Headquarters 23rd Army Corps Dept of the Mississippi
May 9th Left Chickamauga creek at 6 1/2 o'clock A.M. marched to General Schofield headquarters distant 12 miles. We had scarcely got our tents pitched till the order came to move the wagon train to Chunn Hill distant 4 miles. We arrived at Gen. Thomas Noddin about 12 o'clock. Immediately after noon we were ordered to proceed to Rocky Face mountain and open a line of communication with the 4th Corps. Our men had scarcely got up to the top till my party was stopped by signaling to Schofield's headquarters (this mountain is about 1112 feet high and so steep that a man cannot ride up on horseback; it is about 10 yd. wide on top). After driving the rebels about 1 mile out the mountain into a fort, the ball began to open on every side of the mountain. 2 brigades of infantry belonging to the 4th Corps advanced along the hill as skirmishers in about 1/2 an hour the rebels made a charge on us but were repulsed with great loss. Our loss was about 25 killed and wounded. In a few minutes after midnight the 15th Ind. Battery opened on a rebel fort about
1 mile distant the shells struck right in the fort and the nry the 'Johnny's got out of there was anything but slow there wagon train shuddled for the rear quicker than I ever write it in the evening. Stanley's division of cavalry came up and formed on the right of the 23rd Corps.

May 10. This morning is wet and disagreeable to be out in the open field without any tent. Some little skirmishing on the right last night we brought 2 pieces of artillery up on the mountain about 10 o'clock our men fell back 1/2 mile as to be out of range of the rebel artillery. The reb skirmishers now hold the house where Gen. Schofield's Headquarters were. Our men are being heavily reinforced on the left and so are the rebels as we can see them moving by thousands from their camps in and about Dalton. Some artillery firing in the direction of Buzzards Roost. This afternoon Capt. McCary came up to us he had just arrived from Knoxville he brought Will Howat and 3 negroes with him. In the evening the Headquarters train moved up to the foot of the mountain. Everything quiet along the lines to night.
Tuesday May 11th. Rained all night and this morning everything is wet & muddy. There are more Major Generals here than you could shake a stick at. Gen. Sherman, Schofield & Stoneman and Brigadiers innumerable. About noon we were again ordered up on the mountain to relieve Gen. Reynolds & Buckley in the afternoon the Rebs put on their blankets & knapsacks and marched off in the direction of Dalton & after they got in line they stationed us for about an hour at night they kept up strong pickets fires. In the evening Gen. Stoneman arrived from Camp Nelson Ky. with 10,000 cavalry. Two of them went to Tunnel Hill and the other are operating on the left flank.

Wednesday May 12th. This morning is very cool for the Sunny South. We relieved at 7 o'clock in the morning. About daylight the 2 Brigades moved down off the mountains and marched on the left flank the 23rd Corps then marched down to Tunnel Hill. We were ordered to load up our baggage and send it back to Ringgold. The dismounted men were ordered back till we get horses. We arrived here about 5 o'clock and went into camp.
May 13th. This morning is pleasant and warm.

I always had an idea that Ringgold was a nice Southern town but far from it all the principal buildings were burnt down by our forces when they took possession of it. It is the county seat of Dalton County. 2 miles from it are the Dalton Springs, the Saratoga of the Confederate States. They are said to contain 30 different kinds of water. In the evening 57 Rebel prisoners were brought in from Dalton. Our men are said to have possession of Dalton. Ringgold is 32 miles from Chattanooga and 14 from Dalton. 7 from Tunnel Hill.

Saturday 14th May. Weather warm and pleasant. This morning the news came that Gen. Lee had surrendered with 40,000 men. I am afraid it is too good to be true. Our men have possession of Dalton and 13 miles beyond our skirmishers advanced on double quick all morning. We have taken 500 prisoners and 23 pieces of artillery. 132 of them that deserted the rebels went to Nashville tonight. They all appear to be tired of the war. All of them were conscripted. They say they get plenty of corn bread and bacon but no coffee or sugar. The prisoners think the next stand they make will be at Rome, Georgia.
As they cannot get back to Atlanta for old Joe Hooker is between them and that blade I think if we are successful in driving the rebels from Richmond and Atlanta the Southern Confederacy is pretty well played out in the north you hear about the South being starved and

but far from it the day before our men took possession of Dalton the rebels had a large warehouse stuffed full of bacon and corn which they took with them also captured a house full of tents which they had either forgotten or we were too close for them. One of the prisoners told me last night if our forces would have charged up to the night they would not have lost man in a 100 for they said they would not shoot to kill yankees anymore. Last Wednesday morning one of the rebels just called me in one of the 4th corps and said we were not giving them a fair shake the boys asked him why. Says he your damned old Joe Hooker has cut off our cracker train between here and Atlanta.

May 10th Weather warm & pleasant. Today heavy fighting in the center. Rebel prisoners coming in saying that they will not make a stand this side of thigh now over rivers. Our loss is not known at present but is very heavy in the charge on Ruggles men our men killed 1000 of them.
Went down to the station and met a fellow from the 9th Ohio by the name of Stanger, he
was wounded in the leg at the battle of Chickamauga
but is now on his way to the West.

May 16th Left Ringgold at 6 o'clock A.M. and came
onto Dalton distance 16 miles where we arrived
there we were ordered to Dalton. We encamped with
an 1 mile of town about about 500 men one 2 miles
this side of Dalton where by the 1st Alabama Cav.
Dalton is about as large as Cadis only more scattered
every house having the yard planted full of trees
and shrubbery. The town is now nearly destitute
of inhabitants as they thought the Jackson would
kill and butch them in every house where
they were found. Today we passed through Union
until the Tunnel is 1477 ft in length. A little
longer than the one at Cadis Junction.

May 17th. This morning no rain I disagreeable
to be out but a Soldier is supposed to care whether
it rains or not. Left camp at 6 o'clock. Passed
through Dalton. I think from the way the town
looks it has the right name for it is about
the size of the city of Vancouver only more scattered.
This is the first R.R. station this side of
Dalton. We crossed Conatooga river at this place.
This stream is about 150 yds wide and about from 5 to 6 ft deep. Come on about 1 mile further and our old wagon upset and spilled our baggage all over the road, all we had to do was to turn the wagon back and reload which was accomplished in about 1 hour.

We traveled on till night but could not find headquarters as they had moved across the river.

Wednesday May 15. This morning is warm and pleasant left camp at 8 o'clock was ferried across the Converseville river which is about 50 yds wide and about 20 ft in depth. The pioneers are continuing a bridge across 20 with pontoons. We next forded Sixmile creek one of the tributaries of the Goodwater river. Kept no curve to Bigblue Spring. This is one of the most beautiful springs in Camp. It is about 20 ft in diameter and 10 ft deep and the water as clear as crystal. The stream of water flowing from it is as large as the Conner. At Mastertons about 1 mile from here we met the 1st and 3rd Divisions of the 2nd Corps. We followed after them but found out we were on the wrong road so we had to retrace our steps to the Spring but as good luck would have it we found Headquarters and the boys all right.
Saturday May 21st Left camp at Wrights and came back to Cassville station where General Shepilow's headquarters are for the present. Lem Major Grant, Sergeant Honeymoon both look as if they had been some hard service during this campaign. Artillery firing at the river as our men are constantly annoyed by the rebel sharpshooters. Rebel prisoners are coming in from the depot in squads of from 12 to 20 men very near all of them appear to be disgusted of the way the Southern Controversy is being managed by Jeff Davis. They all appear to be tired of the war very near all of them have been in for over 3 years and cannot get out of the service.

Sunday May 22 Weather warm and pleasant. Asked permission of the Captain to go up to see the boys in the 74th Ohio. Found the boys all right side up excepting Ben Rosen the year left in the hospital at Grapeville Georgia. Paul Shugbee and Eudew Gobikwull were out on cricket. The rest of the boys were all in camp. I can't very well and

Sam Budge is in the 43rd Ohio and
Maj. Louis Allen, and Capt. James Simmons were detailed into the Pioneer Corps. All of the boys appear to like soldiering, and first-rate Ed. Salmon is with the Company. He stands it middling well. Eideen Eddlestein looks about as well as ever. Paul Grubbell is about the same as he was at home. Little Harvey Stewart is here too. He stands at first rate. I suppose you want to find out what part of the 9th of May your division was ordered to charge. Rocky face mountains at all hazards. My party was detailed to go along with the division as it was not many minutes before the balls flew as thick as hail. We charged the rebels and took the hill we then signalled back for reinforcements which came in about 1 half an hour. We held our position on the hill until about 5 o'clock in the evening when Harkey's Brigade of the 4th Corps was ordered to charge onto Blizard's right the 64th Ohio was the first that came to do it. We going with them we raised the yell. and started for the fort. They immediately opened on us with artillery and musketry we got within 100 yards of the fort and then were mown down by the rebel infantry which drove us back about 1/4 of a mile. Our loss was 81 killed & wounded among which was the Colonel 2 captains and 3 lieutenants. The loss on the rebel side I think was equal to our own.
No person can describe the feeling which came over him while in a fight. I was frightened some until we were ordered to advance and the boys raised the yell. Then I did not feel afraid. I hope to God that I may never be in another such a place to fight in as Buzzardroost is. Immediately after the fight I was ordered back to Arlington with the baggage. Well I just come into camp and what should I find but a letter from home. It was indeed a welcome missing to me. I received one to day dated on the second day of May. I am glad to hear that Young John Webster is going for 100 days. I think it will take some of the Copperheads out of him. I feel so mad every time I see a dead Union soldier that if some of the Leading Copperheads of Ramey Township were here I could put a bullet through them with more grace than I could a rebel. This Sunday we saw
writing I will bet that some of the Copperheads are at home speculating on who was killed in the late battles and saying that it was good for them. But thank God there was none of the boys from Nunnally township killed but we all alive and well and if they can live to get back we will clear our letters from every one of them. I despise a Copperhead worse than Hades or the Devil for I think a Copperhead is a brother to none only known by another name. I am in good health and spirits and ready for another fight with the Rebels. We leave in the morning with 20 days rations but I do not know which way we will go. You must not be uneasy if you do not hear from me for a while. With all the best to your Mother that my shoot are all right I get the latest Republican every week. Well I believe I have given you with all the news that I can think of at present So I will end it.

Amos Elliott

Give my best respects to all the friends;
Address to Clarksville, Tennessee
Near Dallas, Georgia,

Signal Corps Headquarters 23rd A. C. in the field,

May 23rd. Left Camp stations about 6 o'clock and traveled all day through the woods and at night arrived on the banks of the Etowah river. The weather was so hot and roads so dusty that you could scarcely see the man before you. Some skirmishing with the enemy all day. The rebels are in force on the other side of the river. They captured 60 men of the 4th Ohio Cavalry but they all escaped but 8 of them. It is thought by our Generals that there will not be much of a fight here as the rebels will retreat to their strongholds in the Allatoona Mountain.

May 24th. Left camp about 6 o'clock and crossed the Etowah river on pontoons. This river is about 300 yards wide and about 2 feet deep. Passed through a very fine country plenty of everything that you could wish to see. What in head corn knee high and any amount of bacon & flour. My tentmate brought a ham & coffee pot into camp this evening. The inhabitants all fled to the throne of Jeff Davis for protection. Taking their mops, cattle and everything they can with them. Skirmishing all day with the rebels our men are driving them as fast as they can advance. Commenced to rain about dark and the wagon train got onto the wrong
road and so we did not get into camp until about 12 o'clock at night, not as a person could be and no supper to its was about 10 o'clock before we got to bed after sleeping all night in water about 3 inches deep, we felt very much refreshed next morning, May 21. Left camp about 10 o'clock and marched about 6 miles and was camouflaged for dinner. The rebels have tried logjams across the road to stop our progress but thanks to Gen. Schofield we happen to have a good engineer corps which can cut a road any place that a government wagon can drive and that is going place about 4 o'clock P.M. we again started and marched 2 miles and encamped for the night.

Nearing fire near to our left supposed to be General Porter's corps engaging the rebels at Burnt Tackley. The rebels charged on our men 2 or 3 times but were repulsed with fearful loss. The Guerrillas have got into our baggage train and burned 12 wagons of clothes and baggage. Our men burnt Cass Station Pike commenced raining about 8 o'clock P.M. and rained very hard for 1 or 2 hours. This evening as Gen. Schofield was in command of the front his horse fell into a mine and hurt him slightly so as to be confined to his bed. Gen. Crook commands the Corps until his recovery.
Thursday May 26th. Troops passing all night. This morning after I got up the 1st. Div. 13th Corps passed us on its way to the front. The boys in the 4th all well. Seen Tom Constine twice in Co. 16 2nd. This he looks as if soldiceering agreed with him and I suppose it does by the way that he devoured his oxtails last Sunday. Heavy fighting all day the rebels slowly retreating the Alturas mountains. Our men captured 2 cannons last night.

Our reinforcements came up today.

Friday May 27th. Left camp about 10 o'clock traveled through the woods until we came to Humphreysville creek where is where yesterdays fight began. The hill is so thickly wooded that you cannot see what is before you. Hookers men charged the hill and drove the rebels back about 1 mile into their intrenchments and parading over the battlefield you could see rebel and Federal lying close to each other. About 1 mile from the ground are our hospitals. I visited them to see if there were any boys there that I was acquainted with. I could not find any. I did not stay long to listen to the groans of our wounded. The surgeons were operating on our legs as if they belonged to soldiers instead of men. The most horrible scene.
that I witnessed and one which I shall never forget was that of a German boy belonging to the 144th New York a shell had struck him about the knee and taken both legs off he was bleeding to death and nothing could be done for him I thought then that any person that beheld that scene could not easily forget it I know that I shall remember it to my dying hour. Our wagon train passed on about 3 miles and encamped near Gen Schimmelfennig. Headquarters the rebels commenced shelling as soon as we went out there was not very slow a few of shells broke their shingles outside on the hard railroad from instantly the danger took it out at range about 14 pieces. The 20th corps suffered heavily in today's fight we had 4 batteries no position which are playing on the rebels all the time. Commanding ceased about 10 o'clock at night and continued until morning the rebels made a charge on our men but were repulsed with a heavy loss. Our men have silenced their battery and no man can show his head near it unless he's behind the log. We were down here in the woods out of range of shells & bullets. The 20th corps is the only corps engaged to day the 4th corps suffered severely yesterday evening all the boys are in good spirits and think we'll win. The 16th ill infantry started for home to day and Saturday May 29th 2 of our boys had their arms stove in a shell and hurt. As about one this morning and the Johnnies made another charge on our works but were repulsed as usual. The rebels must be getting desperate for they charge our works as if they were dots instead of human beings and they never accomplish anything but have been attended to. They might as well try to drive an ox and the Pacific ocean as make our works as we have plenty of men, especially at Fredericksburg & Fredericks.
Near Dalton, Georgia  May 31st 1864

Dear Father

I will try and write a few lines this morning to let you know how I am getting along. I have had the dysentery for about twelve but am now about well again. I think drinking so many different kinds of water in a short time gave it to me. Well we are camped here in the Altoona woods, with plenty of Johnny's to keep us company but they send us messages back and forwards which I do not like to hear here. The rebels have very strong works, one of their works they have large legs and holes made under them so as to shoot at us without exposing any of their own bodies. We usually keep as far back as possible to draw their attention while we are making some move in another direction. We have received heavy reinforcement since coming here. There are some 2000 men and I have not been able to learn from what state they are. McPherson's Corps came up last night and Rosecrans will soon be here with 3000 men from Kig.
I do not think that a battle will come off for several days yet we are gradually closing in on them & I think if we are successful here and at Richmond the Southern Confederacy is about played out the next 100 days will tell heavily on the rebels. I want you to let me know who the lucky ones were in the township to serve 2 years. I hope that they are all Copperheads and cannot get out of it but by coming there is one in the 44th that if he now home he would not enter the service again if he stays until the war is over & I think that the poisonous fungus will not be easy hard to extract. We will not be used in this battle like the ones at Nashville.

Ruggles novel as the country is to thickly wooded to do anything at Signalling. We are laying back in the woods out of range of shells & bullets. I have only received 2 letters since I left Knobsville one dated the 25th April and the other the 2nd of May.

Did any of the Jimmy boys go for 100 days? I have heard that the 3 Companies in the 126th has suffered severely in the Battles on the Potomac
That Capt. Dick Lyons was killed and Capt. McMarchy wounded and 12 of all the boys wounded or killed if it is so it is very hard. My God! was to be expected all at once although they have been out nearly 2 years and were never in a fight until this campaign. I have passed through 2 and came out unharmed but cannot tell what is in store for me yet. I think that we will be in Atlanta before 2 weeks although it going there we will lose many a brave boy. The weather here is very hot and not very good so as you must expect some sickness although there is not half as much as one would suppose. I think I have given you all the news I can think of at present so I will close.

Goodbye. Amos Guthrie

Address A. Guthrie

Signal Corps

Headquarters 23rd N. C. in the field

In case Capt. McHenry gives my best respects to all who may read after my welfare.
Tell mother we have to eat one and done.
Coffee, crackers and bacon for breakfast,
the reverse for dinner and supper.
Else we have a channel to get the
beans & potatoes and even the meal
as we are

...of having loved

...the Battle of the Wilderness.
Superb Atlanta campaign content, May 9-31, 1864!

20 page manuscript, 5 x 8, in ink, written in the form of a very detailed diary, by Amos Guthrie, a member of the U.S. Army Signal Corps

Headquarters 23rd Army Corps, Dept. of the Ohio

May 9: Left Chickamauga Creek at 6 ½ o’clock and marched to General Schofield’s headquarters distance 1 ½ miles. We had scarcely got our tents pitched till the order came to move the wagon train to Tunnel Hill distance 4 miles. We arrived at General Thomas Headquarters about 12 o’clock. Immediately after noon we were ordered to proceed to Rocky Face Mountain and open a line of communication with the 4th Corps. Our men had scarcely got up to the top till my party was up and signaling to Schofield’s headquarters. This mountain is about 1 ½ miles high and so steep that a man cannot ride up on horseback. It is about 10 yds. wide on top. After driving the Rebs about 1 mile out of the mountains into a fort the ball began to open on every side of the mountain. 2 Brigades of infantry belonging to the 4th Corps advanced along the hill as skirmishers. In about ½ hour the Rebs made a charge on us but were repulsed with great loss. Our loss was about 25 killed and wounded. In a few minutes afterward the 15th Ind. Battery opened on a Reb fort about 1 mile distant. The shells struck right in the fort and the way the Johnnies got out of there was anything but slow. Their wagon train skedaddled for the rear quicker than I can write it. In the evening [General David S.] Stanley’s Division of Cavalry came up and formed on the right of the 23rd Corps.

May 10: This morning is wet and disagreeable to be out in the open field without any tent. Some little skirmishing on the right last night. We brought 2 pieces of artillery up on the mountain. About 9 o’clock our men fell back about ½ mile so as to be out of range of the Rebel artillery. The Reb skirmishers now hold the house where Gen. Schofield’s headquarters were. Our men are being heavily reinforced on the left and so are the Rebs as we can see them moving by thousands from their camps in and about Dalton. Some artillery firing in the direction of Buzzard’s Roost. This afternoon Capt. McCrery came up to us. He had just arrived from Knoxville. He brought Will Hunt and 3 niggers with him. In the evening the headquarters train moved up to the foot of the mountain. Everything quiet along the lines tonight.

Tuesday, May 11: There are more Major Generals here than you could shake a stick at. Sir Gen. Sherman, Schofield & Stoneman and brigadiers innumerable. About noon we were again ordered up on the mountain to relieve Lieuts. Reynolds & Ruskby. In the afternoon the Rebs put on their blankets & knapsacks and marched off in the distance of Dalton. After they got in line they shelled us for about one hour. At night they kept up strong picket fires. In the evening Gen. Stoneman arrived from Camp Nelson, Ky. with 10,000 cavalry. 3,000 of them went to Tunnel Hill and the others are operating on the left flank.
Wednesday, May 12: This morning is very cool for the sunny south. Were relieved at 7 o’clock in the morning about daylight. The 2 brigades moved down off the mountain and marched on the left flank. The 23rd Corps then marched down to Tunnel Hill. We were ordered to load up our baggage and send it back to Ringgold. The dismounted men were ordered back till we get horses. We arrived here about 5 o’clock and went into camp.

May 13: I always had an idea that Ringgold was a nice southern town but far from it. All the principal buildings were burnt down by our forces when they took possession of it. It is the county seat of Catoosa County. 2 miles from it are the Catoosa Springs, the Saratoga of the Confederate States. In the evening 51 Rebel prisoners were brought in from Dalton. Our men are said to have possession of Dalton. Ringgold is 22 miles from Chattanooga and 14 from Dalton, 7 from Tunnel Hill.

Saturday, May 14: This morning the news came that Gen. Lee surrendered with 40,000 men. I am afraid it is too good to be true. Our men have possession of Dalton and 173 miles beyond. Our skirmishers advanced on double quick all morning. We have taken 5,000 prisoners and 20 pieces of artillery. 150 of them that deserted the Rebs went to Nashville tonight. They all appear to be tired of the war. All of them were conscripted. They say they get plenty of cornbread and bacon but no coffee or sugar. The prisoners think the next stand will be at Rome, Georgia as they cannot get back to Atlanta for Old Joe Hooker is between them and that place. I think if we are successful in driving the Rebs from Richmond, and Atlanta, the Southern Confederacy is pretty well played out. In the north you hear about the south being starved out, but far from it. The day before our men took possession of Dalton the Rebs had a large warehouse stored full of bacon and corn which they took with them. We captured a house full of tents which they had either forgotten or we were too close for them. One of the prisoners told me last night if our forces would have charged up the right we would not have lost 1 man for they would not shoot to kill Yankees anymore. Last Wednesday morning one of the Reb pickets called one of the 4th Corps boys and said we was not giving them a fair shake. The boys asked him why. Says he, your damned Old Joe Hooker has cut off our cracker train between here and Atlanta.

May 15: Today heavy fighting in the center. Reb prisoners coming in say they will not make a stand this side of High Tower River. Our loss is not known at present but is very heavy in the charge on Buzzards Roost. Our men killed 1,500 of the Rebs. Went down to the station and met a fellow from the 98th Ohio by the name of Yasger. He was wounded in the leg at the battle of Chickamauga but is now on his way to the Regt.

May 16: Left Ringgold at 6 o’clock A.M. and came into Dalton distance 15 miles. We encamped within 1 mile of town. Met about 500 prisoners 2 miles this side of Dalton
taken by the 1st Alabama Cav. Dalton is about as large as Cadiz [Ohio] only more scattered every house having the yard planted full of trees and shrubbery. The town is now nearly destitute of inhabitants as they thought the Yanks would kill and butcher them in every house where they were found. Today we passed through Tunnel Hill. The tunnel is 1,477 feet in length, a little longer than the one at Cadiz Junction.

May 17: Left camp at 8 o’clock. Passed through Tilton. I think the way the town looks it has the right name for it is about the size of the city of Hanover only more scattered. This is the first R.R. station this side of Dalton. We forded Conestoga River at this place. This stream is about 100 yds. wide and about from 5 to 10 ft. deep. Came on about 1 mile further and our old wagon upset and spilled our baggage all over the road. All we had to do was to turn the wagon back and reload which we accomplished in about 1 hour. We traveled on till night but could not find headquarters as they had moved across the river.

Wednesday, May 18: Left camp at 8 o’clock. Was ferried across the Coosawattee River which is about 60 yds. wide and about 20 ft. deep. The prisoners are constructing a bridge across it with pontoons. We next forded Silico creek, one of the tributaries of the Coosawattee River. Next we came to Big Blue Spring. This is one of the most beautiful springs in Georgia. It is about 20 ft. in diameter and 10 ft. deep and the water is as clear as crystal. About 1 mile from here we met the 1st and 3rd Divisions of the 20th Corps. We followed after them but found out we were on the wrong road so we had to retrace our steps to the spring, but as good luck would have it, we found headquarters and the boys all right.

Thursday, May 19: Left camp this morning about 6 o’clock and traveled until very near noon when we were detained by the Johnnies in our front who had erected breastworks through the woods to oppose our advance, but we soon made them skedaddle toward their fortifications at Cassville. Passed the 20th Corps in the woods. Heavy firing all day in the direction of Kingston. About noon we again stopped as the Rebs were formed in line of battle about 2 miles from there. Passing along I met my old chum Marshall in the garb of an infantryman. This morning McKinley captured a Spencer rifle from a wounded Reb soldier who belonged to the 10th Ga. Battalion Sharpshooters. Tonight we killed two of the Reb pickets about ½ mile from where we are camped.

May 20: Left camp about 8 o’clock and came to Cassville the Rebs having evacuated it about 4 o’clock last evening. Skirmishing with the enemy all day. The 5th Ind.[iana] Cavalry made a charge across the R.R. but did not succeed in driving the Rebs as they were too many for us. In the evening by 6 o’clock, the Rebs were all across the Etoawak River. Our forces arrived in about 1 hour afterwards. They burned both bridges across the river so that we will have to cross either above by wading or build a pontoon across below. The sharpshooters shot about 20 shots at our Captain and the men that were with
him. Passed 2 buildings which had been set on fire by our men. Encamped for the night 4 miles from the river.

**Saturday, May 21:** Left camp at Wrights and came back to Cassville Station where General Schofield’s Headquarters are for the present. Seen Major General’s Sherman & Stoneman. Both look as if they have seen more hard service during this campaign. Artillery firing at the river as our men are constantly annoyed by the Reb sharpshooters. Reb prisoners are coming in from the front in squads of from 12 to 20 men. Very near all of them appear to be disgusted of the way the Southern Contihevery is being managed by Jeff Davis. They all appear to be tired of the war. Very near all of them have been in for over 3 years and cannot get out of the service.

**Sunday, May 22:** Asked permission of the Captain to go up to see the boys in the 74th Ohio. Found the boys all right excepting Ben Rosser. He was left in the hospital at Graysville, Georgia. Paul Graybill and Gideon Gotshull were out on picket. The rest of the boys were all in camp. Seen Sam Budger. He is in the 43rd Ohio and Madison Allensworth of the 40th Ohio. Lem Simmons was detailed to the Pioneer Corps. All of the boys appear to like soldiering first rate. Ed Salmon is with the company. He stands it middling well. Gideon Gotshull looks about as well as ever. Paul Graybill is about the same as he was at home. Little Harvey Stewart is here too. He stands it first rate. I suppose you want to find out what part of the play I was in on the 9th of May. Gen. Hovey’s Division was ordered to charge Rocky Face Mountain at all hazards. My party was detailed to go along with the Division so it was not many minutes before the balls flew as thick as hail. We charged the Rebs and took the hill. We then signaled back for reinforcements which came in about ½ an hour. We held our position on the hill until about 5 o’clock in the evening when Harker’s Brigade of the 4th Corps was ordered to charge onto Buzzards Roost. The 64th Ohio was the Regt. that was to do it, we going with them. We raised the yell and started for the fort. They immediately opened on us with artillery and musketry. We got within 100 yds. of the fort and then we were charged by the Reb infantry which drove us back about ¼ of a mile. Our loss was 81 killed & wounded among which was the Colonel, 2 Captains, and 3 Lieuts. The loss on the Reb side I think was equal to our own. No person can describe the feeling which comes over him while in a fight. I was frightened some until we were ordered to advance and the boys raised the yell. Then I did not feel afraid. I hope to God that I may never be in another such place to fight in as Buzzards Roost. Immediately after the fight I was ordered back to Ringgold with the baggage. Well, I came into camp and what should I find but a letter from home. It was indeed a welcome missive to me. I am glad to hear that young George Webster is going for 100 days. I think it will take some of the Copperheadism out of him. I feel as mad every time I see a dead Union soldier that if some of the leading Copperheads of Rumley Township were here I could put a bullet through them with more grace than I could a Reb. This Sunday as I am writing I will bet some of the Copperheads are at home speculating on who was killed in the late battles, and saying that it was good for them. But thank God there was none of the boys from Rumley Township killed. All are alive and well, and if they live to get back, we will clean out every one of them. I despise a Copperhead worse than Jeff Davis or the devil for I think a Copperhead is a brother to the devil only known by another name. I am in
good health and spirits and ready for another fight with the Johnnies. We leave in the morning with 20 days rations, but I do not know which way we will go. You must not be uneasy if you do not hear from me for the next month. Well I believe I have given you all the news that I can think of at present so I will close. Amos Guthrie. Give my best respects to all friends. Address to Knoxville, Tennessee.

Near Dallas, Georgia, Signal Corps Headquarters, 23rd A [rmy] C [orps] in the field

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May 24: Left camp about 8 o’clock and crossed the Etowah River on pontoons. This river is about 80 yds. wide and about 20 ft. deep. Passed through a very fine country. Plenty of everything that you could wish to see. Wheat, corn knee high, and any amount of bacon & flour. My tent mate brought a ham & coffee pot into camp this evening. The inhabitants have all fled to the throne of Jeff Davis for protection taking their nigs, cattle, and everything they can with them. Skirmishing all day with the Rebs. Our men are driving them as fast as they can advance. Commenced to rain about dark and the wagon train got onto the wrong road and so we did not get into our camp until about 12 o’clock at night wet as a person could be and no supper. So it was about 1 o’clock before we got to bed. After sleeping all night in water about 3 inches deep we felt very much refreshed next morning.

May 25: Left camp about 10 o’clock and marched about 6 miles. We then camped for dinner. The Rebs have erected log piles across the road to stop our progress but thanks to Gen. Schofield, we happen to have a good Engineer Corps which can cut a road any place that a Government wagon can drive and that is any place. About 4 o’clock P.M. we again started and marched 2 miles and encamped for the night. Heavy firing to our left supposed to be General Hooker’s Corps engaging the Rebs at Burnt Hickory. The Rebs charged on our men 2 or 3 times but were repulsed with fearful loss. The guerrillas have got into our baggage train and burnt 10 wagons filled with officers baggage. Our men burnt Cass Station. This evening as Gen. Schofield was returning from the front his horse fell into a ravine and hurt him slightly so as to be confined to his bed. Gen. Cox commands the Corps until his recovery.
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May 28: This morning the ball opened about daylight and continued until noon. The Rebs made a charge on our men but were repulsed with a heavy loss. Our men have silenced their battery and no man can show his head near it unless he is picked off by our sharpshooters. We are down here in the woods out of range of shells & bullets. The 20th Corps is the only Corps engaged today. The 4th Corps suffered severely yesterday evening. All the boys are in good spirits and think we will trash old [General Joseph E.] Johnston so bad that he will not have men enough for a Corporal’s Guard. The 16th Illinois Infantry started for home today and I will bet that a Regt. never did faster walking than they did.

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works. We have 3 lines of entrenchments, something that we cannot always say, especially at Buzzards Roost & Resuckas.

Near Dallas, Georgia, May 31, 1864

Dear Father, Well we are laying in the Altoona Mts. with plenty of Johnnies to keep us company but they send messages back and forward which I do not like to hear. The Rebs have very strong works here. On top of their works they have large logs and holes made under them so as to shoot at us without exposing any of their precious bodies. We merely keep up skirmishing enough to draw their attention while we are making some move in another direction. We have received heavy reinforcements since coming here. There are some 100 day men here but I have not been able to learn from what state they are. [General James B.] McPherson’s Corps came up last night and [General Lovell H.] Rousseau will soon be here with 30,000 men from Ky. I do not think a battle will come off for several days yet. We are gradually closing in on them. I think if we are successful here and at Richmond the Southern Confederacy is about played out. The next 100 days will tell heavily on the Rebs. I want you to let me know who the lucky ones were in the township to serve the U.S. for 3 years. I hope that they are all Copperheads and cannot get out of it. We will not be exposed in this battle like the ones at Resaca & Buzzards Roost as the country is so thickly wooded to do anything at signaling. We are laying back in the woods out of range of shells and bullets. I have heard the 3 companies in the 126th Ohio suffered severely in the battle on the Potomac, that Capt. Dick Lyons was killed, and Capts. Voorhees & McReady wounded and ½ of all the boys wounded or killed. If it is so, it is a very hard blow. I have passed through 2 and came out unhurt but cannot tell what is in store for me yet. I think we will be in Atlanta before two weeks although in going there we will lose many a brave boy. I think I have given you all the news I can think of at the present so I will close. Goodbye, Amos Guthrie. Address to A. Guthrie, Signal Corps, Headquarters 23rd A.C. in the field, in care of Capt. McCreary.

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Amos Guthrie did not survive the war. I am not sure exactly what happened to him, but I have a Xerox copy of a note written home to his father, Samuel Guthrie, from the U.S. General Hospital, at Chattanooga, Tenn., dated Nov. 24, 1864, sending home the personal effects of Amos Guthrie.
taken by the 1st Alabama Cav. Dalton is about as large as Cadiz [Ohio] only more scattered every house having the yard planted full of trees and shrubbery. The town is now nearly destitute of inhabitants as they thought the Yanks would kill and butcher them in every house where they were found. Today we passed through Tunnel Hill. The tunnel is 1,477 feet in length, a little longer than the one at Cadiz Junction.

**May 17:** Left camp at 8 o’clock. Passed through Tilton. I think the way the town looks it has the right name for it is about the size of the city of Hanover only more scattered. This is the first R.R. station this side of Dalton. We forded Conestoga River at this place. This stream is about 100 yds. wide and about from 5 to 10 ft. deep. Came on about 1 mile further and our old wagon upset and spilled our baggage all over the road. All we had to do was to turn the wagon back and reload which we accomplished in about 1 hour. We traveled on till night but could not find headquarters as they had moved across the river.

**Wednesday, May 18:** Left camp at 8 o’clock. Was ferried across the Coosawattee River which is about 60 yds. wide and about 20 ft. deep. The prisoners are constructing a bridge across it with pontoons. We next forded Silico creek, one of the tributaries of the Coosawattee River. Next we came to Big Blue Spring. This is one of the most beautiful springs in Georgia. It is about 20 ft. in diameter and 10 ft. deep and the water is as clear as crystal. About 1 mile from here we met the 1st and 3rd Divisions of the 20th Corps. We followed after them but found out we were on the wrong road so we had to retrace our steps to the spring, but as good luck would have it, we found headquarters and the boys all right.

**Thursday, May 19:** Left camp this morning about 6 o’clock and traveled until very near noon when we were detained by the Johnnies in our front who had erected breastworks through the woods to oppose our advance, but we soon made them skedaddle toward their fortifications at Cassville. Passed the 20th Corps in the woods. Heavy firing all day in the direction of Kingston. About noon we again stopped as the Rebs were formed in line of battle about 2 miles from there. Passing along I met my old chum Marshall in the garb of an infantryman. This morning McKinley captured a Spencer rifle from a wounded Reb soldier who belonged to the 10th Ga. Battalion Sharpshooters. Tonight we killed two of the Reb pickets about ½ mile from where we are camped.

**May 20:** Left camp about 8 o’clock and came to Cassville the Rebs having evacuated it about 4 o’clock last evening. Skirmishing with the enemy all day. The 5th Ind.[iana] Cavalry made a charge across the R.R. but did not succeed in driving the Rebs as they were too many for us. In the evening by 6 o’clock, the Rebs were all across the Etowak River. Our forces arrived in about 1 hour afterwards. They burned both bridges across the river so that we will have to cross either above by wading or build a pontoon across below. The sharpshooters shot about 20 shots at our Captain and the men that were with
him. Passed 2 buildings which had been set on fire by our men. Encamped for the night 4 miles from the river.

**Saturday, May 21:** Left camp at Wrights and came back to Cassville Station where General Schofield’s Headquarters are for the present. Seen Major General’s Sherman & Stoneman. Both look as if they have seen more hard service during this campaign. Artillery firing at the river as our men are constantly annoyed by the Reb sharpshooters. Reb prisoners are coming in from the front in squads of from 12 to 20 men. Very near all of them appear to be disgusted of the way the Southern Contievery is being managed by Jeff Davis. They all appear to be tired of the war. Very near all of them have been in for over 3 years and cannot get out of the service.

**Sunday, May 22:** Asked permission of the Captain to go up to see the boys in the 74th Ohio. Found the boys all right excepting Ben Rosser. He was left in the hospital at Graysville, Georgia. Paul Graybill and Gideon Gotshull were out on picket. The rest of the boys were all in camp. Seen Sam Budger. He is in the 43rd Ohio and Madison Allensworth of the 40th Ohio. Lem Simmons was detailed to the Pioneer Corps. All of the boys appear to like soldiering first rate. Ed Salmon is with the company. He stands it middling well. Gideon Gotshull looks about as well as ever. Paul Graybill is about the same as he was at home. Little Harvey Stewart is here too. He stands it first rate. I suppose you want to find out what part of the play I was in on the 9th of May. Gen. Hovey’s Division was ordered to charge Rocky Face Mountain at all hazards. My party was detailed to go along with the Division so it was not many minutes before the balls flew as thick as hail. We charged the Rebs and took the hill. We then signaled back for reinforcements which came in about ½ an hour. We held our position on the hill until about 5 o’clock in the evening when Harker’s Brigade of the 4th Corps was ordered to charge onto Buzzards Roost. The 64th Ohio was the Regt. that was to do it, we going with them. We raised the yell and started for the fort. They immediately opened on us with artillery and musketry. We got within 100 yds. of the fort and then we were charged by the Reb infantry which drove us back about ¼ of a mile. Our loss was 81 killed & wounded among which was the Colonel, 2 Captains, and 3 Lieuts. The loss on the Reb side I think was equal to our own. No person can describe the feeling which comes over him while in a fight. I was frightened some until we were ordered to advance and the boys raised the yell. Then I did not feel afraid. I hope to God that I may never be in another such place to fight in as Buzzards Roost. Immediately after the fight I was ordered back to Ringgold with the baggage. Well, I came into camp and what should I find but a letter from home. It was indeed a welcome missive to me. I am glad to hear that young George Webster is going for 100 days. I think it will take some of the Copperheadism out of him. I feel as mad every time I see a dead Union soldier that if some of the leading Copperheads of Rumley Township were here I could put a bullet through them with more grace than I could a Reb. This Sunday as I am writing I will bet some of the Copperheads are at home speculating on who was killed in the late battles, and saying that it was good for them. But thank God there was none of the boys from Rumley Township killed. All are alive and well, and if they live to get back, we will clean out every one of them. I despise a Copperhead worse than Jeff Davis or the devil for I think a Copperhead is a brother to the devil only known by another name. I am in
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