WAR JOURNAL
of
ALBERT MOSES LURIA
AUGUST 19, 1861 TO FEBRUARY 13, 1862
Esquiline Hill, Columbus, Ga.

Marion Levy

Transcript prepared by the Historical Records Survey of the Works Progress Administration, May 13, 1938.
to defend their homes, can you be men and hesitate to do as much? God forbid!! Once more, as one of the officers you have chosen to lead you to "Victory or Death" I appeal to you to flock around the drooping Standard of your Country, and with one accord resolve that when the War shall be over, you will be found, highest in the Temple of Freedom or have mingled your veins with the remains of your Country!!!!

APPEAL

Made to the Men of Our Company
To re-enlist for two years, or the War.

February 13th, 1862.

Near Union Mills.
orders to return to Annadale and await further orders; we returned there and
Bivouacked just in the street. About one o'clock it poured down rain and as we
had no shelter we all got drenched. The next day we returned to our encampment, where
we are now.

DATES

Moved to Camp Ellis from

    Camp Wigfall, 7 miles Aug. 23.
Marched to Fairfax Station, 4 miles Aug. 29.
Returned thence to Camp Ellis,
Marched to Mason's Hill, 18 miles Sep. 7.
Returned to Annadale, 2 miles Sep. 11.
Returned thence to Camp Ellis, 16 miles Sep. 12.
Moved from Manassas to
    Camp Wigfall, July 29.
Moved from Camp Ellis to Camp, 2 miles Sep. 21.
Dr. Hicks and Maj. Christie joined mess,
Bought black horse, $135 Sep. 22.
Bill commenced Sep. 23.

"The treasures of the Deep are not so precious
As are the concealed comforts of a man
Looked up in Woman's love. I scent the air
Of blessings, when I come but near the house,
What a delicious breath Marriage sends forth;
The violet bed's not sweeter.

Middleton.
were but ill prepared to do guard duty, however, it was necessary for the safety of our men and for the safety of the country, so we submitted cheerfully. I was Sargeant of the guard that night. Our men had no tents, in the hurry of our departure we could bring nothing but a little uncooked provisions and our blankets, but in spite of the rain we laid down, those who were not on guard, wrapped up in the blankets and slept soundly until next morning, when we were reinforced by an Artillery corps who took command of the Battery; and we pitched our tents after a day or so, about three or four hundred yards farther off from the beach. From this position we removed about one quarter of a mile, still farther from the beach.

Sewell's Point is about twelve miles from Norfolk. The road leading to it is a fine level one, sometimes the branches of the oaks almost meet over it and from a perfect kind of an arbor. The road is certainly about the most beautiful I ever traveled over.

I remained with my company at Sewell's Point until the 17th of June; but I have not mentioned that my friend Mr. John Lee arrived as a new member of the Company, just before we left Tanner's Cross Roads; he was in the battle and behaved very well indeed; he was with the Company when I left and every one was perfectly devoted to him; he was the life of the camp, kept everybody amused. He is a warm hearted, generous man, a warm true friend, and one who fully merits all the esteem which he has so generally received.

My friend Nat Gregory wrote me offering me a second Lieutenancy in a company then being gotten up in his County and to which I am now attached. I accepted his offer, and having been duly elected, I left Sewell's Point intending to stop over one train in Suffolk, but when I arrived at Suffolk I found Father and Mother there, much to my surprise.
coldly disposed woman he has gained an affection the depth and warmth of which is rarely equalled. Although Alice is remarkably cold in her nature, yet a woman never loved a man with more warmth and fervor than she does her Brother: She is rather a good judge of human nature and a very appreciative nature: You cannot flatter her with words, but you may by actions and delicate attentions. If you will notice her favorite wants and see them attended to modestly, and always so as to relieve her from any imminent obligation, you can make one step towards gaining her esteem: For instance, she is passionately fond of horse back riding, well if you will take a horse to her school room and ask her to ride home with you, she will not only take pleasure in riding home with you, but will appreciate the attention, although you may not ever hear her mention it; yet if you were to present her with a side saddle or a horse, or anything of that sort that placed her under obligations to you she would feel offended, and although she might endeavor from regard to you feelings to prevent saying anything about it, yet she would think you a fool, and wish she hadn't known you: Attentions paid to her must be of the most delicate nature: I have long made it a habit to study human nature and have derived special pleasure from studying Alice’s character; she has a character that might be styled very classic, you cannot be introduced to her and see her half a dozen times and say you know Alice Moses: No! nor if you had known her intimately as I have, for a year you would not know her unless you made her and her character a special study: The longer you know her, and the more minutely you notice her in all her bearings, the more you find to love and admire, but if you want to gain her esteem, you must be ever on the "Qui vive" and never be guilty of any unmanly act. Really, I don’t think that a man could undertake anything which would require half so much care, attention and particularity as a courtship with her. If it were not blasphemous I would say that God had erred when He made her a woman, I wish she were a man, and I would give anything to see her well married. No ordinary man can marry her, but I think I have written quite enough on this subject.
Carolina, having taken my final departure from Sewell’s Point.

As Gregory and the company were waiting on me I could not delay longer than one train in Suffolk and Mother regretting that she could see so little of me after coming all the way from Georgia, yielded to my persuasions to accompany me to North Carolina and spend some time with me at Mr. Gregory’s. We arrived there late one afternoon and received a hearty welcome from Mr. Gregory and all his family. Mother remained with me until our Company was ordered to Weldon, and I took her to Weldon where she remained a couple of days and was joined by Lee, on his return home from a visit to Sewell’s Point. I then remained at Weldon with the Company and assisted in drilling them.

Nothing occurred in Weldon worth relating nor while we were in Richmond.

On the morning of July 21st we left Richmond for Manassas Junction, but when we left Richmond we had no idea that the day was so "big with the fate of the Southern Confederacy". Our first intelligence of the fight was at Gordonsville where a dispatch was received saying "We are sending them to hell by squads". This was about 4 P.M. at the very time when the tide of war was changing and when Curby Smith was advancing with his reinforcements and striking a perfect panic among the Federals.

The 21st of July, 1861, will long be remembered as the day on which one of the most signal victories was gained, as the day when the superiority of moral force and courage over brute force and superior numbers was fully proven; and the day when the world saw that a free people, fighting for their altars and their homes, and sustained by a consciousness of Right could never be conquered.

General Scott had taken ample time to make his preparations, his arrangements, and convivices and facilities, were probably the most complete that any modern army ever had.

His conviction that upon that battle hung the fate of the Confederate States was earnest, and no energy, trouble or expense was spared to insure a victory so essential for the cause of the Federal Government. He had even gone so far as to
until nearly twelve o'clock to-day when I resolved to get up and write some in my Journal. The subject of my thoughts was the Being who is ever first in my mind. The storm rages even now with unabated fury and while I listen to its ragings, thoughts as to the fate of Lincoln's fleet arise in my mind, I opine that they will necessarily suffer much, especially the blockading squadron which have no ports but Southern ports to enter. We are now daily expecting a fight. It is understood that McClellan is advancing and we all earnestly hope that the fight may not be long delayed.

I am just beginning seriously to consider what I shall do after my twelve months is out and have almost concluded to try and get the political influence of Genl. Toombs and some others and try and obtain a commission as Captain of Artillery in the Confederate service. If I can do this I will secure myself a good position and will get a salary of at least $1,560 per year, and in addition to this, I will be mounted which will suit me exactly, and further I can then satisfactorily get married when I am twenty-one; by that time it is not unreasonable to suppose that the war will be ended and in time of peace, I will be stationed at some fort where my duties will be comparatively light, and with all due propriety I could have a wife near there with me. These are comforts that I much desire and shall use many endeavors to gain. Nov. 2. I have just had a very affectionate letter from Alice. She is certainly a woman of fine points of character, I appreciate an affectionate letter from her more than any of my correspondents: She is a woman of high toned feelings, high principles and entirely too much independence of spirit for a woman: While she is rather peculiar, or I may say eccentric about some things, yet when one knows her she has a character that commands much admiration. No man could have a higher compliment paid him as a man than to have Alice's love, for she will not and in fact cannot love a man who has anything mean or unmanly about him: She is a woman of a very cold disposition although she may think highly of a person yet her demonstrations are very few and scarce: As a woman of a cold disposition, she gives a striking illustration of one of the great peculiarities of Nature, namely, when a man succeeds in gaining the affections of a
33.

We expect to remove from this position in a few days, back beyond Bull Run as all our men have already built houses, it is not very pleasant to have to move, especially as the weather at present promises to be rather unfavorable.

I have just received letters from home stating that uncle Abram and daughters-in-law together with their families have gone out to Georgia. Some of them are staying at Father's and some at cousin Edwin's. Last advices from Home stated that Major's son Charlie had for several days been quite sick, having been attacked with convulsions. I hope he may soon recover, but from the tome of Minnie's letter, I am afraid it may terminate rather more seriously than is at present anticipated.

I am writing in the centre of these alternate pages because this book is the most inconvenient thing in the world to write in, and I want to finish it and get one which will be a better size, and I hope be more interestingly written. Confound the thing, I have a notion to burn it up! It is so small that my hand takes up all the page, and no matter how bright an idea I might have in my head, it would be impossible to write where the facilities are so awkward.

Jan. 4. Before going on to enumerate once more the circumstances connected with that immortal day, July 21st, I must record that the disparity in numbers &c which exist between this statement and that contained in pages 18 and 19 is thus to be accounted for,

The report upon pages 18 and 19 was made upon the Official Report of Gen. Johnson as given me from memory, by Maj. Christie, of our Regiment. This statement is made form Gen. Johnson's report, published in the news journals of the country and then transcribed by myself.

Gen. Joseph E. Johnson was stationed at Winchester Va. and was there, by telegraph apprised of the fact, on the 18th of July, that the Federal army was advancing upon Gen. Beauregard at Manassas and was directed, if
laying about just as you have seen rags and papers laying about a floor
where a little child has been playing. I saw men who had died and no one knew
that they were dead. On one side you would see a dying man, on the other one
who was almost in as bad a state, between these two a man who had breathed out
his last without a kind hand or a pitying heart to sympathize with him.

I do not mean to attach blame to the nurses, for they certainly did all
they could, but there were more than they could attend to.

On the battlefield hundreds of dead and unburied bodies lay in every
direction. Guns knapsacks, cartridge boxes, cap boxes, crackers, and in short
everything that a soldier carries lay scattered all over the field.

For a week after the awful stench prevailed for six or seven miles around
the battle field. Not unfrequently men, hundreds of them, were found in the
woods, where they had been borne away wounded in the thickest of the fight.

There in the bushes without a hand or heart near them, these men have died.
But I must not omit to mention that among other things taken from the enemy, was
thirty thousand hand-cuffs which they intended to use for their hellish purposes.

The official report of the battle was:

Forces engaged on our side, 25,000
" " enemy's side, 68,000
Our Loss, killed and wounded, 1,500

Enemy's loss, " " , 3,500
We took, stands of arms, 10,000
We took, hand cuffs, 30,000
" " , prisoners, 1500

The Federal army was completely routed and retired acrosss [sic] the Potomac, the
whole army was demoralized and had to be reorganized.

Nothing of special interest has occurred since we have been here, as will be
seen, I am relating what occurred in July. These records are not entirely from
memory but from notes.
Aug. 24.

I have not mentioned the narrow escape of our Regiment. The conductor who brought us down, or rather the engineer, brought us within about seven miles of Manassas, and then unfastening his engine at about two a.m., left us.

He was under the impression that the Federals had been victorious, and intended to leave us, unaware of his designs, without means of escape, until we should be surrounded by the Federals and all taken prisoners; but fortunately for us, the villain's design fell short, as our forces had won the day. The engineer was arrested, and having been tried, was shot.

Aug. 24. Yesterday we moved from Camp Wigfall, about two miles to the north-east of Manassas, to this point, about five miles to the right of Fairfax Station. Our men stood the journey very well. Our present location is a very pretty, and I hope a very pleasant one, and healthy too. We are encamped on a plain of about ten acres with long "Hair nest" grass all over it, the whole field presents the appearance of one large green carpet.

There are three houses within half a mile of us, and quite a fanciful little milk-maid is about three hundred yards from the line of the officers' tents.

I was over there yesterday about ten minutes after our arrival and got some splendid milk and buttermilk.

The water here is about the finest I ever drank. Our brigade, under Genl. J. A. Early, is now in the right wing of the army.

1861.

Sep. 6. I have been prevented from necessity from recording anything in my journal for the past ten or twelve days.

On Thursday, Aug. 20, our Brigade received orders to leave for Falls Church; but to await further orders at Fairfax Station. So, we are halted at that place.

Genl. Early gave theCols. order to leave their smallest company as a guard to the encampment. Our company being the smallest, owing to our sick list, it was detailed to remain. The other companies went on, carrying three days provisions
hours, by the Sergeant who is in charge of the party. They are instructed
to keep a sharp lookout, and are not allowed to let anyone past unless he
has, either the countersign or a written permit signed by some General.
If a man is found who has neither a pass nor the countersign (and this is
not infrequently the case) he is taken prisoner and carried by a sentinel
or two to the Company which is generally stationed some four or five hundred
yards in the rear and there delivered to the Commander of the Company, by
him, he is sent under another guard to the Commander of the Regt. He is questioned
and closely examined by him, and if he can give satisfactory reasons for being
outside the line without either a pass or the countersign, he is released, if
not, he is sent with a courier (two of which are always with each Regiment
when they are on picket) to the General Head Quarters: There he must either
give an account of himself which will be satisfactory to them or he is dealt with
according as they think right and proper. The sentinels holding the outposts
have instructions to fight and fall back slowly upon the next reserve and then the
two will do the same, and thus commencing with the extreme outpost, each post will
fight and fall back in order to the one immediately in its rear, until it reaches
the Company, which will by this time be ready to receive the enemy, then the senti-
nels who have fallen back join the Company which gives fight and falls back gradu-
ally to the Regiment. At present there is more system about the pickets than
there has been for some time past. The entire outposts are under Command of Brig.
Genl. Stewart who was formerly Colonel of what is now Field's Regt. of Calvary,
and did admirable outpost service. He was promoted for his gallant conduct at
out Lewensville. Now whenever a Regiment goes on picket, it goes under command of the
Lieut. Colonel and the Colonel reports to Genl. Stewart's Head Quarters for orders.

Nothing has been heard of "Nic". He went off two weeks ago, October 26th,
1861 --- November 7th, 1861.
Nov. 11. Found him to-day.
Nov. 16. November the sixteenth is here and I am now in a little shingle shanty,
About four o'clock I went over to Adjt. Young's tent and took a fine drink of whiskey after that I went to dress parade, and returned with the Adjt. who had quite an assemblage in his tent. Sergts., Lieuts., Capt. P, Major., and Col., as well as Sergt. Maj., and Col's. Orderly. We all proceeded to enjoy his hospitality by drinking his liquor, and I, in an unwary moment yielded to an invitation to try some fine domestic wine, & I drank it off, but not long afterwards I knew my fate was sealed and I was bound to be tight for I had mixed my liquor, having taken whiskey first and then the wine, which is something I cannot stand, and in a short time I was as tight as I ever was in my life, but it is the first time I have been really drunk since November 1859. I went to bed about ten o'clock and woke up, pretty sober, about midnight and as I lay in bed the wind was howling around and the tents fairly groaning under its strains, in fact, one of the most severe storms that I have ever witnessed was then raging; the rain was fairly driven through the tents and it was all we could do by having our pins fairly scoured, to keep our tent from blowing over. However, in this respect we were more fortunate than many others, I think at least a hundred tents must have blown down in the Regts. around, and within sight of us. The sight was really ridiculous, you might look out and you would see a tent dashed to the ground and the former inmates running across to some other tent, many were standing out with their oil-cloths over their heads. The Adjt's tent blew down, and one could not help laughing heartily to

scene; On one side was the tent, blown down, was a bedstead and a box of papers and three liquor laying out in the rain; in another place ew cloth cap with gold lace on it squashed in the mud. The Col's tent was gone and everything of his was laying out exposed to the weather. As for my own part, I woke early in the morning and soon saw that home was the best place for a man, so I laid in bed until breakfast was ready, and then only slipped on my pants to eat. After breakfast I laid down and covering myself with my overcoat I remained thus wrapped in thoughts of Home and loved ones
with them, and their blankets, and leaving all their other baggage, tents included, behind, as the weather was very bad for moving.

I felt certain that the movement was not made for nothing and as the chances were very good for a fight I concluded to go with the Regiment as the Capt. and second Lieut. would be with the Company. So I got the Colonel's permission and went off with them. It was pouring down rain and the roads were awful, the mud ankle deep, but we trudged along through it and arrived at Fairfax Station about five o'clock in the afternoon, having traveled over about three and a half miles of road. I left the Regiment there and went on about three miles to Kershaw's Regiment, just beyond Fairfax C. H.

I stayed ther [sic] all night with my two cousins, Perry Moses and met ther [sic] my old college friends, Dr. B. Eggleston and McFurcons.

The meeting was certainly pleasant, in fact it is almost curious to notice how glad one is to meet with an old friend in times like these. I staid with them that day until about twelve o'clock, when I returned to Fairfax Station where I left the Reg. We remained there two or three days. That night McRae's Reg. 3rd. N. C., and the 24th Va. went down to Mason's Hill and remained there two days on picket duty. At their return to the Station the whole Brigade came back to our encampment.

The next day Sept. 6th. I went with Dr. Hicks to Manassas Junction where I saw Father and several of the Columbus Guards, Col. Semmes' Regt. having arrived about a week before. George Dillingham had been detailed as an assistant for the Brigade Commissary. I saw Moultrie Moses also, I had not seen him before in nearly nine months, but he was not much altered, very badly sunburned, but that was about the only alteration I saw.

On our way back I saw Col. L. T. Wigfall, who was in command of a Texas Reg., he is a man of medium height and rather stoutly built, black beard and hair, black eyes, has a fine voice for a speaker, is quite courteous and affable in his manner and seems to be about forty-five years of age. When I got to camp I found our Reg-
July 21st, 1861. Arrived at Manassas July 22nd. Moved from Manassas to Camp Wigfall, (two miles northeast of Manassas), July 29th, 1861. Marched to Camp Ellis from Camp Wigfall, seven miles, Aug. 23rd, 1861. Marched from Camp Ellis to Fairfax Station, four miles, Aug. 29th. Marched from Fairfax Station to Camp Ellis, Sept. 5th, four miles. Marched from Camp Ellis, to Mason's Hill, eighteen miles, Sept. 7th. Remained there a few days and returned to Annadale, two miles, Sept. 11th. Marched thence to Camp Ellis, Sept. 12th sixteen miles. Sum of miles marched, fifty-three.

From August 31st, to October 31st.


No. miles marched to August 31st, 53

" " " " October 31st, 80

No. miles marched from July 8th, to October 31st, 133.

Nov. 2. Memory in its expanse over more than eighteen years, does not carry me back to such a scene as I have witnessed since four o'clock yesterday afternoon; and the difficulty of describing it is fully commensurate with the greatness of the storm that has prevailed since yesterday afternoon, without intermission.
merits of some trotting horse or saddle horse, comparing them to his "Ria" or my "Topsy" or "Madge" or Father driving up with old "Kate" in his buggy drenched; these are scenes that I once enjoyed and now often rise before my "Mind's eye" and often I long to enjoy them again, but when shall it be? "Echo answers, when"? How I would like now to be seated up in cousin Julia's room having a good, nice little chat with her, she is certainly one of the finest ladies I ever knew, and her intelligence is far greater than I have ever had the pleasure of enjoying in a lady's company, she has a very considerable knowledge of human nature, is quite fond of the "Profound and Deep", nothing delights her more than a study of Nature as developed in Nature's beings, she has an even temper, is remarkable for her amiability which is perhaps only exceeded by the generosity of her nature; she forms no friendships upon an hour's acquaintance but her affection or friendship is grounded on the true merits of the friend, thus I would consider it a compliment to be considered by her as a friend: Her sympathies are great, and she well knows how to bestow them. Or I would like to be at Missie's with all those beloved cousins, sitting in the parlor, by the window with "Old Green" or Addie or sitting on the sofa at home talking to Minnie. There is of course one pleasure that I would prefer to all these but that one I will not mention here, it is always in my heart's most anxious anticipations and need not be recorded. Thoughts like these I have written of this evening always arise, either when all is quiet and I have just retired or on a rainy afternoon like this, but on all such occasions the thought of that Being, so especially dear to me, is most prominent, and as I think of her I cannot help uttering to myself the constant wish of my heart, "God bless her".

Sept. 21. Last night I was Officer of the Guard, and the night was like this; one of those lovely moon-light nights when one is almost insensibly borne back to Home and its tender recollections, how often on just such a night as this have I sat in the front porch at home, either sitting on the steps laying my head in some of the girls' laps or talking with Father and Major, while we puffed away on some fine cigars, again on just such a night I have been seated on the front steps at Aunt Anna's with
dark, when Gen. Early arrived and brought orders for us to move on to Union Mills. We found the roads only tolerably good and reached Union Mills, a distance of seven miles, about ten o'clock.

We found all our wagons there, so we halted on the north side of Bull Run and staid there all night. The next morning we got orders to move up on one of the neighboring hills, so here we are now, about three quarters of a mile from Union Mills, and to the West of it, our division composed of the 2nd and 6th Brigade under Genls. Ewell and Early, of the 1st Corps Army of the Potomac, in the extreme right of the line of battle. After I got here I laid off the encampment and then made myself comfortable. The next day I went out to look around and found Genl. Jones' S. C. Brigade within a quarter of a mile of us. I saw there Tom Dunn, Ike Gaillaired, Bob Ellison And Manning all old Hillsboro cadets. From there I went on to Genl. Toombs' where I saw Father and Genl. Toombs' entire staff, also Genls. Johnson, Forney and Smith. Genl. Smith who now commands the division formerly commanded by Genl. Johnson, is decidedly an ordinary looking man and does not wear uniform, I saw him with the President when the review came off, some time since and was then struck with the fact, that he was not dressed in uniform. The others were dressed in uniform and were very military looking men, Genl. Toombs' Brigade was on Cub Run on the right of the Warrenton Turn Pike, one and three quarters miles from Centreville.

On Tuesday night the whole army had orders to fall back to Bull Run and bring on their baggage with one load, what could not be brought with one load, they were ordered to burn. A great many of the troops obeyed the order and consequently there were a good many things burned at every encampment. The move was a grand one, the entire army moved back, probably sixty or seventy thousand men. The move was attended at all points by considerable loss. After the "fall back" was made, the Railroad was torn up. As I know there are many
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MAIN ENTRY: LURIA, ALBERT MOSES.

TITLE: Diary, 1861-1862.

COLLECTION NUMBER: 438-2

ABSTRACT: Typescript copy of the Civil War diary of Albert Moses Luria, son  
of Raphael J. Moses of Columbus, Ga., a lieutenant in the 23rd North Carolina  

SIZE: 1 volume.

ALBERT MOSES LURIA DIARY, 1861-62. 1 vol. Copied from copy owned  
by Miss Marion Levy, Columbus, Ga.

Typed copy of a Civil War journal, Aug. 19, 1861 - Feb. 13, 1862,  
of a Confederate soldier, Columbus, Ga., containing a description of  
the battle of Manassas Junction, with an official list of casualties,  
and an account of an engagement near Union Mills, Va.

Excerpts from the diary, with a biographical introduction,  
were published by Dr. Marcus in American Jewish Archives,  
"Albert Moses Luria, Gallant Young Confederate."

Albert Moses Luria (1843-1862), son of Raphael J. Moses,  
was born in Charleston and grew up in Columbus, Georgia. He  
changed his name from Albert Luria Moses to Albert Moses Luria.  
He was in love with his young cousin, Eliza H. Moses, both of  
them too young to marry. He was a 2nd lt., Co. I, 23rd N.C.  
Volunteers.
of a fight, and as we approached Annadale, our joyous feeling increased, but

"The brightest, still the fleetest

"All that sweet was made

"But to be lost when sweetest"

and when we arrived there we found that orders had been changed, and we were to advance to a place, called Accotink Creek, to defend the road, or rather the ford. We found the road leading to the place, awful and early dawn was seen when we reached it; our men were already fagged when we reached Annadale and did not feel like going much further. What made "bad, worse" was that our men did not know when we left Annadale, that we were going any further, but the general impression was, that we were only going down a side road to conceal ourselves from the enemy; so when ever we were halted to rest, each man thought that it was a final halt. At one time I was walking along, with my thoughts some where else, and of a sudden, I found myself along side the Company fourth in front of my own, so I sat down to wait for it, and then I found out the real state of fatigue under which the Regiment was laboring; instead of being in files four deep, and marching sixteen inches apart, they were scattered about, marching in squads of four and six, scattered from thirty to forty paces apart, many a one just marching along by himself. Never was the dawning day hailed with more pleasure than when it found us at Accotink. As soon as day was fairly begun, two of our Companies were put out on picket, on Mrs. Fitzhugh's place, the whole place was very beautiful, and reminded me very much of home. The place is on a high hill and has been under the highest horticultural attention. Mr. Fitzhugh, who married a sister of Mrs. General Lee, died in 1853, and left his widow without issue, leaving her seventeen thousand acres of land and plenty of money; but he liberated by his will, in 1850 four hundred slaves. Many of them I learned, settled in Washington, and a great many went to New York and Philadelphia, those who have been heard from, have not fares to as well as those who were slaves. It was undoubtedly a piece of greatly mistaken philanthropy. We remained there a few days and returned to Sangster's Cross Roads, where we stood
one night and went to our new Camp, between Fairfax Station and Fairfax C. H.
That was decidedly the best encampment I have seen yet, we were just between the two
points of the most interest, and we got the most news there. Just after we went to
that Camp, Ike Young the Adjutant of our Regt. was taken with a spell of threatened
Typhoid fever, owing to the fact that he was Adj. the Colonel approved his sick leave
and he went off, nominally to the N. C. Hospital at Petersburg, Va., but when he got
at Richmond the Sect. of War granted him a furlough for fifteen days. I have been acting
Adj. ever since his departure. I like the office very much and think if I go home after
my twelve months is out, I will either join a Calvary Company or try and get an
appointment as Adjutant of a Regiment.

We were ordered from our Camp to Barke Station, six miles off on Picket. The
weather being fine, and the distance short, we carried a pretty full Regt. and started
off about eight o'clock Monday morning, Oct. 3rd, 1861. We got to Barke Station about
eleven o'clock and relieved the 5th N. C. Regt. which was there then. As soon as we
were well fixed we put out a guard around the private property there, and then sent
out two companies on Picket. Some of our Picket, the outside one was placed at the
Railroad bridge crossing Accotink Creek, the others were posted along the wagon road
leading there. Tuesday afternoon a freight train came down with about fifty men to
take up the Railroad and bring the iron back to Fairfax Station or Manassas, I am not
certain which. Tuesday evening about dusk the 12th Miss. Regt. came down, but for what
reason we did not learn, however, it was pretty generally supposed that they came to
strengthen the position. About midnight they received orders to return. About one
A. M. Wednesday a courier brought us word to send back all wagons we had and our cooking
utensils, as our whole encampment, pack and parcel, was to be removed to Manassas, or
rather in that direction. We sent them back, and about daylight an order came from
Maj. Genl. VanDorn to follow his division to Union Mills, we consequently left Barke
Station at about seven o'clock and marched to Sangster's Cross Roads, where we were
halted by Col. Smith of the 20th Geo. Regt. he having command of that part of the Brigade
which was there, by virtue of his Seniority. We built fires and remained there until
who will censure the move, I give an explanation: Situated as we were we could fight to no advantage, in that position we were holding no places that it would hurt us to abandon, and by falling back to Bull Run we have a splendid position and can readily whip any number they may bring, and further we save an immense amount of transportation. With regard to the burning of baggage, I can only say that was for one of two reasons: Either, the Gens. anticipated a very speedy advance of the enemy or they thought it the best mode of reducing the baggage to the prescribed standard. I have heard the move spoken of as a retreat, but I want to note here that it was not a retreat, for we neither had the enemy in sight, nor had been challenged to fight. It was only a politic move on the part of our Generals; and if McClellan has, as Rumor says, commenced his advance; Public opinion won't allow him to retreat, and he must necessarily come forward and fight us on our own ground. Let him do it and we will whip him most admirably, I am longing for the fight to come off while I am acting Adjutant, so as to be mounted.

It is customary in the army for every Company Commander to make out a muster roll of his company at the end of every two months. Appended to these muster rolls is an account or a memorandum of the affairs important of the company for that time, for future reference. I append those made out for our Company (I) of the 13th Reg. N. C. V. Col. Hoke, from July 8th, 1861, to August 31st, 1861.


"Left Weldon for Richmond Va. July 18th, 1861. Arrived in Richmond the night of the 18th. Remained there a few days, and left Richmond for Manassas Va.,
practicable, to make a junction with that Officer, pursuant to orders
and in the exercise of the discretion therewith conferred, Gen. Johnson
concluded to join Gen. Beauregard, to accomplish which, it was necessary
to &c. Instead of giving my own version, I will give Gen. Johnson's report
verbatim.

*** REPORT OF GEN. JOHNSON.

*** (not copied)

FELLOW SOLDIERS:-

If I ceased to urge you to re-enlist, I should
feel that I had failed to perform my duty. Your Country, tattered and bleed-
ing from the blows of a cruel enemy, stands upon the verge of ruin, and with a
pity in her tones that should wring pity from hearts of iron, calls on you for
help and asks if you will rally to her cause like brave men, or shrink from
danger like cowards. Your Liberty, your Rights and your Honor are in the scale,
and it remains for you to say if they shall remain sacred for generations to
come or be trampled under foot by the invader? Aye! You have now to determine
whether you will, in the face of a dastard foe stack your arms and leave your
Country to be desolated, or strike to a man for her defense. If you have Mother!
if you have wives! if you have sisters now decide if you are willing to have
them robbed of their virtue by a band of ruffians!! Can it be that you are men
and yet with the enemy besmeared with the blood of your brothers knocking at your
very doors, you will leave these defenseless women to be violated before the eyes
of aged Fathers, unable to protect them? No! My brave followers I cannot be-
lieve it! I cannot believe that there is one among you so false as that, so dead
to honor!! Less than a hundred years ago, the very women shouldered their muskets
had then. We have now, Generals, Maj. Generals, and Brig. Generals none of which, hardly, did we have then.

In a country where the Democratic form of Government exists, the country is governed "By the passions and prejudices of the great unwashed; played upon by political demagogues for personal ends".

The foregoing sentiment, as true as it is scientific and deep, was expressed by Dr. Robert J. Hicks at Granville County N. C. Serg. of 23rd N. C. Reg. when discussing with myself, Capt. Annis, Lieut. Gregory the merits and demerits of a Democracy unlimited. Dr. Hicks is a man of a great deal of mind, deep and profitable thought, a slow speaking but learned man, a man of medium stature, good personal appearance, a long but rather squarely shaped head, a straight nose, rather long face, very short chin, prominent forehead, dark grey eyes, a man of much research and general knowledge, a great lover, and close observer of Nature, as such characters always are. The sentiment which he expressed embodies "multum in parvo", and is as the late Republic of America has clearly demonstrated, true to the letter.

While reading Shakespeare's beautiful piece called The Tempest, I was forcibly struck with this sentence: "The strongest oaths are straws to fire in the blood". The truth of which experience has no doubt clearly proved to most men,
Azile, Minnie and Addie enjoying myself very much. It is with scenes like these that recollections of dear Azile arise before me. How often on such nights have I been seated on the steps with my head in her lap, she rubbing my head, or playing with my hair with one hand while the other I held in mine. For how many of the happiest moments of my life am I indebted to this gentle young Being, she little knows how much I prize them, or how often in this stern life I recur to them. Time but develops to me the more perfect beauty of her character. Some I know not what, unless I call it instinct, taught me to single her from the group and love her more than the rest when I was but fourteen years of age, four years have now elapsed and the interval has but strengthened my affection and made it of a more manly character. From time to time my love for this pure young Being has been enhanced until now I feel that a reciprocation of that feeling is thoroughly indispensable to my happiness, and I have learned to prize each day and to regard it as just such a diminution of the period that must elapse before my happiness is complete. I have now set out in the world, so to speak, with my mind firmly set on as speedy a marriage as possible. My desire to accomplish this as soon after my maturity as possible, makes me follow up every undertaking with redoubled zeal. A pecuniary independence, a spotless moral character and an unlimited regard for the views and feelings of Azile, are the prime objects ever present to my mind, and I earnestly pray God that I may never by an act or word forfeit my claim upon her affections. I regard it as most fortunate that I have formed the attachment before leaving Home, for situated as I am with plenty of money, in the army and any number of temptations, a warm and impetuous disposition I feel assured that I might have gone astray, were it not for this moral restraint, but now I never indulge in any immoralities because I feel it due to her to keep my character spotless. I regret exceedingly that there is so much opposition on the part of my parents but I trust to God that time may do away this opposition and that when they see that I, having arrived at maturity, am determined on the marriage they will with-hold all opposition.

Since we returned from Mason's Hill there has been no war news of interest. We are going to move to-morrow to a place about two miles northeast of this position. Our Company's health is much improved. We lost our third Sergeant Henry Y. Durant
Another year has passed away, another one of the semi-divisions have been swallowed up in the grand infinitesimally. Time. The year of 1861 has gone! Time has gone around once more, and the click of the cog reminds us that one more part of the revolution of that great wheel has taken place. But though, hundreds of times, the cogs of the great wheel have been passed over, yet the one which represents the year 1861 will live forever, imperishable in the minds of men! Long to be remembered as the year in which the great American Republic found its downfall! As the period when the lovers of the great and glorious Union found that the pillars which supported the gigantic stature, the mighty fabric had for years past been gnawed by political worms! And as the year when these pillars gave way and the mighty Republic of America fell, shattered in a thousand fragments. As Daniel (the editor of the Richmond Examiner) has it "As the time when the Government of the United States was crushed, not by the force of an assaulting enemy, but by the rottenness of its own institutions. That country which was once "The land of the free and the home of the brave" is now the dominion of a military despot. That drivelling, babbling fool, Abraham Lincoln, unable to manage the helm of the great Ship of State, is governed by the whims and frivolities of a dissatisfied constituency. And the year which has but now passed away, will live forever in the minds of Men as the epoch at which the Southern States, having declared their resolution, to have their rights "In the Union if they could, out of it if they must" were forced to accept the latter alternative, and struck the signal blow for their independence. During this year, a war has been waged which has not for circumstantial details a parallel in the pages of History, Ancient or Modern. Long life and prosperity to the Southern Confederacy and the same for our first President Jefferson Davis!!!

The first public reception of our first President, was his levee in Richmond
I have this afternoon while discussing women and courtships with Dr. Hicks, who by-the-bye is a very scientific man, discovered a very grave mistake that I have made, that is in mentioning Azile's name in connection with mine in my letters home to cousin Julia and other parties, I now feel fully aware that if she could write me, she would request me not to do so, and I have determined to stop it forthwith, and I am resolved now that I won't mention her in any of my letters or remarks unless to send my love or something of that kind, for I know now it is wrong, while I acknowledge that I have erred in that respect up to this time, yet I think it is due to myself to state that I think the circumstances under which I left home palliate in a degree the extent of the error, for every one then expressed the, or rather entertained the belief, that I would soon forget her, and I felt it due to myself that I should by mentioning her, keep them fully aware that I had not forgotten her. And now I close this subject in this book, unless some special event calls on me to recur to it and mention it again.

Nov. 7. I have just returned from a picket march, that is to-day. Our Regiment went down day before yesterday, Nov. 5th, to relieve the 20th Geo. Regt. which was then on picket. Perhaps it may not be amiss to make a few remarks relative to this kind of duty, which has been (so to speak) fashionable in this war.

Generally, there is some subject, such as Mason's Hill, Falls Church, Sangster's Station etc., where a Regt. is sent on picket. The Regt. takes, generally, three or four days rations and carrying no baggage but blankets, repairs to the designated point, which is generally the Picket Camp. When they have arrived there they send out one or two, sometimes three or four companies, according to the danger of the post. These companies are generally sent to some point about a half or three quarters of a mile from the Picket Camp; and then the Company is established at some point, and sends our parties of four or six men to some three or four points, on the roads or in the woods, these men, say for instance, six are sent under a Sergeant to a post; well they are posted, one at a time and relieved every two
on the 13th day of September, 4:50 A. M. he died of Typhoid fever. Measles and Typhoid fever have been pretty well through the Company. We are now preparing for the Inspection General, who is coming around shortly to inspect the Regt. Colonel McRae's Regt. went down to Springfield. We heard heavy firing down in that direction yesterday. We have not heard the result. I am daily expecting to hear from it.

Oct. 5. My time has been so much occupied recently that I could not find an opportunity to write any in my Journal, and even now when I review the past I find that there is but little of much interest to record.

On the 22nd of last month Gregory and myself bought a very nice little horse that we call "Nic", he is a genuine Camp horse and exactly one of that kind that will stand the life admirably, he is short coupled, heavy built and very easily kept, I gave $135 for the horse and $10 for the saddle and bridle. I purchased the horse on Sunday and on Wednesday night at half past nine P. M. (Sept. 25th) orders came for us to prepare three days rations, to send our sick and baggage back towards Manassas; while we would move forward as far as Sangster's Cross Roads to meet the enemy at three A. M. the next day, in pursuance of the orders we marched the next morning to Sangster's Cross Roads, three miles off, and there according to our instructions, we waited further orders. On Friday at noon in a pouring rain orders came for us to march to Springfield, fifteen miles off, to relieve a Regt. on picket. We tugged through the rain and mud until half past seven P. M. when we, much to our gratification, found ourselves at the Picket Camp, two miles beyond Springfield. We built large fires and immediately proceeded to dry ourselves, for we certainly needed it, and at nine P. M. we were all aroused from a sound sleep into which fatigue had soon lulled us, to march immediately for Annadale, six miles off, towards which point the enemy were reported to be advancing, we had to wait nearly two hours for the Picket to come in and then we started for Annadale. As the road was good and the sky clear, we soon reached there. Our hearts light, elated with what we deem a brilliant prospect
August 22. I was called off yesterday for drill and before proceeding with my record, I wish to post a few dates for fear I should forget them.

Left home for school Aug. 5, 1858,
Entered H. M. A.
(Hillsboro Military Academy). Jan. 12, 1859,
Left Hillsboro for Waterloo, Nov. 13, 1859,
" Waterloo for Philadelphia, Nov. 21, 1859,
" Philadelphia for Baltimore, Dec. 31, 1859,
" Baltimore for Washington (N.C.) Jan. 4, 1860,
" Washington for Petersburg, Jan. 12, 1860,
" Petersburg for Wilmington, Jan. 15, 1860,
" Wilmington for Sumter, Jan. 16, "
" Sumter for Columbia, Jan. 20, "
" Columbia for Raleigh, Jan. 28, "
" Raleigh for Hillsboro, Jan. 31, "
" Hillsboro for home, July 2, 1860,
Went into business with
E. W. Moise & Co., July 23, "
Left E. W. Moise & Co., Jan. 12, 1861,
" home for Milledgeville, Jan. 16, 1861,
" home for Montgomery, Feb. 25, "
" Montgomery for home, Feb. 28, "
" home for Virginia, April 20, "
" Portsmouth for Suffolk, May 1, "
" Portsmouth for Fort Norfolk, May 4, "
" Ft Norfolk for Tanners X Roads May 14, "

Left Tanners Cross Roads May 19, 1861,
for Sewell’s Point,
Battle of Sewell’s Point, May 19, "
Left Sewell’s Point for N. C., June 17, "
" Granville for Weldon, N. C., July 8, "
" Weldon for Richmond, July 13, "
" Richmond for Manassas Junction, July 21, "
Battle of Manassas, July 21, "
Battle of Bull’s Run, July 18, "
First met A. Jan. ***, 1855,
First proposed to ______ April 26th 58,
Pleasant time, June 23, 1858,
Sister was married, Dec. 25, 1860,
Major was married, "

But to continue what I was writing, when I arrived at Suffolk on my way to Granville County N. C., I, as I said before, met there very much to my surprise, Father and Mother. Father had been to Richmond and Mother had been waiting in Suffolk for a week expecting me there on my way back to Sewell’s Point from North Carolina, where I had been on furlough, but I not knowing that she was there, passed on to Sewell’s Point without stopping there (at Suffolk) at all, and when I met Mother I was on my way back to North
were all the girls from home and cousin Edwin's except Alice, come to bid me adieu.

I did not anticipate seeing them, for as it was Saturday I knew they could not ride and hardly expected that they would pay me the compliment of walking in; as I bade adieu to Azile her whole soul pressure of my hand was all that I could bear. I kissed her, and whispering a "God bless you" turned off, leaving home and friends with a happy heart, for I felt then and feel now that time cannot abate the warmth of her affection, and I felt fully that her feelings would undergo no change. No apprehension on that score has ever crossed my mind; however, I got on the trail and was soon hurrying off to Virginia where I was to figure among mounted men and dashing youths. We arrived in Portsmouth on the morning of the 23rd, and were quartered at the old U. S. N. Hospital where we remained two weeks. Then we were removed to Fort Norfolk and staid there just a week, when we left there for Tanner's Cross Roads. At this place we arrived on Wednesday morning May 20th, together with the rest of our battalion, Second Inf. Bat. Res. Vol.

We remained at the Cross Roads until Sunday. While we were seated under the spreading branches of the immense oaks listening to a very poor sermon, a Courier rode up bringing an order to Major Hardeman, who was in command of our Battalion, to detail one company to march in ten minutes for Sewell's Point, where they would prevent a landing by the enemy. Our Captain being the oldest by commission, we were ordered to get ready for the march, about six miles. We were soon ready and started off, all of us eager for the fray. We arrived at Sewell's Point about half past twelve having left the Cross Roads at half past ten. When we arrived we were divided into two Platoons and each Platoon was stationed on the right and left of the sand hills just in front of the "Monticello" which was then anchored about three quarters of a mile from the beach respectively; we lay our faces so as to conceal ourselves from the enemy and in this position we remained until about two o'clock, when an
not exactly a cabin, which we have recently had constructed, a strong oak wood
fire burns healthily in the rock and log chimney and while the wind howls around
the corners, every now and then breaking out with fresh strength, making a heinous
howl. The clear calm light of a full moon sheds itself over everything and the feel-
ings of us all make certain the auguries of the wild goose's flight to the South.
Yes, it is very cold outside, the wind is biting, but, within things wear a different
aspect, the glowing fire, by its reflection from the rock back of the chimney, warms
everything inside the shanty and then it has been a pleasant night to us. Maj.
Christie and Adjt. Young came around after we had finished a late supper and we all
sat and chatted away until a late hour, when Young went off to take a hand at Bluff
with the Colonel, and the Major went over to bed, Carrington has gone to bed and
Gregory is writing a letter. While these things have taken place I sat and gazed
in the, apparently endless depths of the fire and my mind has been wandering off to
scenes that are past and gone. We have just returned from picket duty at Sangster's
Station. Yesterday afternoon, owing to an unusual delay in drawing our pickets, the
Regiment did not get in Camp until four o'clock in the afternoon; and shortly after
our arrival, I received the not very pleasing intelligence, that I was officer of the
guard, however, I received the information with more satisfaction than is usually
the case, for I only had to stay on until this morning and thereby saved twelve hours
duty.

looking

What propensities of thought-bringing, has a good cheerful/fire. For an hour
past I have sat and looked into it, and thoughts and remembrances of the past connect
themselves as naturally as does the ashes follow the embers. I had long intended,
for future reference, to write an ordinary comment upon the Battle of July 21st.
After the battle was over, the details of which I have given elsewhere, Genls. Johnson,
Beauregard and Davis met in council, and I am fully satisfied that they, composing
probably as fine a military convention as could be assembled, were fully competent
to consider the facts that the past and present had revealed and decide upon the best,
ment under marching orders to leave at seven a. m. the next day, with four day's provisions, for Mason's Hill. The next morning we started off and marched about eight miles to Fairfax Court House, where we halted to dine. As I had dined there before, I took Gregory, and instead of eating our snack, we went to a boarding house and saw some very nice young ladies and eat a very fine dinner. Without waiting to have a chat with the ladies, we posted off to join our Regiment before it left, but when we got to the stopping place we found that it had started before us, so we had to pull up pretty fast to gain ground; however, we pretty soon overtook them, and had quite an easy time marching the remaining ten miles, as we were then on the turnpike. We got to Mason's Hill about five o'clock that afternoon, we remained there that night to rest. The next day we went out on picket duty.

Mason's Hill is a beautiful place; it is called Mason's Hill because it is owned by a Captain Mason, a brother of Senator Mason. Formerly the place was unknown except as a private residence, but since the War commenced, the place was occupied by the Federal pickets, subsequently they were driven out by the Confederates, who now hold the position. The Hill is about five hundred feet above the level of the sea, and commands a magnificent view of about the most lovely country I have ever seen; for a mile around, as far as the eye can reach, the country is broken, large hills, and here and there a view of the Potomac, and of the City of Washington. From the summit of the hill you can have an elegant view of the whole country on every side, sometimes the eye rests on a tremendous hill, at others, on empty fields, but the whole country is hill and dale; the Capitol in Washington is very easily seen, and very plainly with the naked eye, with an opera glass, one can see the windows in the Capitol and in a steeple of Alexandria, at one point the Potomac is seen, appearing to be about two miles wide, this seeming as it does, to be between two mountains, looks very beautiful.

We remained at Mason's Hill until Wednesday, Sept. 11th, when we received orders to return; we marched about four miles, two miles this side of Annadale when received
on the first of January, 1862.

By reference to these pages, I find that I have made no record since the 7th of December, 1861. I do not reproach myself for this apparent neglect, because as we have remained at this encampment since that time nothing of interest has occurred, except that we have changed both our picket post and manner of picketing; we not picket at outpost No. 1 instead outpost No. 2 as formerly; our present post being situated immediately to the right of the one we previously occupied. We have also changed our mode of picketing, as we now send out only five companies instead of the whole Regiment as formerly. This makes the duty much less disagreeable as we have now only to go half as often as we used to.

I had a very pleasant time Christmas, having invited some fifteen or twenty of the Officers as well as Moultrie Moses from the 2nd Geo. Regt. to dine with me on that day. We had quite a soldierly dinner, but as the liquor was both plentiful and good, anecdotes, songs and speeches as well as any number of songs and toasts, and any quantity of laughing prevailed. I don't know when I have enjoyed anything so much in a very long time. Some one or two of the fellows knocked under towards the last. Moultrie remained all night with me, and as he was a warm friend and an old acquaintance, it was very pleasant to have him to talk over old times with, and how I did wish I could spend the night of Christmas 1861 as I spent the same of 1860. Vividly does my memory bring back that night and all its attendant happiness. But I am happy to say, that I have the good fortune, unlike many others, to be able to say, that I was not more happy then than I am now. The same fountain of happiness which existed the, exists now, only the lapse of time and its attendant revelations have rendered it more dear, if possible than it formerly was. It is certainly one of the greatest enjoyments of life to look back on those bye-gone times.

Gregory was taken sick last Friday with an inflammation of the sub-maxillary gland, which the surgeon thought would terminate in Mumps, but it failed to do so, and I am now afraid that it will result in Pneumonia or Typhoid fever.
August 19.

I do not intend to write in this every day, and make a regular matter of it, but only to scribble in it occasionally, and to record some current events connected with the war; which, although they may not appear interesting now, yet will be pleasant to refer to in some future time and even if they do not serve to interest me, they may serve to interest others who have not been present at these bloody scenes. It requires, I know, a kind of knack, or experience, to record events of this kind in such language that a perusal shall portray the scene described. I shall commence, rather for my own future reference than for the pleasure of others, to give an account of myself since I left home, and record the occasion of my departure.

One Saturday morning, the 20th of April, 1861, I was waiting sitting with the rest of the family around the breakfast table; we had finished but were then only talking of one little matter and another, some standing, some sitting, when suddenly old Simmons, cousin Edwin's boy, appeared with a note from E. W. M. saying that our company was to leave for Norfolk, Va. that afternoon at four o'clock; it was then near 8 in the morning, and the note stated that our company would have a call meeting at 10 A. M. So I had to hurry up and pack my trunk and say good-bye and get to town five miles in about 2 hours.

I was very glad that my departure from home occurred under such circumstances, for I have always dreaded parting scenes.

I went into Columbus that morning and on my way stopped at cousin Edwin's to bid adieu to his household. I saw them all and bade them an affectionate farewell, having seen them as I thought then for the last time, but after getting in town I made all my preparations and joined my company, City Light Guards, Captain Colquitt, R. H., at the armory, from which we marched to the depot, where we were met by an immense concourse of people citizens, assembled to bid us "God Speed", among them
been proper or politic to have followed up our success at that time. I think not. And while I express my opinion, I must give my reasons for entertaining it. In the first place, we were naturally ignorant of the extent of the panic which had struck them. No one entertained the slightest idea of their retreating farther than Alexandria and all felt fully assured that they would stop in Washington. Their force was vastly superior in numbers to ours. Their conveniences and facilities for traveling likewise. Had we then followed them we would have found ourselves in front of the enemy's entrenchments on Monday or Tuesday or more probably Wednesday, by which time, a reaction would have taken place, and with a force of twenty-five thousand men, at the very most, these men then worn out with marching and fighting, upon a piece of land with which they were entirely unacquainted, would have had to face more than three times their number who would have been behind their entrenchments and defending their Capitol, and thus the very thing which made our men fight so valiantly, defense of our homes, would now actuate them, while we would be the aggressive force and owing to the small number of troops we would have had there, we would have rendered ourselves liable to be cut off and thus hemmed in would necessarily have fallen victims to our enemy, and by our own imprudence lost all the honors which but a few days previous, we had gained. Besides, look at the matter in a moral light, we organized our army and our Government for defense, for self protection; then to have waged war upon the very Capitol of our enemies, would that not have been a most flagrant violation of the fundamental principles of our Government? No! if we are going to wage a defensive war, let it be a defensive one! If we are going to wage a civil war, a war of tumult and aggression, let us give it that name. My life, happiness, health and fortune, for a defensive war! Not a blow nor a cent for an offensive war!!

Yet another cogent reason why an advance at that time would have been injudicious, in that our army was not half organized. Twenty-five thousand men under the present state of organization are worth as much as fifty thousand such as we
Sept. 16. Interruptions are I think, almost too numerous, in this kind of life, for a person to hope to make a journal of this sort very complete, many scenes which fascinate the heart and mind in actual life, we cannot portray with the pen on account of these many interruptions; had every thing been convenient I think I might have recorder some pleasant events, for I enjoyed my trip to Mason's Hill exceedingly; now there is nothing of interest to write, nothing has occurred since our return to Camp.

We lost our third Sergeant a day or so ago. I went over Saturday and saw Moultrie Moses, and offered him either a first or second Sergeancy, our first Sgt. was discharged for inability, from sickness, our second does not desire the promotion, so if we do not promote him, I will give the first Sergeancy to Moultrie, if we promote our second, I will make Moultrie second and appoint a third. He seems to be very well satisfied where he is and then his brother is with him, so I thought probably he would be better satisfied where he is than where he would be here, however, he has taken until Saturday to reflect over the matter and decide. I hope he will accept as we are sadly in want of a good O. S.

Sept. 17. It certainly is strange to think how much a good hard rain adds to one's inclination to write, especially if he is like myself, situated so that he can have no access to the charming society of Woman. Shut up in a ten foot square tent, with nobody but a fellow Lieutenant, the rain falling in heavy drops upon the canvas acts as a sentinel at the door, and the sound seems to say, "What a splendid time for writing". If the rain continues I feel like continuing my writing, but as soon as it ceases I feel like following its example. There is yet another thought which never fails to arise in my mind, when a rainy afternoon sets in, it is the thought of "Home sweet Home" the image of loved ones will arise, a beloved Mother and Sisters sitting around a genial fire mending some clothes of some member of the family, or a Brother in my room both of us smoking a "Cuba six" sitting by a bright light-wood fire, wrapped in reverie or puffing away, cutting out a horse blanket, making a pair of martingales or some other bots for our saddle horses, or perhaps discussing the
order came from General Gwynn who was then about a quarter of a mile from the battery, that we should repair to the battery and mount the guns which were there preparatory to firing on the enemy the next morning at seven o'clock. We went to work with a will an energy that only the isolation of our position, together with our keen desire for a fight could give, and we did not have to wait very long, for soon the booming of cannon told us that the battle had commenced and further that we had no inexperienced gunners to deal with, for their very first shot tore down the blanket which hung before our port holes, their second buried itself deep in the fortification, their third flew high over our heads cutting branches of trees down and fairly making our blood creep through our veins as it whistled over us, but in the mean time our brave boys were not idle, we were ready, and as the enemy threw down the Gauntlet we fairly sprang to pick it up; no sooner had their first shot whistled through our embrasures than we replied in a language that was unmistakable. For two hours more the cannonading was kept up with unabating fury, when a last as night closed on the scene the "Monticello" was towed off to Fortress Monroe by two little steam tugs, which had come down to her assistance, when she sent up a signal of distress.

Throughout the engagement our men displayed great coolness and bravery. Captain Colquitt was perfectly cool, and kept continually calling out to us "not to get so excited", to "keep cool, aim lower", etc. This was the first engagement that took place in Virginia. The victory was won by the City Light Guards of Columbus, Georgia, assisted by about thirty Virginians who had come from several companies. After the fight was over Captain Colquitt addressed us, complimenting us upon our conduct in battle; and we were similarly addressed by two or three Virginians. Their remarks had hardly been concluded when a heavy rain set in, and we were obliged to mount a picket guard for two miles around the beach. After marching 6 miles of a hot dusty road, and working and fighting until night without a mouthful to eat, we
as well as the most prudent, judicial and politic movement to be made. They decided to retain the old defensive position, and not to advance on the enemy's entrenchments. All seemed, at the time to be fully satisfied with the decision. But eventually many persons grew dissatisfied, and said that Beauregard ought to have followed up the success, even to Washington. While these opinions were mostly advanced by Newspaper Genls. yet, for the satisfaction of my own future meditations I will annex a few remarks on the matter. Let us notice the matter in detail and see what would have been the result of such an action. The enemy numbered over sixty thousand, our own forces did not exceed thirty thousand, fifteen thousand only of these were engaged, the remaining ten thousand being for the most part inefficient as far as drill was concerned, were held as a reserve.

This matter will be concluded elsewhere.

A. M. L.

Nov. 18th, 1861.

Dec. 7. To continue the matter relative to which the preceding papers are, and about which I stopped writing on the 18th, ult., much blame has been attached by many parties, to the person or persons who prevented an advance of our forces upon Washington immediately after the Battle of Mahassas, July 21st. They say it was just the time to have struck a death blow to Yankeedom and to have re-inspired our forces. While such is the opinion of a great many, yet it is far from being an universal one, although this sentiment is entertained, yet the People know not upon whom to give vent to their wrath. Rumor at one time says, that in the council Beauregard and Johnson were in favor of advancing on Washington, while the President, Jeff Davis, overruled them and the plan was abandoned. Other Rumors say that Davis and Johnson both opposed the advance and Beauregard alone advocated it; and as Genl. Beauregard's report has not yet appeared, we know not who was in favor and who against the advance. But the man is not the question of the most importance, the question is, would it have
have hand bills printed announcing a glorious victory for the Federals.

Our forces met them early on Sunday morning, they had nearly treble our number, and drove us back from one position to another until late in the day. Sad havoc fell among both sides but our men at last took their final stand with hundreds of dead and dying upon the field, the noble Barton of Georgia and Bee of S. C. laying among the dead.

Finally Curby Smith advanced with reinforcements and suddenly a panic struck among the enemy and they fled without order and in the utmost confusion and consternation.

Our cavalry, 6000 in number, pursued them and took many prisoners. Our men, many of whom had double-quicked from six to twelve miles to the battle-field, were completely exhausted and, lying down where they stood after they made their first halt from the battle field, slept until early morn, when they awoke to behold "The day after the Battle".

What pen can describe, what inexperienced imagination can picture the scenes that then met the eye? Amid the booming of cannon, the sharp, shrill whistling of bullets, the dead and dying and the thousand excitments that one finds on the field of action we do not feel all the attendant horrors; but "The day after the Battle", when the mind is cool and under that inevitable re-action which will always follow a severe excitement, then it is that the mind becomes shocked with the "Horrors of War".

At and near headquarters you see hundreds of wounded men, men wounded in all places, some in the head, some in the leg, some in the feet and in fact there was no part of the body in which some one was not wounded.

The dead lay in one place and another, car after car full of wounded men passed along the railroad, and to add to the horrors of the scene it was pouring rain, many had to men who had marched some distance and compelled to leave everything except arms and ammunition, were compelled to lay out and walk about in the rain without a tent to shelter them. Visiting the hospital I saw piles of arms and legs