considerable cannonading during the day.

nothing of importance transpiring.

Receive official notice that Scofield
is 6 miles in rear of Maryetta & near
the R. R. that is good news.
Saturday, 2
Rained during the day. no fighting except skirmishing & Artillery. We are relieved at dusk by a Brig. of "Regulars." We move back a short distance & stop for the night with orders to be ready to move by day-light. expect to go toward the right in order to flank the enemy.

Howard pg 311 - Sherman now sent his left army (McPherson's) to follow up the right (Schofields). The first sign, namely, McPherson's starting and Schofield's boldness, set the Confederates in motion. On the morning of the 3d of July Sherman turned his spy-glass to the Kenesaw crest, and saw our pickets "Crawling up the hill cautiously." The strong works were found vacant. Johnston had made new breastworks six miles below.
Find the enemy gone from the mountain. follow them as far as Marietta. Our Reg. detailed as Provost Guard. have a pretty busy time taking care of the town. it is a very nice place. remain during the day. find that a great many of the inhabitants had fled with the army.

Johnston pg 273-4: As General Sherman has said - it really was one continuous battle lasting from June 10th to July 3d. The army occupied positions about Marietta twenty-six days, in which the want of artillery ammunition was especially felt; in all those days we were exposed to an almost incessant fire of artillery as well as musketry - the former being the more harassing because it could not be returned; for our supply of artillery ammunition was so small that we were compelled to reserve it for battles and serious assaults.
Monday, 4

Have a "gay time" visiting what few inhabitants were left especially the young females. A great many citizens seem glad the "Yanks" had come, when they found we did not "kill 'em all."

A great no. want to go north. Are relieved by a Brigade of Thomas's Command in the evening. so we move out 1 mi. at dusk. camp at the military academy.
JULY 1864

Tuesday, 5

The Academy is a fine place. Have a fine view from it. It had been a very fine place once, but was somewhat gone to rack. Start for our Brig. at ½ hour after daylight. Catch up with it by sundown within 3 mi. of the Etawah River. The Rebs are not all across the river yet.
Wednesday, 6

Our Corps lay in reserve till nearly night when we occupy the front by moving to the left & forward. Enemy has good works in our front.

Thursday, 7

have nothing of interest to state. we lay still, no fighting except by artillery & skirmishers.
Friday, 8

Move forward to within 1000 yds of the Reb. works & put up heavy works. Am detailed as officer of the day. have a big time.

Saturday, 9

was out all along the skirmish line, had all the Blackberries I could eat. Expect the Rebs will evacuate as tonight will be their time.
JULY 1864

Sunday, 10

Find the enemy gone. Advance our skirmishers to the River. Find the Enemy in force on opposite side. They evacuated works that could not be excelled, in fact they were impregnable.

Monday, 11

remain in our position & keep our skirmishers advanced. two of our corps is said to be across the River.
Tuesday, 12
Still lie at the same place without orders.

Wednesday, 13
At 3 P. M. receive orders to move at 5 P. M. in the direction of Marietta. March about 6 miles which took us till midnight. Camped in a field. I was very sleepy & "dumped" down on the ground immediately.
Thursday, 14

Reveille at 2 A. M. March at 3 A. M. pass through Merrietta. move out to the edge of town & rest until the cool of the evening when we move toward Rossville 4 miles tramp then move to River. Cross it at R. going into camp. had a very hard thunder storm.
Friday, 15

Lay in camp in woods about 3/4 miles from River. toward evening are moved about 1/2 miles to the rear put in reserve. are likely to remain for some time.

Saturday, 16

Go to work fixing up camp. are camped in a corn field which is out in tassel. Gen. Osterhauus goes home leaving Div. in command of Gen. Woods. at 5 P.M. receive orders to be ready to move in the morning. there goes all our work.
Sunday, 17

Move at 5½ A. M. toward Decatur. March about 12 miles & camp, not having found any enemy on the road to amount to anything. get orders to move at 5 A. M.
Monday, 18

Morn. at 5 A. M. our Reg. in advance of the whole army. a very responsible position, but we're able for it. Have plenty of Blackberries on the way. do not meet with any resistance. Camp within 12 miles of Decatur.
Tuesday, 19

Move at 6 A. M. Our Brig. is guard for the corps train. hear some cannonading in front. Our forces have but little trouble in going into Decatur. we camp within 1 mile of it. got some prisoners.
July 1864

Wednesday, 20

Move at 6 A. M. pass through Decatur. It is a small village of 1000 inhabitants. Move toward Atlanta to within 3 miles skirmishing our way. Form Line of Battle & proceed to putting up Breast works.

Sherman pg 253 enemy behind intrenchments at Peach Tree Creek. At this critical moment the Conf. Government rendered us most valuable service. Being dissatisfied with the Fabian policy of Gen. J. it relieved him and Gen. Hood was substituted to command the C Army (July 18th) Hood was known to us to be a "fighter" a graduate of West Point of the class of 1853, No 44, of which class two of my army commanders, McPherson and Schofield, were No. 1 and No. 7. The character of a leader is a large factor in the game of war, and I confess I was pleased at this change, of which I had early notice. I knew that I had an army superior in numbers and morale to that of my antagonist; but being so far from my base, and operating in a country devoid of food and forage, I was dependent for supplies on a poorly constructed railroad back to Louisville, 500 miles. I was willing to meet the enemy in open country, but not behind well-constructed parapets.

Johnston pg 274 On the 1st we learned that the whole Federal army had crossed the Chattahoochee, and late in the evening, while Col. Presstman was receiving from me instructions for the next day, I received the following telegram of that date:

QLieutenant-General J. B. Hood has been commissioned to the temporary rank of general under the late law of Congress. I am directed by the Secretary of War to inform you that, as you have failed to arrest the advance of the enemy to the vicinity of Atlanta, and express no confidence that you can defeat or repel him, you are hereby relieved from the command of the Army and Department of Tennessee, which you will immediately turn over to General Hood.

S. Cooper, Adjutant and Inspector General.

the next morning I replied

"Your dispatch of yesterday received and obeyed -- command of the A. & D. of T. has been transferred to Gen. Hood. As to the alleged cause of my removal, I assert that Sherman's army is much stronger, compared with that of Tennessee, than Grant's compared with that of Northern Virginia. Yet the enemy has been compelled to advance much more slowly to the vicinity of Atlanta than to that of Richmond and Petersburg, and penetrated much deeper into Virginia that into Georgia. Confident language by a military commander is no usually regarded as evidence of competence."

Gen. Hood came to my quarters early in the morning of the 18th, and remained there until nightfall. Intelligence was soon received that the Federal army was marching toward Atlanta, and at his urgent request I gave all necessary orders during the day.

(over)
After transferring the command, I described to him the course of action I had arranged in my mind. If the enemy should give us a good opportunity in the passage of Peas Tree Creek, I expected to attack him. If successful, we should obtain important results for the enemy's retreat would be on two sides of a triangle and our march on one. If we should not succeed, our intrenchments would give us a safe refuge, where we could hold back the enemy until the promised State troops should join us; then placing them on the nearest defenses of the place (where there were, or ought to be, seven sea-coast rifles, sent us from Mobile by General Muary) I would attack the Federals in flank with three Confederate corps. If we were successful, they would be driven against the Chattahoochee below the railroad, where there are no fords or away from their supplies, as we might fall on their left or right flank. If unsuccessful, we could take refuge in Atlanta, which we could hold indefinitely; for it was too strong to be taken by assault, and too extensive to be invested. This would win the campaign, the object of which the country supposed Atlanta to be.

At Dalton, the great numerical superiority of the enemy made the chances of battle much against us, and even if beaten, they had a safe refuge behind the fortified pass of Ringgold and in the fortress of Chattanooga. Our refuge, in case of defeat, was in Atlanta, 100 miles off, with three rivers intervening. Therefore victory for us could not have been decisive, while defeat would have been utterly disastrous. Between Dalton and the Chattahoochee we could have given battle only by attacking the enemy intrenched, or so near intrenchments that the only result of success to us would have been his falling back into them, while defeat would have been our ruin.

In the course pursued our troops, always fighting under cover, had very trifling losses compared with those they inflicted, so that the enemy's numerical superiority was reduced daily and rapidly; and we could reasonably have expected to cope with them on equal ground by the time the Chattahoochee was passed. I had also hopes that by the breaking of the railroad in its rear the Federal army might be compelled to attack us in a position of our own choosing, or forced into a retreat easily converted into a route. After we crossed the Etowah five detachments of cavalry were successively sent with instructions to destroy as much as they could of the railroad between Chattanooga and the Etowah. All failed, because they were too weak.

Davis claimed Lee agreed Gen. Hampton wrote Gen. Johnston: "he expressed great regret that you had been removed, and said that he had done all in his power to prevent it. The Secretary of War had recently been at his headquarters near Petersburg to consult as to this matter, and General Lee assured me that he had urged Mr. Seddon not to remove you from command, and had said to him that if you could not command the army we had no one who could. He was earnest in expressing not only his regret at your removal, but his entire confidence in yourself."

Johnston pg 257 "Mr Davis condemned me for not fighting. General Sherman's testimony and that of the Military Cemetery at Marietta refute the charge. I assert that had one of the other lieut.-generals of the army (Hardee or Stewart) succeeded me, Atlanta would have been held by the Army of the Tennessee."
Thursday, 21

Move forward about ½ mile & put up a new line. Am detailed as Brig. officer of the day. Have some sharp skirmishing in putting out the Pickets. After night there seems to be considerable confusion in the Enemy's camp. Think they are evacuating.
JULY

Friday, 22

Enemy gone. advance our Pickets as skirmishers to the edge of the city. find the Enemy inside works in force. Our Main line then advances as far as their old line of works. we change the works to the other side. The Left of our Corps is assaulted & driven in. Our Div. (1st & 2nd Brig.) makes a charge & retake the works. it was a noble thing. Our Reg. Loss 9. Gen McPherson killed.

Howard pg 253: Hood from Peach Tree line, encountered the Army of the Tennessee,- skilled veterans who were always ready to fight, were not alarmed by flank or rear attacks, and met their assaults with heroic valor. The battle raged from noon to night, when the Confederates, bagged and defeated, fell back within the intrenchments of Atlanta. McPherson dead. Schofield at the center and Thomas on the right made efforts to break through the intrenchments at their fronts, but found them too strong to assault.

Howard pg 315 Atlanta appeared to us like a well-fortified citadel with out and inner works.
JULY 1864

Saturday 23

At 8 A.M. are relieved by 23rd A. C. & we move to the Left, & connect with the 16 A. C. 2nd Iowa. put up works & assist in carrying in Rebel wounded who had been wounded there the day before. hear that 11th Iowa suffered heavily.

Howard: The A of T. was then shifted under its new commander (Howard) from the extreme left to the extreme right, to reach if possible the railroad by which Hood drew his supplies.
Sunday, 24

Move at 6 A.M. toward Decator & proceed to tearing up R. R. tear it up from Decator to within 2½ miles of Atlanta. at night take position on the Left of the Army about 3 miles from Atlanta. remain there all night. no fighting except Artillery.
Monday, 25

Could hear heavy cannonading & some musketry on the right. expect the Enemy as trying to force our right as they did the left. weather generally warm & dry. some indications of rain.
Tuesday, 26
Warm & dry. Receive orders to move at 4 P.M. we move toward the right. Our Div. takes position to cover the retreat, it takes us all night until morning to get moved.

Wednesday, 27
The Army of the Tenn. moves entirely to the right. Our Div. does not get into position till dark & then we were left in reserve.

[See 23rd]
Thursday, 28

Take position in the front line at daylight, at 8 A.M., move in line of battle. advanced about 1½ miles & met the enemy in force. they charged on us some 7 times & were repulsed. Terrible fighting for 3 hours. Enemy repulsed with heavy loss. after night could see a large fire in Atlanta.

Hood attacked, sustaining an overwhelming defeat, losing 4632 men to our 700. These sallies convinced him that his predecessor, J. had not e red in standing on the defensive. Thereafter the Confederate army in Atlanta clung to its parapets. I never intended to assault these, but gradually worked to the right to reach and destroy his line of supplies.
Friday, 29

Day clear & warm. Enemy were at work all night in our front. Expected an attack all day. Enemy seemed to have given back in order to draw us on.
Saturday, 30

No fighting today. We are relieved by the 17th A.C. & our Div. is put in reserve. Occupy the time in cleaning up.
JULY

Sunday, 31

Forenoon warm threatening rain. At
3 P.M. receive orders to be ready to
move at a moment's notice. Came on a
very heavy rain. Rains until --
Monday, 1

Do not move as was expected. Capt. Young arrives from Home. Some rain. Our guns begin to open out on the town. They send a few back at us.
Tuesday, 2

I am put in charge of a fatigue detail to put up works in front of our main line about ½ mile. The Enemy threaten an attack but do not make it. We get good works put up. Part of our Corps occupied them & our Div. moved & occupied the works they left. Rains during the day.
Wednesday, 3

Advance our skirmishers & take a line of the Enemy's skirmish pits. They mass & take them back. In the evening we take them again & several hundred prisoners. This time we hold them.
Thursday, 5

Rained a good shower. have considerable of skirmishing. The Enemy is considerably bothered. the Extreme right of our line is to advance. Our Reg. relieves a Reg. in the front line at dark. have a skirmish fight in the night.

Friday, 5

Our Reg. remains in its position. nothing of interest transpiring. hear good news from our Cavalry raid.
AUGUST 1864

Saturday, 6

Our Brig. all moves forward & occupies a position in the front line relieving a Brig. of the 23rd Army Corps. In the after noon had a pretty brisk fight with artillery & skirmishers. The Enemy shell us terribly but to no affect.

Sunday, 7

Nothing of interest transpiring, during the day except on the left of 23rd Corps the Enemy attempted to break our lines but failed.
Monday, 8

We advance our skirmish lines with but little opposition. The Rebs try to come a Yankee trick on our skirmishers by falling back & then advancing & trying to take some of them in but they failed. Our men fell back in time & then all advanced.
Tuesday, 9
Nothing of interest transpires. the 1st
Brig. makes a line of works in advance
of ours & occupies them.

Wednesday, 10
Our Army makes preparations to shell
the city. is to commence tonight.

Thursday, 11
Our Artillerists have fun shelling the
Rebs out of their little skirmishes.
How they did skedaddle.
Friday, 12
As the artillery shelled the Rebs out of their pits, the skirmishers would cheer & shoot at them. It makes the Enemy very mad.

Saturday, 13
Our skirmishers advance & take in their skirmishers with but small loss.

Sunday, 14
Army lies still.
Monday, 15

Nothing of interest.

Tuesday, 16

Nothing now.

Wednesday, 17

Have orders to move at 7 P. M. to relieve a Brig. of the 17th A. C. We get ready to move & order countermanded. detailed as Div. off. of the day for tomorrow to report at 8½ A. M.
Thursday, 19

Report as officer of the day. My instructions were to see to posting of Pickets. At 10 A. M. have orders to make a demonstration in favor the Left. at 4 P. M. have orders to advance the skirmishers. do so with but small loss driving the Enemy out of their Skirmish Pits. at 9 P. M. they try to take back the ground they lost. Adjt. Snow wounded in knee.
Friday, 19

An relieved by Maj. Grauer 30th Iowa.

Our main line advances & puts up works on our old skirmish line. have not trouble in doing so. The Enemy are reported evacuating.

Saturday, 20

Nothing of importance. Rains during the day.
Sunday, 21
Still keeps raining, now & then. It is reported that our forces have "East Point" Station."

Monday, 22
nothing of importance.

Tuesday, 23
It is reported that Killpatrick is having good success.
Wednesday, 24
Made another demonstration & find the Enemy still there. Some grand movement on hands.

Thursday, 25
Have orders to be ready to move at once. The Army seems to be going to move to the Right. Gen. Wood's is transferred to 17th A.C. do not move today. Part of the troops on our left moved.

Howard pg 321 Sherman now having his supplies well up, beginning on the night of the 25th of August, intrenched Slocum's strong corps across his railroad communication to defend it; then made another grand wheel of his armies. Schofield this time clung to the pivot. My command described an arc of 25 miles radius aiming at Jonesboro, while Thomas followed the middle course. Both southern railways were to be seized, and the stations and road destroyed.
Friday, 26

Have orders to be ready to move at 8 P. M.
Move in the direction of R. R. in rear of Atlanta. Cross Utay Creek. March about 8 miles & stop for Breakfast on the morning of the 27th...
Saturday, 27

After Breakfast move on in the direction of Farbourn. move on until noon. find no Enemy. Camp for the day & night. throw out skirmishers. Can see the Enemy's Pickets in sight. have no trouble with them.
AUGUST 1864

Sunday, 28

March at 7 A.M. in the direction of New Hope Church. move about 4 miles & find the Enemy. We form line & feel for them but find nothing but a few Cav. we then move on & take W. P. & A. R. R. form line & put up works. Can see the Enemy's Cav. at a distance. They do not bother us during the night.

Preceded by Kilpatrick, we made the march rapidly enough, considering the endless plague of the enemy's horse artillery supported by Wheeler's cavalry, and the time it took us to break up the West Point railroad.
Monday, 29

Occupy the day in destroying the R.R. by tearing up the track & filling up the cuts.

Tuesday, 30

Move at 7 A.M. in direction of Jonesborough. have considerable fighting with the Enemy's Cav. but drive them to within 1 mile of Jonesborough where they meet us in force. we form line in the night. our Reg. is sent on out. Post duty & put up works.

//Move up to September Howard pg 259 - We were in possession of Atlanta and Hood remained at Lovejoy's Station 30 mi SE on the Savannah R. R. with an army of about 40,000 veterans inured to war and with a fair amount of wagons to carry his supplies. I resolved to leave one corps to protect our communications to the rear and move with the other five to a point (Jonesboro) on the railroad twenty six miles below Atlanta, not fortified. This movement was perfectly strategic, was successful, and resulted in our occupation of Atlanta on the 2nd of September.
AUGUST 1864

Wednesday, 31

Mustered for pay. are relieved by part of 15th A. C. we move to left & put another work. Are attacked at 3 P. M. by a heavy column. We repulsed them easily. during the "muss" the 23rd A. C. gain the R. R. As detailed as Div. off. of the day. have to advance the Pickets in the night.

Howard pg 322

At 3 P. M. on the 31st the Confederates came on with the usual vigor, but were met by Logan and Ransom and thoroughly repulsed. Hood now abandoned Atlanta and united with Hardee in the vicinity of Jonesboro near Lovejoy station.
Thursday, 1
At daylight advance skirmishers & drive Enemy into his works. Our forces flank them on the left. Take prisoners & some artillery. The Enemy seems to be very much demoralized. am relieved at 5 P. M. by Maj. Briggs.
September 1864

Friday, 2

At daylight find the Enemy gone. take possession of the town, Jonesboro. the Army pursue at once. the 25th is guard for Div. train. have no opposition scarcely until 5 P.M. we met them making a bold stand. we are in the 2nd line (Jonesboro). rains in the night.
September 3, 1864

Both armies seem to be laying still
watching each other. No movement of
importance on our part. Received
intelligence that Atlanta is ours.

"Dully for Sherman," is the cry.
Sunday, 4
Nothing of importance transpiring.
Sergt. McClellan of Co I Killed. also
some others of the Reg. wounded.

Monday, 5
Nothing new.

Tuesday, 6
Rains during the day. Have orders to withdraw at 9 P. M. & move to the Rear toward Jonesboro. arrived at 12½ A. M.
7th camped in our old pits.
Wednesday, 7

Receive orders to move at 6½ A. M. toward Atlanta & go into camp for a month or so to rest. Men all feel good over shipping old Hood & his Army. March to within 5 mi. of East Point & camp for the night in some of the Enemy's old works.

Thursday, 8

Move at 3½ A. M. the 25th Iowa Rear guard some Rebel Cavalry follow us but keep a respectful distance from us. Arrive at East Point at 1 P. M. go into temporary camp until ground is selected for our regular camp.
Friday, 9

have a camp assigned us but not a permanent
one so we do no fixing up. make a detail
to work on breast works, & are assigned
new camping ground. troop are employed
cleaning up.

Howard pg 322 During the rest that followed, Blair, and Logan
went home on leave of absence; the field force of the A. of the T.
was consolidated into two corps, Osterhaus temporarily commanding
the 15th and Ransom the 17th. Thomas went to Chattanooga to
defend the communications with Sherman's army.
Saturday, 10
Move to our new camping ground & commence cleaning up. have considerable difficulty in just getting the exact ground. As detailed as Div. field officer of the day. report at 3 P. M.

Sunday, 11
visit the lines & find them in tolerable shape. See no enemy for once, since the campaign opened.
Monday, 12
Still remain in camp at East Point. Expect to get a good rest here. Sherman orders Atlanta cleaned of citizens. They are allowed to go north or south as they prefer.

Tuesday, 13
Arrangements are being made with the Confederate Gen. Hood to receive all who wish to go south. No citizen is allowed inside the lines. Weather very dry.
Wednesday, 14

Weather still keeps dry & ground very dusty.

Thursday, 15

Men all employed in cleaning camp & preparing for inspection tomorrow. I think we will make a good appearance.

Friday, 16

Part of our Corps reorganized, making our Brig. larger & Our No. 3 instead of two. Col. Williamson is still com'dg our Brig.
Saturday, 17
Rains during the night.

Sunday, 18
Still keeps raining. We need rain very much. Several of the officers got leaves of absence, Col. Stone among the number.

Monday, 19
Weather pleasant. nothing of interest transpiring. Some Rain.
Tuesday, 20
Rains hard. prisoners are still being exchanged.

Wednesday, 21
Still "she" rains.

Thursday, 22
Have drills twice a day. Battalion 4
times a week. Brig. drill 2/ice twice a
week. Still raining.

Friday, 23
More rain. nothing of importance.

transpiring.

Sherman
Howard pg 254 - See Aug 30) Hood shifted his position to
Palmetto station, 25 miles SW of Atlanta on the Montgomery &
Selma rr, where he began preparations for an aggressive campaign
against our communications. Here he was visited by Mr. Davis
who made his famous speech which was duly reported to me in
Atlanta, assuring his army that they would make my retreat more
disastrous than was that of Napoleon from Moscow. I too immediate
measures to thwart his plans. One div was sent back to Rome, another,
to Chattanooga; the guards along our railroad were reinforced and
warned of the coming blow. Gen. Thos. was sent back to Nashville,
Scotied to Knoxville, while I remained in Atlanta to wait Hood's
"initiative."
Tuesday, 27
the anniversary of the muster of the 25th Iowa. Have a big time.

Wednesday, 28 and Thursday, 29
Considerable rain. (Written vertically)

Friday, 30
Our Div. is reviewed 1st by Gen. Howard then by Gen. Sherman. They were well pleased with our appearance. I receive my "leave of Absence" for 20 days.
OCTOBER 1864

Saturday, 1

Some rumors of a move. Order counter-
manding Leave & furloughs. "Nine gone up."

Sunday, 2

Receive orders to be ready to move at a
moment's notice. Sermon by Chaplain
Hollams. Text in Daniel.

Sherman pg 254 - Hood, sending his cavalry ahead, crossed the
Chattahoochee River at Campbelltown with his main army on 1st
and moved to Dallas, detaching a strong force against the
railroad above Marietta which destroyed it for 15 miles, and
then sent French's division to capture Allatoona. I followed
Hood, reaching Kenesaw Mt. in time to see in the distance the
attack on Allatoona, which was handsomely repulsed by Corse. Hood
then moved westward, avoiding Rome, and by a circuit reached
Resaca, which he summoned to surrender, but did not wait to
attack. He continued thence the destruction of the railroad for
20 miles to the tunnel, including Dalton whose garrison he
captured. I followed up to Resaca then turned west to
intercept his retreat down the Valley of Chattooga, but by rapid
marching he escaped to Gadsden on the Coosa, I halting at
Gainesville, whence to observe his further movements. Hood, after
a short pause, crossed the mountains to Decatur, on the Tenn. River,
which point, as it was defended by a good div. of troops, he avoided,
and finally halted opposite Florence, Alabam, on the Tenn. Diving
the object of his movement against our communications, which had
been thus far rapid and skillful, I detached Schofield to Nashville
with 2 of my 6 corps -- all the ree forcements that Thomas deemed
necessary to defend Tennessee, and began my systematic preparations
for resuming the offensive against Georgia. Repairing the broken
railroads, we collected in Atlanta the necessary food and trans-
portation for 60,000 men, sent to the rear all impediments, called in
all detachments and ordered them to march for Atlanta (all assembled
by 11-4-64)
Monday, 3

Move all our surplus baggage to Atlanta
& storr it. Enemy reported trying to
got in our rear. Receive orders to march
at 5 in the morning. Rains a good part
of the night.

Sherman: Page 323: We crossed the Chattahoochee River during the
3d and 4th of October, rendezvoused at the old battle field
of Smyrna Camp and the next day reached Marietta and Kenesaw.
The telegraph wires had been cut above Marietta and learning
that heavy masses of infantry, artillery and cavalry
had been seen from Kenesaw (marching north) I inferred that
Allatoona was their objective point; and on the 4th of
October I signalled from Vining's station to Kenesaw, and from
Kenesaw to Allatoona, over the heads of the enemy, a message to
General Corse at Rome to hurry back to the assistance of the
garrison at Allatoona.
Tuesday, 4

move at 7 A. M. southern direction. move that way till about noon & then turn toward Marietta. go within 4 miles of it & camp for the night. Rains during the night. Rumor is that the Rebs are not far distant.
Thursday, 6

do not move today. Rains considerable. 

hear that our troops had a fight at 
Altoona. drove the Rebs. there are none 
now on the R. R. where they will go we 
know not. weather cloudy & pleasant.

Friday, 7

Still remain camped in the timber. Under 
orders to move any moment. weather clears 
up cold. disagreeable lying out of doors.
Saturday, Oct 9

Morning cold, no different orders from yesterday. About 3 P.M. the Gen. sounded at 4 Av. H'dq'res. all prepare to move. get orders to move out in the direction of Marietta, Ga. pass through the town. it looks quite natural. a great many convalescent soldiers are there.
Sunday, 9

Got into camp last night about 11 P. M.,
camped near Kerensaw Mt. morning cold,
at 10 A. M. change position of camp a
little with intimation that we would
maybe stay a week. go to work fixing
up camp.
Still making improvements in camp. Receive orders about inspection tomorrow and about transportation. At 4 P.M. Gen. sounds & we prepare to move. Move toward Altoona pass. Go into camp for the night near Ackworth with orders to move out at 5½ A.M. tomorrow. Receive notice of the fall of Richmond, Virg.

Taking up his northward march Hood avoided Rome and aimed for Resaca. Schofield was warned and got ready to defend Chattanooga, while Sherman now made forced marches so as to overtake his enemy and force him to battle. Finding us on his heels, Hood, picking up two or three small garrisons, rushed through Sugar Valley and Snake Creek Gap, choking it behind him with trees. My command followed rapidly through the pass (October 16) cut away or threw the gap obstructions to the right and left, and camped close up to Hood's rear guard. He again refused battle and we pursued him beyond Gaylesville.

Taking advantage of a rich country, Sherman recuperated his men and moved slowly back to the Chattahoochee. Now, with the full consent of Grant, he hastened his preparations for the grand march to the sea.
Tuesday, 11

Move at the time ordered. pass through Alatoona. saw a great many Reb. wounded there. crossed the Etawa River. There the inf't'ry took the R. R. track. got into camp within 3 mi. of Kingston by 4½ P. M. drew rations.
Wednesday, 13
March at 6 A.M. through Kingston. Saw some acquaintances of the 10th Iowa, march to within 3 miles of Rome. go into camp just before Sundown. Receive a big mail being the first for a long time. The boys were perfectly frantic after it. Nearly every man gets a letter. have a good night's rest.
Thursday, 13

Morning clear & cool. have intimations of staying all day. write a letter. send it to Rome to mail. at 5 P. M. we move out across the country do not go through Rome. travel all night until 4 A. M. on the 14th. It was a pretty hard march. camp in a corn field. orders to be ready to move at 7 A. M. tomorrow.
move at the time set toward Resaca. Make a very steady hard day's march, go into camp at Calhoun Station 6 miles from Resaca. Enemy had left Resaca day before without doing much. They had taken the Tifton Station capturing the 17th Iowa also a Reg. of col'r'd troops at Dalton.
Saturday, 15
Move out at 4 A.M. through Gallool & Rosaca on to "Snake Creek Gap." have a sharp skirmish with the enemy but drove them through the gap. camped west of the gap.
OCTOBER 1864

Sunday, 16

Move out at 9 A. M. got as far as Phillip's gap. there met the Enemy. had a sharp skirmish taking about 40 prisoners & causing the Enemy to leave. go into camp on the mountain. men got lots of potatoes & apples & hog.
Monday, 17
lay in camp untill nearly night when we move out. go as far as La Fayette where we go into camp about 9 P. M. weather clear & pleasant.

Tuesday, 18
Move out at 6 A. M. Change our direction to East. they say we are going back to Rome. La Fayette is a small town badly used up by fighting in it at one time. We go into camp within 6 miles of Summerville in a nice field. Still in Ga.
Wednesday, 19
Move out at 7 A.M., pass through Summersville. Stop for a while to draw rations & reduce transportation. Move on as soon as men get dinner. get into Ala. go a westerly direction. go into camp near a small stream where there are plenty of Reels.

Thursday, 20
Move at 6½ A.M. direction south & west. Go into camp near Galesville, Ala. getting a good piece down into the Rebellion.

Cheery hails at Galesville.
Friday, 21

Move out at 6½ A. M. direction south west, the 25th Iowa in advance of the corps. March about 6 miles & go into camp. Expecting to remain a day or two. Camp on "Little River." Enemy said to be a short distance in advance. Have intimation that we will remain for a few days.
Saturday, 22
Still in camp on Little River. Said to be 26 mi. from Lebanon & 45 from Bridgeport.
Send out foraging parties which get potatoes, pork, Beans, &c. &c. Men live well. Are ordered to send all sick to Rome. Have indications of a big "sail" coming off.

Sunday, 23
October 24, 1864

Monday, 24

Morning clear & cool. About 3 P.M. receive orders to be ready to move at once without any camp or Carson equipment or wagons. March at 4 P.M. across Little River & march westward 8 mi. to Camp after dark when going into camp.
Tuesday, 25

Move out in same direction at 5½ A. M. Our Brig. in advance, two Regs as skirmishers. About noon found the Enemy. Skirmishers drove them out of their works. Our Brig. was then relieve by 2nd Brig. They found them again 9 mi. from Dresden. They were soon routed. It is called Turkeytown valley. Move back 2 miles.
Wednesday, 26
March at 7 A. M. arrive in our old camp at 3 P. M. find things all regular. nothing new of importance. still a talk of a big Raid coming off.

Thursday, 27
Just eleven mo. exactly and then our time will have expired. Then goodbye Ala. for us.
October 23rd, 1864

The 25th Iowa receive orders to escort a forage train. We go out about 7 miles, find plenty of corn, also 4 barrels of molasses which had been hid out by an old Secesh. Our Regt. gets two of them. Get back to camp at 3 P.M. receive orders to move at once. Our Brig. guards a supply train in the direction of Rome.
Saturday, 29
Camped last night at Cedar Bluffs. move out at 6½ A. M. Cross the River "Coosa". march about 15 miles & go into camp near Tan Creek. Have plenty Yams & Pork.

Sunday, 30
Move out at 7 A. M. Our Brig. still train guard. March pretty moderate. go into camp near Cave Springs. Col. Stone returns from Leave of absence looking well. Also some men who were on furlough.
Monday, 31

Col. Stone takes com'd of the Brigade.

Are mustered for pay by Capt. Bell.

Remain in camp at Cave Springs. I am
detailed as Div. off[icer] of the day.
Tuesday, 1
Receive orders to be ready to move. move out at 8 A.M. I superintend the bringing in of the Pickets. The Enemy Cav. make their appearance. Camp near Cedar Springs in a Corn field.

Wednesday, 2
Move out at 6½ A.M. Raining. go into camp in the timber. still Raining.
Thursday, 3

Move out at 7 A. M. Our Brig. in advance.
We live off the country principle. Go into camp in a field. Still raining a little.

Friday, 4

Move out at 7 A. M. toward Atlanta.
March about 15 miles. go into camp near Vining's station, Ga.

Sherman

pg 255 By 11-4 were assembled in Atlanta four infantry corps, on cavalry division, and 65 field guns, aggregating 60,596 men. Hood remained at Florence, preparing to invade Tenn. & Kent. In 1864 the main "objectives" were Lee's and Johnston's armies, and the critical point was thought to be Richmond or Atlanta, whichever should be longer held. Had Gen. Grant overwhelmed and scattered Lee's army and occupied Richmond, he would have come to Atlanta; but as I happened to occupy Atlanta first, and had driven Hood off to a divergent line of operations far to the west, it was good strategy to leave him to a subordinate force and with my main army to join Grant at Richmond. The most practicable route to Richmond was nearly a thousand miles in distance, too long for a single march; hence the necessity to reach the sea-coast for a new base. Savannah, distant 300 miles, was the nearest point, and this distance we accomplished from Nov 12 to Dec 21st.

Grant "Memoirs," Vol II, pg 376 "I was in favor of Sherman's plan from the time it was first submitted to me. My chief of staff, however, was very bitterly opposed to it, and as I learned subsequently, finding that he could not move me, he appealed to the authorities at Washington to stop it.

Gen. John A. Rawlins (c of s. was a neighbor of Gen. Grant in Galena, a lawyer in good practice, an intense thinker and aman of vehement expression died as Sec. of War in 1869. Rawlins was enthusiastically devoted to his friends in the Western army, with which he had been associated from Cairo to Vicksburg and Chattanooga, and doubtless, I -- he went to Washington from City Poi to obtain an order from the Pres. of Sec. of War to compel Sherman "with an army of 65,000 of the best soldiers which America has ever produced" -- Sherman "I remember how free and glorious I felt when the magic telegraph was cut, which prevented the possibility of orders of any kind from the rear coming to delay or hinder us from .. an opportunity such as never occurs twice to any man on earth .. and was sure to be a long stride toward the goal we were all aiming at -- victory and peace from Virginia to Texas."
Saturday, 5
Remain in camp at Vining's Station
weather cool.

Sunday, 6
Weather dry & cold.

Monday, 7
Still in camp at Vining's Station

Saturday, 12
Still in camp at Vining's Station. Are employed tearing up the R. R. Get orders to move in the morning.
Sunday, 13
move out at 7 A. M. toward Atlanta.
pass through the City & go into camp
about a mile & half East of the town.

Monday, 14
Remain in camp. visit Atlanta. it is
pretty well demoralized. they are making
preparations to destroy the town. got
orders to move out at day light
tomorrow morning.

Oakey: pg 672 Before the middle of November, 1864, the inhabitants
of Atlanta, by Sherman's orders, had left the place. Serious
preparations were making for the march to the sea. Nothing was
to be left for the use or advantage of the enemy. The sick were
sent back to Chattanooga and Nashville along with every pound of
baggage that could be dispensed with. The army was reduced, one
might say, to its fighting weight, no man being retained who was
not capable of a long march. Our communications were then
abandoned by destroying the railroad and telegraph. There was
something intensely exciting in this perfect isolation.

The engineers had peremptory orders to avoid any injury to
dwellings, but to apply gunpowder and the torch to public buildings
machine shops, depots, and arsenals. Sixty thousand of us
witnessed the destruction of Atlanta, while our post band and
that of the 33rd Massachusetts played martial airs and operatic
selections. It was a night never to be forgotten. Our regular
routine was a mere form, and there could be not "taps" amid the
brilliant glare and excitement.
NOVEMBER 1864

Tuesday, 15

Move out toward Jonesboro. March about 20 miles. camp about 6 miles East of Jonesboro. begin to get into a country of forage. have some trouble with the Enemy Cav.

Wednesday, 16

Move at 7 A. M. toward McDonald. Make a march of 18 miles. go into camp near the town (a small one). we get plenty of forage & Eatables of every kind such as butter, Eggs, Chickens &c.

Sherman pg 255 According to the Duke of Wellington, an army moves upon its belly, not upon its legs; and no army dependent on wagons can operate more than 100 miles from its base, because the teams going and returning consume the contents of their wagons, leaving little or nothing for the maintenance of the men and animals at the front, who are fully employed in fighting; hence the necessity to "forage liberally on the country" a measure which fed our men and animals chiefly on the very supplies which had been gathered near the railroads by the enemy for the maintenance of his own armies. The "March to the Sea" was in strategy only a shift of base for ulterior and highly important purposes. ...Every expedition which crossed the Ohio river in the early part of the war headed for the sea; but things were not ripe till the Western army had fought and toiled and labored down to Atlanta. Coupled with Thomas' acts about Nashville, and those about Richmond directed in person by Gen. Grant, the "March to the Sea" with its necessary corollary, the march northward to Raleigh, became vastly important, if not actually conclusive of the war.

15th Oakey pg 672 The throwing away of superfluous conveniences began at daybreak. The old campaigner knows what to carry and what to throw away. Each group of messmates decided which hatchet, stew-pan, or coffee pot should be taken. The single wagon allowed to a battalion carried scarcely more than a grip-sack and blanket, and a bit of shelter tent about the size of a large towel, for each officer, and only such other material as was necessary for regimental busi ess. Transportation was reduced to a minimum, and fast marching was to be the order of the day. Wagons to carry the necessary ammunition in the contingency of a battle and a few days' rations in case of absolute need, composed the train of each army corps, and with one wagon and one ambulance from each regiment made very respectable "impedimenta" averaging about 800 wagons to a corps.
In the morning the fourth Div. Gen Course passed us. I saw the 2nd & 7th Iowa boys. We move out at 11 A.M. pass through McDonla. March about 20 miles & camp in the timber. have plenty of eatables.

Oakey pg 672. Our left wing (the 14th & 20th corps under Slocum) seemed to threaten Macon, while the right wing (the 15th & 17th corps) under Howard) bent its course as if for Augusta. Skirmishers were in advance, flanker were out, and foraging parties were ahead gathering supplies from the rich plantations. We were all old campaigners, so that a burst with the militia now and then or with Hardee's troops made no unusual delay; and Wheeler's cavalry was soon disposed of. We were expected to make fifteen miles a day; to corduroy the roads where necessary; to destroy such property as was designated by our corps commander and to consume everything eatable by man or beast.

Our colored friends, who flocked to us in embarrassing numbers, told many stories about the fear and flight of the inhabitants on the approach of Sherman.

Cock-fighting became one of the pastimes of the "flying column". Many fine birds were brought in by our foragers. Those found deficient in courage and skill quickly went to the stew-pan in company with the modest barn-yard fowl, but those of demonstrable valor won an honored place and name, and were to be seen riding proudly on the front seat of an artillery caisson or carried tenderly under the arm of an infantry soldier.
Friday, 18

Move out at 9 A.M. March about 8 miles & go into camp at Indian Springs. The citizens had nearly all fled from the "Yanks."

Saturday, 19

Move out at 7 A.M. pass through Ocmulga Mills. Cross the Ocmulga River. Make a march of about 15 miles. Go into camp within 6 miles of Hillsboro. Still have plenty to eat. Some Rain.
Sunday, 20

Move out at 5 A.M. Pass through Hillsboro, our direction is S. W. hear Cannonading off toward Macon. It is reported that Kilpatrick's Cav. has possession of it. Go into camp at Clinton. Rains making the Roads very heavy & hard on teams.
morning wet. had rained considerably during the night. move at one P. M. Our Brig. train guard. Enemy attack the train & foragers. we repulse them they capture some of our foragers. Jno. Lefler of Co. A. is one of them. We cross the R. R. within 10 mi. of Macon on E. side. go into camp.
Commence tearing up the R. R. our Brig. takes a new position. Rebs attack the 2nd Brig. are repulsed with heavy loss. our loss about 60. we take some prisoners. they mostly belong to militia. They say that is all there are here except cavalry. They charged terribly. we camp for the night.
Wednesday, 23

during last night the Enemy left the field leaving their dead 300 in no. We move
toward Gordon at 8 A.M. March 3 miles
& camp For the night. put up works. the
Enemy do not follow up.
Thursday, 24
Move at 7 A.M. our Reg. in advance.
leave Gordon on our left. March to
Erwington a distance of 12 miles. Our
Reg. provost guards have full charge of
the town. the Reg. has good Q'res. in
houses. Our H'd Q'res in a fine house.
Weather clear & cool. Our Reg. train

Friday, 25

Nov 64

Move out at 10 A. M. March about 10 miles & run into the bare road that our Div. was on. The train goes with the Div. so into camp near the Opposite River. Have some fighting at River.
Saturday, 26

Move across the River about 12 O'clock M. March 12 miles & go into camp at Brumings X Roads. Plenty of forage in the country. man & beast lives well.
Sunday, 27

Receive orders to proceed to the R. R. (about 3 mi.) & tear it up. Our Brig. tears up about 3 miles of it & then join our Div. near Johnson, Ga. do not get in until 11 P. M. men very tired.
Monday, 28

Move out at 7 A. M. pass through Middleton a small town. Our direction is East. We go through a pine forest. The country very thinly settled although our foragers got abundance of oysters.
Tuesday, 29
Move at 7 A. M. country thinly settled. country a dense pine forest. March about 12 miles. go into camp. Still the country is a pine forest. weather pleasant.

Wednesday, 30
Move at 8 A. M. weather pleasant. The country a dense pine forest. go through Summerville. March 10 mi. & go into camp within about 7 mi. of the River Ogeechee. Country still affords us plenty of forage.
Thursday, 1

March at 7 A. M. morning foggy. March parallel to the River, go about 12 miles & camp. The Fourth Div. Gen. Corse pass us after dark & camp near us. They are to go in advance of us now for a while.
Friday, 2

Move at 8 A. M. March on a parallel road to that of the 4th Div. March about 6 miles cross Skull Creek & go into camp on its banks. Have intimations of remaining here all day tomorrow.

Saturday, 3

Remain in camp during the day. Nothing of interest transpires.
Sunday, 4
March at 6½ A.M. March on a parallel road with the 4th Div. Our Brigade train guard. Pass through a better country than usual. Make a march of about 16 miles & camp.

Monday, 5
Move at 7 A.M. Make a march of about 17 miles. Country full of forage.
Tuesday, 6

Our Brigade moves at 3½ A. M. reports to Gen. Osterhaus. we then proceed to the River striking it at Wright’s Bridge. found no Enemy there. they had gone burning the Bridge. part of our forces crossed but did not go far until we found them.
Wednesday, 7

Put up works during last night. Morning finds no Enemy near us. An Escaped prisoner comes in & reports a Brig. of Cav. (Neb.) going to attack us. Our Brig. goes out on a reconaissance. meet the Enemy. drive them. We gain the R. R. near Macon.
December 1864

Thursday, 8
Remain in Camp until night when we were ordered to a new position. The 4th Div. goes on toward Savannah. Enemy does not bother us. Weather dry & pleasant.

Friday, 9
DECEMBER 1964

Saturday, 10

Move at 8 A.M. go down the River about 7 Miles & cross on the pontoon near the mouth of the Canal. proceed up the canal can hear cannonading ahead. get within 6 miles of Savannah. the 3rd & 4th Div. are ahead of us fighting. we go into camp for the night. put up works.
SUNDAY, 11

Receive orders to move at an Early hour only move a short distance when we were ordered to go back & remain until after dark then move to the Right take position fronting East. do not put up any works. We are in a nice pine grove.

MONDAY, 12

Remain in camp all day. Can hear the firing of gun Boats of S/savannah/. It is reported that the Enemy have but little to eat. The 23rd Div. of our Corps moves for Ft. McAlaster.
Tuesday, 13

Still remain in camp. weather cool. Can hear heavy firing of both cannon & musketry toward Ft. McAlaster. Got the news at 5½ P. M. that Ft. No. is ours; that opens our communication all right. The 2nd Div. took it by Storm. Gen Sherman goes on board the Sleet.

Oakley: pg 672 Hazen's capture of Fort McAllister opened the gates of that beautiful city, while Hardee managed to escape with his little army; and Sherman, in a rather facetious dispatch, presented the city to Mr. Lincoln as a Christmas gift.
Wednesday, 14

Thursday, 15
Weather warm. Nothing of importance.
Friday, 16
Nothing new. Weather still warm.

Saturday, 17
Weather still warm.

Sunday, 18
Weather warm. Preaching by Chaplain Hollem.

Monday, 19
Warm. Nothing of importance.

Oakey pg 672 In the middle of December in the neighborhood of Savannah, after Hardee's troops had nearly exhausted the country, which was now mainly under water, there was little opportunity for the foragers to exercise their talents, and some of them returned to the ranks. The troops valoacked here and there in comparatively dry spots while picket duty had to be performed at many points in the water. At Purgsburg the pickets were all afloat in boats and scows and on rafts, and the crestfallen foragers brought in nothing but rice, which became unpalatable when served three times a day for successive weeks.
Tuesday, 20

The Maj. & I made a visit to the coast. Saw Ft. McAlaster. got a mess of Oysters & had a good time generally. got back to camp by 5½ P. M. have rumor in camp that we are to assault the Enemy's works tomorrow.
Wednesday, 21

At day light find the Enemy had all gone.
Much Easier than was expected yesterday.
We move toward Savana. arrive in the
city at 12 M. It is one of the finest
cities we have seen in the South. The
Col. & I ride through. See a great many
citizens. Weather turns cold.

Oakey pg 672
Flushed with the success of our march, we settled down for a rest.
Our uniforms were the worse for wear, but the army was in fine
condition and fully prepared for the serious work ahead.