterity would have cursed over my mouldering remains for not having thrown in my might to crush rebellion in its infancy. Farewell my friends, and if while I am gone;

"My soul takes her flight,  
To the regions of night,  
And my corse shall recline on its bier,  
As ye pass by my tomb,  
where my ashes consume  
, O moisten their dust with a tear."

I have no more time to write about the causes of this war, or the absurdity of compromising with rebels. I am of good cheer and there is not a particle of fear on my mind, - Farewell once more my friends, Charles Kroff.

1861

Bloomington Ind. Sept. 10th 65

The following is my memoranda while in the U.S. service.

Friday

July 12, 1861 - Enlisted in Co. "F" 11th Ind.

" Inftry Vol's

"[July] 18 Went into camp at the Old  
Bellfontaine Depot, in the  
North part of Indianapolis.

Aug 12 Moved Camp 2 1/2 m's N. W. on  
White River, called Camp Robinson

Aug. 31 Reg't full and mustered in U.S. service

Sept. 5 Struck tents and mar. to India'p'ls

" [Sept.] 6 Got on board cars at 1 A.M. for  
St. Louis Mo.

" [Sept.] 7 changed cars at Lafayette for Alton Ill

" [Sept.] 8 Arrived at Alton Ill. at 12 M. Got On board Steamer David Tatum  
and arrived at St. Louis Mo. at

4 P.M - went into camp - Benton Barracks

" [Sept.] 9 At 11 P.M. left camp - got on board  
Steamer Hannibal City for Paducah Ky

" [Sept.] 11 Arrived at Paducah Ky. at 4 P.M. And went into Camp, in the Western  
Suburbs of the town.



Sept 16. Last night we were aroused from our Slumbers, by firing on the picket line.- thought it was a general attack - ordered to "fall in" immediately. Such searching, grabbing for shoes, boots & accoutrements was never outdone. Firing soon ceased and we returned to quarters. The alarm was caused by some market wagons coming in, they were challenged, but stopped not, did not know what halt! meant The pickets did not know but what it was artillery, as it was 3 a.m. so they fired, killing one horse, besides some slight wounds. Sept 25 At 2 p.m. took up our line of march for Viola station, where we arrived at 11 p.m. Sept. 26 At 2 p.m. took up our line of march for Paducah, marched six miles and bivouaced for the night. Sept 27 Marched to Paducah. At 4 p.m. we wer paid off. Odd change in specie the remainder in Greenbacks, the first we had seen

Sept 29 At 10 A.M. the Reg't was assembled and after hearing a good sermon by our Chaplain, we ate our dinner and after dinner we had review then Dress Parade.

Monday Sept. 30. Early this morning I was informed that I was appointed to Station a picket guard about 4 m's from camp. At 11 A.M. I had the G'd stationed. Red and wrote remainder of day.

Tuesday Oct 1st

A runaway slave came to our lines last night - delivered him to commander of Post, Gen. Smith, at 9 A.M. There were 13 men seen coming at full speed on horseback. As they approached I halted them. I at first thought they were rebel Cav. but found them running to keep from being captured and pressed in the rebel army.

Friday Oct. 4

Drill 6 hours daily, 4 Co. 2 batallion. On guard duty today considerable excitement in camp every Co. in Reg't is at work fortifying - An attack is expected from rebels soon

1861

Sunday Oct 6. Whole Reg't worked all day, unloading boats of wood forage, commissary stores &c.

Monday Oct. 7

Early this morning whole Reg't. ordered to shoulder axes and go out in the forest and fall timber to prevent approach of rebels - cut over 200 acres of heavy timber.

Tuesday Oct. 8th

On Picket duty today nothing of importance has occurred, only I received intelligence that the rebels were searching all the houses and farms for arms 25 miles S.W. of here - carrying off all Union men and stealing their horses - committing outrages on women &c.

Oct. 9th

Whole Reg't cutting timber again to day.

Oct. 10th

At 1 A.M. the pickets fired the alarm, we were soon in line of battle. Our videttes were only attacked, 2 men were severely wounded on our side, rebs retreated

(1861)

Friday Oct. 11th

Went on guard duty this morning around camp.

Saturday Oct. 12th

This morning at 2 a.m. finds me arresting a noble looking man when sober but now he is a raving maniac. - he was a Corporal, but he has been reduced to ranks.

9 a.m. yonder are 2 negroes fighting, I order their arrest - they resist the corporal, the Maj. orders the corp'l to run his bayonet through them. they go quietly to the G'd H's

Another fight, among the boys, in Co. "F". I have them also arrested they go quietly in the G'd House - but they are fighting again they are ordered to be bucked. What does all that confusion mean in Co. "B"? Two more men are fighting - this must be the forewarning of some bad omen. Yonder comes the bier with 2 bodies - followed by 8 men with reverse arms, then Band & Co., no father, mother sister brother, what sad intelligence this will be to them. Three volleys announce that they are laid in their last resting place.

(1861)

Sunday Oct. 13th

This beautiful Sabbath morning, at 7 a.m. finds our whole Reg't in the forest making and building stockades and abatis. Labored all day and at night we assembled to hear our Chaplain preach. The exercise commenced by singing "On Jourdans stormy banks I stand &c. then the reading of the 93d Psalm, then singing "Children of the Heavenly King" - then prayer and taking the tent in the 29 C. 17 V. of Ezekiel. After hearing a good sermon we returned to quarters.

Monday Oct 14th

The Reg't has again resumed work on the fortifications. I am in charge of a squad guarding a water station on the Ohio & Mobile R.R.

Tuesday Oct. 15th

Reg't still at work. Will finish our portion today. Men have labored well.

Wednesday Oct. 16th

Co "F" has been on duty all day on the wharf boat, loading wagons with stores for the Post. Lifted 935 lbs to day jumped 42 feet at 3 hops on wharf boat.

(1861)

Thursday October 17th

This day the Regt has not drilled any on account of a drizzling rain all day. I passed away my time in writing letters.

Friday Oct. 18th

I have been in charge of the guard at Post H'd. Qur's.

Saturday Oct. 19th

Cloudy, misty all day - soldiers in quarters - no drilling

Sunday Oct. 20th

This day we took our friend Rector to the landing in solemn procession. His father accompanied us, and took his remains home to Ind. At 10 a.m. I heard our Chaplain preach. At 3 p.m. we formed a bible class, and at 5 had dress parade.

Monday Oct. 21"

Drilled about 5 hours. Gunboat Conestoga captured 3000 barrels of flour on the Cumberland River, and brought it to this 'Pt.

Tuesday 22d Oct.

This is a dull cloudy day, many soldiers are sick, and the sick list daily swelling. Co. "F" had 23 on sick list this morning and 19 were excused from duty.

(1861)

Wednesday 23d October

I am on guard duty around camp. 150 men from our Reg't went on picket this morning.

Monday Oct. 28th

Nothing special since last writing. Everything quiet. Had a chill today, then a fever for 4 hours.

Tuesday 29th Oct.

Feel somewhat better to day - am taking "Quinnia & Dover." - Daily drilling.

Thursday 31st oct.

Had inspection today. While out I was compelled to retire to my quarters, on account of chills & fever.

Friday 1st Nov.

I am again able for my rations today. - no drilling today; it commenced raining at 2 a.m. and rained all day. I am writing in my tent, with a camp kettle full of live coals for a fire.

Saturday Nov 2d

Everything looks sad and gloomy. It quit raining last night and today it is quite chilly. no drilling, "All quiet" in the grand Army of the Potomac.

(1861)

Sunday Nov. 3rd

In a bad situation to day. Took the chills and pleurisy last night. had but little rest all night. At 4 p.m. considerable better

Monday Nov. 4th

Everything "topsy turvy" Our wedge tents torn down and replaced by Freemont tents

Tuesday Nov 5

Building furnaces, and preparing for winter generally. It is reported that we are to strike tents in the morning, and move.

Wednesday Nov. 6th

This morning early we struck tents, loaded them on wagons, marched a short distance, formed in line of battle - then again went to our old camp, pitched tents and went about our business drilling &c.

Gen'l Wallace only wanted to see how quick we could get in line of march.

Tuesday Nov 12"

Nothing special since last writing. Drilling & common routine of Camp life Am on duty at Hd. Qur's of Gen'l C. F. Smith.

Wednesday 13" Nov. done nothing but drill today.



(1861)

Thursday Nov. 14th

At 1 P.M. our brigade recd. marching orders. - half hour later were in motion. - marched 3 miles and returned. Object was to practice marching. Friday Nov. 15th

Were visited by the 41st Ill. Reg't. the boys received each other cordially. The Officers got on quite a drunk. Privates bought

pies & cigars to give to their visitors. Saturday Nov. 16" Officer of the guard. Gen'l Smith inspected the 11th 23rd Ind. 8th Mo. one battery & 2 Co's of U.S. Cav. it presented an imposing scene, every thing in splendid trim.

Sunday Nov. 17th

At 10 a.m. our Regt. formed. Band and Gen'l Wallace at the head. - marched to the Presbyterian church. - entered in 2 ranks, and commenced filling in front. after we were seated there was a tune played by a large organ assisted by our band. The church is of extensive dimensions and well furnished. some nice paintings, magnificent painting behind the pulpit.

(1861)

Saturday Nov. 17th (Continued)

After hearing a good sermon, delivered by our chaplain, we returned to quarters, at 5 P.M. had Dress parade.

What a mighty change has been wrought in the annals of American history within the last year. One year ago today I was comfortably seated in my room in Milford Ind. looking over my school books, then studying at school. I had pictured a bright and glowing future, but now all my plans have been thwarted by this fratricidal war in our own country. About 10,000 men have already fallen by the sword, and double that no. by disease incident to inactive camp life, and it seems as though the war had scarcely commenced. The contending armies are daily swelling their number, and by next spring there will be at least 1,100,000 soldiers arrayed against each other, like savages, hunting like hounds after foxes to destroy one another. - how shocking it is. The tide of war is once more beginning to dawn in our favor. The rebel victory at Bull Run, cast a gloom over the North from which it did not recover for

(1861)

Sunday Nov. 17" (Continued)

more than 3 months, while it greatly nerved the rebels, but they have now been driven from Md. Western Va. the greater portion of Ky. and Mo. And we have now a fleet on the Atlantic that is weekly taking possession of some port. The capture of Port Royal Nov. 7th was the first dawn of victory on the Atlantic. The whole coast from the Chesapeake Bay to the Rio Grande is tolerable effectually blockaded.

Monday Nov. 18"

Last night friend G. W. Lowley and myself walked over town, saw but one citizen on the street, in this once flourishing town of 7000 inhabitants. Half the houses had no lights burning. Everything seemed as solemn as death. Passing a mansion like building, at 8 P.M. we heard a lady singing in her room in the 2d story, the windows were raised, her sweet voice was heard but a short distance. She seemed to say, "Oh! my once happy home how desolate now." The weather is now beginning to get cold, the wind as it comes hissing and whistling through the oak

Monday Nov. 18 (1861)

leaflets rippling on and dying away in the distant with a pleasant murmur tell me that "The melancholly days have come  
The saddest of the year Of wailing winds and naked woods And meadows brown and sear." The Union army is  
generally going into winter quarters, but it is almost invariably in the enemys country, thus preventing them from  
advancing. But as soon as winter's icy fetters are loosened by the gentle zephyrs of May, the clashing of arms, the  
cannon's roar and the sharp crack of the rifle will again be heard. I now bid adieu to summer and autumn, welcome  
winter with his cold icy grip, without letting loose, till the warm spring sun will loosen his iron grasp; then the song  
and melody of the nation will be sent forth in one shout of Joy; and the contending armies will meet each other face to  
face, and perhaps in one mighty struggle decide this great contest, if so one shout of hallalujah will be wafted by the  
wind, to the domicil of every loyal family, in this once happy and united country.

(1861)

Nov. 29th

The first snow fell last night. We keep warm in our tents, but we keep fire all night.

Dec. 10th

At 8 A.M. we received marching orders to go to Viola to attack Clay King, who was there with about 400 cavalry, taking lumber to build winter quarters at Camp Beauregard. Arrived at Viola 2 P.M. - bursted all the machinery in the mill, burnt all the lumber, and some dwelings, and started back at 8 P.M. We had proceeded about 1/2 mile when it commenced raining in torrents, and continued while we marched 7 miles, when it subsided. The wind commenced blowing from the N.W. and our clothes being wet partially froze on our person. Arrived, much exhausted in camp at Paducah at 1 A.M. after marching 36 miles.

Sunday Dec. 15th

Was at church this forenoon, in the afternoon friend Woodard and I took a walk over town. - visited Ft. Anderson, around the Marine Hospital - much pleased with the plan and strenght of the fort, then visited the 40th and 41st Ill. Regt's was forcibly struck with the novelty and

Dec 15" (1861)

ingenuity manifested in the construction of their winter quarters. Great excitement at present in America, in regard to Great Briton demanding Mason and Slidell from the U.S. War is expected with her.

Dec 25.

All day in camp, in my tent writing - nearly all soldiers at this Post are in town drinking and "Carousing" great confusion - drunk men every where. A lot of the boys of the 8th Mo. went round to different camps and gave masquerade Dress parades, in imitation of rebels.

December 30th

At 3 P.M. half the force here, in command of Gen'l Wallace, started toward Mayfield, went as far as the crossing of the O. & M. R.R. crossing, where we bivouaced for the night. Stole all the poultry in the neighborhood, wherever a rooster would crow some of the boys would go and hunt him.

December 31st

Returned to camp this p.m. the expedition was intended to entrap Clay King and gang, but failed.

(1862) January 1st

Today passed off quietly, More Officers drunk than enlisted men.

January 15th

For the last seven (7) days we have been in constant readiness to march with seven days rations. - sometimes even fall in line of march, but again return to quarters. But this morning at 9 AM. our "traps" were all loaded, and troops in line of march. At half past 9 we commenced moving toward Mayfield, Ky. Marched 15 miles then encamped in an open field for the night: the boys making their beds on the snow, which was about 4 inches deep. It has been raining, sleeting and snowing all day, and this evening it is freezing cold. I went to an old straw pile to get some straw, as fast as I pulled out the wet straw it would freeze stiff.

January 16"

The morning dawned beautiful, and at the first appearance of the sun, we were all in motion, and wending our way toward Mayfield. Marched about 14 miles to day, and encamped on a stream near Mayfield. Our force consists of 7 Regts Inftry 7 Co's of Cav. and one Battery

January 17 " (1862)

At the break of day our whole force was in motion, but our column countermarched and we did not get fairly underway until 11 A.M. When we passed through the great sesesh den Mayfield The citizens looked scornfully at us, but said nothing. The morning was cool and cloudy, but the ground soon began to thaw and the road became exceedingly muddy. At 3 P.M. it commenced raining and hailing and continued to rain til 11 P.M. the time we arrived in camp. The road being almost impassible. We lay down on our weary limbs to rest, in the mud and water. Oh! wat a night, many wagons swamped along the road.

Camp Tobacco. January 18."

This morning at 4 A.M. it commenced raining, and rained incessantly till 3 P.M. The 1st Brig. started in the morning crossed Clark river, the remainder of the force did not move till 3 P.M. and by this time the river was unfordable, which was only one mile from where we had encamped. Here we were compelled to camp for the night. After we were "staked down" I took a tramp toward the river to see the critical position.



(1862) January 18"

of our train some wagons had crossed  
while they were continuing to cross the water  
washed one wagon and team down stream -  
loosing the wagon, stores and one horse. All  
along the road there were wagons stuck in  
the mud and water and hundreds of sacks  
of corn lay by the roadside, in the mud, which  
almost hid them from view. The country in  
the vicinity of the river is low and flat, and  
most of our train was on this flat and  
slough when the river became unfordable,  
Nearly the whole train is now in water from  
3 feet to 3 inches deep - the scene is terrible to  
describe. We made our beds this evening by  
spreading corn blades and tobacco in the mud.

January 19"

The morning once more dawned beautiful  
and as the cheering rays of the golden sun  
came streaming down, all the men's hearts  
seemed gladdened, as cheer after cheer rent  
the air. At 2 p.m. with great difficulty  
we crossed the river and marched some  
3 miles beyond. Co. "F" was sent on  
picket. At 11 p.m. we heard several shots  
fired near our line - fired on the party -  
Twas only friend after a "shape."

January 20th (1862)

Early this morning we were on our journey - passed through Murray, the county seat of Caloway Co. marched about 4 m's beyond, when we stopped and bivouaced for the night. The road we passed over today was considerable better, but 5 miles of it was of our own make. We marched almost without regards to roads.

January 21st

We were on our journey this morning before day, and arrived at West Point Landing on Tenn. River at 1 P.M. Here was a boat with supplies, which we greatly needed, as we only had a cracker to the man the last 20 miles we marched.  
- Distance to Paducah 65 m's.

January 23rd

At 1 P.M. we turned our backs to the enemy and started the nearest course to Paducah; - marched 13 m's Through an almost barren country, and bivouaced,. January 24"

This morning we waited till the 1st Brig passed, by that time it was 11 A.M. marched 15 m's and bivouacked for the night.

(1862)

January 25th

Early this morning our whole force was in motion--traveled 15 1/2 miles and arrived safely in our old camping ground at 4PM. So ended our Caloway march after an absence of 11 d's of great fatigue.

February 4th

Under marching orders again. - 7 gun-boats in the river, and 7000 troops on transports, - Everything in a bustle.

Left Pa'd. Ky February 5"

At 12 P.M. last night the long roll was beaten, and one hour later found all our tents and "traps" in the wagons - marched to the river - stood in the cold 2 hours then went on board the steamer Alex Scott And at 1 P.M. found us plowing our way up the Tenn. River. Landed 3 miles below Ft. Henry at dark, and waited till morning, without getting off the boats.

February 6th

At dawn of day we were all in a bustle preparing 2 d's rations. We were soon on our way to attack Ft. Henry and Ft. Heiman. The gun boats opened out on Ft. Henry at 1 P.M. and after an engagement of one

Ft. Heiman Feb. 6" (1862)

the Fort surrendered without condition The rebel Inftry and Cav. made no stand, retreated - leaving everything in the shape of A. CS. arms, C.C. & G.E. to us. We have taken up our quarters this evening where the rebels were thing morning, living on their "grub."

Ft. Heiman Feb. 12"

This is a delightful day, it is much like spring, birds are singing sweetly 15,000 men left here and Ft. Henry to day to attack Ft. Donalson.

Near Ft. Donalson Feb. 14"

Snowed the fore part of last night then turned very cold. Got up and prepared 4 d's rations at 1 A.M. our Reg't & 8th Mo. Crossed Tenn. riv. at daylight, arrived here about sundown.--day freezing cold.

Donalson Battlefield, among living dead and dying Feb. 15"

Passed a miserable night - troops had no tents - slep(?) on the snow, while it snowed on us. All up at 4 A.M. trying to warm and make some coffee. At 2 P.M. our Reg't. & 8th Mo. formed

(1862) 400 yd's from Ft Donalson

Feb. 15"

in line of battle, in the center, we were soon ordered to our extreme right to retake some ground our troops had lost. On our way we met hundreds of soldiers who had been in the conflict - many were wounded - some were in ambulances, others being carried on stretchers - some hobbling along &c. all seemed to tell the same tale, that their Reg't was "Cut to pieces". This was indeed discouraging, but we marched swiftly on, the 8th Mo. Reg't in advance. We arrived in front of the rebels at 4 P.M. and immediately engaged them. They stood their ground well for a short time pouring volley after volley over our heads, when our Reg't & 8th Mo. fixed bayonets and took at them in warlike style. They could not stand this and retreated back inside their stronghold we followed them up till we came within 75 yd's of their rifle pits when they opened fire on us with 9 pieces of artillery, and we fell back about 50 yards, behind a rise, to get out of range of their artillery, here we lay on our arms for the night. Loss in our Regt 36 killed and wounded loss in 8th Mo. about 120 killed & wounded.

Ft. Donalson Feb. 16 (1862)

We suffered from cold in the extreme last night, lying on the frozen ground and snow, without being allowed a spark of fire - pen cannot describe what we have suffered the last 2 nights. At daylight this morning we fell in line of battle, and were marching to the extreme right, to storm the works of the rebels, when we received the intelligence that the whole garrison of Ft. Donalson had been surrendered without condition, we immediately marched inside the intrenchments. Our troops gave cheer after cheer, threw their hats in the air, while the rebels looked grim and sullen. Union and rebel soldiers met and talked over, in a friendly manner the last 3 days of fighting.

Ft. Heiman Feb. 17"

We passed a miserable night again last night, inside the rebel works. It rained and sleeted the greater portion of the night. At early dawn we were in line of march, and were soon retracing our steps back to this place. Arrived here at 8 P.M. after a toilsome tramp through mud and water. - men all hungry.

(1862) Ft. Heiman Feb. 22d

Almost half of our men are unfit for duty. It has been raining terrible to day, every thing is downhearted in camp--all are wishing for a speedy termination of the war.

Ft. Heiman Ky. March 1st

Everything is in a bustle - we are under marching orders, - many think the war will soon be over (?), health is not good, one third of our men are on the sick list; caused from exposure in coming here (wading water waist deep) going and coming from Donaldson.

Ft. Henry Tenn. Mar. 6th

Left Ft. Heiman today - marched 10 m's up the river, got on board steamer John J. Roe, then came here to lay in supplies, preparatory for a long jaunt up Tenn. Riv.

Ft. Henry March 7th

Went up where we got on yesterday and returned this evening. Mouth Big Sandy Mar. 8th

Left Ft. Henry at 2 P.M. arrived here at 4 P.M. landed - built fires - cooked 3 days rations and retired on the boat.

Sunday March 9th

At the dawn of morning we were all on shore again - frying meat and

March 8 (1862)

making coffee. At 8 A.M. we took all our baggage on shore in order to scrub the boat. Our Reg't marched on a high bluff that commanded a view of 10 miles in every direction of the surrounding country. Below us flows the beautiful river, beyond the river is the green cane, on the bluff pine timber, not large but presenting a beautiful scene. The sides of the bluff are covered with flint rocks that look almost as white as snow. The river is dotted with boats as far as the eye can see. over 100 boats are here on the river, loaded with troops & supplies.

March 10th

After many hours of anxiety, we left the mouth of Big Sandy river at 11 A.M. The boats commenced plowing their way up the river. At 12 M. we passed where a R.R. bridge across Tenn. Riv. had been burned, here we passed upwards of 30 boats. We had to land 1 mile above to burry some dead. While we stopped here about 50 boats ran up the river past us, it was a beautiful scene. The country along the river generally hilly.



(1862) March 11"

The boats continued to run last night till 1 A.M. when a sudden fog came up and the boats were compelled to run to. The morning was beautiful, and the sun soon caused the fog to disappear. The river was soon enlivened with boats. We passed many low craggy cliffs, adorned with pine and cedar, of a scrubby nature.

March 12"

We landed at Savannah yesterday evening at dark. Many citizens came to greet us. We all got off the boats today and had batallion drill. We are waiting orders to move forward with great impatience.

Crump's Ld'g

March 13th

Last night at 8 P.M. Gen'l Wallace's Div. came here. We got off the boats and took up our line of march westward, toward Adam's Ville. At 11 P.M. it commenced raining and continued to rain till noon to day. We stopped about 3 A.M. this morning as it was too dark to proceed farther. He we sat down on logs and fence corners and tried to sleep some, in the drenching rain.

March 14" (1862)

We were just in a sound sleep last night when we were ordered back to the boats; stopped on the road 4 hours - arrived on the boat at 3 A.M. This morning at 7 A.M. our Reg't was detailed on picket. It commenced raining at 10 A.M. and rained incessantly all day; we are as wet as water.

Crumps Landing Mar. 15

About 11 P.M. last night we were relieved from duty by the 24th Ind. Inftry and we returned on the boat. Nothing but mud covered the decks; as there were 2 Regts of us and the men had been constantly passing on and off the boat to cook. Everything is stowed full and covered with mud. Many of us went in the hull to sleep, we laid down on boxes, but who could sleep with wet clothes on and 500 horses and mules stomping over us. When I arose this morning it was still raining, and continued to rain till 11 AM. We are truly in a disagreeable condition, our garments are still wet and have no way to dry them

. Crumps Landing Mar. 16"

We are still on the John J. Roe. our troops

(1862)

are in a bad condition, not more than one half the men are fit for duty. There are two Reg'ts, all the teams and wagons belonging thereto, one full battery men and horses stowed away together. There are 2,200 men, 500 horses & Mules on board beside 70 wagons, one complete battery & 500,000 rations. Pen nor words can describe the filth and stench there is on the boat. One or 2 men die every knight.

Crumps Landing Mar. 17"

To day we left the "Hell afloat. We went half a mile back from the river and encamped. I have spread my bed on the ground and it is the most comfortable place I have had within the last 11 days.

Crumps Landing Mar 18"

To day the boys took a general wash and killed all the "gray backs" they found.

Crumps Landing Mar. 22d

No special occurrance since last writing We are again under marching orders. I drew 13 days rations to day. Drilling has commenced vigorously. Company and batallion drill daily.

March 25th (1862)

Weather delightful - health improving - soldiers are getting in better spirits. -

Crumps Landing Mar. 27"

To day our brigade passed in review - our Reg't & 8th Mo. deployed as skirmishers and went through the drill; it was an imposing scene.

Crumps Landing Mar 28

Extremely hot to day - too hot to drill - heat oppressive. Our armies advancing generally, success in its track.

Crump's Landing Tenn. Apr. 5

This morning at 1 A.M. the long roll beat and we were ordered in line of march with 3 days rations. We were soon on our journey to Adamsville. It commenced raining immediately after we started, and continued till daylight when we arrived at our destination. At 2 P.M. we started back to Crumps Ld'g The expedition was a feint on Purdy, took 7 Pris.

Pittsburg Landing Tenn. April 6"

At about 5 A.M. I commenced dreaming that it was thundering, at reveille (6 A.M) when I awakened I found that it was heavy canonading, in the direc-

(1862) Sunday April 6th

tion [direction] of Grant's army near Pittsburg Landing. At first we were led to believe that it was artillery practice as was usual daily - no battle had been in contemplation. But it being Sunday and so Early in the morning, we were confident that it was a battle. But we soon learned positively, from a boat that came down the river, that a battle was raging furiously. Our arms were in splendid order (having been prepared for inspection) we immediately prepared to leave, with 3 days rations, at a moments notice. At 12 M. we recd. orders to fall in line of march, and never before did men fall in ranks so quick, all seemed anxious for a fight. The day was calm, clear and not a cloud to be seen. We marched about 8 miles when we found that our men had been driven back to the river, and we were advancing in the direction of the entire rear of the rebel army; a desirable position, but Gen'l Wallace thought it best not to hazard an engagement on the rebel left and rear with his Div. of 9000 good fighting men, so

Pittsburg Ld'g Sunday Apr 6" (1862)

we retraced our steps and took the river road, we marched about 7 miles through mud and mire, in the recent overflowed bottoms, when we found that we were nearly cut off from Grant's army, we formed in the shape of a V and determined to cut our way through. Col McGinnis remarked to our Reg't "Boys remember you are from Indiana", this Expression had a world of meaning to us. It was now near sundown, and Gen. Nelsons Div. of Buel's army had crossed the river, and Engaged the rebels most furiously, and succeeded in driving back the rebels a short distance and we marched in and lay down for the night where the enemy had been one hour before. Thus victory seemed to be in our favor at the close of the day. We saw hundreds of men along the banks of the river that had been demoralised, some had swam to islands in the river, others were in black willow logs, thinking that they were safe there. It would be a safe statement to say that half the men that were here this morning are absent from their commands.

(1862) Shiloh April 7th

Rained and drizzled nearly all night, and the gun boats kept up a fire at intervals, throwing shells over our heads - wounded and dying groaning - prevented us from sleeping much. At early dawn our Div. took up the position of the extreme right of our army. At daylight the 9th Ind Batt. opened fire our Reg't and 8th Mo. supporting it the rebels soon gave back and we followed them up about half a mile when they opened out heavy on us with artillery, ours was soon brought in position and fired 200 shots to the gun, silencing 2 of the enemys batteries, when the rebel cavalry made a charge on one of our batteries, but our musketry literally cut them to pieces. 9 A.M. our Div. is doing some heavy skirmishing. The rebels are again forced to give back but the left & center are too far back for us to move up and so we have been laying here for 3 hours in a ravine, while shot & shells pass over us, terrible fighting on the left & center and sharp skirmishing on the right of our army.

Shiloh April 7th (1862)

At 10 A.M. our whole army made a general advance, and continued to advance slowly keeping up a heavy fire, till 12 M. when the rebels made a last desperate stand when the most desperate fighting took place that ever was done on the continent. The musketry actually drowned the artillery fire, the very earth seemed to tremble, men falling like the autumn leaves beneath the terrible hail of shot and shell. But not a muscle seemed to swerve, friend and foe stood as firm as an iron wall.

"The march! the charge! the shouts of either faith Hurra! and Allah! and - one moment more The death dry drowning in the battle's roar Then one vast fire, air, earth and stream embraced Which rocked as twere beneath the mighty noises; While the whole lines blazed like Mount Etna when One enormous shout of Allah! arose In the same moment, loud as even the roar of war's most mortal engines, to their foes Hurling defiance! wilderness and shore Resounded "Allah!" and the clouds, which close With thickening canopy the conflict o'er. Vibrate to the eternal name. Hark! through All sounds it pierceth Allah! Allah! Hu!"



(1862) April 7th Shiloh Tenn.

After two hours such desperate fighting the rebels gave back beyond where they had first attacked our troops. It is now 4 o'clock P.M. we are waiting from some cause - there is not a rebel in sight nor has there been a shot fired by friend or foe within the last half hour.

10 P.M. Wallaces Div followed the rebels up some 3 miles beyond where we quit fighting, and captured about 200 prisoners. But we were the only Div. that followed beyond the original encampment. We are again back where the battle ended, lying on our arms. I feel positive that the rebels are badly whipped, and that we should follow them up with all possible haste; and from what artillery I saw that the rebels left sticking in the mud, arms and debris thrown away, I feel certain that we could occupy Corinth tomorrow night, by advancing Buel's columns that have not been engaged, the last two days. But our Generals seem satisfied with what has been done. All the troops that are here now, that were not here yesterday are flushed with victory, and surely would defeat the demoralized rebel host at Corinth.

Shiloh Tenn Apr 8" (1862

Rained nearly all night - Early this morning the boys in front commenced firing of their guns, in order to clean them out, and have them in good order for another days fight. But no sooner did the firing commence than many of the troops in the rear became panic stricken, and commenced retreating to the river as they did the first day of the battle. But they learned better and returned. Shermans Div. and some cavalry were sent in pursuit of the rebels, after advancing about 4 miles they were attacked by about 8000 rebel cavalry and forced to return; so the matter rests, and we are now acting on the defensive on the identical lines occupied by our forces on the morning of the 6th just previous to the rebel attack.

Shiloh Tenn Apr 9"

Still in camp on the Battlefield our train arrived today. Dead rebels are strewn for miles along the roads where the rebels retreated toward Corinth. It rained all last night again. - our Div. had no tents.

Shiloh April 12"

At least 50,000 men are here without

(1862)

tents and are daily exposed to the rain - hundreds of dead rebels are still unburied.

April 29th

Yesterday we advanced our lines 4 miles toward Purdy. Nothing of importance has transpired since last writing only the rebels when they found that we were so slow in following them up returned and recovered much of their abandoned debris on their retreat to Corinth. We fall in line of battle every morning to prevent surprise. Our army is daily moving up. Heavy firing in our advance today. Men are astonished why our Generals do not make a general advance and take Corinth in one day.

April 30th

The firing yesterday only lasted about one hour. It was only some rebels that were falling timber to impede our march to Corinth. We returned to camp on battlefield No. 2 today. (Shiloh)

Sunday May 4th

Advanced 5 miles toward Monterey

Gravelridge May 4 (1862

Rained all day. At 10 P.M. I was detailed to take charge of the picket. - was very dark & muddy.

Gravel Ridge May 5.

At one A.M. it commenced raining and rained very hard for 5 long hours weather cleared off to day.

Sunday May 11"

Was once more blessed with a sermon to day, if blessing it can be called, delivered by Rev. T. A. Goodwin of Indianapolis. There was a small attendance. While there I cast my Eyes round, I saw some men playing cards, others pitching horse shoes; and in the distance I heard the ringing of anvils, and from the direction of Corinth came the sounds of the booming Cannon. Skirmishes and sharp shooting is the daily Employment of those in front. There are 164,000 men drawing rations here before corinth. About 50,000 men are unfit for duty. It is one continual convalescant camp from here to Pittsburg Landing, a distance of 10 miles, As Reg'ts would

1862) Gravel Ridge

move up they would leave the sick behind, in many instances to take care of themselves. It seems as though human life was entirely disregarded by those in command. It is estimated that 50 men die daily here, in the army before Corinth. The army is generally encamped in the low dense forests, poor water, and almost daily rains, then a hot scorching sun. To look at the many haggard faces daily (as there are no others scarcely) it is enough to shake the hearts of the strong. The affairs of the country look dark for the Union Here is an army, as fine material as There is in the world, wasting away through the recklessness and inefficiency of officers. Why in the name of god don't Gen. Hallack order a general advance on Corinth, and let us get where we can breathe pure air. Gen. McClellan's army is rotting in the swamps of the Chicahomany doing nothing, while all recruiting has been stopped, by order of the War Dept; and all men sent North sick

May 11th Gravel Ridge (1862)

and in the opinion of the surgeons in charge of hospitals, that the men will not be able for active service in 60 days are to be discharged, by order of Genl McClellan. The doctors discharge any one who has from 5 to 25 dollars to give them (to give) for an honorable Discharge. It is a shame on the character of Americans, the manners in which things are conducted. Contractors, Doctors, Generals, Quartermasters &c are filling their pockets from the substance of a bleeding country. The incapacity of our officers from Lincoln down promises no bright future. Our army decreasing at the rate of 1,200 daily and recruiting none will soon Enable the rebels to take the offensive.

May 25

On picket duty to day - weather pleasant - skirmishes are of daily occurrences.

June 1st

Still in camp on Pea or Gravel Ridge Great excitement in the different camps in consequence of the evacuation of Corinth by the rebels, and the rout of Gen'l Banks

(1862)

in the Shenandoah Valley. The Union cause looks gloomy once more. Beyond a doubt Beauregard has sent reinforcements to Va. Everything depends on strategy.

By The Roadside Tenn June 2d After being in the "wilderness" near 2 months. we (our Div.) received orders to take up our line of march, immediately, for Memphis. Left Camp at 3 P.M. As we emerged from the wilderness we saw large fields of ripe wheat, and negroes harvesting it. A thrill of joy seemed to run through the ranks as they all commenced cheering, it reminded us so vividly of home and our former employment. Marched till 9 P.M. It commenced raining at dark and rained at intervals all night. We passed the night by the road side without shelter. Bethel Tenn June 3d We passed through Purdy, at 3 P.M., there were some fine buildings, moderate Court House country poor in vicinity. Encamped at Bethel, a small town on the Ohio & Mobile R.R. The rebels had been encamped here some 3 weeks ago. Had a very heavy rain this afternoon, many teams stalled. Lafe Robinson, as usual, one of the unlucky

June 4th (1862)

Marched through Camden to day, it only consists of three houses. Encamped near a log meeting house, after marching 14 miles. It is cool and pleasant this evening.

Bolivar Tenn June 5th

Arrived here at 4 P.M. after a tiresome march on account of the scarcity of water. Had one man killed by bush-whackers to day. This is a beautiful town, situated on the Hatchie River. There are many mansion like dwellings and a fine Court House. Beautiful lawns and shade trees around houses. Many little boys & girls cried out "you are Yankees, you are Yankees" as we entered the town. This seems to be the strongest sesesh hold we have yet found; it is also a very aristocratic place.

Bolivar Tenn. June 6th An Earth quake was sensibly felt here to day. No damage in consequence to my knowledge.

Bolivar Tenn June 8th This morning I felt almost as though I was at home, when I heard, once again, after 4 months, church bells ringing. It brought the many happy hours I had spent at Greencastle to my memory.

Near Summerville June 10th

Left Bolivar at sunrise this morning, marched 26 miles, no water between here and bolivar. The soil is a sandy loam, and some depth below it is the pure sand.



(1862) Union Depot June 11th

Marched through Summerville this morning, it is a beautiful town, contains about 1000 inhabitants, three ladies displayed small Union flags, and about 350 yd's north of town, across a branch two young ladies, at a house, waved the stars and strips as we passed by, the boys cheered them lustily.

Union Depot Sunday June 15"

Weather extremely hot - There was preaching in the woods, as our band commenced playing, all the darkies within hearing came flocking in; at first they stood off at a distance, but ventured up nearer and nearer till they were 20 steps from the band, and there stood in awe.

Memphis Tenn, June 17th

At 2 A.M. we were aroused from our slumbers and ordered to be in readiness to march in one hour, but did not leave till 7 A.M. such is Gen'l Wallace. Arrived here at 12 M.

Memphis June 18th

Last night at 11 P.M. we were awakened from sleep, and immediately fell in line of march, and moved down through

Memphis June 18" (1862

the city, and halted before the Gayosa house [Gayoso House Hotel]. It commenced raining at 1 A.M. and we got a good drenching. We are now Encamped between the Gayosa house & river.

Sunday June 29th

This Evening, I took a walk to court square. I found it a beautiful and pleasant retreat. Gen'l Jackson's bust is situated in the center of the park.

Memphis Tenn. July 4th

Boys are all merry - plenty of beer to drink - All the batteries and gunboats fired national salutes.

Helena Ark July 24th

Got on board Steamer City of Alton yesterday afternoon, and left Memphis at 4 A.M. Helena once contained about 1500 inhabitants, but they have nearly all left. Country sandy around here, bottoms fertile. A spur of the Ozark Mt's reaches here, but does not Extend beyond the river.

August 3rd

Yesterday 3 of my old college mates

(1862) Clerandon Ark

and myself met, and had a long interview. It was a happy meeting.

Clerendon Ark Aug. 8th

Left Helena on the 4th inst and arrived here yesterday at 9 P.M. distance 60 miles. We sometimes marched 15 m's without finding a drop of water. The country & timber between here and Helena is Excellint. - similar to the land in central Ind. We only crossed one running stream and not a single spring. We were compelled to use water out of stagnant cypress swamps, by removing a green skum - Excellent corn along the road.

Helena Ark. Aug. 17th

Left Clerendon on the 14th inst. and arrived here at 7 A.M. This A.M. On our way back we had 3 men killed by bush whackers. Marched 15 miles Every day before 9 A.M. then lay over till the next morning at 3 A.M. Stole all the poultry between here and white river. Took all the peaches & green corn we wanted. - foraged without restraint men in better condition than when we started.

Helena Ark Aug. 25 (1862)

Health good.-drill one hour Every morning, -have Dress parad in the Eve. Latest report is that the rebels have taken Clarksville, and have attacked Ft. Donalson. If the rebels are not soon checked they will hold all the ground they did the 1st of Oct. last year. Our Gen's deserve great sensure for incompetency.

Aug. 27th

Last night at 10 A.M. Co's "H" & "F" were aroused from their slumbers and embarked on a boat and went down the river 20 miles, to help get a Gunboat off a sand bar; but when we arrived she had been pulled off. Arrived in camp at daylight.

Sept. 4th

Great excitement prevails Every where in camp, concerning affairs in Va. and Ky. Our army has been shamefully defeated & routed near Richmond Ky. under Genl. Manson. And our army in Va. is hard pressed by Johnston & LEE. The South Western army is in a state of inactivity, while we are pressed at

1862) (A Little Light)

all other points. The men here should be sent East, as they are the best troops in the service, and have never known defeat. Helena Ark Sunday Sept 7"

Great excitement throughout the Union Armies & whole North, our in Va. is driven into Washington, and 30,000 rebels are marching on Cincinnati and are only 19 miles from the city. The Union cause looks more gloomy than at any period heretofore

Hel. Ark. Sept 14"

Rebels are still advancing, 40,000 have crossed the Potomac into Maryland; and 30,000 are advancing on Louisville. Things look dark & gloomy. Lincoln seems incompetent for the Emergency of the times.

Hel. Ark. Sept 28th

Everything quiet - health poor - weather cool & pleasant. Battle of Antietam Md. and rebs. defeated 17th inst.

Emancipation Proclamation issued 22" inst. Writ of Habeas corpus suspended by Old. Abe. 24th inst.

Hel. Ark. Oct. 12 It has been raining all day - wind in N.W. first day we have felt cold since last winter No frost yet.-

Helena Ark Oct 25

Today is the first cold day we have had - not half the soldiers have Great Coats and not one tenth have more than one blanket. Vegetation is yet green, but I think we will have a heavy frost tonight. The wind is blowing very hard, and there is a perfect fog on the river. My hand is cold and numb. - Health improving. It is beginning to to spit snow, have had no frost yet.

Helena Ark Nov 14th

Weather delightful - health generally good. Union prospects begin to brighten. Our armies are again enabled to assume the offen.

On board steamer Rocket Nov 16

Left Helena this morning, in Co. with 2 gunboats and eleven transports, in command of Genl. Hovey to attack Ark. Post.

When we got about 25 miles below Helena our boat was fired on by guerrillas, one man had a finger shot off and another slightly grazed across the forehead. Anchored for the night about 40 miles below Helena.

November 17th

Did not move till 11 A.M. Went to the mouth of White River and anchored. Troops in good health and spirits.

(1862) November 18th

All but the gunboat Carondolet and two transports went up the Miss River this morn. and at 2 P.M. they all returned, and then the whole expedition moved up White River about 2 miles and anchored for the night.

Nov. 19th

At daylight this morning all the boats had steam up, but could not proceed any farther on account of low water and the river being so narrow we had to back out into the Miss. Riv. then moved up stream about 4 miles, got off the boats, foraged considerable killed about 20 beeves, then returned on boats.

November 20th

At 4 A.M. the Rocket alone ran down to Napoleon . Co's "C." "F." and "G" got off and marched rapidly around the rear of town and burnt a Ferry boat and 4 other small crafts, then returned up the river to Montgomery's Landing where the whole fleet anchored for the night.

Nov. 21st

Boats ran about half way up to Helena when night came we anchored for the night.

November 22nd

Arrived at Helena in our old camp at 9 P.M.

Friars Point Miss Nov 27 '62

Left camp at Helena this morning and Hoveys Div and Washburns Co. got on boats and crossed the river this afternoon.

We are bivouaced here for the night. Our strength is about 10,000 of all arms.

Nov. 28th Marched 20 miles toward Cold Water and bivouaced for the night.

Nov. 29th Marched 19 miles and bivouaced for the night at the mouth of Cold Water.

Nov. 30th Completed the bridge across the Tallahatchie and our whole force crossed over and marched about 15 miles, to Kerrykendalls plantation, where we went into camp, Killed many hogs and sheep, and replenished our em'ty haversacks and filled our canteens with honey.

December 1st Marched back 2 miles on the Yockney where we had a slight skirmish with some rebels who were trying to blockade our rear.

December 2d It commenced raining this morning at daybreak, and rained all day - wagons came up from cold water.

Dec. 3rd Still in camp on the Yockney 12 miles from Cold Water/ Foraged heavy



(1862)

today. Foraging party brought in 20 beeves, 400 chickens, 40 turkeys and 50 hogs to be divided among 5000 troops  
Dec. 4" It rained all day to day, half the beef & pork that we brought in yesterday is wasted, on account of the plenty of poultry we have. We are living well now.

Dec. 5th Rained all last night, had a terrible time to keep dry, left camp this morning at 10 A.M. crossed the Tallahatchie at 3 P.M. marched 5 miles up Cold Water and bivouaced for the night.

Dec 6th Early this morning we were on our journey toward the Miss. River. The morning was frosty, but the sun soon came out, and we had a delightful day. Marched 17 miles, and bivouaced near a church.

Dec 7th At 4 A.M. we were on our journey. The morning was clear and frosty. Reached Friars Point at 9 A.M. and crossed the river at 12 A.M. and reached our old camp, just below Helena at 3 P.M. Only lost 2 men killed on the whole trip. Captured about 40 rebels. Men are in better condition than when we left here. Men are always in better condition at the End of a march.

Helena Ark Dec 11th (1862)

This, my birth day, finds me on picket The weather is warm and delightful Men are all comfortably situated in their winter quarters, and seem contented.

Helena Ark. Dec 22nd It is currently reported that Burnside lost 40,000 men on the 13", 14" and 15th inst at Fredericksburg Va., and has fallen back with his few remaining, demoralized men on Washington. The rumor is generally credited The actual loss was about 20,000 men!

Helena Ark. DEc. 25th Was on picket duty to day. Lincolns cabinet "busted", Seward, Chase, and Smith tender their resignations, many weak hearted think our Government is going to "burst" in a short time. Gold and silver 1.30, to 1.32 in the North. Many soldiers are deserting. The desertions are principally in the ranks of Eastern troops in the army of the Potomac. Desertions very rare among Western troops. This is considered the darkest hour of the war. The Eastern Generals are incompetant, and the privates have lost all confidence in their leaders, and that fine material has become a demoralized mass.

1863 Helena Ark January 1st

Weather warm and beautiful, had a jolly time to day, good dinner, - pot pie with chicken - good biscuits, cheese oysters &C. Everything quiet in camp - soldiers in good health. Fighting is going on at Vicksburg. Lincoln issued his famous Emancipation proclamation to day.

January 10th Called from out post duty to day, to report to camp and prepare to leave.

January 11th At 4 A.M. we were awakened from sleep by the "roling" drum, and at 5 P.M. our whole Div. and several gunboats, in command of Brig. Gen'l. Gorman started down the river, on an Expedition to Duvals Bluff Ark. Arrived at the mouth of White River at 11.50 P.M. where all the boats anchored for the night.

On board Steamer Anglo Saxon Jan. 12th

At 12 M. the whole fleet commenced ascending White river. Tied up at Prararie Landing for the night. River in good stage.

January 13th At 10 A.M. the whole fleet was again plowing their way up the river tied up for the night 3 miles above Grass Lake met with much difficulty in making many short turns in the rapid river.

St. Charles Ark Jan. 14th (1863

Took quiet possession of this place to day. Rebels left here about six day ago. The inhabitants have nearly all left  
January 15th At 12 M. we left St. Charles and tied up for the night at Clerendon. Snowed and sleeted all last night and it is very Cold today. The snow is about 8 inches deep. -boats are crowded . - not room for half the men in cabin, those that are on the guards, deck and hurricane deck are nearly freezing.

January 16th It was quite cold last night - men suffered much. - Their clothes being wet. The whole fleet on their way up the river at 9 A.M. It is a clear, cold day. Arrived at Duvals at 4 PM. The Rebels had evacuated the place, and got everything away but 2 columbiads 64 pr. and some 30 enfield rifles. A Co. of Cav. went out 3 m's and captured 35 prisoners. Rebels had this place tolerable well fortified, but not as well as St. Charles it is 175 m's to the Mississippi River from here.

Duvals Bluff January 17th

Extremely cold last night, men nearly froze.

(1863) Duvals Bluff Ark Jan 17th

Ponds froze over to allow skating. Our Reg't on picket to day, commenced moderating to day. Many of us went out hunting to day, killed many rabbits & some squer'ls

January 19th

Rained nearly all night, had a miserable time. Did not sleep a wink - had no shelter - clothes all wet. At daylight went on board the boat - whole fleet (25 boats) ran down to St. Charles. cold drizly day.

January 20th

At 2 P.M. left St. Charles ran down the river till dark then tied up for the night. Day raw.

January 21st Ran down to the Mouth of White river, and up the Miss. as far as Old Town, where we were forced to stop on account of fog.

January 22nd

Arrived at Helena at 2 P.M. dropped down the river 2 miles - unloaded the boats - went into camp on the bank of the river. - everything astir - men cooking &C. Raining again this evening.

January 23rd Rained all day marched 3 m's S.W. of Helena and encamped. - we have not half enough shelter.

January 24th (1863

Rained all day. - Everything afloat in mud for miles round Helena. Men are busy building Winter quarters again.

January 25th

Rained all day. Half the men are becoming unfit for duty

January 26th

Rained a portion of the day. Men labor hard to get up quarters

January 27th

Quit raining to day and cleared off. Everybody busy finishing winter quarters.

Jan 28th

Ground frozen hard this morning, clear day, - health improving.

January 29th

Morning clear and cold day warm and pleasant. Soldiers generly, throughout the U.S. Union and Reb. are tired of soldiering. Many of our troops have not been paid of 9 months many troops are deserting - whole Reg'ts are mutineering, will do no more service till paid off. Thousands swear they will desert as soon as they get some money. Things look far more gloomy than one year ago. Governors of states almost say as much, that they will not furnish any more troops. The Democrat party is crying for peace on any terms.

(1863) February 5th

Was on picket last night. Rained the fore part of the night, then commenced snowing and sleeting till 10 A.M. to day snow 4 inches deep

Feb. 22nd Came off picket to day, rained all day yesterday and last night, had a terrible time - got the chills - under marching orders. - weather frosty - hate to again leave comfortable quarters.

Helena Ark. Feb. 23rd

Left our winter quarters this morning, and went into camp in our tents again.

Helena Ark. March 31st

This month has been cold wet and disagreeable. Troops are being paid off generally throughout the Union armies.

Gold has declined from 1.77 to 1.40. It now seems as though the countrie's darkest hour is past. Only about one month ago secesh money brought nearly as much on the dollar as "greenback," but now it is only worth  $33 \frac{1}{3}$  cents on the dollar in exchange for specie.

Helena Ark April 7th

Yesterday Adj't Gen'l Thomas met the forces here, in Ft. Curtis, and set

Helena Ark Apr 7th (1863) forth the manner in which the war would be carried on in the future. He informed us that all the negroes were to be armed. This was unwelcome news to veteran soldiers, as they did not desire that the negro should share the honor of our many hard fought battles in the eleventh hour, then make it a pretense for his future advancement in society. And further the aged veteran commanded us, in the name of the President, that we were to liberate all negroes, male and female, within our power. Gen's Prentiss, Washburn & Hovey made some appropriate remarks to the soldiers, in addition to Genl. Thomas. The meeting had a good affect generally And I believe it would be wise for Gen's and Col's to make speeches, at least once a month, to their commands. It cheers the men up, and has a tendency to strengthen their faith in the cause in which they are engaged. To day we met Gen'l Hovey on the parade ground above Helena. After drilling a short time he formed us in a hollow square



(1863) Helena Ark Apr 7

and made quite a spirited speech to us as the first anniversary after the bloody battle of Shiloh; and further predicted that his old Brig. (11th and 24 Ind. Regt's) would soon be engaged in another such bloody battle, and that he would not be afraid to "storm Hell" with his Div. The soldiers at this post are generally in good health, and they are not demoralized as they once really were. The cause for the Union looks brighter than it has at any period within 6 months. Decisive actions will soon be fought. The minds of the people have gradually been bent to the will of the President, as regards the negro question in different respects. Things are working with wonderful rapidity to shape out the future to admit the Negro to full fellowship with the white man.

Apr 12th

Left Helena Ark. to day at 11 A.M. on board the steamer Universe.

Milliken's Bend La. Apr 14.

Arrived here to day at 11 A.M. took all our traps off the boat, and went into Camp

Milliken's Bend La. Apr 15 (1863

Struck tents, and put all our C.C. and G.E. on board steamers & barges.

Richmond La. Apr. 16th

At sunrise this morning we started in a S.W. direction, and arrived here at 3 P.M. Men generally in good health.

Dawson's Plantation - Apr 17"

Marched 10 miles to day and bivouaced for the night. The most beautiful gardens that I have ever seen are here on the plantation. All the roses and flowers of every description are in full bloom.

Dunbar's Plant. Apr 18"

Arrived here to day, and before we were able to make shelter we were exposed to a terrible rain and hail storm.

Dunbar's Plant. Apr. 19th

Moved into the nigger quarters to day

Near New Carthage La. Apr 27.

Left Dunbars Plant. this morning at 5 1/2 A.M. It rained nearly all day, arrived here at 2 P.M. Crossed 3 pontoon bridges over bayous to day, one was 300 yd's long.

Perkin's Plant. Apr 28"

Marched 10 miles to day. Here we leave

1863)

all our baggage except the clothes on our backs. It is expected that we will have to fight at Grand Gulf tomorrow. The men all have 100 rounds of Cartridges

Two miles below Grand Gulf Apr 29th

We came down near Grand Gulf last night on boats. At daylight 6 Regt's (ours as one) were selected, and went on board steam boats & barges, for the purpose of storming the rebel position at Grand Gulf, as soon as our gunboats silenced their batteries. At 8 A.M. the gunboats, in plain view of our whole Corp's (13th) opened out on the rebel batteries. - After a bombardment of 5 hours our Gunboats withdrew. all the rebel guns were silenced but the 2 they got off the Indianola. Our whole A.C. then marched across the peninsula opposite the rebel batteries. At nightfall our Gunboats renewed the attack then the whole fleet and 4 transports ran the blockade. It was a most grand scene, the whole heavens seemed lighted as broadside after broadside was poured on the rebel batteries.

Our fleet ran by safely. Loss of life was heavy on the fleet to day.

10 P.M. on road to Port Gibson

April 30th (1863

Early this morning our A.C. commenced crossing at Bruinsburg Miss. by 12 M. we were all across the river. The gunboats done the principal ferrying. We then drew 4 days rations. At 4 P.M. Our A.C. with Gen. McClernard at the head, took up our line of march toward Port Gibson. as we circled across the broad open bottom, our whole Corps could be seen at one glance, with their bright arms. The troops composing our Corps were from Ohio Ind. Ill. Ky. Iowa and Wisconsin not a single Eastern Reg't. It is beyond a doubt, the finest, most stalwart, and bravest body of men that were ever assembled under arms, either on this continent or in Europe. We are entirely destitute of baggage. Field officers and Brigadier Gen's not commanding Div's are on foot. Not being encumbered with baggage, like the "Army of the Potomac" we may expect success.

Near Port Gibson Miss May 1st

Marched all night, with heavy skirmishing in front. at daylight

### 1863) Port Gibson

we halted to make some coffee and eat some breakfast, but we had not finished our repast when the rebel opened out on our advance with arty [artillery] we fell in line of battle and marched to the scene of action. At 8 a.m. Gen Car's Div. engaged the rebels fiercely. We were then ordered to the entire front. After marching one mile through a cane brake over steep hills we arrived at the scene of conflict. Our Regt was ordered to charge a rebel battery and we took 2 pieces of arty and 200 prisoners. Had only 5 men wounded in the charge. In the afternoon we found the rebels again, and our whole AC was engaged for several hours. Loss in our Reg't to day 3 men killed and 20 wounded. We have won a glorious victory. Rebels are retreating across Bayou Pierre and have burnt the bridge at Port Gibson. Gen. Osterhous' Div. is pursuing, but not close enough to save the bridge and head the main rebel army off. Men seen jolly, full of mirth and sport, but seem to pity fallen comrades.

Port Gibson Miss. May 2d (1863

Lay on the battlefield all last night. Fell in line of march at 7 A.M. and arrived here at 10 A.M. This is a beautiful county seat. - contains about 1,800 inhabitants, and supports two literary institutions; on male and the other female. Rebel loss yesterday 1,500 ours 700.

May 3rd Pontoon bridge across Bayou Pierre completed last night. - at 5 A.M. fell in line of march - traveled 3 miles then formed line of battle - found no rebels, then marched 7 miles farther and bivouaced for the night. Our forces are pushing the rebels closely - had two skirmishes to day. - arrived just in time to save the suspension bridge across the North Fork of Bayou Pierre. Our forces are encamped at the forks of the Grand Gulf and Port Gibson road.

May 4th Lay in camp all day, slight skirmishing in front.

May 5th Still in camp - entire army here out of "grub," and not a good foraging district, Rebs drove stock off.

Near Rocky springs May 6"

Left camp at 4 A.M. this morning - had no breakfast: nothing to eat till 11 A.M. when we saw the first tack for three days.

1863) Camp near Rocky Springs May 7

At 1 P.M. we took up our line of march in column toward Edward's Depot, expecting an attack every moment. but after driving in the rebel pickets we halted for the night.

May 8th In camp all day - Gen'l Grant reviewed the lines without display. - men have great confidence in him.

May 9" All day in camp - have once more plenty to eat: men look hollow eyed from hunger and privations they have endured the last two months - many indeed look pitiful

May 10" Drew 4 days rations - fell in line of march at 9 A.M. traveled 9 miles on the Jackson road and bivouaced. We are now 30 miles from Vicksburg and 30 from Jackson.

Monday May 11" in camp all day.

On Fourteen Mile Creek May 12"

At 4 A.M. we were on our way towards Edwards Depot. After marching 9 miles our A.C. (13th) turned off the Jackson road towards Edwards Depot

We sent out skirmishers - fell in line of battle drove in the rebel pickets - moved up one mile in line of battle and bivouaced for the night.

We are only 4 miles from the Jackson and Vicksburg R.R. and not that far from the enemy in force.

Camp on Baker's Creek May 13" (1863

At 6 A.M. our A.C. fell in line of march.  
crossed 14 mile Creek - moved one mile toward  
Edwards Depot - had a skirmish with rebel  
pickets - halted till 10 A.M., at 12 M. we  
started towards Jackson. Our A.C. is bringing  
up the entire rear of our army. Arrived here at  
7 P.M. and bivouaced for the night. Before we  
had shelter erected it rained terribly for 3 hours.  
Our advance, 17" A.C. had a fight today near  
Raymond. Our loss 300. Rebel 700.

May 14" At early dawn we had re  
veille and at 6 AM we were on our way  
toward Jackson. Arrived at Raymond at  
12 M. traveled 4 miles farther and bivouaced for the night. It commenced raining at  
7 A.M. and rained incessantly till 6 P.M. Road  
almost impassible - had to wade up to our  
croches at times - all branches are overflowing.  
half the men have no boots or shoes fit to wear  
many have none at all.

May 15th At 4 1/2 A.M. we fell in  
line of march - weather cool and cloudy -  
arrived Clinton at 8 A.M. then filed left  
and took the road leading to Vicksburg.

Marched 5 miles west - tried to "bag" some  
rebels, and bivouaced near the Raymond R.R.



1863) May 15th

Sherman took Jackson yesterday evening.  
with 17 pieces of artillery.

May 16th 9 A.M. in front of  
Rebel position, on Champion Hill, near  
Baker's Creek. At 6 A.M. we were on our  
way here. The rebels are showing a bold front  
our Div. is formed in line of battle before them  
we expect to attack them in a few minutes, we  
can see their lines and guns plainly.

5 P.M. We have had a terrible battle with the reb's  
our Div. opened the battle, we first drove them  
back with terrible slaughter, then they drove us,  
we received reinforcements and at one grand  
charge drove them off the field, capturing  
6,000 prisoners and 22 pieces of arty. Our Div. bore  
the blunt of the battle, as we lost about 1,600 men.  
one third of our No. Loss in our Reg't 170. The  
engagement commenced at 1 P.M. Our whole  
army except our Div. is pursuing the rebels towards Vicksburg. Distant canonading is heard  
in that direction. Firing ceased at dark.

Champion Hill May 17th Our Div. biv  
ouaced on the battlefield, amongst the dead, dying  
and wounded. The wounded kep up a most  
pitiful moaning all night. With the dawn of  
day commenced canonading at about Black

May 17" (1863

River R.R. bridge at 2 P.M. canonading ceased. The dead are being buried, and the wounded taken care of. Our Reg't had 36 men killed dead on the field, and we buried them all together in a row.

May 18th The killed have been buried and the wounded taken to the hospital This afternoon I went to the secesh corral our men conversing with the prisoners in a friendly manner. If a person had chanced to pass by, and not known "Fed" from "confed", would not have taken the parties to be anything but warm friends. I then went to the hospital. I saw doctors amputating limbs - heaps of arms, hands and legs were to be seen all round. It was indeed an odd sight. Canonading in the direction of Vicksburg.

Black River May 19th

Our Div. left Champion Hill at 12 M. arrived here at 5 P.M. There has been fighting all along the road for 10 miles, the distance we traveled today. Every house along the road was a hospital, filled with rebel wounded. The rebel works around Vicksburg invested today by our army

1863)

May 20th Vicksburg

There was heavy canonading all last night at Vicksburg. Our Div. left Black river Bridge at dark this evening, and marched 5 miles toward Vicksburg, and bivouaced for night. May 21st

At 6 A.M. we were on our way to vicksburg. heavy canonading all day - we have had nothing to eat from the commissary for 3 days. Men are almost worn out - they look poor - weak and downcast. Arrived in front of the rebel fortifications at 3 P.M. and our Div. assigned a position on the left center.

May 22nd

Canonading all last night. This morning a line of artillery six miles long opened on the rebels, for 10 hours more than 4 cannon shots were fired at the rebel works. At 2 P.M. our glorious A.C. made several charges on the rebel works we succeeded in planting our banners on the parapets of 3 forts, but were unable to hold them, without the majority of the rebel works were captured at one time. So when night came our gallant boys left the rebel ditches and took up their old positions. The loss in our A.C. was heavy to day, at least 2,000. men.

Vicksburg May 23rd (1863

Scarcely any firing of any kind last night. This morning both sides opened out quite spirited. - firing not so heavy as it was yesterday. The 1st U.S. Infty dismounted several rebel guns to day, and blew up one of their magazines. - hissing rebel bullets passing over us all day.

May 24"

Our mortars played on the rebels all night, also some of our parrot guns, manned by 1st U.S. Infty. We sleep as soundly as though we were at home. Fighting not as spirited to day as yesterday

May 25"

There was firing from the mortars all night. Our artillery did not open out as spirited as usual to day. Weather clear and cool - health excellent - not 3 men out of a Reg't unfit for duty on account of sickness. At 3 P.M. all firing ceased on both sides, thousands of rebels could be seen on the fortifications. The flag of truce was only to bury our dead and carry off the wounded, that had been lying in the burning sun since the charge of the 22d. During the lull the rebels came out and conversed with our boys in a friendly manner. Many

1863) Vicksburg

rebels wanted to come to our side, but the flag of truce prevented it.

May 26" Fighting as usual all day between sharp shooters and a fire from our artillery.

May 27" Fighting as usual all day, between the "parties."

May 28" Fighting dull all day

May 29" Was within 200 yards of the rebel fortifications all day and night, fighting as usual.

May 30th At 5 AM our artillery opened out a terrible fire on the rebels. at the rate of 2 shots per second.

May 31st Sharp shooting as usual all day; our artillery keep up an irregular fire. The rebels have not replied any only on the right of our lines. On the center and left our sharp shooters can keep the rebel artillery silenced, as well as to keep the rebel sharpshooters from keeping our arty silenced.

June 1st Less firing from artillery and sharpshooters all day than usual. Weather pleasant - health excellent.

June 2d The same old tune over heavy artillery firing on our side this evening.

Siege of Vicksburg June 3rd (1863)

The rebels made several demonstrations on our lines last night but were promptly driven back to their "holes". Heavy firing all day, until 3 P.M. There was a terrible artillery engagement. Rebel guns all silenced and many dismantled. At least 400 pieces of artillery were being worked at one time, including both sides.

June 4th The same old sounds of a wood chopping

June 5" Our Reg't was in the rifle pits all day, had 2 men killed and 3 wounded. Fighting generally as usual.

June 6" Weather cloudy fighting all day as usual.

June 7" No change in the business. People in the North are getting impatient, because they think we can't take Vicksburg, and are fearful that Jo. Johnson will raise the siege, but we think differently. If we are content to fight from day to day till we get the rebels starved out, they should be content to wait about 4 weeks longer, and we will send them about 30,000 tame "Johnnies". If the soldiers had no more confidence in our cause than

Siege of Vicksburg  
1863

) than the citizens of the North, our cause would go to the devil in a week.

June 8" Rebels made a slight demonstration on our right, to drive away our skirmishers and take our rifle pits.

June 9th Rebels made a slight demonstration on our left center and extreme left.

June 10" Terrible fighting on our extreme right. Rebels made an effort to drive Shermans A.C. back, but failed.

June 11th Rained and stormed terribly last night. - was on picket, - fighting as usual all day.

June 12" Fighting as usual all day. Weather cool and pleasant.

June 13" Same old tune.

June 14" The rebels opened out with 4 batteries at 2 P.M. and a heavy artillery duel ensued. After an engagement of one hour, the rebel guns were all silenced.

June 15" Fighting was quite spirited all day. Rebels fired a few shots from arty.

June 16" Same old tune only a little more bass.

Siege of Vicksburg June 17" (1863

Fighting lively all day. Rebels fired from artillery until silenced. They seem to become uneasy, as their "grub" is running short.

June 18" Sharp shooting was fierce on both sides all day. Great conflagration in Vicksburg last night. Hot shot was fired from our artillery.

June 19" Fighting all day the same old style. Sharp shooting sounds precisely like a wood chopping to us.

June 20" Our artillery opened out along our whole line at 4 A.M. and continued firing for six hours, about 40 shots were fired, on an average, per minute. The rebels did not respond any.

June 21st This holy Sabbath morning finds Grants Army and Porter's fleet, still investing Vicksburg. Little has been gained the last 3 weeks. Our defences are getting stronger every day, the reb's are also fixing up and digging new trenches.

June 22d The same monotony as yesterday. Fighting goes on lazily.

June 23rd Quite a lull in the business. Men are getting tired of shooting



1863)

Siege of Vicksburg June 24"

Fighting was terrific at 3 P.M. A rebel fort was blown up, followed by a charge but we were unable to hold our position after gaining it. Our and the rebel picket lines are only about 20 yards apart. - by mutual agreement the pickets do not fire on one another; what little talking they do is done in a friendly manner

June 25" Fighting carelessly and lazily all day. " [June] 26" [Ditto marks indicate "Fighting carelessly and lazily all day."] " [June] 27" [Ditto marks indicate "Fighting carelessly and lazily all day."] " [June] 28" [Ditto marks indicate "Fighting carelessly and lazily all day."] " [June] 29" [Ditto marks indicate "Fighting carelessly and lazily all day."] " [June] 30" Last night some of our officers got whisky and met some rebel officers half way between the lines and had a drunk together, but an order has been issued by grant, forbidding such conduct.

July 1st Heavy canonading last night for a short time, fighting light.

July 2d Mortars kep up a continual fire all last night, also some Inftry firing. Rebels seem worn out.

July 3d Not as much firing as usual last night. In many places the Fed. and Reb. pickets stood only

### Siege of Vicksburg July 3rd (1863)

ten (10) feet apart. Fighting commenced lazily this morning, even the crack of the rifle seemed dull. At 8 A.M. firing ceased along the whole line, and the two parties appeared on their respective fortifications, and talked some to each other. At 9 A.M. the mortars ceased their thunder and everything became as quiet as at a country residence. Some rebel general officers have come to Gen'l Grants Hd. Quarters with a flag of truce. At 12 M. firing commenced again, and continued two (2) hours, when another flag of truce appeared, and firing ceased, except the mortars which kept up a thundering until dark, when every thing became as quiet as death.

Saturday July 4th Was on picket last night. At dawn everything looked smoky, the morning was cloudy, in the east they were of a golden tincture; and the Sun rose, it appeared, with more beauty and splendor than ever before. Everything was as quiet as death all night. At daylight the rebels again appeared on their works in full view.

### 1863) Capture of Vicksburg

At about sunrise several batteries of ours fired national salutes. When the first shot was fired, at an instant, every "Fed." and "Confed." disappeared, but as quick discovered that it was a blank shot and the long lines of blue and butternut again appeared in full view of each other, but old Porter kep shelling from daylight till 9 a.m. At 10 a.m. the glad tidings came that Vicksburg had surrendered with its garrison of 33,000 men. There was great cheering along our whole lines, as the white rags were being planted on the rebel ramparts. When we planted the Old Flag on the rebel forts they actually cheered it in several instances. They had been on quarter rations for ten (10) days, and the last few days they had killed and eaten mules. At 11 A.M. the Rebels formed in line in front of their works and stacked their arms to the Stars and Stripes. Many of the rebel soldiers seemed to part with their arms with reluctance. They had defended their works in a manner worthy of a better cause. As soon as they

### Surrender of Vicksburg July 4" (1863

had their arms stacked they broke ranks and came over to our lines and mingled with our boys, who gave them a welcome reception, and treated them to some of the whisky that Grant had ordered to be issued to his army after the surrender. and many poor starved rebel shared the rations that were issued to the Federals. Union and Reb. sat down together and talked over their trials, and incidents of the siege. In short it looked like a meeting of old friends. This afternoon I took a walk to Vicksburg and all over the town. Houses were nearly all deserted and the hills in the town were boroughed out and made the habitation of all classes. The rebel soldiers looked really distressed and pitiful. They had dirty, ragged clothes on - looked ghastly and hollow eyed. Nothing in the stores in town, they are all broken open. Nothing inside the rebel lines except starved soldiers citizens and mules, guns and ammunition. Many houses are riddled, some only a few holes through them, even the streets are considerably torn up from shells dropping in the ground and then exploding.

1863)

making holes big enough to bury an elephant. hermans A.C. (15th) started after Johnston one hour after the surrender and our A.C. (13th) starts in the morning at 5 A.M. If our Yankee brethern would do as well in the East as we have done in the West, the rebellion would soon be put down.

Jackson Miss. July 18th

Left Vicksburg on the morning of the 5th inst. Our advance arrived here on the 10th when skirmishing commenced and there was more or less fighting till on the morning the 17th when it was discovered that the Reb's had evacuated this place. Before leaving they set fire to several buildings containing Ordnance stores, and the fire communicated to other buildings and by 10 A.M. 4 squares were burning at one time. It was a terrific conflagration. What citizens were there piled their goods in the streets and in many instances were consumed there. The soldiers done some heavy plundering.

Vicksburg Miss July 23rd

Left Jackson on the 21st arrived here to day at 11 A.M.

On board Steamer Sultanna

Chicksaw landing July 28th /1863

Three enlisted men and one officer to the Co. Received furloughs, and I happened to be one of that No. Came here from Vicksburg this evening to take on board the 61st Ill. Inftry for Helena Ark. July 29th Left Chicksaw Ld'g at 5 P.M. for Helena.

July 31st Arrived at Helena Ark at 8 A.M. the troops got off, and at 3 P.M. Started for Memphis Tenn. and arrived there at 11 P.M.

August 1st At 1 A.M. we were plowing our way for Cairo Ill.

August 2d Cairo Ill. arrived here at 7 P.M. procured proper passes and started for Indianapolis at 3:30 P.M. Soldiers drunk on every street in Cairo, not half of the furloughed soldiers can get on the train that leaves here at 3 tonight.

Milford Ind Aug 4" arrived here at 4 P.M. had a pleasant R.R. Ride.

Indianapolis Ind. August 20" Left home this morning at 8 P.M. While on Furlough I enjoyed myself well, except the last few days I wanted

Indianapolis Ind.

1863) to be back with my Reg't Was treated with consideration by every body was the idol at every assembly I was at. Left friends and relatives with not a very light heart. - left without any fears of not getting back safe & sound.

Cairo Ill. August 21st

Left Indianapolis at 8 P.M. last night and arrived here at 4 P.M.

Saturday Aug 22d

Went on board steamer City Bell last night left Cairo at 9 A.M. this morning. When we arrived at Columbus Ky. we were detained untill 9 P.M.

Memphis Tenn Aug 24" Arrived here last night at 11 P.M. This morning took passage on the Continental. at 5 P.M. we were on our way down the river.

Helena, Ark Aug 25

Arrived here at 12 M Stopped here 3 hours, then again proceeded down the river

Vicksburg Miss Aug 26th

Passed Napoleon Ark at 11 P.M. last night Lake Providence 3 P.M. today, and arrived here at 11 P.M.

August 27"

Left Vicksburg at 3 P.M. Weather very hot.

Carrolton La. Aug. 29th (1863

Arrived at Natchez 2 A.M. yesterday and left at 3 A.M. Passed Ft. Adams at 9 A.M. high bluffs there, and a small village, containing 100 inhabitants Passed Red River at 10 A.M. Port Hudson at 1 P.M. Baton Rouge at 4 P.M. And arrived here with my Reg't & A.C. at 7 A.M. this morning.

Algiers La. Sept. 12" Our Div. left Carrolton this afternoon, and arrived here at sun down, and bivouaced.

Brazier City Sept. 13"

Left Algiers at 6 A.M. and arrived here at 11 A.M distance 81 miles. Not half the land on our route, that is cleared is under cultivation. It is a beautiful country between here and New Orleans, with the exception of an alligator swamp 15 miles long - very large plantations - R.R. bridges have all been burnt down at one time by the rebels.

Brazier City La. Sept. 18th

Quite cool. Ther. 80 deg Fah. Troops commenced crossing Berwick Bay yesterday, by tomorrow the whole 19" AC. will be across. Men pass away their time caching crabs in the Bay.



1863) Brazier City La. Sept. 19"

Many officers of the 1st Div. 13th A.C. got on a "tare" yesterday and went round from H'd. qurs to H'd. Qur's of Reg'ts and drank all the whisky that they could find, and finally threatened to charge on a sutler stand, but did not. When night came there was a mob of about 500 men, of the most desperate character, raised out of the 13th A.C. and they robbed all the sutler stands in this place then dispersed at 11 P.M. The sutler stands all belonged to the 19" A.C. and citizens.

Berwick Sept. 29" Crossed over the Bay this morning at 7 A.M.

Near Patterson Ville La. Oct. 3d

Left Berwick at 8 A.M. marched 14 m's.

Franklin La. Oct. 4"

Arrived here at 12 M. Distance traveled 12 miles. This is the county seat of St. Marys Parish.

New Iberia La Oct. 6"

Left Franklin yesterday, arrived here at 11 A.M. distance 25 miles to Franklin. The country is delightful. Orange trees and groves all along the road. Road is covered with orange rines. -men all have some in their haversacks

Vermillionville La. Oct. 10" (1863

Left New Iberia at 7 A.M. and

arrived here at 8 P.M. Distance 28 m's.

Prairie all the way between here and New

Iberia. Had scarcely any water

and no food. Have 2 days rations

due us. Plenty good oranges along the road.

Camp Fairview Grand Choteau Bayou

October 16th 1863. Arrived here last

night at 11 A.M. Left Vermillionville at

3 P.M. yesterday. Heavy skirmishing

immediately in our front today.

beautiful prairie here - large herds

of Cattle and ponies. Dist to Vermillion 20 m's.

Barr's Landing Oct 21st

Left camp Fairview this morning at

daylight - had some heavy skirmishing

2 miles south of Opalouza. Passed

through opalouza at 10 A.M. and ar

rived here at 6 P.M. Distance marched

to day 13 miles. Distance to Berwick 115 m's.

Opalouza La. Oct. 28"

Left Barr's Landing at 8 A.M. and

arrived here, and bivouaced for

the night, at 1 P.M. - rained hard

all day. Roads very muddy -

country low and marshy.

1863) Carrion Crow Bayou La.

Nov. 1st

Our Div left Opelousa this morning at 9 A.M. and arrived here at 12 M. and went into Camp.

Nov. 3rd At 3 P.M. received marching orders, and to prepare 1 days rations in readiness for a fight. In five (5) minutes we were in line. Marched two (2) miles toward Grand Choteau Bayou, where Gen. Burbage was encamped. when we received the intelligence that the Rebels had been defeated.

Nov. 4th 1 P.M. Under marching orders - Rebels have attacked Gen. Burbage. - 7 P.M. Burbage's Brig. was attacked by overwhelming numbers at 11 A.M. the 1st Brig. 3rd Div. under Genl R. A. Cameron, arrived at the scene of battle just in time to save the day. Our loss 20 killed 80 wounded Rebel loss 50 killed 200 wounded. Our loss in prisoners 500. Rebels 100.

Vermillionville Nov. 5" Left Carrion Crow bayou this morning at daylight, and arrived here at 4 P.M. Rained all day. Rebels followed us closely all day, but had no fight.

Lake Tasse La. Nov 16" (1863

Left Vermillionville early this morning and arrived here at 3 P.M. and bivouaced for the night.

New Iberia Nov 17"

Left Lake Tasse this morning at 7 A.M. and arrived here two hours later, and went into regular camp.

Nov 20" at 4 A.M. our brigade, and a Brig. of Cav. and Mounted Inftry, in command of Brig. Gen'l Lee were on our way to Lake Tasse, to surprise and capture the 7th Texas "Tigers". The fight commenced a little before day, and lasted only 20 minutes We captured killed and wounded 130 of them, our loss was one man slightly wounded. We then returned to camp for breakfast. where we arrived at 10 A.M. After breakfast we paraded through New Iberia, in front of Gen'l Franklins H'd. Qur's, who congratulated us highly, for our breakfast job.

Nov 26" General thanks giving to day, in our Div. There was a stand erected, and our Div.

1863) New Iberia Nov. 26"

formed in close column en masse, in front and flanks of the stand, the bands discoursed some sweet music, and nearly all the Coln's and Gen'l officers spoke. Some spirited speeches were made. Many expressed the belief that we would be home with our sweet hearts in one year; and that the war would be over. The meeting seemed to have a good effect on the soldiers.

Nov. 29" Turned quite cold last night - ice froze 1/4 inch thick. - Was on picket duty -

Berwick Dec. 21st Left New Iberia the 19th and arrived here on the 21st Mornings frosty.

Algiers La. Dec. 24"

Crossed Berwick Bay on the 22d and arrived here on the same day.

Algiers La. Jan 3rd 1864.

New Years and Christmas wer passed in drunkenness and blasphemy, by soldiers. Much outrageous association with abandoned women. Rained terrible between New Years and Christmas. On New Years it turned cold and ice froze 2 inches thick. Weather is now moderating and looks like rain.

Monday Jan. 4" Algiers La (1864

10 A.M. Commenced raining last night - and is still raining - had no breakfast. Am sitting in the tent eating hard tack.

10 P.M. slacked raining at 12 got some coffee made - had "sow belly", hard tack and coffee for dinner.

Tuesday 5

Cold and rainy all day - men in their tents all day - weather bad to get anything to eat. We get up between 8 & 9 A.M. and lie down again at dark

Wednesday 6

Got up this morning at 9 A.M. found everything frozen with sleet - Eat crackers & Coffee for breakfast - had a good mess of beans at 12 for dinner - went to bed at 1 P.M. and done without supper - Rained and sleeted all afternoon.

Muddy Camp Algiers Thursday 7

Got up after laying in bed 19 hours - cloudy and cool this morning - at 12 sit down to a good dinner of beans, coffee meat &c.

Friday 8

Ground frozen quite hard this morning ice 2 inches thick - men suffering much from cold - have no way to warm.

1864) Algiers La. Sat. Jan 9"

Thawed out entirely to day, sun shone brightly all the day long.

Sunday 10th

It commenced raining again to day, and continued steadily all day. A horrible camp, the worst of any since in the service.

Monday 11

Still raining - don't look as though the weather was going to settle soon. Much murmuring amongst the men.

Tuesday 12

Rained like hell all day, camp all afloat - The whole surface of the earth is covered with water-

Wednesday 13

Moved quarters into the Belville iron Works, where 3 regiments are now quartered. The building is 2 story high and covers one entire Block.

Thursday 14

A general cleaning up everything is more quiet than yesterday, Quite comfortable here to what is was in camp.

Friday 15

Quarters were inspected today, everything as clean as a pin. Weather pleasant.

Algiers La. Saturday Jan 16" 1864

Quite a pleasant day - Had frost this morning. The army of the Potomac is said to be on the move again. Troops generally in winter quarters.

Sunday 17

Everything quiet - men in good health and spirits - many went to church to day - warm and very pleasant.

Monday 18

Tore up everything preparatory for moving men swearing because we leave good beds and comfortable quarters so soon.

Tuesday 19

Crossed over to New Orleans - got on board the cars and went to Lake Port Reg't got on board the Gen. Banks and went to Madisonville La. Co's "F" & "I" Left behind to cross tomorrow.

Wednesday 20

Co's "F" & "I" crossed over to Madisonville.

Madisonville La. Thursday 21

We are encamped in a beautiful pine grove, in plain view of the beautiful village of Madisonville. The nicest camp we have had since in the service. Weather is warm and delightful.



Madisonville La. Jan. 22nd 1864

A general "cleaning up" - 100 men from the Regt. daily detailed to work on the fortifications at this place.

Saturday 23

The weather is delightful - It looks like a May morning in Ohio or Ind. in fact it looks like spring in our beautiful camp of pine and live oak.

Sunday 24"

Had inspection as usual on sundays - Everything clean and in good order - Men in good health and spirits.

Monday 25th

Spring is just immersing from the dark recesses of winter, and the buds and flowers are putting forth their delightful fragrance.

Tuesday 26"

Twenty two men detailed out of a Co. for picket and to work on fortifications.

Wednesday 27"

The weather is warm and delightful. Men when not on duty are enjoying their lives for once since the service. It is understood that we are only to remain here untill after the La. election for Governor.

Madisonville La. Jan. 28" 1864

Drilled one hour and a half in the manual - had inspection to day.

Friday 29"

Drilled one hour - weather very warm -

Saturday 30th

Had monthly inspection - Col. Macauley and Capt Gaven made a speech for the encouragement of reenlistment, as vet's

Sunday 31st

Everything quiet in camp - weather warm and delightful - men in good health and spirits.

Monday Feb 1st

The veteran business again called up for consideration, Col. Dan mad a "flowing" speech in favor of it.

Tuesday 2d

Considerable excitement over the veterans. When a man reenlists he receives three cheers and a tiger.

Wednesday 3

Men are reenlisting slowly, about one half the men will reenlist.

Thursday 4

Some of the companies are beginning to make "breaks" and reenlist by dozens.

Madisonville La. Feb 5 1864.

Genl's McGinnis and Cameron made speeches in favor of the veteran cause.

Saturday 6th

Some Eastern men dug up the body of a lady, in the grave yard of this place, and took a gold watch and some rings out of the coffin.

Sunday 7th

Weather warm and delightful health excellent men in good spirits generally

Monday 8th

It has seemed like summer all day. Flowers have appeared - trees budding.

Tuesday 9th Discouraging rumors from East Tenn. our army has been driven within the fortifications of Knoxville, and besieged.

Wednesday 10th

Our armies are inactive everywhere except the force in the vicinity of Knoxville.

Thursday 11th

I Reenlisted, and put down my name as a veteran volunteer. Excitement has entirely cooled down on the veteran business - 14 months we think the war will yet last

Madisonville La. Feb. 12th 1864.

Our Regt was again mustered into the U.S. service. We would not have reenlisted, but the fair fame of our Reg't, and the preservation of our Govt. we have sworn to sustain to the last.

Saturday 13th

Non veterans seem anxious to know where they are to be transfered.

Sunday 14th

The veterans of our Regt. had a dress- parade this evening, all done well.

Monday 15th

Have been filling out papers to assign our "non veterans" to the 83 Ohio Vols. "Non vets" turned over their arms, it seemed hard to them to part with the arms they had so long carried.

Tuesday 16"

Transfered 36 men from Co. "F" to 83rd Ohio Inftry - Weather pleasant. There is a great revival in the 46th Ind. Inftry.

Wednesday 17th

Turned quite cool last night and it looks like regular March Weather in Ind. Some of the men sat up by the fire all last night.

Madisonville La. Feb. 18th 1864.

It has been trying to snow all day - the first snow I have seen this winter was to day, but it melted as fast as it fell.

Friday 19th

Was very cold last night - ice froze one inch thick - men suffered much -

Saturday 20.

Weather is moderating - it looks like rain, We will start for home soon.

Sunday 21st

Weather quite warm and pleasant again - wind is in the south.

Monday 22d

Weather warm and delightful - had a short drill to day.

Tuesday 23rd

Had Company and Batallion drill - preparatory to make a big show in NY. City, Buffalo and Indianapolis.

Wednesday 24th

Early this morning we left Madisonville, and arrived at Gentilly station, in the suburbs of N. Orleans and went into camp. The leaves are beginning to put forth and everything has the appearance of spring.

New Orleans La Feb. 25 '64

Had Co. and batallion drill - drilled 4 1/2 hours in all - weather very warm.

Friday 26"

Bright and beutiful day - roads dry and dusty - men in high glee -

Saturday 27"

Had our regular drills - and this evening our whole Reg't recd. complimentary tickets to the St. Charles Theatre. The entertainment was good. Miss Emma Maddern was the principal actress, Fauchon the Cricket, played.

Sunday 28"

Maj Gen. John A. McClernand, Gen. McGinnis & Gen R. A. Cameron attended our dress parade. After dress parade we formed a hollown square. and Gen McClernand made us a spirited congratulatory speech - men cheered him.

Monday 29th

Rained last night and to day quite cool again - wind in the north.

Tuesday Mar 1st

Stormy and Rainy all day, quite disagreeable weather for camp life, health excellent.-

New Orleans La. Mar 2 '64

It has again cleared off, appearances for fine weather are good

Thursday 3

Attended the theatre again this evening Miss Emma Maddern was the "star".

Friday 4"

Our Reg't was paid off to day - nearly all the men went to the city and got drunk - It is a great day here. to day, Gov. Hahn is to be inaugaredted houses illuminated, In the evening we got on board the steam ship Charles Thomas, bound for New York City.

Saturday 5

Three fourth of the Reg't drunk, have had a terrible time in getting them up - Left New Orleans at 1 P.M. and arrived at the bar at 11 PM. and anchored for the night.

Sunday 6th

At sun rise we weighed anchor - run foul an old wreck, at 11 a.m. a tug assisted us, and at 12 we passed out on the "briny deep. day calm, clear, and pleasant. Every thing went off smoothly all day.

Board Steamer Charles Thomas

Monday Mar 7th 1864.

Ran all last night - at 12 P.M. there there was a high sea, but it soon subsided - sun rose red in a cluster of clouds - Wind soon rose high and there was a heavy sea all day, was sick.

Tuesday 8th

Heavy sea all night - was very sick, would have welcomed a watery grave - rained and stormed till 4 A.M. the waves would splash clear over the vessel. Passed Tortugas at 4 P.M.

Wednesday 9th

Arrived at Keywest at 11 P.M. last night, small pox being on board we were not permitted to land. We lay anchored out, all day, opposite Ft. Taylor waiting for coal - Day beautiful.

March 10th

Lay off anchored all day waiting for our turn to coal. The town contains about 4,000 inhabitants. All sorts of tropical fruits grow on the Island.

Key West Friday 11th

Landed at 9 A.M. and the whole Reg't went on shore - men purchased many shells at 2 P.M. had drill - at 4 P.M. Dress parade.



Key West Florida

Board Steamer Charles Thomas

Mar 11th 1864

. --. Everything looks delightful here. vegetation grows the year round. Stores are well supplied. Rain and  
Filtered all the kind used

Saturday 12th

Left Key West at 9 A.M. and crowded all sail for N.Y. at the rate of 12 knots per hour. Weather calm and pleasant.

Sunday Mar 13"

Our Chaplain Hibben preached to us to day, ran against the wind - could hoist no sail - stormed and rained this  
morning. It is now clear and windy (8 P.M.)

Monday 14"

A heavy sea and head wind all day passed opposite Charleston S.C. at 3 P.M. The whole Ocean seemed a perfect sheet  
of foam - It is getting quite cool - day clear - the sun set red this evening.

Tuesday 15

The day has been cloudy, windy, and cold A heavy sea and head wind all day passed off Cape Hateras at 4 P.M.

Thursday 16th

Weather cold and cloudy - had a quarter wind from the N.W. hoisted sail heavy sea. men all well and hearty none sea  
sick.

Newyork City Thursday Mar. 17. 64

Were in sight of Long Island at 7 a.m. landed in harbor at 10 A.M. at 2 P.M. marched up to Park square and there went into barracks - were received with considerable applause as we marched along.

Friday 18th

Drilled one hour in the barracks - at 2 p.m. marched around 2 squares and retired to the barracks, at 4 P.M. had Dress Parade before the city hall - we were greatly applauded by the large concourse of people who came to witness our parade. At dark went on board the cars. At 8 P.M. at sing sing a portion of the train ran off the track, no one seriously hurt, except Kentuck's dog was killed.

Saturday 19th

Arrived at Albany at daylight this morning. Had a snow 2 inches deep to fall last night - Changed cars at Troy. Stopped for dinner at Utica - Stopped 20 minutes at Syracuse, received nothing to eat free of charge - snowing again this evening.

Sunday 20th

Arrived at Buffalo at 12 O'clock last night, were met at the depot by 2 Companies of National guards, and 5,000 citizens, they had been waiting in the

Buffalo N.Y. Mar 20th 1864.

cold 5 hours for us - We formed in line and wheeled into column, and marched to the arsenal. On our line of march the houses were illuminated, and flags and banners were suspended across the streets, with mottoes of welcome, &c. &c. one of the finest suppers, the land could produce was ready for us in the arsenal, Men ate and drank hearty, and at 1 A.M. we retired and slept until 8 A.M. at 9 we had a good warm breakfast. At 2 P.M. Dress parade. At 3 P.M. Dinner. after dinner filled our haversacks with the many good things furnished us by the citizens. then marched to the cars, accompanied by at least 5000 citizens - and at 4 P.M. bid adieu to kind friends, and the "iron horse" gave a whistle and we were off for Indianapolis. Our dress parade at 2 P.M. was witnessed by at least 15,000 citizens and was an entire success, we went through the manual, bayonet exercise and skirmish drill, - were applauded at every evolution. Every man was perfectly sober and well behaved during our sojourn in Buffalo.

Monday March 21st 1864

. Arrived at Cleaveland O. at 7 A.M. changed cars - arrived at Gallion at 3 P.M. at the state line a committee from Indianapolis met us, one of the No. was our former Lt. Col. W. H. Robinson.

Tuesday March 22nd

Arrived at Muncie at 6 A.M. got breakfast - arrived at Indianapolis at 10 A.M. The cannon commenced roaring at our sight - marched under banners and flags, in column, all the way through Washington Street.

Wednesday 23rd

Drilled and gave a Dress Parade at 2 P.M. The City turned out almost en masse to witness our movements. This evening the Guards, Greys, and Zouaves gave us a grand private supper and welcome. Many speeches were made and toasts drank.

Thursday 24th

At 9 A.M. our furloughs were issued and there was a general scatter for home, after an absence of 31 months from the state. At 7 P.M. I left Indapls, arrived at St. Paul at 8 1/2 P.M.

Milford Ind. Mar. 25, 1864

. Visited some of my old friends - arrived at Mr. Marshels at 1 P.M. took dinner and talked matters and things over in general.

Saturday 26th

Took dinner at Mr. Nathan Wiley's at 1 P.M. started to see my old friend L. W. Moore, arrived there at 3 P.M. recd. a warm reception, (returned to Mr. Marshel's on Sunday Mar. 27)

Monday 28th

Went to Greensburg, then to Indianapolis. Took the cars at 10:30 P.M., for Ft. Wayne.

Ft. Wayne Tuesday 29th

At 9 A.M. Left Peru, at 12 M. arrived here, soon found sister Carrie - was gladly received by her and relatives.

Wednesday 30th

At 5.40 P.M. took the cars for Peru - after so short a stay, was sorry to leave so soon. Arrived at Peru at 8.30 P.M. At 12.50 took the cars for Indianapolis.

Thursday 31st

Arrived at Indianapolis at 7 A.M. Took the cars for St. Paul. "Copperheads are raising in arms in Coles Co. Ill. they killed, wounded 12 soldiers on the 26th inst.

Milford Ind. April 1st 1864

Went from Adams to this place, rained all day, - talking to friends in town to day. Election fever very high.

Saturday 2d

Went to friend Marshels, looked over my old Books, papers &c. I found I had forgotten much in my absence.

Sunday 3rd

Went to church at Bethel, "Old man Pavy" was the pastor, returned to Marshels for dinner, then went to friend Rose to spend the evening, and remain all night.

Monday 4th

Went to Milford early in the morning - voted - then went to Adams station. At 11 A.M. took the cars for Cinti. O. Arrived here at the Broadway Hotel at 3.50 P.M. house dirty and poorly kep to what it was formerly, and I understand it is so everywhere in the City.

Tuesday 5th

Went on board the cars and arrived at Marietta O. at 10 P.M. took the steamer Julia for New Matamoras. Hotels all crowded and filthy in this place. Many soldiers on Vet. Fur.

Newmatamoras Ohio Apr 6th 1864.

Arrived here at 12. M. where my sisters were waiting to receive me in open arms, after an absence from them near 4 years, and near 3 in the U. S. service. Fine day - river in good stage but business is not as brisk as in former years.

Thursday 7th

Rained all day. - The people here seem to live in hopes that the war will end soon. - they bear the burden with patience and fortitude.

Thursday 8th

Day cloudy, farmers are greatly behind with their spring work, wheat looks poor.

Saturday 9th

Rained all day so that I am unable to visit my friends - I feel lost, lonesome and restless. Am thinking of my companions and the service constantly.

Sunday 10th

Drizly all day. what a miserable time I have to spend my 30 days furlough in. It seems as though the elements were working against me.

New Matamoras O. April 11 '64

Day cloudy, the time is drawing nigh when I have to return to the army. I would rather not go again had I my choice.

Tuesday 12

Rained all day. A citizens life I find is preferable to soldiering. It is true there is glory after victory, but we can not always expect it.

Wednesday 13th

Rained as usual. At N.Y. gold raised from 2.73 to 2.89 and again fell to 2.73 all in one day.

Thursday 14"

Clear a portion of the day, then again cloudy, and in the evening drizly.

Friday 15th

Cloudy and drizly. Was at a party this evening, all girls and no young men.

Saturday 16"

Rained nearly all day - interferes with my visiting, near and dear friends & relatives.

Sunday 17th

Clear the greater portion of the day was at church with sisters Amelia and Lottie at 11 A.M. and at 4 P.M. Feel sedate as I leave for the army tomorrow.



Marietta O. April 18" 1864.

At 4 P.M. took leave of my sisters - they took it very hard - got on board steamer "Eagle" and arrived here at 8 P.M. -  
Rainy this evening.

Ciniti. O. Tuesday 19th

Left Marietta at 7 A.M. and arrived here at 8 P.M. distance 196 miles.

Indiaps Ind. Wednesday 20th

Left Ciniti at 6 A.M. and arrived here at 11.30 A.M. Left Indiaps at 7 P.M. and arrived at Greensburg at 10 P.M.

Thursday 21st

Got a horse and arrived at Milford at 11.30 A.M. Went to friend Marshels then to Joseph Ronze - sayed all night.

Friday 22d

Arrived at Greensburg at 8.20 A.M., took the cars - arrived at Shelbyville at 10.30 A.M. Stopped at "Ray House".

Indiaps Saturday 23rd

Left Shelbyville at 10.30 A.M. arrived here at 11.30 A.M. Stopped at "Mason House".

Indiaps Sunday Apr. 24"

Rained nearly all day. - was in my room writing letters the greater portion of the day. Tomorrow we go to camp. I  
enter the service again with a heavy heart, know what it is.

Indianapls Monday Apr. 25" 1864

. Nearly all the men reported for duty that were on Furlough. Rebel army has the "best of it" so far this spring. Our prospects are as dark as ever.

Tuesday 26"

Rained all night, cleared off this forenoon, and we had quite a pleasant day after all - Regt not gone to camp yet men about all reported.

April 27"

Went in camp Carrington, when night came all the Officers and many of the enlisted men went to Indiapls.

Thursday 28"

More men came to camp to day - drew a few blankets and a full set of cooking utensils. Men commence cooking with considerable reluctance.

Friday 29"

Drew our arms to day, had drill in the forenoon and dress parade in the city in the evening, citizens turned out nearly enmasse to see our last parade.

Saturday 30"

With a light heart at 9 A.M. through the drenching rain we marched to

the Terre Haute Depot, and soon we were traveling westward. The ladies of Terre Haute gave us a good dinner.

Cairo Ill. Sunday May 1st

Arrived here at 9 A.M. We are again impressed with the idea that we are in the "tented field". The 17th A.C. is encamped here. Got on board the steamer Liberty No. 2 at 4 P.M. and started.

Memphis Monday 2nd.

Arrived here at 11 A.M. went to Ft. Pickering, bivouaced for the night. The Fort garrisoned principally with nigs.

Tuesday 3rd

Moved a short distance into tents, commenced cleaning quarters, and again feel ourselves to be actually in the service.

Wednesday 4"

Had Dress parade. Weather warm and beautiful, everything as green as in mid summer, health good.

Thursday 5th

At 5 P.M. our Regt. went on board the steamer Metropolitan, and were soon on our way down the river. arrived at Helena at 12 P.M. stopped 3 hours.

Miss. River May 6" 1864

Arrived at mouth of White river at 8 A.M. one and a half miles below there is a post of Negroes - quite a village of huts has sprung up within the last 9 months. and they have a gunboat to protect them. Arrived at vicksburg at 12 P.M. Saturday 7"

Left Vicksburg at 11 A.M. passed Grand Gulf at 7 P.M. Everything looked nearly as it did Apr. 30" '63. Sunday 8"

Arrived at Natchez at 11 last night - at Batonrouge at 10 A.M. at New Orleans 9 P.M. have traveled as a Reg't 5,500 miles since Mar. 5" '64.

Camp Buffalo. Monday 9"

Went into camp two miles below Carrolton in an open field. Drew tents &c.

Tuesday 10"

News reaches us that the great struggle has commenced in the East. Grants army is moving on Richmond, and driving Lee before him. Bloody work may be looked for. Wherever Grant fights men will get badly hurt.

Camp Buffalo. La. May 11" 1864.

Had quite a refreshing shower - the weather has been very hot, quite level again, - wind comes from the N.E.

Thursday 12"

Weather hot - diarrhea is making its appearance among the recruits - all the old soldiers seem in good health. Good news from the "army of the Potomac".

Friday 13"

Every boat that comes from above brings additional good news from Grant. Gen N. P. Banks has made a "fizzle" up Red River. his army is badly demoralized.

Saturday 14"

Gen. Banks is cursed by all soldiers. and good Union citizens. He deserves it. Had it not been for Gen. Smith the whole army would have been captured.

Sunday 15"

Glorious news reaches us from the East. doubtless Gen. Lees army is for once badly defeated and retreating on Richmond.

Monday 16"

Had inspection This is the anniversary of our great battle as a Reg't.

Camp Buffalo La. May, 16" 64

at Champion Hill Miss. men are conversing about it, calling to memory different corresponding hours in the day, and some almost shed tears when they speak of the fallen comrades.

Tuesday 17"

Weather warm and delightful. Miss Emma Maddern again at St. Charles Theatre. The Non Vet's getting Pd. off.

Thursday 18"

We hear of incessant fighting between the forces commanded by Grant and the rebels under Gen. Lee

Thursday 19"

Weather warm and beautiful, we drill 4 hours daily - men prone to visit New Orleans and to go to houses of bad repute - get intoxicated and quarrel.

Friday 20"

The long service in the army has ruined many promising young men, and has made any, all the gentlemen we have were strictly such when enlisted.

Saturday May 21st

Weather very warm. drill 4 hours daily. Old soldiers in good health, recruits not.

Camp Buffalo - May 22d '64

As to day is excepted from drill men have a good time generally, a whole army has gone to the "Beer Garden" at Carrolton to see slack rope performance.

Monday 23rd

At every opportunity men go to New Orleans for enjoyment - attend theatres - go to oyster saloons, the "Social Hall" on Basin Street, Academy of Music, sporting houses &c.

Tuesday May 24"

We are now realizing the beauties of the "Sunny South". No place on Earth is better calculated for pleasure than in the vicinity of New Orleans, everything is enchanting and lovely.

Wednesday 25"

We have been informed that our stay here is to end with the setting sun. Many soldiers will shed tears inwardly when we bid adieu to this lovely place.

Thibadeaux La. Thursday 26"

Left Camp Buffalo at daylight crossed the river to algiers and took the cars and arrived here at 6 P.M. Distance from New Orleans seventy miles.

Thibadeaux La. May 27" 1864

This place is principally inhabited by French and Spanish, the town contains about 3000 inhabitants, it is a beautiful place, and built with good taste.

Saturday 28"

News reaches us of continued fighting in Virginia between the forces of Grant & Lee.

Sunday 29"

Day warm and beautiful, nearly all the soldiers attended church to day.

Monday 30"

Hard drills have again been inaugurated - men despise to drill when weather is as warm as it now is.

Tuesday 31st

It is surprising that 30,000 old vets are kep idle here in this department when they are so needed in Tenn. & Va.

Wednesday June 1st

Had quite a rain to day which was much needed. Vegetation was almost perished. Cit's say. rain fall J. 1st fall 50 'as.

Thursday 2d

Weather warm and beautiful, farmers daily come to camp with cucumbers, beans and other vegetables. they are generally French



Thibodaux La. June 3rd 1864.

Rained again to day, then sunshine. Milk we get fresh from cow at 15 cts per. qt.

Saturday 4"

Turned over our short Enfield rifles. are to get Springfields in exchange. Men hated to depart with them.

Sunday 5"

Attended Catholic church today, the cathedral is about 150 ft. long by 75 wide built of brick, well finished, about 1500 persons in attendance, rained.

Monday 6"

Everything looks lovely around here we have daily rains, but it so happens that it never rains after dark. Men are in good health and spirits.

Tuesday 7"

Soldiers long to be in active operations when they hear of fighting. they are like a fiery horse, they wish to see the work before them accomplished and then go to their homes.

Wednesday 8"

John M. Woodard discharged U.S. service by order of Col. Simonson, disease chronic diarrhea. Thus they go one by one of our old soldiers till we will finally loose all the original band of heroes.

Thibodaux La. June 9" 1864.

Day beautiful had a light shower of rain - Never since in the service has time passed so sluggishly. The water we use out of Bayou Lafurche is miserable and ice cannot be procured.

Friday 10"

Today we dug a well, found plenty of water by digging 8 ft. water brackish. The citizens use rain water the year round.

Saturday 11"

Drew new Springfield rifles - men are generally well pleased with them it has been raining more or less every day for the last ten days, health good.

Sunday 12"

Fighting still continues in the East at last accounts. (June 4) It is stated that our armies are within seven ms. of Richmond and fighting daily.

Monday 13"

It is generally considered that if Gen'l Grant had 30,000 of his old Western troops in Va. they would carry every thing before them, why not martial that force and give the heroes a trial. Western troops thus far have the best name.

Thibodaux La. June 14 '64

The "Red River expedition", so disastrously conducted under Gen'l Banks was returned to the Miss. River. All men, rank and file, except Bank's personal staff and friends curse him for utter incompetency, or treason.

Wednesday 15"

Rained this forenoon again. Grant still advancing on Richmond, and Lee falling back. Both armies occupy nearly the same ground they did 2 years ago, our base of supplies is principally at the White House.

Thursday 16"

"Why in the name of our common country are not 20,000 men sent from this Dept. to Grant & Sherman," is a question asked by the soldiers here. We can be of no earthly use here only for political purposes.

Friday 17"

What time we do not drill we pass away in the shade, talk over the military position of the country.

Saturday 18"

Men are cleaning their guns for inspection. Guns rust very badly here.

Thibodaux La. Sunday June 18 (1864

Rained as usual, went out to a blackberry patch this afternoon and got decently wet before returning 10,000 persons could not consume all the blackberries that grow within 5 miles of here

Monday 20"

A political organization stated Democrats are arraying themselves dangerously against the present administration They are secretly arming themselves it is stated to resist the coming draft.

Tuesday 21st"

Day hot, mosquitoes ravinous after nightfall to sun rise, men nearly all have bars, health good, especially among he old soldiers, nights cool.

Wednesday June 22nd"

News daily reaches us of hard fighting between the forces under Sherman and Jo. Johnson. The struggle in Tennessee is almost as great as in Va.

Thursday 23rd"

Day hot - water miserable - can get no ice, men lay in the shade and fan themselves to keep from suffocating I believe it is warmer here in June than in July.

Thibodaux La. June 24" 1864

Day pleasant, had Co. and Batallion drill, men do not take take any interest in drilling who have been in the service one year and upwards, it seems that that is all that is necessary.

Saturday 25"

Terrible fighting near Richmond Va. Grant crossed James river on the 15" inst. Sherman is Atlanta Ga.

Sunday 26"

Went to church, a full attendance of citizens, but not many fair damsels.

Monday 27"

Many wealthy planters, of former years now come with one horse and cart to sell vegetables to the soldiers. This seems like a great humiliation to the once aristocrat.

Tuesday 28"

The French and Spanish inhabitants in the locality, as a general rule are loyal, exceptions among the wealthy.

Wednesday 29"

Time wears away slowly. It seems as though the morning of my life was spent in a futile manner, no one benefitted by my being in inactive service, where no rebels will appear.

Thibodeaux La. June 30" 1864.

Gold at New York 225 to 2.35 on the 22nd Grants army fighting at Petersburg. A rumor was prevalent yesterday that Gen. Grant had recently been killed in action

Friday July 1st

Gold at N. Y. roes to 270 and again fell to 210. Gold gamblers are a curse to our country.

Saturday July 2d

Our successes are measured by the standard of the value of gold. When gold is down it is thought at home and abroad that the rebels were nearly conquered, and when it is high the contrary feeling exists.

Sunday July 3rd

Was at the Catholic Church. The assembly was principally French and Spanish decendants. were generally of a dark complexion.

Monday July 4"

At 8 A.M. all the troops of the post were assembled. Speeches were delivered by the Chaplain of the 47" Ind. Chaplain Sims 28" Iowa. Gen R. A. Cameron, Col. Slack 47" Ind. & others. In the afternoon we marched over the city and returned to camp. Men were enthusiastic, and were overflowing with patriotism.

Thibodeaux La. July 5th 1864.

Had quite a refreshing shower yesterday evening. Half the army daily go the blackberry patches and get their fill of the licious fruit.

Wednesday 6th

Weather excessive hot. - warmer here than in New Orleans - ice very scarce - none but cistern water is fit for use. - well water brackish.

Thursday 7" Have daily drills one hour in the morning and one in the evening. Dress parade at sunset.

Algiers La. Friday 8"

Left Thibodeaux and arrived here at 9 P.M. and bivouaced for the night.

Saturday 9"

News reaches us that the Rebels have again invaded Maryland and Penn. They have been robbing in sight of Baltimore and Washington. It is estimated that there are 40,000 rebels north of the Potomac. Great fears are entertained for the safety of Balti. & Washington. Gold again 2.70

July 10th

Men feel themselves at home here. and enjoy themselves in different ways, some attended church today. some went to beer gardens, others to sporting houses.

Algiers La. July 11th 1864.

Water & Musk melons, peaches, figs and many other fruits are in abundance in the markets. Musk melons are more delicious here than in the Northern States

Tuesday 12"

The weather does not seem warmer to us than it formerly did in Ind. As far as the warm climate is concerned we are perfectly contented, shade is then better enjoyed.

Wednesday 13"

We are in the height of our enjoyment - have plenty of money. and there are plenty of places to spend it. and everything is more reasonable than in the Northern States.

Thursday 14"

This is a happy time for soldiers, they have plenty of money, and the markets are well supplied with all kinds of eatables.

Friday 15"

The poor people have a hard time to make a living here now. Many once respectable women are now in places of prostitution

Saturday 16."

The weather is quite agreeable here in the shade. There is a constant cool breeze from the lake and Gulf.



Algiers La. July 17" 1864

Had I my choice to stay here or in Cincinnati during the summer season. I would prefer this place. It is true the heat is more excessive here, but there are more intermingling cool breezes.

Monday 18"

Half the soldiers here are out of camp and over in New Orleans. they are beyond the control of Camp Discipline.

Tuesday 19"

Broke up camp at 5 P.M. got on board the Steam Ship Casandra. - Departed Algiers at 11 P.M. - passed Ft. Jackson at 5 A.M.

Gulf of Mexico July 20"

At 9 A.M. we passed the mouth of the Miss. River into the Gulf - weather somewhat cloudy and warm - the sea soon rolled high and such vomiting man never seen before.

Thursday 21st"

Weather more calm - men are getting somewhat better, for my part I feel miserable. Death seems to be staring me in the face. Was it not for my better judgment I would consign myself to a watery grave and end my miseries and suffering.

Friday 22"

Sea calm, passed opposite Tortugas at 12 M.

On Board Steamer Casandra July 23.rd, -64

Sea still calm - I am not much better - feel somewhat alarmed yet, whether I will recover or not from my present indisposition -

Sunday 24"

Heavy wind and sea with some rain last night - considerable storm this forenoon - many men are again seasick - towards night the sea became more calm.

Monday 25"

The weather seems like autumn to us. sea calm - weather clear. Men long to go on land - tired of sea, but few are sick.

Tuesday 26"

Passed cape Hateras at 7 A.M. no wind and a very calm sea - men long for our journey's end. At 3 P.M. reached the rock lined shores of the "Old Dominion."

Wednesday 27"

At 5 A.M. we have in sight of Fortress Monroe - anchored immediately above the Fort. At 11 A.M. we steamed up the Chesepeake Bay. At 8 P.M. anchored 10 m's above Point Look Out for the night.

Thursday 28"

At 4 A.M. weighed anchor and steamed for Washington. Arrived at Washington

Washington D.C. July 28" 1864

. at 2 1/2 P.M. got off the vessel at dark and passed the night on the side walk around the arsenal. Officers as well as enlisted men.

Friday 29"

At 4 A.M. we took up our line of march through the city passed by the Capitol - through Georgetown and 2 miles above where we went into camp, to await further orders.

Saturday 30"

Moved camp at 8 A.M. one mile up the Potomac, at 7 P.M. broke up camp and marched through Washington to the Depot and bivouaced on the pavement for the night.

Sunday 31st At 2 A.M. got on freight cars for Baltimore changed direction at the Relay House and arrived at Monocacy at dark got off the cars and bivouaced for the night.

Monocacy Monday Aug 1st"

Lay in camp all day. Rebels have burned Chambersburg Pa. Great excitement throughout the North - Gold 258. Heavy fighting daily at Petersburg and at Atlanta Ga.

Tuesday 2nd

Our Regt on picket last night. It is reported that the reb's have left Pa.

Frederick City Md Aug. 3d 1864

Left Camp and went out on picket  
last night. and again returned to camp  
to day. Weather very warm. Harpers Ferry Thursday 4"

Left Monocacy at 3 P.M. and arrived  
here at 8 P.M. and bivouaced for the  
night on top of the hill, near "Jefferson's Rock."

Friday 5"

In camp all day. weather very hot.  
wind blowing. - w'ds dry and dusty.

Saturday 6th

Had reveille at 3.30 A.M. Took up our  
line of march for Hall Town at daylight. Rained hard for 2 hours arrived  
at H. and went into camp at 10 A.M.

Sunday 7th

All day in camp strengthening our works

Monday 8"

All day in camp, the rebels are in our  
front, we expect to try their strength soon.

Tuesday 9th

Everything quiet. we look for fighting soon.

Wednesday 10"

At 3 A.M. we had reveille. at daylight  
we were on our way to Charlestown. At 9 A.M.  
passed through that historic place. camped near Berryville

Thursday Aug. 11th 1864.

Reveille at 3 A.M. at 7 passed through Berryville, at 8 AM. heavy skirmishing in front. Marched in battle array toward Winchester, but soon bore to the left.

Friday August 12th (Cedar Creek)

Reveille at 4 A.M. heavy skirmishing at White ford, arrived in force at White ford at 6 P.M. Rebels disputed our passage. Our advance arrived there at 10 A.M. as the rebel train was passing over the bridge. The train consisted of 500 wagons loaded with 20,000 bushels of wheat gathered in the valley.

Saturday 13"

Had reveille at 4 A.M. formed in line of battle at daylight, broke ranks and erected shelter against the scorching rays of the sun. Some skirmishing in front to day.

Sunday 14"

Formed in line of battle at 4 A.M. train arrived and 3 d's rations were issued. Had inspection at 4 P.M. -light skirmishing in front - Weather very warm. Health tolerable good.

Monday 15"

Fell in line of battle at 4 A.M. awaited the enemy but "they came not" at dark received mar. orders, and were soon ready to decamp.

Winchester Va. Aug 13" 1864

Left camp, at Cedar creek, at 11.30 last night, it soon commenced raining, and rained one hour, arrived here at 9.30 A.M.

Wednesday 17"

Left Winchester at 5 A.M. arrived at Berryville 12 M. Distance 10 m's and went into camp one mile North of town.

Thursday 18"

Marched to Summit Point, near Charlestown and bivouaced for the night, rained hard a portion of the day.

Friday Aug 19"

Had reveille at 4 A.M. all day in camp. Rebels said to be approaching in force. Have been living on 3/4 rations for some time.

Saturday 20"

All day in camp. Many of our troops are taking the diarrhea. Men are not responding to the President's last call.

Sunday 21st"

Reveille at 3 A.M. formed in line of battle and stood there untill daylight. At 3 P.M. rebels advanced on us, made fortifications in 2 hours, and there was someheavy skirmishing all along our lines, firing ceased at dark.

Hall Town Va. Aug. 22d 1864. At 11 last night we commenced our retreat, arrived here at 3 a.m. at 8 a.m. commenced fortifying again, our Reg't intrenched in two places, heavy skirmishing all day, ceased at d'k. Tuesday 23d The day opened with picket firing, a brisk skirmishing was kep up all day, when dark came everything was again quiet. Are well fortified. Wednesday 24" Fell in line of battle at 3 a.m. skirmishing commenced at daylight, at 11 a.m. our brigade went out to drive the rebel advance back, or feel their strength, had a severe skirmish, our Regt lost 12 men, when we returned to camp. Thursday 25" Our Regt was on picket duty, sharp shooting all day, weather cool, much camp diarrhea, - men are daily being sent to hospitals. Friday 26" Co. "F" on picket again - Another demonstration on the right and extreme left, our forces unsuccessful on the right.. Saturday 27" Rebels retreated last night, not a traitor in our front this morning, weather cool. Men in good fighting spirits.

Near Charlestown Va. Aug 28" 1864.

Reveille at 3.30 A.M. At daylight our whole force started in pursuit, skirmished with the rear guard 2 miles beyond Charlestown, bivouaced in sight there of for the night.

Monday 29"

At 1 P.M. the Non Veterans of our Reg't. recd. orders to fall in ranks, and turn over their arms. At half past 1 they gave the "Vet's" three cheers, which were responded to. at 4 minutes after the last parting salute was given, with many tears, and the heroes of 70 battles parted. Never in my life was I so affected by the parting from any parting, as from these war worn veterans. Our many trials and hardships had so endeared us toward one another, even stronger than the ties of blood. Fighting in our front all day.

Tuesday 30th"

Reveille at 3 A.M. at 8 A.M. commenced building fortifications, by 10. we had them completed. Days warm, nights cool, no fighting to day.

Wednesday 30th"

Everything quiet along our lines - no fighting in hearing. Gold 2.45 and declining. Heavy fighting nearly constantly along the lines toward Petersburg & Richmond.



Near Charlestown Va. Sept 1st" 1864.

All day in camp - no fighting in hearing. Geo. B. McClellan nominated President by the Chicago Democratic Convention.

Friday 2nd

It is rumored that Atlanta Ga. is taken by the forces under Gen Sherman. Gen. Grant holds his own at Petersburg. & vicinity of Richmond.

Saturday 3rd near Berryville Va.

Left camp near Charlestown at 5 A.M. - day cool and cloudy. At sundown there was heavy skirmishing near Berryville. Formed in line of battle and intrenched, firing ceased a while after dark. Our loss about 200 k. w. & p.

Sunday 4th"

Strengthening our works this morning. Some artillery firing. In the evening the rebels charged on our picket line and temporarily drove it back, but the lost ground was soon recovered.

Monday 5"

Rained nearly all day. At 11 A.M. a reconnoitering party was sent to the front. It was ascertained that the rebels had fallen back. Atlanta has fallen, and there is great rejoicing.

Tuesday 6"

Rebels have retreated to Opequan 7 m's distant. everything quiet in camp - men anxious for fight, to whip or get whipped.

Camp Near Berryville Va. Sept. 7 '64

Made a reconnoissance to Opequan - found a rebel picket line, drove part of them back and returned to camp. No loss on our side.

Thursday 8th"

Eighth A.C. passed to the right - commenced raining at 11 A.M. & continued untill 7 P.M.

Friday 9"

Cleared off at 8 A.M. and had quite a pleasant day. Gen. Sherman occupies Atlanta Ga. and is giving his army rest. Farragut is operating around Mobile Alabama.

Saturday 10"

Rained a portion of the day. Grants army is in a state of inactivity. acting on the defensive. Gold at N.Y. 2.30 has fallen 10 cts. last 10 d's.

Sunday 11th"

Rained all night, cleared off at 9 A.M. and had quite a pleasant day.

Monday 12th"

Had batallion drill - weather turning cool - men generally in good health.

Tuesday 13th"

Had company & Batallion drill, while on drill we heard furious fighting on our right front. the result was the capture of the 8th S.C. Regt. Our forces entirely successful.

Near Berryville Va. Sept. 15th" 1864

. Reveille at 3 1/2 A.M. stood in line of battle till daylight - no war news - Sherman had ordered all the citizens to leave Atlanta Gold. 227. & on rise.

Friday 16th"

Reveille at daylight. Had brigade drill of 3 hours duration. Batallion drill 1 hour in the evening. then Dress parade. Weather clear & delightful.

Saturday 17th"

Sun rose in all his glory - general wash day had dress parade in the evening. Gen Grover present. - seemed well pleased with our evolutions.

Sunday 18th"

Our chaplain preached 2 sermons, one at 10. other at 6 P.M. Received orders to be in readiness to march at a moments warning.

Near Winchester Sept. 19

Left camp at 1 A.M. arrived at Berryville before day. halted untill daylight when artillery firing commenced at Opequan. arrived at the scene of action at 9 A.M. when the rebels retreated then marched within 3 miles of Winchester & formed in line of battle. at 12 M. our whole lines advanced - 15 minutes later found us in a terrible engagement. The battle raged furiously with varied success, untill the 8th A.C. arrived, struck the rebels in their

Winchester Va. Sept. 19" 1864.

left flank & rear. By 6 P.M. we had gained a complete victory, and the whol army encamped Around Winchester. Our Regt lost 80 men killed wounded & about 15 pris.

Near Strasburg Va. 20th

Left Winchester at 5 A.M. arrived at Cedar Creek at 1 P.M. Marched 18 m's to day. Rebels have made a precipitate flight to Fishers hill, where they again show fight.

September 21st Wednesday

Changed our lines somewhat, advanced then about one mile on our right - tolerable heavy skirmishing all day, some Artillery firing on our part.

Thursday 22nd

Advanced our lines early this morning, and by 12 M. all the Inftry & Artillery were strongly intrenched. At 5 P.M. made a grand flank movement on the rebels compelling them to abandon their works - capturing over 2,000 prisoners and 20 pieces of Artillery, our loss light. Then followed them up to Woodstock. They made 2 stands and fired on our advance - arrived at Woodstock at 4 A.M. when we halted to wait for the army to come up. Our Regt lost 12 men k. & w. last night at Tom's Brook, my nerve was nearly killed in the night fight.

Edinburg Va. Friday Sept 23d 1864.

At 10 A.M. 3 days rations were issued, and at 12 M. a forward movement was again commenced. Arrived here at 4 P.M. and bivouaced S.W. of town. Skirmishing in front all day. Near New Market, Saturday 24"

Were in line of march at daylight. Passed through Mt. Jackson at 11 A.M. New Market at 4 P.M. marched 4 M's farther and bivouaced for the night. Marched 18 M's. Our advance skirmished with the rebels all day.

Harrisonburg Sunday 25"

The bugle sounded the advance at 7.30 A.M. Marched 10 m's and halted one hour. - no rebs seen yet this morning. Arrived here at 4 P.M. and bivouaced for the night. Fine location.

Monday 26"

All day in Camp. Everything quiet. Early's army has scattered in every direction. Days warm and pleasant. - nights cool.

Tuesday 27"

I am highly elated with this section of the country. This place now contains about 1,500 inhabitants, a nice Court House graces the town.

Wednesday 28"

All day in camp. had orders to march but they were countermanded. Our Cavalry found 5 Caisons & 1400. rounds of ammuniton in the mountains to day.

Harrisonville Va. Thursday Sept. 29th '64

Had orders to march at 5 A.M. but did not start until 6, when we took up our line of march for Mt. Crawford. Arrived there at 10 A.M. and went into camp in a semicircle around the village.

Friday 30th"

At 1 P.M. fell in line of march and turned our backs to the enemy. Arrived here at 6 P.M. and went into our old camps. Rained.

Saturday Oct. 1st"

All day in camp, rained from daylight until dark - have been out of rations for 24 hours. - have lived on grated corn & beef. our train arrived this evening, from Harpers Ferry.

Sunday 2d

Cleared off at 10 A.M. 4 days rations are being issued. at 1 P.M. heavy artillery firing was heard about 4 miles up the valley. fell in line of battle, ready for action but the fight only proved a Cavalry skirmish.

Monday 3rd"

Had orders to march at 5 A.M. time arrived and orders countermanded. Commenced raining at 10 A.M. and continued drizzling until dark. Pitched tents again, and everything again resumed the busy scene of camp life, and merry songs of soldiers

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Harrisonburg Va. Oct. 4" 1864.

All day in camp - 14 body guards and one aid of Gen. Sheridans were butchered out a few miles toward Mt Crawford yesterday houses & property is being burnt to day in retaliation - weather pleasant - out of A.C.C.

Wednesday 5"

All day in camp - weather very warm. entirely out of grub - men do not murmur at least - no fighting within our lines to day.

Thursday 6"

Reveille at 4 A.M. in line of march at 5 - faced toward Harpers Ferry - taking all the cattle in the valley along with us. burning all the mills and barns - leaving the country desolate - passed New Market at 3 P.M. and marched 4 m's farther & bivouaced for the night.

Near Woodstock Thursday 7"

In line of march at 5 A.M. 19" A.C. brought up the rear - formed in line of battle 3 times during the day - rebs did not attack us - all the barns were burnt far & near - went into camp at 9 P.M.

Near Strasburg Saturday 8"

Whole army in motion at 5 A.M. marched to Fishers Hill and formed in line of battle untill the train passed over to Strasburg. then the army passed over and took up our old position before the attack on this place, Sept. 22.

Near Strasburg Va. Oct. 9" 1864

All day in camp - drew 4 d's rations men are foraging heavy - night was frosty - cleared off today, Gen. Torbert captured 300. rebels and 5 peices of arty today, that were following our rear.

Monday 10"

Clear & pleasant - had frost last night at 2 P.M. received marching orders, went into camp at Cedar for the night.

Cedar Creek Tuesday 11

Had reveille at 5 A.M. day clear and pleasant - everything quiet in camp - men talk of home, and their desire to be there and participate in the election, the Ind. soldiers feel disfranchised.

Wednesday 12"

Rained all day at intervals, men have very insufficient clothing. - have drawn nothing since Sept. 1st many are without blankets shoes or stockings, yet no murmurs.

Thursday 13"

At 15 minutes past one artillery firing commenced in front - It was a reconnoisance on the part of the enemy. the result was inconsiderate, firing ceased at dark, and men will sleep none the worse on account of it.



Cedar Creek Friday Oct. 14" 1864.

Marched and countermarched all last night general change of position - lay on our arms all night - at 12 M. all the troops returned to their old position here, rebs have disappeared.

Saturday 15"

Fell in line of battle at daylight - broke ranks one hour afterwards - not a shot heard in front weather has moderated - men are tired of campaigning for the season, and wish to enter into quarters.

Sunday 16"

Beautiful day, commenced fortifying last night still at work today. An occasional shot heard in front. Our Chaplain preached to us today. On the 13" gold in N.Y. 204.

Monday 17"

Had frost last night - day warm and beautiful. Nothing stirring in front. Men healthy.

Tuesday 18"

Had frost last night - drill today - dress parade in the evening, day warm and beautiful - health good - men in good spirits - but do not like our position - too easily flanked, and the ground is so much lower than it is on the opposite side of the creek, where the rebs could plant their guns and shell our camps.

Cedar Creek Va. Oct. 19" 1864.

At 5.30 A.M. the rebels made a furious assault on our left, 8th A.C. and carried our position, and our whole army was soon on the retreat. At 9 A.M. the rebels were checked and on untill 12 M. the firing was principally on our right and left, the center remaining quiet. At 4 1/2 P.M. we reformed our lines, and with a grand move all together we commenced driving the late victorious rebels from the field - arrived in our camping ground at 6 1/2 P.M. Rebels still on the retreat toward Strasburg. Our cavalry occupy Strasburg, where they will rest for the night now 8 P.M. This morning was very cloudy and smoky & foggy. the sun came out avout 8 A.M. but on account of the fog and smoke we could not see more than 100 yards before 9 A.M. In the afternoon the smoke cleared away. It was under the cover of this smoke & fog, that the rebels formed in line and surprised the 8" A.C. This day has fully convinced me the great superiority of old soldiers over raw troops. The great victory we have gained the day of utter defeat

Cedar Creek Va. Oct. 20 1864.

This morning our Div. advanced to Strasburg, in support of our cavalry. We captured 30 pieces of Artillery in excess of what we lost yesterday. We can therefore claim a great victory after defeat yesterday.

Friday 21st

At 7 A.M. our Div. returned to our old camp at Cedar Creek. Drew rations and some clothing. Weather frosty, quiet in front.

Saturday 22d

Morning frosty - Day cool. Everything quiet in front. The losses from battle in the C.C. & G.E. have been repaired by new ones. Everything looks like it did before the battle.

Sunday 23rd

Our chaplain preached to us today, weather cool & cloudy, vegetation has quit growing the leaves in the forrest are dead.

Monday 24"

Had Dress Parade this evening, had a complimentary order for our victory on the 19" inst from the President, men gave three rousing cheers and a tiger.

Thursday 25"

Very frosty weather - men have only one blanket each have a hard time to keep warm, yet there is no murmuring, they endure it all with complacency.

Cedar Creek Va. Oct. 26" 1864.

A heavy frost again this morning. Everything quiet in front - men almost unanimously desire that Lincoln should be reelected President. McClellan and Pendleton are regarded as dangerous.

Thursday 27"

Once again we were visited by the Paymaster. As soon as paid off many of the men commenced gambling their hard earned means away - Day cloudy.

Friday 28"

It rained nearly all night - men have inefficient clothing & shelter. Everything quiet in front - enemy supposed to have fallen back to Staunton with their main force.

Saturday 29"

Everything quiet in camp - weather very cool - men in good health and spirits and are gaming away their money.

Sunday 30"

Our Chaplain preached to us to day not a very full attendance. the day was too cool, men have not yet built winter quarters - Many "freeze out" every night about 4 A.M.

Cedar Creek Va. Oct. 31st 1864.

Mustered for pay to day - weather very cool - Have no place to make out Rolls - My hand almost freezes as I write.

Tuesday Nov. 1st

Had Batallion Drill to day, could only muster about 100 men, we are reduced alarmingly in numbers.

Wednesday 2

Rained and sleeted all day. I have been in Middletown making out pay Rolls, took dinner & supper with a "Cit."

Thursday 3d Staid all night last with an old citizen of Middletown. He exhibited the hospitality of a Virginian, he was rich before the war, but now is poor.

Friday 4"

Cleared off today, had dress parade this evening. I am enjoying myself in my Shanty by the chimney fire.

Saturday 5"

It is again reported that the rebels are advancing on us, with 20,000 reinforcements. Hood is near Florence Alabama, Sherman in pursuit. Price has been driven out of Missouri, Grant holds his own at Petersburg Va.

Cedar Creek Va. Nov. 6" 1864

. Heavy frost last night - Gold 2.50 again at N.Y. A great anxiety is felt for the result of the election. It is certain, although that Lincoln will get two thirds of the electoral vote.

Monday 7"

Had a grand review of the 19" A.C. lasting from 9 to 12 A.M. men were in good condition, clothes not very clean - rained greater portion of the day.

Tuesday 8th

Had reveille at 4 A.M. tore up camp and were ready for marching at daylight, but did not go. At 2 P.M. pitched tents again. The election passed off quietly in camp, not a loud word or cheer for Lincoln or McClellan.

Wednesday 9" Kearstown

At 4 A.M. had reveille, at 9 took up our line of march for this place. the whole army went into camp at 5 P.M. Distance marched 9 miles.

Thursday 10th

Everything quiet today, some change in the position of troops. Men are anxious to return to some R.R. or river.

Kearnsstown Va. Nov. 11" 1864.

At 10 A.M. commenced building fortifications, and by sundown we were heavily intrenched. Our Cavalry videtts were driven in to day, and we were constantly looking for an attack.

Saturday 12"

At daylight we packed everything up ready for marching. Rebels drove in our cavalry and our Cavalry drove them in turn. Desottary [desultory] fighting all day.

Sunday 13"

It was exceedingly cold last night and all day today, men are suffering greatly therefrom. Wood is scarce, as well as lumber, brick &c. for constructing winter quarters, men are building sod huts. & chimneys.

Monday 14"

Excessively cold again last night. Wind blew hard all day. We get up and stand in line of battle one hour before daylight every morning.

Tuesday 15"

Sleeted some last night day cool and air very raw, everything quiet in front. The reelection of Lincoln is regarded as a favorable omen of a speedy termination of the war.

Kearns town Va. Nov 16" 1864.

Very Cold last night, had Co. drill to day and dress parade this evening.

Thursday 17."

Day raw and windy, men are constructing winter quarters, we are very impatient to know whether we will remain here or not for the winter.

Friday 18"

Rained all day - very disagreeable in camp - have not yet built chimneys to our Shanties and it is too cold to sit in tents without fires. Men lie in bed all day.

Saturday 19"

Stood in line of battle as usual from 5 untill daylight - rained nearly all fore noon then cleared off and had a beautiful afternoon - men cleaned up for inspection.

Sunday 20"

Every body busy building winter quarters Gold has declined from 2.60 to 2.15 the last few days, Men in good cheer.

Monday 21st

Commenced raining at 10 A.M. and continued all day, it is miserable muddy and disagreeable in camp. No fighting recently any where in U.S.



Kearnsstown Va. Nov. 22d 1864

It snowed on the mountains last night, but but none in the valley, the ground was frozen hard this morning, and a cold N. wind blowing. The cold snow on the mountain tops looks frowningly upon us.

Wednesday 23d

Last night was the coldest I have seen since the battlefield of Donaldson. The army stood in line of battle 15 minutes this morning, notwithstanding the excessive cold.

Thursday 24"

Today was Thanksgiving day 36000 lbs of turkey & "goose" were sent to this army by our friends in N.Y. & Maryland. this gave a goose & turkey to every 22 men - quite enough if we had other delicacies, similar contributions were made to the army of the Potomac, Day moderated.

Friday 25

Sherman is marching through the heart of Georgia, making a swath of destruction of 40 miles in width, moderating

Saturday 26"

Rained nearly all day, at 4 P.M. recd. marching orders, but they were soon countermanded. Much is expected from Shermans march to the Gulf of Mexico.

Kearns town Va. Nov. 27" 64.

Sun rose bright and beautiful - had inspection - at 10 Chaplain preached. At 2 P.M. had Sabbath school. at 5 P.M. Dress parade, ground is thawed out.

Monday 28"

Rained some last night - morning cloudy and foggy - had dress parade in the evening - quiet in front - Rebs 12 m's distant.

Tuesday 29"

Day warm and pleasant - snow has vanished on the mountains - Great excitement in the North - the attempted destruction of the City of N.Y. by fire - Sherman's march through Georgia - Hoods entrance in Tennessee, are matters of great concern.

Wednesday 30"

Weather warm and pleasant, all recd. orders to build Winter Quarters - Had monthly inspection. Our Regt can only muster 200 men present. rank & file.

Thursday Dec 1st

Early this morning thousands of men went to the forrest to get out timber to build huts. They are built 7 by 11 ft in the clear, and covered by 2 shelter tents. 4 men stay in 1 tent.

Kearns town Va. Dec 2d 1864.

Day warm and cloudy - men busily engaged building winter quarters - teams are scarce, and I see men carrying logs over one and a half miles to build their huts - it indeed looks hard.

Saturday 3rd

Weather still warm but cloudy - men are laboring with all their might to complete quarters before cold weather - no news from Sherman's army for 10 days. with breathless silence we await the result of his campaign.

Sunday 4"

Had Brigade Dress parade. the brigade was formed in line by divisions the brigade commander gave the commands without being repeated.

Monday 5"

Men busily engaged in constructing winter quarters - weather exceedingly warm for this time of year. Army quiet at Petersburg.

Tuesday 6"

News reached us of Hoods defeat by Scofield at Franklin Tenn. The army under Gen. Thomas is now within the fortifications of Nashville, besieged by Hood.

Kearnsstown, or Camp Russell Va. Dec. 7" 64

A thousand rumors are afloat in regard to Sherman's campaign, one is that he is within 6 miles of Savannah, another that he is near Millen, and that he has released our prisoners at Andersonville, Ga.

Thursday Dec 8"

Everything quiet in front, turned cold last night - no stirring news from any source.

Friday 9"

Was very cold last night - cloudy all day - moderated slightly toward evening, and at 7 commenced snowing - at 10 still snowing Not half the army have winter quarters yet - men carry wood 1 1/2 miles to cook with.

Saturday 10"

This morning the face of the earth was covered with a mantle of snow 10 in. deep at noon the wind commenced blowing and by night it was extremely cold.

Sunday 11"

Sun shone at intervals till 4 P.M. wind rose until it was extremely cold, the snow squeaks beneath our tread - not more than half the men have winter quarters yet, and are compelled to carry all the wood they burn about 2 miles.

Kearns town Va. Dec. 12" 1864.

Day cold - Rebels are closely besieging Nashville - men haul their wood on sleds-

Tuesday 13"

Morning cold - at noon commenced moderating - wind quit blowing at dark. Active military operations are progressing everywhere, notwithstanding the cold.

Wednesday 14"

It commenced thawing this morning. At 9 A.M. snow nearly all melted away. We still hear no news from Sherman. Only through Rebel sources.

Thursday 15"

Weather inclement. Good news from Sherman, it is stated that he is in front of Savannah - has carried the outer works, Nashville still besieged, and the rebels threaten our communications there.

Friday 16"

Glorious news from Thomas he has driven Hood from Nashville - captured 16 pieces of artillery and 1000 prisoners. One hundred guns were fired in honor of the victory. Men are jubilant and enthusiastic. The spirit of fighting has again seized them.

Kearns town Va. Dec. 17" 1864

. Day warm and cloudy - Glorious news again reaches us from our armies. Thomas has again defeated Hood. Capturing 60 pieces of artillery and 5000 prisoners. Sherman has arrived on Saltwater and captured Ft. McAlister.  
Sunday 11"

Muddy and drizzly - no additional news - men are generally in good spirits - All seem to concur, that if our successes shall be continued for the next year, peace will dawn.

Monday 19"

Rainy and drizzly all day - wind raised in the evening and turned cold - no news today. 8th A.C. left - everything quiet in front, active operations in progress everywhere.

Tuesday 20th

Glorious news from every quarter. Thomas has entirely routed Hood. Sherman has Savannah closely invested. It is also reported that Jeff. Davis has committed suicide by taking poison.

Wednesday 21st

No news to day from any quarter - papers failed to reach us. Men are restless, fearing that we will leave our comfortable quarters soon.

Kearnsstown Va. Dec. 22d

To day has been extremely cold and windy It is terrible to stand picket these times without fire. It is almost death - none but hardened old veterans could stand it.

Friday 23rd

Very cold all day - sun shone at intervals the army under Thomas is still pursuing Hood, who has lost 20,000 men since entering Tennessee.

Saturday 24"

To day was somewhat pleasant. Men are in good spirits. Another call was made yesterday for 300,000 more men Gold has declined from 234 to 220 the last week. Sherman has Savannah closely inv'd

. Our Christmas

Our much talked of Dinner for Christmas from Indianapolis did not arrive. Oysters Butter, Crackers, cakes & apples formed our dinner Day clear warm and pleasant, scarcely any one drunk, all quiet in Camp.

Monday 26"

Day foggy and rainy, ground nearly thawed out, 100 guns were fired in honor of the victory at Savannah Ga. which capitulated to Sherman Dec. 21st

Kearns town Va. Dec.27" 1864.

Day warm and beautiful.- ground thawed out - extremely disagreeable under foot. Official intelligence has reached us of the capture of Savannah Ga. on the 21st inst.

Wednesday 28"

Rainy and disagreeable all day - ground entirely thawed out. Many of the men are in a manner barefooted. From some cause the commissary and Q. M. Depts are inadequate in this Department.

Thursday 29"

Turned cold and snowed last night. Good news this morning. Thomas still in pursuit of Hood. Porter & Butler made a fizzle in taking possession of the approaches of Wilmington Harbor. first met with success, and butler would not risk an attack.

Friday 30"

At sunrise everything was in readiness to leave our comfortable quarters, at 7 1/2 the bugle sounded the advance. at 10 A.M. passed through Winchester, at 12 M. went into camp at Stevens Depot Marched 8 miles.

Saturday 31st

Commenced snowing last night and continued until one P.M. today. Not withstanding the



Stevens Depot Va Dec. 31st 1864.

in clement weather men are generally working to get quarters built. Our mess, composed of Lt. William W. Hiatt, a brave noble youth, of only 20 summers, although he has served 3 1/2 years faithfully, is 5 ft. 9 1/2 inches high light complexion, Auburn hair, Blue eyes, and rather stoutly built. Barney Markle 5 ft 8 in. high, heavy built, aged 23 years, light complexion, dark hair and grey eyes. Philip Rhoads, aged 18, (Recruit) dark hair, Black eyes, dark complexion, and myself, aged 25 years, have served since July 12" 1861. am light complexioned, grey eyes, dark hair, rather stoutly built, 5 feet 7 1/2 inches high. worked last night untill 12 P.M. carried logs, and brick to build a chimney, for a shanty 8 by 12 and to day we built it, and are going to sleep in it to night. But it is the first shanty built in the brigade. January 1st 1865.

Weather very cold and men suffer severely, in their small shelter tents, it is almost unendurable. and they labor constantly long after night fall to complete winter quarters. But they have the material all to carry one half mile.

January 6" 1865

Left Camp at Stevens Depot - got on board the cars.

January 7"

Arrived at Baltimore Md. at 8 AM. and went into Carroll Barracks and the whole of our Div. (2nd 19" A.C.) arrived and went into guard.

January 13"

Our div. got on board steamers for Wilmington Md. and our Regt. through the influence of Gen. Lew. Wallace was transferred to the Middle Dept. 2d & separate Brigade 8" A.C. left Carroll Barracks and went into the barracks at Ft. Marshall.

Ft. Marshall Md. Feb 4" 65

. Peace rumors again agitate the nation.

Seward and Lincoln have gone to Fortress Monroe to meet Rebel emissaries. Gold 203.

Ft. Marshall Feby 20" '65

News reached us today that the forces under Sherman had occupied and captured Columbia S.C. Gold in N.Y. 205.

Ft. Marshall Feby 22d '65

Charleston S.C. and all the surrounding works were evacuated on the 18th inst. By order of the War Dept. a national salute was fired

Fort Marshall Md.

in honor of the event, at every fort and arsenal in the United States.

Fort Federal Hill Md.

February 28th 1865.

Wilmington N.C. fell on the 22d inst. - Left Ft. Marshall yesterday evening, and quartered at this place last night.

Ft. McHenry March 4th '65

Came here from Ft. Federal Hill on the 2d inst. and went into quarter within the outer walls of the Fort.

Ft. McHenry Md.

March 18th 65.

Was happily surprised on the 14" inst by Brother Sam, whom I had not seen since Dec. 1860, both of us having served near 4 years in the Army. Shermans progress has brought gold down from 195 to 164 the last 5 days. Definite information has been recd. that he (Sherman) reached Fayetteville N.C. on the 12" inst.

Fort Marshall Md .

March 21st '65.

Came here yesterday to drill recruits, Drilled 4 hours to day. Gold down to 153. Sherman and Sheridan still in luck.

Fort McHenry Md. April 3d 1865. Terrible fighting going on along the whole lines before Richmond and Petersburg. Thus far we have captured 12,000 prisoners and 54 guns. Everything looks favorable. Ft. McHenry April 3d 6 P.M. Dispatch has reached here announcing the capture of Richmond at 8.15 this morning. There is great rejoicing. Gold has fallen to 144 Ft. McHenry April 4" 1865. Never before have I seen such an exulting population. - flags are flying from every house. The Bulletin Boards are crowded constantly. All regard peace near at hand. There was terrible fighting for the possession of Richmond, such fighting is not recorded in the annals of war. 100 guns were fired from the forts here in honor of the victory. Grant is pushing on after Lee. Ft. McHenry April 7th The city of Baltimore was Beautifully illuminated last night. 200 guns were fired. There was great enthusiasm in honor of our recent victory. Lee and his army are being pushed.

Fort McHenry Md April 10th 1865. Gen'l Lee surrendered his whole army to Gen'l Grant at 4 P.M. yesterday at Farmville Va. Great rejoicing through out the North, 200 guns are ordered to be fired from every Fort and Post in the U.S. The war is thought to be virtually at an end. The soldiers cannot realize the fact that they are soon to be mustered out of the service. Ft. McHenry Apr. 15" President Lincoln was assassinated & killed at Fords theater last night, at 9.30 P.M. by John Wilks Booth. also Wm H. Seward & 2 sons, who received slight injuries. Gold in N.Y. 146. Ft. McHenry Apr. 22d. The remains of the late President passed through Baltimore, receiving all the funeral honors possible for people to bestow. Never since this has been a Republic, has the death of one man created such a sensation. As far as I can hear, it is regarded as a national calamity.

Ft. McHenry Md. May 3d '65 Johnson surrendered to Sherman on the 26th April same terms as Lee did to Grant. All men not in actual service or on duty are ordered to be discharged. - Gold is down to 141. Soldiers are jubilant and expect to get home in 30 days. Ft. McHenry May 12" Everything looks like a speedy peace. Dick Taylor surrendered his army to Gen. Canby on the 4" of May. Sherman's and Mead's armies are marching for Alexandria. They have already passed through Richmond on their "homeward bound" march. Gold has fallen from 142 to 128. the last week. Ft. McHenry May 27" The closing scenes of the war are at hand. The great armies of Grant and Sherman were revealed for the last time on the 24" and 25" inst's at Washington D.C. Armed resistance East of the Miss River is a thing of the past. The rebel soldiers West of the Miss. River are still defiant. Our whole cavalry force in the

Ft. McHenry Md.

U.S. is being organized under Sheridan to enter Texas and make a "windup" of the rebellion.

Baltimore Md. July 4" 1867.

The day passed off exceedingly quiet, half the population left the city for the various Parks in the suburbs of the City. Sky rockets, fire crackers pistols &c. are being fired continually. Massive Flags wave from the housetops and across throughout the City. I see many young men, who were shining lights before the war, have become debased; and in all probability will turn to be criminals when they get out of the service. The chances of the war have brought men of inferior minds to places of opulence and distinction, but when their worth, intellectually, comes to be tested when they get out of the service, they will again drift to the channel nature intended for them to flow in. On the 29th of may by proclamation of the President, the war was declared at an end. 500,000 men are thrown out of the service and employment. Many have turned pick pockets, Robbers &c. Judgment and forethought is required to restore the country

Baltimore Maryland.

July 4" 1867.

to its former prosperity and happiness, and to again unite the hearts of the people North and South. Thousands of women have turned to be prostitutes during the present war, and men being absent from the influence of home, have availed themselves of the inducements held out by these prostitutes, and consequently many have been ruined for life. In short we can say that this nation is in a degenerating State.

Indianapolis Indiana.

August 3rd 1865.

Regiment mustered out of the United States service, Companies "F." & "K" July 26" and the balance of the Reg't. on the 27" at Baltimore Maryland, and left there for this place via, Balto. & Ohio R.R. Parkersburg & Cinti. O. on the 28" ult. & arrived here to day. Distance Rail Road 470 & water 270 miles. Total distance our Regt traveled since leaving the state in the 3 years service, sept 6th '61 By water, 7,012 miles. By R.R. 2,745 miles on foot, 1,604. miles. Total distance traveled 11,361 miles as a regiment.



Indianapolis Ind.  
August 11th 1865.

On the 9th The enlisted men of the Reg't were paid off, as fast as they were paid, they shook hands with their comrades and started for home. At 5. P.M. on the 9th Co. "F." 11th Ind. Vet. Inftry Vol's. was formed the last time, also being the last company paid, and was marched to the Paymasters stand, and as fast as paid, shook hands all round, and with tears in many instances, started to their respective homes. Thus at last breaking the strong ties we had formed for one another in a service of 4 years & one month. Thus was our glorious career as a Regiment ended, a regiment that led the van, and was the acknowledged star regiment, amongst the many noble ones from Indiana. A regiment that fought 15 regular battles, and was under fire 77 different days, and never faltered. This Reg't was organized for the 3 month service Apr 25 1861, as such mustered out Aug. 8" 1861. Long will be remembered the Eleventh Ind. Zouave Vet. Inftry Volunteers!!!!

Brownington Mo. December 11th 1909.

This is my 72nd birth day, and if the world has not been bettered by my having lived therein so long, I am sure it is none the worse thereby.