

ADAM H. PICKEL – DIARY

Camp near Falmouth VA January 11 1863 –

This little book was sent to me by mother ... Pickel - after I have been four months in the U.S. Service as a private in Co. G [J?] before Warren L. H... and in it I propose to keep a memorandum of events as they pass under my notice in the hope that they may be of interest for future reference. I must gather the events of the past from the time we left home from ... - and for much of the dates I am indebted to my friend and fellow soldier James Davis.

I enlisted as a soldier [?] in Company G, Scott Legion 68th P.I. on the 13th day of August 1862 without any experience in military life – our first quarters being in ... Street before 6th Philadelphia. The encampment being at Frankford I remained in the city at home on Thursday the 28 of August

When I went to ... and spent my first night under canvas.

Friday 29th Spent the day looking round camp and getting acquainted with some of the boys – in the evening participated in my first dress parade.

Saturday 30th went on guard, as per order and spent 24 hours in that capacity. Which brings us to Sunday morning the 31st at 9 O'clock – took a good wash and in company with James Davis took a walk to the arsenal and ... the grounds. Saw the troops there go through their regular Sunday morning inspection of arms and equipments – returned to camp and found my brother ... there to see me. He brought me some things from home him and I took a walk through Frankford – took dinner at a hotel, relished it well. Have eat but one dinner at a table since (over 4 mo)

We returned to camp and towards evening my old and valued friend Mr. John J. Hoopes came out and I went with him and my brother into the city. Left my brother at his home 6th and Girard Avenue – parted with Hoopes at 10th and Poplar St and have not seen him since – went home and found my little family all well and glad to see me – begin to realize the job I had before me in parting with my family. Spent a pleasant night not thinking it would be the last one at home which it proved to be.

Monday Sept 1st 1862

Was up earley – eat a hearty breakfast and went out to say goodbye to some intimate friends – stopped to see my old friend John Sh... he gave me some tobacco and other little things which he thought might be of service to me – there was a general talk that we were ordered to move that day. I returned home and arranged to start out to camp again. I bid my family good bye, saying that I would see them again which I fully expected to do. But when I got to camp I found preparations being made to mooove and I have not saw my family since –

We left Frankford at 3 O'Clock rode to 5th and 6th St. R.R. depot and marched from there to the citizens Refreshment Saloon where we partook of a good supper – it was now dark and raining very hard – Lingered here about an hour and then marched to the Baltimore depot where we took the cars for Washington starting about ½ past 11 O'Clock at night (Raining hard)

Previous to our going to the depot and while at the Saloon my brother joined me and presented me with a gum blanket which I have found of much service – also a portfolio and some writing materials together with a colts revolver which I sent home again after finding it of little use to me –

My brother left in me in the cars – at day light Tuesday morning we found ourselves crossing the Susquehanna River arrived in Baltimore soon after and partook of refreshments at the soldiers saloon – our journey from here to Washington was tedious [?] – stopped 3 hours on the road at Annapolis Junction to allow trains running north to pass – finally reached Washington about 10 O'Clock at night and after again partaking of some refreshments at the dirtiest place I ever saw to eat in – it is called the Soldiers Retreat – we lay down in rows in a long ... barrack and spent the balance of the night – in the morning we again visited the retreat and after some confusion and delay incident to our finding our baggage and getting into line we marched through the city and crossing the long bridge into Virginia was soon quartered in an old apple orchard on Arlington Heights overlooking the city –

This brings us to Wednesday Sept 3rd and is noted entirely from memory. I will now merely note the dates of our moves from place to place up to present time – on the evening of the 5th we moved to Fort Lyons – marched 5 or 6 miles – warm night – and got very tired –

On the 10th we moved again and encamped at Fairfax Seminary – a beautiful place – occupied as a hospital –

On the 12th we had another warm days march and found ourselves snugly encamped in the evening in a peach orchard in the vicinity of our first stopping place on the Heights –

It might be here remarked that on the 11th, while at the Seminary we received our warrants for fifty dollars bounty given by the city of Philadelphia for recruits – sent it home safely and retained \$2.50 for my own little wants.

14th was detailed for fatigue duty – 3 companys – A, B and G – which was our first ... with pick and shovel on entrenchments.

15th – Moved again to another position in the same neighborhood located this time in what had been a thick woods – the stumps and brush rendering it almost impossible to move we busied ourselves in clearing some of it up and by night had it somewhat tenable – Spent the night without tents – rained during the night and in the morning felt hard – we are close to Fort Bernard and still in sight of Washington.

20th this (Saturday) morning the regt. Made an early start and marched about 5 miles for picket duty in the vicinity of Baileys Crop Roads – after spending 24 hours in this capacity, returned again to our camp among the stumps – got in about 12 O'Clock Sunday – in our march and I accidentally sprained my foot and could not keep my place in line ... in on account of it.

26th Today we moved again to more eligible (?) ground, and our whole Brigade encamped together in a nice field about ½ mile distant – this was called Camp Prescott Smith – on Sunday the 28th we had our first Brigade services in a field nearby – it passed off satisfactory – I participated but had to fall out of line on account of my foot which was yet painful –

On the 29th a heavy detail was made from our Regt for fatigue duty on entrenchments.

Oct 1st Division received at Bailey's Cross Roads. – Very warm day – I was not out on act of my lame foot

Oct 2nd 24 hours on picket again at the same place as before – my foot getting better but did not go out – and so our time was occupied with the usual routine of camp life until the 11th when the brigade moved in a body at 4 O'Clock in the morning for Poolsville Md. I happening to be on Brigade **Company** guard at this time did not accompany them but followed on the 13th with the wagon train and joined the Regt while it was doing picket duty at Edwards Ferry on the Potomac and about 6 miles from Poolsville

On the 15th – this march from Camp **Prescott Smith** to Poolsville – Proved to be a very hard one to the men – they being short of food ... of the time and the service being much harder than they had yet experienced – and there we suffered many privations from ... and fatigue until the 20th when we returned to Poolsville and

[ILLEGIBLE]

And on Virginia's sacred soil again until the 31st when we were mustered for our pay for the first time and then marched to Leesburgh – about 7 miles – arriving there about 5 O'Clock when the 68th was ordered out on picket about 4 mile further – we reached our posts early in the evening though after dark pretty well worn out by the work of the day.

November

Returned again to Leesburgh on the next evening (Saturday Nov 1st) on Sunday morning the 2nd were ordered into line at 4 O'Clock but did not move until 3 O'Clock in the afternoon – heavy cannonading plainly heard all day which proved to be Gen Pleasanton's command in contact with the Rebs in advance – kept up our march far into the night and stopped at a place called **Mt Gilead** –

Monday 3rd cold and a little tired – drew a fresh supply of grub. Marched in a S.W. direction at 11 O'Clock leaving a guard of about 20 men from the 68th in company with a detail from other Regts of the Brigade to follow with some company stores and other Regimental property, which was afterwards taken possession of by the Rebs and the guard taking prisoners – we have not seen them since

Now commences a series of rough marches which we have as yet had little experience in our next stop was at a place called Millville which we reached late at night and remained here until the 5th when we again got under way passing through Middlesborough an old town situated on a turnspike and is said to be of secesh proclivities – we passed the **Penn** Bucktails here – towards evening we stopped on a fine looking plantation long enough to make a cup of coffee much to the detriment of the fences in our reach which we appropriated for our little fires to cook by – we are soon underway again and it is now dark. We pass **while plain** and stop for the night near Salem – it is raining and the 68th is ordered out on picket

We go but a little way however and stop in a woods which affords us a partial shelter from the threatening storm and thus we spend the night better than if we had been kept with the Brigade.

6th this was a very severe days march, we made an earley start and the road was unusually rough chiefly through the roads of the worst description – we passed what is known as **broad gap** and late at night stopped in a field at the road side and without much ceremony lay down on the damp ground with our knapsack for a pillow and slept till morning –

7th this is a very cold morning and snowing. The first we have experienced – a march of about 2 miles and we are halted in the edge of a woods on the side of the road near the **rapidan creek** and in the vicinity of Waterloo – the bridge across the creek has been burned and we are compelled to stop until another is built –

9th this morning we go out on picket about one mile distant in the evening we are informed that the Brigade has moved and we are ordered to follow – which we proceed to do – the bridge having been rebuilt so that we can cross – after a march of about four mile we come up with the Brigade quartered for the night in an open field on what is said to be the culpepper Road. We stay here until the 12th – it is very cold –

On the 12th we make a backward move and retrace our steps through Waterloo and quarter again in a thick pine woods which affords us admirable shelter, about 5 miles from Warrenton – on the evening of the 15th the 68th is again ordered out on picket. About one mile from our home in the woods –

On Sunday morning the 16th we are informed that the Brigade is again about moving and we are directed to fall in – which we do and in the afternoon we encamped near Warrenton and spent the night there pleasantly enough –

17th got under way about 10 O'Clock – stopped about 2 – and made a cup of coffee in a field – marched until late in the evening could find no water – spent an unpleasant night – 18th – Marched again. Stopped early in the afternoon – wood and water plenty – was on guard that night – but stood it well.

19th got off in pretty good time this morning there is a heavy mist falling which wets us before we seem aware and has rendered the roads almost impassible – a steady rain threatened we are finally brought to a stand on the side of a hill in a stubble field and it rains all night –

20th floundered about all day in the yellow mud which now come gushing over shoe top at every step – had left quarters that night – in the morning wished I was home –

21st moved our quarters into a woods nearby – our present location fast floating away. Spent a pleasanter day and night than the preceding one, surrounded by a thick pine foliage –

22nd took up our line of march again – took dinner in a cornfield and continued our march until late in the evening stopping near where we are at present located –

23rd – Sunday morning – moved about ½ mile and encamped about 1 mile from Falmouth we are perhaps 2 mile inland from the Rappahannock – and nearly opposite Fredericksburgh where the Rebs is strongly entrenched – and here we remain in sight of the enemy, with nothing out of the usual routine of camp life to note. Spending our time in drills, inspection and services from day to day –

30th today we are ordered on picket march about 5 miles and return on the 3rd of December – nothing worthy of note having occurred during our absence –

5th this morning we were informed that the U.S. Paymaster was in camp to pay us our \$25 bounty provided by the government at the time of our enlistment – we were soon in line to approach him and after standing about 2 hours in a cold rain awaiting our turn we received our US Greenbacks – I sent \$20 home by mail which went safely – keeping \$5 for myself –

6th Snow and rain all day – very cold and disagreeable –

7th Sunday – Storm continued and very cold – winter set in earnestly –

8th – Clear and very cold – everything froze up – our little tents affording poor shelter –

11th the battle of Fredericksburg commenced this morning – we were ordered into line at an early hour – lay in a field near by all day in company with the whole Division – could distinctly hear the cannonading and see the smoke of the conflict which was uninterrupted during the day –

In the evening we advanced about 2 mile and took a position in a pine woods near Falmouth and remained here until about 4 O’Clock Friday afternoon – the fight not appearing to be so general as it was the day before – our next move was about two mile below Fredericksburgh and in the vicinity of our Pontoon Bridges – where we arrived late at night and remained until Saturday morning the 13th which was the day of the hardest fighting of the Battle –

13th got under way about 9 O’Clock – marched about 2 mile and stacked arms on a hill near the river – hearing firing on both sides – lay here about an hour and again moved on at a rapid pace –

Cross the river at one O’Clock and in another hour of quick marching through deep mud we are in the field and face to face with the enemy –

On our arrival we are at once placed in the front of the battle and have the pleasure of seeing the Rebs fall back into the edge of a woods beyond the reach of our rifles – the fight was kept up by artillery on both sides now and we were posted to support one of our batteries in which position we lay until Monday morning the 15th –

Sunday 14th – Occasional picket firing was kept up all night – we kept our position without sleep and now feel rusty – Co. B goes on the picket line at 4 O’Clock this day advances without much firing on either side – one of Co. B’s men is brought in wounded on picket – after dark we are sent to take a turn on picket – not a very comfortable arrangement for us after the fatigue of the last 48 hours – we go however as in duty bound, and ... in the night the peculiar whistle of the Rebs bullets over our heads is kept up just regular enough to keep us awake – we are relieved before daylight and return to our Regt which is still in the front line –

Monday 15th soon after daylight we were removed from our perilous position and fell back to the rear – though still in the field – I wrote to my wife and found an opportunity to make some coffee which I much needed – about 2 O’Clock we were moved still further back and occupied the road until evening –

There was no fighting today of any account and after dark in the evening preparations begin for a retreat, as it turned out to be, though we little thought of such a thing at the time – we moved about 8 O’Clock every precaution being taken to move as quietly as possible, we soon found we were approaching the River at the same point we crossed the day before which confirmed the suspicions which we had formed from the stealthiness of the move that we were on a retreat – we crossed the river again and continued on a roundabout march through mud ankle deep into the small hours of the night and finally stopped in a friendly woods much worn out –

16th we are awakened this morning by a heavy rain which has give us a good ... off and wet everything around us – we do not remain here long but get our things together and join the crowd of retreating soldiers and after another rough ... march of about 2 hours we arrive at our new camping grounds again and ... our little tents –

17th our time is now occupied for a few days in fixing up quarters for ourselves and making ourselves as comfortable as circumstances will admit – on the 24th we go out on picket again – to the same place we were about the 1st – and thus we spend our first Christmas in the army of the Potomac. We return to camp on the 27th and find every thing about as we left –

On the 31st we are mustered for our pay up to the first of the year – and so the old familiar 52 [sic] is at an end – Let us hope that long before we are done with 53 [sic] we may be restored to our homes enjoying the blessings of peace once more – which we will now know how to appreciate.

January – 1853 [SIC]

1st new years day. Was spent in camp much as every other is spent only that we had no drills – we lingered round camp at will and thought of better days –

16th there is a rumor in camp that we are on the eve of another move but the day wears away without any official announcement on that score our quarters are now becoming familiar to us and we regret to part with them as we would with an old and valued friend –

17th I am agreeably surprised this morning at the appearance in camp of my friend Mr. Jacob Landis from Phoenixville on a tour of sight seeing among the different camps – he brought me news from home and a package containing some small articles for me –

17th I received a letter from home through Mr. Landis – and sent one home by mail – Mr. Swayne arrived in camp with a large quantity of packages for our boys from their friends in Philada

I got a package from my wife containing for the most part eatables in the cake line – which won't last long – she also sent me her daggerrotype together with my daughter Mary's which I regard of the most value – we have orders to be ready to march at one o'clock tomorrow (Sunday) – and go to bed in the expectation of it being our last in these quarters – the weather is very cold just now and we deplore our anticipated move –

Sunday 18th – Is very cold this morning – we are up earley and getting packed up – have our usual Sunday morning inspection at 8 O'Clock and the order to be ready to march at one O'clock is reiterated – I write to my wife and mail it – and before 12 o'Clock the order to march is countermanded for 24 hours –

About 2 O'clock two men who were riding at a rapid rate along the road past our camp attracted our attention when one of the horses stumbled and falling broke his neck – throwing the rider ... - he was taken up insensible and bore to the hospital on a stretcher – he had the appearance of an officer in the army –

Sunday 18th –

At 3 O'Clock the Brigade was called out to witness the ceremony of branding and drumming out of camp of a man belonging to Co. J 63rd P.V. for desertion as sentenced by Court Martial – he deserted while on the retreat from the peninsula on July ... 1862 – at Harisons Landing –

19th the order to march is again countermanded and we remain here another day –

20th I received a letter from my wife stating she has sent me a box by Adams Express – the letter is dated 16th – we march today at 10 o'clock and had about as hard a days march as we ever experienced – our course was up the river – we stopped at night in a pine woods near the river and spent a miserable night in the rain – everything wet in the morning – no fires allowed during the night.

21st – got coffee, under many difficulties but enjoyed it – having had none for 24 hours – raining yet – during the day we assisted in pulling pontoon wagons out of the mud on there way to the river – remained here all night – put up our little shelter tents and done better than the night before – still raining and the mud on the road accumulating –

23rd no signs of clear weather yet and on a standstill all day – our design of crossing the river at this point appears to be frustrated and we will probably abandon it and go back to our old camp-

There is no appearance of clear weather yet and the condition of the roads renders it impossible to make any move – the wagons are stuck fast in the mud – our provision train cannot reach us – it lays two mile back and we are fast approaching the bottoms of our haversacks –

At 12 O'Clock we get the order to prepare to march back to our old camp in about an hour we are under way and reach our camp again about sundown by taking a short cut through fields and byways –

24th We have clear weather today and busy ourselves in fixing up our tents and drying our blankets –

25th (Sunday) This is another fine day though it rained some through the night – I got a letter from my daughter Mary and her friend Lizzie Able -- I write to my Bro ... -- the paymaster commenced to pay the Regt but after paying two Companies stopped for the night and will finish tomorrow –

26th The Paymaster finished paying our Regt today – he paid us up to Nov 1st leaving two months pay still due. I got \$33.85 – wrote to my wife and sent her 30 Dols by mail –

27th This is a dull day with more rain – all is quiet however and we get through with it pleasantly enough –

28th – I received a letter from my Brother ... this morning – It has been storming all night and continues during the day – continued to snow without intermission until Thursday morning with the sun came out warm –

29th – we are completely housed in this morning from the effect of the storm – our streets are in a miserable condition

I wrote a letter today to my old friend John Sh...man –

30th This is a fine old fashioned winter morning, the slush and mud of yesterday is solid enough now and I am on guard today – and get through it well – although I get but two hours of sleep – Nothing [ILLEGIBLE....] – I write to my daughter Mary and her friend Lizzie Able – and [ILLEGIBLE....] still adding to our experience in a winter campaign –

Sunday we had our usual inspection [ILLEGIBLE...] – I received a letter from my father – I write to my Brother [ILLEGIBLE...]

Feb 3rd Still very cold nothing of importance to note – I got a letter today from Lew [?] stating that the money I sent to my wife had arrived safe –

4th – It is still very cold – I am on guard today – looks like snow.

5th it is snowing this morning in good earnest – continues during the day alternating with rain and hail in the afternoon – and so continues all night.

6th The snow of yesterday is all gone this morning and in its stead we have the usual accompaniment of mud which keeps us in the house all day again –

7th This is a fine clear morning and the mud is again as hard as a rock – but the sun soon turns it to mud again – we had a general inspection today. I received a letter from Father dated Feb 1st –

Feb 8th (Sunday) We have nothing to note today – we spend the time in parading and lounging in our cabin home – I write to my father – and the day wears away –

9th – Nothing of importance occurs today – the 9th army corps is moving away which thins our ranks in this vicinity. There is no sign our our moving –

10th Our Brigade is ordered on picket this morning – We start at 8 O’Clock with 3 days Rations and after a rough wearisome march of about 8 or 9 mile in a circuitous route we reach the picket line with proves to be only about 3 mile from camp in a new place to us surrounded by hills and thick waving pinery’s.

11th – Our duties on picket is not arduous. We stand guard 2 hours of 24 – and the balance of the time is spent in lounging about with an occasional hour at reading or writing and sometimes cooking, contemplating at intervals the end of the war and our return home – May it be sooner than anticipated –

12th We are continually threatened with stormy weather which we dread much in our unprotected condition. But thus far it has not been so bad as it might be in the weather line – I received a letter from my brother ... today dated the 8th – We had a supply of fresh bread sent us the first we have had since leaving Poolsville.

13 We are relieved this morning and return to camp where we arrive toward evening much to our satisfaction – Tiered and hungry we feel at home again –

14th I received a letter from my wife today dated 9th – I am on guard today and we have fine weather –

15th (Sunday) – We spend the day as is our usual custom in camp – we lay at rest and read some – the weather continues fine –

16th – this has been the most spring-like day we have yet – nothing unusual occurs during the day –

17th – Much to our surprise we awoke this morning in the midst of a heavy snow storm which continues all day – keeping us indoors – I received a letter from John Sh...man –

18th it Rained all day and we have our accustomed supply of mud again – I write to my wife –

19th I am on guard today it is still cloudy but not raining today – I write to my father.

20th This is a fine clear day which we appreciate after our continued stormy weather – I received letters from my father and my daughter Mary and Lizzie Able –

21st This was a fine clear day and it was spent in giving our camps a general cleaning up – preparatory to inspection which is to come of tomorrow –

Feb 22nd (Sunday) – this proved to be the stormiest day we have had this season it commenced snowing some time during the night and continued all day without intermission – So our inspection was knocked in the head. And we spend the day in our tents – Our cooks could not work and we made our own coffee –

22nd – About 10 O’Clock there was a salute fired, stormy as it was, in honor of the anniversary of the birthday of Washington –

23rd The storm has ceased and it is very cold, I am sick this morning with a heavy cold and report to the doctor he gives me some medicine and I lay in the tent all day –

24th I am better this morning but still keep close in my tent the weather is very unsettled and rains at times – I write to my father and wife today – Mr. Swayne arrived in camp yesterday. He has a large lot of packages for our boys but he had to leave them at Aquia Creek he goes down today to try and get them up –

25th nothing to report today – I am still on the doctors list but getting better the weather is still bad.

26th – Nothing to say.

27th – I got a letter from my wife and one from my ... today – I am still unwell and taking quinine I am improving however and may soon be able to resume my duties –

28th This being the last day of the 2nd month in the year, we are mustered again for 2 mo pay –

I received a letter from my father today – and wrote to him and also to my wife –

March 1st (Sunday) – nothing of note to day – I am still unwell –

2nd – I received a letter from my wife today

3rd – I wrote to my father and my wife today.

4th We moved our camp today 4 mile by road – 2 mile direct in a woods – rough and hilly – near the R.R – I remained in the old camp, not being able to march with the Regiment –

5th I come on to our new camp today. Everything is in confusion just laying out streets and building houses –

6th We have inspection today – I received a letter from my Bro U.L. – the weather is bad and our shelters our poor – I write to my Bro U.L.

7th We are busy all day in advancing out houses the weather is bad with some rain and we sorely feel the need of them –

8th (Sunday) This is another dull, cloudy, gloomy day it has rained all night and is not done yet the mud accumulates everywhere and our houses are unfinished – I received a long and very interesting letter from my father mailed on the 3rd, I also write to him today. I am better than I have been in health and am about to resume my duties again –

9th This is a fine day the best we have had for a long time. Our Brigade went on picket this morning leaving only the sick in camp. Our new houses are thus stoped again for a time –

I received a letter from my Bro U.L. – and wrote to my wife –

10th This was another day of continuous storm, it snowed all the forepart of the day and in the afternoon rained by way of variety – I wrote to my Bro U.L. –

11th This is a clear day but the condition of things outdoors renders it unfit to be out much, the Regt is still out, and our houses are at a stand, I got a letter from my wife, and write to my daughter Mary.

12th This is a good working day and we do some work on our new house and get it in condition to sleep in for the first time, and although not finished we find it better than our shelter tent in many respects. The Regt came in today and we are at home again –

13th Today we busy ourselves in making our house more comfortable – in the evening we make fire in it –

14th Today was spent in clearing up our streets and doing work for the company – I received a box from my family through Mr. Swayne containing many nice things – I am on duty again, though not entirely well. I received a long letter from my father in the evening which wound up the day pleasantly.

15th (Sunday) Today we had Brigade inspection which came off pleasantly though the day was cold and a storm threatening at the time, the Regt. Never looked better than it did this morning and we were complimented by the inspecting officer on our good general appearance – in the afternoon it snowed, hailed and Rained-

16th There is a crust of ice over everything this morning which reminds us that winter is still with us – before night however we have our usual supply of mud, we carried some poles from the woods, going a long ways for them for our bunks –

17th This is St. Patricks day which reminds me that it is my Bro Ikes birthday – it is unusually pleasant it froze hard through.

17th – The night, with a heavy frost in the morning but as the day advanced and the sun came out it was more than usually muddy – we got our bunks arranged today and slept in them for the first time . We have now more comfortable quarters than we have had since we have been in the army. Our tent-mates are Mchain, Barnitt, Jones, McCormick and myself with room for one more –

18th The weather is mild this morning – it did not freeze any through the night – the wind has dried the mud up some but we see in the general appearance of things an approaching storm –

19th I am on guard today – the 68th was called out very unexpectedly for inspection at 3 O’Clock by an officer of the Corps – and we gave entire satisfaction as far is known.

20th I stood my 24 hours guard duty well – It is snowing and continued so all day though not with much force – nothing of importance has occurred and we stay in the house all day –

21st The storm of yesterday still continues which makes outdoor moovements very unpleasant. I got a letter from my wife yesterday, I write to Sallie today –

22nd (Sunday) Nothing of importance to note to day. The afternoon was clear and warm. I wrote to my father –

23rd This is a fair day though the everlasting mud still prevails – I wrote to my friend John Sh...an today.

24th Today we had another Brigade Inspection – it came off pleasantly – I wrote to my Brother U.L. it is clear but the weather is unsettled –

25th – We were ordered to be ready for Review by Gov Curtin of PA but the day set in stormy and and it did not come off as was expected – toward evening however we were hurriedly called into line for that purpose, but after standing until dark and the Governor not making his appearance we were dismissed and took a late supper –

26th This day opened with rain and snow but not so bad as to prevent our complying with the order of the evening before to be in line ready to receive the Gov at 8 O'Clock – we marched to the designated review ground (near our old camp). It cleared off after starting and, excepting the mud the day was spent pleasantly enough – we had a speech from the Gov. after reviewi – got home near 3 O'Clock.

27th This day was spent in regular holiday style by our Division. Gen Berry (?) having kindly allowed us a 4th of July in March. The amusements of the day were horse racing, foot racing, sack racing, a great pole to climb with an X on the top for him who could get it – Some were thrown from their horses during the racing and severely injured – the ground being very rough as all ground in Virginia is –

Col Colis (?) was one of the unfortunates who fell but he was not much hurt – with these exceptions, everything passed off pleasantly enough – on the main platform we had a good view of many well dressed ladies which we enjoyed as much as any feature in the show, not having seen anything done up in silk for 7 months – the day was remarkably pleasant –

28th It rained hard all day and we stayed in the house –

29th (Sunday) This is a fine clear day with high wind – I am on guard.

30th – This is a remarkable fine day – I got a letter from my father – mother has been sick, but is recovering –

31st To our surprise we find it has been snowing all night – it turns to rain this morning, and continues all day –

April 1st – This morning we were called up at 4 O'Clock to prepare for a move, it was said the Enemy was advancing on us and the usual bustle incident to such occasions ensued, after daylight however, we found the whole thing to be a joke - this being the first of April – and we have some wags in the Army – we all laughed good humourly and so it passed off –

2nd – This was a fine day though a little cold and windy – we spent the afternoon on Battalion Drill, I received a letter from my Bro. U.L. and wrote to my wife –

3rd – Nothing of importance to note today – it rained some and is still very muddy –

4th – This was a clear day and the wind very high – it commenced snowing in the evening and we have an order to go on picket tomorrow –

5th (Easter Sunday) : It snowed all night and still continued until about 10 O'Clock today – we started on our march for the picket line a little after 8 O'Clock and arrived there about 2 – after a rough and fatiguing march of eight miles as we ever had – our time is spent pleasantly enough on picket until Thursday the 9th when we return to camp –

10th This morning the President & Suite passed our lines we were called out to see him and allow him to see us as he passed –

11th This day was spent in cleaning up our traps for Sunday –

12th (Sunday) this is a fine day and contrasts beautifully with last Sunday – we have nothing to do and lounge about camp reading, writing (...) –

13th – We had Brigade Inspection today – which occupied the most of the day –

14th We are ordered to march today with 8 days Rations – we turn in our overcoats so as to lessen our load – and expect to be off for parts unknown in the morning –

15th Our anticipations of yesterday are again defeated by a rain which has prevailed nearly all night rendering a move impracticable –

16th The storm of yesterday has ceased, leaving the roads in a condition to prevent a move just now – our blankets which we turned in are returned to us today –

17th This is a fine day and nothing important has occurred.

18th We were inspected today by our Corps Inspector, and we never appeared to better advantage –

19th (Sunday) This was a fine day – and we were reviewed by Gen Sickels & Staff – this whole week was stormy and nothing of importance occurred –

26th Sunday – We were paid today 4 months up to March 1st – I sent \$40 to my wife by ... swain, and \$5 by mail –

27th – We were reviewed today by Gen Hooker – Secty. Seward & Secty Stanton and are again in anticipation of an early move in the morning –

28th We move today but not until 5 O'Clock in the evening, we march to within one mile of the River and lay all night in the woods, at a point below where we crossed before –

29th It rained some yesterday, and still continues cloudy, but not raining – a heavy cannonading is opened this morning at 8 O'Clock on our front – We move again at 9 O'Clock and take a position 1 mile further up the River – toward evening we pitch tents for the night on a spot. Of the threatened rain – we are ordered to strike them again however – and spend the night without a move, and in the rain –

30th – Everything is wet this morning we put up our tents again – I received a letter from my Bro U.L. – containing a photograph of Sis (?) – It still rains in the morning but clears off about noon and the sun comes out very warm at one o'clock we move again and experience one of the most fatiguing we ever had, we come to a halt at 12 O'clock at night, near the same place that we lay in Jan last when Burnside's attempts to cross was defeated by the Storm – we marched, we marched perhaps 15 miles – and are now on the right of our lines, and within about 3 miles of the River –

May 1st – We started again at 5 O Clock this morning, cross the river at 9 O’Clock – rest an hour on the heights formerly occupied by the Rebs – march again 5 miles and have another hours rest, moove again 2 mile to Hookers Headquarters – another rest, and at 6 ½ O’clock we are ordered into the field and take a position under heavy fire of artillery – and occupy it all night –

May 2nd – We mooved off the field at 4 O clock this morning and take a position in the woods near yesterdays scene of action where we lay at rest until noon – there is no general engagements today – we cannot draw the Enemy out of their defences in the woods – in the evening it is ascertained that our right has been turned and the Enemy is in our rear –

Every arrangement is made for an early opening in the morning we lay in line of battle directly on the front all night to be ready for the opening expected of the morning – skirmishing is kept up lively all night –

3rd (Sunday) as we expected, the Rebs oppened on us at day light this morning and for 6 hours the heaviest fighting of the war was kept up – we finally gained our position at a fearful cost of life in two hours we were oppened on again from another point which was kept up an hour – and then the general fighting of the day was over, we lay in front of our breastworks all night before much skirmishing was done through the night –

4th May – We are relieved this morning and take a position back of the breastworks where we can make some coffee – considerable skirmishing is kept up during the day – our Batteries are opened occasionally, but we are permitted to lay in our place without taking any active part in the work of the day – there is much picket firing during the night –

5th May – We are still kept in the same position as yesterday – fireing on both sides are still kept up, but no general engagement takes place – ~~There is also much fireing through the night as before~~ – a heavy storm came on about 4 o’Clock and gives us a good soaking in our unprotected condition – at 8 O’Clock we are directed to be ready for a moove at a moment’s notice. After day our artillery was mooved off the field and we spent an unpleasant night in the rain –

6th at About 3 O’Clock this morning we commenced our moove toward the river and regrouped about 6 O’Clock and continued our march about 2 miles where we made coffee and rested ½ an hour – The mud on the roads was a bad as we ever experienced, we continued our march until we arrived at our old camp in the evening – our quarters were all wet, and we spent another unpleasant night – it still raining – and very cold –

7th May, This morning we were ordered out on picket, but after getting in line we stacked arms & awaited further orders – the orders did not come however, and we remained in camp all day –

8th We started on picket this morning and after marching about a mile the order was again reversed and we returned to camp to await further orders still holding ourselves in readiness to go – we received a mail today – the first since our last moove. I got a letter from my father, and one from my wife –

9th May About 5 o Clock this afternoon we started for our picket line – the day was very hot and the march was a severe one – we put up at 9 O’Clock in the woods it being too dark to post the pickets –

10th (Sunday) we were soon in line this morning and after marching about 2 mile further we were posted about one mile from the River & 5 or 6 mile above Falmouth this was nearer the river than our usual

picket ground and new to us – by some blundering we were misplaced and shifted our position 3 times that day which occupied all the day – and we were still not in the right place –

11th – We were mooved again this morning and this ended our mooving for the day – we lay quietly at rest the balance of the day 0 which we all needed and enjoyed –

12th We were relieved this morning and marched into camp again it was a very hot day and the march set heavy on us –

13th this was a day of rest in camp no inspections, Drills or Reviews which is worthy of note –

14th This is a very warm day – and we still lay at rest in camp –

15th The weather is now pleasant, and we are fast recovering from our fatigue –

16th

Friday May 29th – We mooved our camp today. We are now near the River and 1 ½ mile from **Bills Plane Landing (?)** –

Tuesday June 2nd – We went on picket today – we had a longer march than usual, on account of our camp being now further from the Line – we returned on Friday the 5th –

Friday June 5th We returned to camp today and were ordered to be in readiness to moove again at a moments notice –

6th The order to moove prevailed during the day but we did not get off –

Sunday June 7th – We had Division Inspection today – we were paid 2 mos. Pay up to 1st of May – I sent \$20 home –

Thursday June 11th We marched today very unexpectedly at 2 o'clock and after marching about 15 mile in the direction of Warenton stopped for the night about 11 O'clock –

June 12 – we got under way about 7 O'Clock this morning marching on the Warenton Road – Encamped about 4 O'Clock near the Orange & Alexander Rail Road - & 5 mile from Rappahanock Station.

Saturday 13th June We mooved again today about 2 O'Clock – marched about 2 ½ mile and stopped in a woods beautifully located along the Rail Road – and not far from the River – this was a very hot day – in the Evening we had a shower which cooled the air some and this (Sunday) morning it is right pleasant again – we are awaiting orders for another moove.

Sunday June 14th This day opened cloudy and was cooler than the preceding days – the sun came out hot enough in the afternoon – we started about 5 O'Clock and mooved to **Beatlir (?)** Station 2 mile where we lay until 8 O'Clock – when we took up our line of march again & following the R.R. – we passed Warenton Junction and stopped for the night at **Catlit (?)** Station, about one O'Clock – tired enough – (10 miles)

Monday June 15 – This was the most severe days marching we ever experienced – we were summoned into line about 6 O'Clock but before we got fairly underway the sun was well up and bid fair to be a very

hot day – many fell from its effect and some died & were buried along the road – We rested & took dinner at Bristow Station & stopped for the night on the old Battlefield of Manassas (13 miles).

Tuesday June 16 – We had a good nights rest at Massas and had our coffee & crackers earley – started about 7 O'clock and rested at Blackburns Ford, Bull Run Creek – which turned out to be a good long rest for we remained here all day laying in the shade along the creek. We drew rations and spent the night here and this (Wednesday) morning we are fresh for another start

Wednesday June 17 The road is crowded with troops, artillery, and wagon trains today. We remain in our pleasant position of the day before until about 3 O'Clock when we join in the line of march and luckily for us we only go about 2 mile and stop again for the night in sight of Centerville and on a beautiful spot for a good nights rest – it has been a very hot day with plenty of dust –

Thursday June 18 – We lay here all day and contrary to our expectations spent another night here – we had a fine shower in the evening which cooled the air some –

Friday June 19- We mooved today at 3 O'Clock and taking the road to Leesburgh we came to a halt near Gum Springs – it rains hard and we are on picket – we made 10 miles today –

Saturday June 20 – We were relieved from our duty on picket today but did not return to the Brigade but remained in our quarters over night – it rained some during the day all continues quiet –

Sunday June 21st – We returned to camp today – heavy cannonading is heard in front of us, we are under orders to moove at 10 O'Clock. We moove at 3 O'Clock to a position about one mile further front where we form in line of Battle – we are vidently near the Enemys lines now & liable to an attack at any time –

Monday June 22nd – All is quiet today and we remain in our position of yesterday without further mooving –

Tuesday June 23rd – We make no further moove today but all is very quiet – foraging parties have gone out and returned well supplied with fresh meat of all kinds –

Wednesday June 24th – We are still laying idle – no appearance of the Enemy, except in the shape of guerrillas which infest the neighbourhood committing all kinds of depredations –

Thursday June 25 – We make an early start this morning and have a long march – our course is toward the Potomac and we cross on the pontoons at Edwards Ferry at 3 O'Clock (12 mile from Gum Springs) we continue our march up the River to the mouth of the Monocacy. 12 mile further & stop in the woods for the night, pretty tiered – it rained all night –

Friday June 26 – Everything is wet this morning. The roads very muddy and it is still raining. We moove at 7 O'Clock- our march today is slow and tiresome – we stop at point of Rocks on the Harpers ferry R.R. and remain here all night – making about 6 or 7 miles today –

Saturday June 27 We marched today at 7 O'Clock – the roads was bad and our progress tedious – we passed through Jefferson a fine looking town and stopped at night near Middleborough, Md – I rode in ambulance today being unable to walk –

Sunday June 28 We made another early start this morning – I had to ride again being sick – we made about 15 mile and spent the night near Walkersville – crossed through Frederick City

Monday June 29th We started this morning again at an early hour we passed through Woodborough early in the day – a very pretty town. Stopped at night near Jamestown – 4 mile from the Penns. Line – making 15 mile.

Tuesday June 30 – We mooved again today taking a westernly direction up allong the Penns. Line, through a beautifull agricultural Country, and always near the range of mountains known as the Blue Ridge in Virginia – South Mountains in Md. & the Alegheny in Pa, but all the same range of mountains, - we made 9 mile today – got caught in a heavy rain and stopped for the night near Emmetsburg.

Wednesday July 1st It rained very heavy today – we mooved but a short distance and put up again near Emmetsburg, but was again ordered to march and, made a very tiresome and tedious trip of 9 mile to Gettysburgh, arriving late at night, - a fight had occurred here today and we expect to be into it tomorrow –

Gettysburgh Penns. Thursday July 2nd – This day we witnessed a very severe battle, about 3 O’Clock we planted our batteries in position, the brigade in supporting distance. Our regmt lay right behind the batteries, the enemy succeeded in having an front and cross artillery fire at our batteries, making a very hot place for us. I was wounded by a musket ball, just above my ankle as I was coming off of the field, towards evening the rebels carried me (they having driven us & held possession of the ground) into a house where I lay without any material change till Saturday noon –

Saturday July 4th Today an ambulance conveyed me to our 3 Corps hospital, which was in a woods by a creek, in a low place – it soon began to rain much, one of my comrades who was slightly wounded fitted up a tent, put in some straw, & I was fitted tolerably comfortably for the night. I could not get my wound dressed today – it rained very hard through the night & many more wounded men had to lay without covering all night –

Sunday July 5. This morning I had the ball taken out of my leg, I took chloroform, from which it took me some time to recover, the doctors are still busy amputating limbs, the groans of the wounded you can hear continuously.

Monday July 6 – No special change today, my leg is painful but is doing as well as could be expected – I learn that 90 men is all our rgmt now numbers our of 275 that went into battle. Our Lieu. Colonel, Major & our Capt all wounded, but neither dangerously, one out of the company (Archer) has died, & we have never heard from Sgt. Pearson(?) & private Rourke(?).

Tuesday July 7. I was moved today by being carried on a stretcher, up into a field, where the ground is dryer, & put into a hospital tent, it rained very hard all night & this morning streams are unusually high. My bed is hard having no straw to lay on, my leg was painful after being moved –

Wednesday July 8 About 150 of our wounded men that could walk was today sent to Gettysburg & I suppose will be sent home. This afternoon my leg bleed ... freely, the doctor probed out where the ball had entered & put lint in to stop the bleeding, has been more painful today than any day yet –

