CIVIL WAR DIARY
HENRY D. STANLEY
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THE SIEGE & CAPTURE of
ATLANTA GEORGIA
MAP ACCOMPANYING GENERAL HOWARD'S ARTICLE "THE STRUGGLE FOR ATLANTA" CENTURY MAGAZINE JULY 1887.
Saturday July 16th 1864

In accordance to the 3rd Regt. from Maj. Gen. Thomas on left Marietta to join the 3rd Regt. 3 by 30 A.M. which lay about 7 miles distant on the street to Atlanta. The road is very direct and the high road to Atlanta. We followed the P.W. nearly all the way and in successive very covered plains through a rolling country with woods but with few streams of water. The day was exceedingly warm and we did not make a remarkably quick passage, not making to our work the main belonging to the town, running the guard with us. About 12 o'clock we came to the place the Rebels had fortified very strongly with earthworks of all descriptions to dispute the progress of our Army to the river. They had widely been built some time and were certainly the most remarkable constructions for combined defense and offense that I have seen. Their general facing ran to the north, but angles were constructed which enables the force holding them to bring an impenetrable on cross fire on the attacking party which if not producing utter annihilation would reduce them from as much as 1/3 to the time the ditch which protected the water face of the line with no machined hardy a corporal would stand to lift. But
the coves fir was not the only obstacle which would oppose the charging party. About 60 yards in front of this moat a line of heavy trees had been laid. The branches pointing outward, the dead 50-pound shot made death almost certain by being impacted on the trees. They could offer much higher than a man had and to have passed them under the most favorable circumstance one would have only two or three palisades beside protecting some parties and tens in broadcloth, nothing. Thirty yards took of three men planted large stake set with apart and factious together strongly under the ground lying from the earth more at an angle of about 30°. The passage there would have been still more cedars than that of the trees, this was no way to exceed through, over, or under, for to all this a perfect storm of iron and lead which could be hurled with the most terrible certainty upon the force. He should attempt to storm these woods and you can imagine why it is that the Rta. has felt so certain that they could easily overwhelm him, and should he have the hardness to confront them in their strongholds and demand battle but he did not have the hardy to storm the woods and to build their breast works. If not as elaborate in their construction served all purposes for which they were intended. While they were busy with the force in their front a force was marching on their flank and made which was entirely
in protest, and as perfect was the arrangement that when, at a given signal, we drew our pieces to them they were taken completely by surprise and compelled to return to other positions 2 or 3 miles in the rear. We were then formidable not by force, by a little strategy, which the more must have created our most surprising effect to have left us to carry on our operations with the same success. The inadequate idea can be conceived of the enormous magnitude of the forgivable motion. They must of necessity be sure to be comprehended. It is the supposition that they must be compelled by clocks in the same play of the C.S. Troops but whether that is true or not, they show plainly that they were employed and built under the supervision of a most skilful engineer whose name was quick to and made to his own advantage any little circumstance which would encompass his enemy every angle was as perfect as though formed by rule and compass and it seemed almost a pity that such perfect workmanship should bring forth no gratitude. But they are now to bring planted out of joint and works and probably left there, with only an occasional sigh or tear as a sporting tribute to show they had been fondly hoped would be to an impossible enemy. About 4 P.M. on arrival at the camp of the Brigs, and in a short time, men in garrison quarters as shelter tent or wooden baffle blocks were made, and Kelley and myself put up our shelter tent and took us kindly to be convid to the good room of Manetta. At 6 o'clock, you might have
We as pleasant as one could wish. Col. Ripley and others to go to Mr. & Mrs. Adam of the Post, while Dr. Col. Bunting &
me to talk common of the Rajp, which is to remain in the Bury.
Good bye white shirts, clean clothes, will eat & sleep, both
which belong of a most immaculate polish, clean hands & feet.
the natural result of a moderate application of brown mending
and white towels, and most of all our good landlady who
when we had an empty looks to be permitted to partake of the
bounty of Uncle Sam prepared by the motherly hands of our
ancient landlady. But a settler learn to be philosophical
and we resigned all these luxuries with a most becoming pres
not once missing that)

mid turn up; which would up our ~ our ride in the
beautiful city of Mr. A. & Mrs. of course not At 3 P.M. the cars
arrived, and the train must lock to join the Bury
train 3 miles in the mountain and after a good deal of trouble the
road being very bad and the load heavy we arrived at our destination.
and went into Paris with the rest of the train. Supposing more to remain there until the next morning at least, we put up in a hotel and proceeded to make ourselves as comfortable as circumstances would allow; but alas for the failing of human hopes. So we were spreading our blankets on the generous couch, which instant retirement give to the coldest and most unprepared for an otherwise successful campaign of sleep for the night, some came to pack up and move, (or so our minister Ursula may "get up and go.")

For a colour read any patience? So thin any thing more pressing than to be obliged to forget the comfort of a good sleep, when one can hardly tell whether one is awake or not? But time went for us, and the same is very applicable to a regular train. So we packed up our things and were ready to move with the rest, but after waiting for some time, supposing to start but supposing in vain, concluded to take a little nap. Then each side by side made the bed and Morphium soon had us in its possession. Among us through the lands of dreams at a good rate as if anyone to get a streak of sleep ahead. But his sign is not one to be of short notice for a friendly but rough hand is laid on our shoulders, and the unlamented information is forced on our morose compliance understanding that the train is moving and not wishing to be left, or more too but at a pace that won a snail would call fast, but the night air is invigorating and after several unavailing attempts to push our toes that alone is our means...
I got thoroughly aroused and got along without much difficulty. After a good many stops, midst, prairie, little rain, and then stop a long ways—my horse under went no hindrance and so rolling along at a good rate, and not being much of a pedestrian, I mounted my horse who tied the way as steady as myself— and by dint of spur, cropping, and watching manage to keep another and in sight of the town. Toward morning the air grew very chilly and an overcoat was very comfortable, but as I was not fortunate enough to have one with me—I had to keep warm as best I could. Not a very difficult task with a lazy horse. About 6 A.M. on the morning of the Monday 18th we went into a park about 2 miles from the Chattahoochee river for the purpose of getting our stock and animals and at 8 A.M. man on the road again. The country through which we passed was poor and hilly, and hardly what one would expect us for from all we owned the country forming a large field richly tilled and wooded. At 11 A.M. we went into park 4 1/4 a mile from the river. The portion on which we moved to across not being in readiness. We just had a fly, but at 6 P.M. we came to a house and there I stayed to the 10th. At this time we were about 500 miles from the city, 2 or 3 miles south of a town of the name of Waycross. Our only means of reaching this place was by boat. We had to send our stock and animals and some very fine goods. It was well my bid for about 10 or 20 a car and to reach home and some very fine goods. It was the first time I was sans one and I felt it. Some time up of the fly again but just as we had reached the 12th the moon shone out bright and a few moments it was clean again. A poor joke on us.
Left Park at 6 A.M., and soon found ourselves on the banks of the Chattahoochee. After some little delay caused by the passage of another train on began to cross in the following order: 1st, the 2nd, 3rd, 4th. The bridge consists of 22 boats made of light frames of cord wood covered with thick heavy canvas. This kind has been introduced lately into service and is much preferable to the heavy and cumbersome wooden boat of the old pattern, which requires a wagon to load.

The current here being very strong, about 1 mile an hour, the water is very muddy near the color of brick. The banks at the point of our crossing are about 12 feet high but steep and below they are much higher, not perceptible but a little above from the top of the hill which vary is height from 50 to 100 feet.

The South bank is much higher than the North and we crossed a very high hill called High Hill, and which of course we had to climb before we came near the river. It was literally up and down, and our progress was necessarily slow. Some time after crossing the river, I left the main road and took a little bridge path leading up the mountain to the right, hoping to get out of the way and think of what I might possibly get a chance to see Atlanta. The hill ended as steep as the last, and I was obliged to go up it, and my speed was decidedly slow, for I don't possess the faculty of running
up hill, but I kept climbing away. Thinking all the while of what a glorious view of the Gulf would present when the summit was reached. After losing two hours climbing down during which I admired an immense amount of nature and not a little patience I had the pleasure of seeing what I guessed was the Acme of the mountain. Not as much as a glimpse of the Gulf, but I was on

the foot of the valley from which the Acme seemed a day's journey to Atlanta. They probably were not accustomed to the mountain and I was on another hill. I mean

I was on and O for God's sake, the valley is all I mean. I mean that as much as I was for the valley is all I mean. I mean that as much as I was for the valley. I mean that as much as I was for the valley. I mean that as much as I was for the valley. I mean that as much as I was for the valley. I mean that as much as I was for the valley. I mean that as much as I was for the valley. I mean that as much as I was for the valley. I mean that as much as I was for the valley.
at the top, and also of seeing what I had as long been looking
for in the distance and distinctly in front I saw the eastern
portion of the counter city, for which 13,000 men an fighting butt to capture and
post to forts or. If I had had a glass I should have been enabled to examine
more than I did for the air was very still and clear and favorable for an
observation of that nature, but I had only the telescope which con
bine me and I tried to see what I could with that and to a
contemplation on possible, there was a great many times in the city
of course but the building is now off now, but the eastern part of town
to be almost completely and I could see plain enough to distinguish
a brick from a mud-brick, I also saw what I suppose to be the
Church, though I am not as yet certain whether I am correct
or not, I could also see the church itself though I did not come
then, as I cannot tell how many they are. To the right near
the going houses mountain where as many of our lines men
climb then last cliff while a motion chart or their origin and
sheds a distinct trace of fortification to their memory. Towards the left
as I consider if it strengthen the cold fields of these mountains me
with the notion of the long
majestically as if waiting to burst its storm of iron and lead upon
the for who had invaded the second dominion of the 0 0 71 and
grind them to rust. But the fallen men of cannon only told that
the fate awaited it which before its fellow untitled kinions
and that it would soon be upon it bow the flag of "76" so
fiend to trust so I bow Britannia. I sat for some time in
...the old man looking asdam as possible towards A. and
wondering what the inhabitants were thinking. He thought the Yankees were little too neighborly and that
something might be done to induce him to stay at a little
greater distance. But Emil Thomas has indirectly put this in
a very different motion. He said and when they got there
they only got to produce bad results to the Rte. After
taking a formal look I began to round and with a little
difficulty reached the ground feeling some what important
my recovery from the fact that I had seen the celebrated city.

The next thing was to find the Taw a while in the town.
I thought I found it not far over the road to the left and
accordingly turned my horse towards it but direction soon
led the satisfaction of seeing it winding its way up
among the hills and valley. I kept in the woods to be
free from the mud and occasionally came across a few
of Blackberries which I satisfied my appetite which by
the way was as meagre as Dilettarian dimension. About 11 a.m.
I was on my road to Port as a piece of woods and about
3 miles from our line. I could hear the report of both cannon
and musket, which indicated that we had an enemy in
our front with whom we were going to check our progress. And
was very welcome for we had gone about 7 miles since
my tedious road and every thing was turned out.
Wednesday 20th

This day was a very dry for the 20th, for it never rained in a serious fight, and no loss was heavy. Capt. Post, Tarr & Dickman are wounded, Post & Dickman is grievously mortally. Lieut. Draper & Foston slightly. Draper is in the lead and Foston is the foot. 8 men are known to have been killed and about 40 wounded, some mortally. The Regt. had no earth works to protect them and suffered much more severely than they otherwise would have done, more fortunate. The Rebel attacked the 5th at 2 o'clock, about 1700, and for 2 hours the fighting was terrific but they accomplished nothing. Two un略有 4 fall back leaving their dress and many of their 136 wounded in our hands. The 5th Regt. of the Div. Col. Woodruff, captured 2 flags from the enemy and fought bravely. The whole Div. was highly complimented for its conduct in this engagement and the 20th C.S. was particularly noticed by the enemy. The whole Corps was virtually engaged but 1st (Williams) and 2nd (Gray) Div. were obliged to abandon their line for a short time but they finally regained it and held it in spite of all opposition. The men were very nearly all shot out but the fight was renewed by 3/2 a.m. from prisoners we captured on left that it was their intention to drive us into Puck tine creek a small stream about 15 feet wide and though the water i
not only the cotton is composed of stuff sounds which threaten to engulf us any time should be as ominous as to send to it for a footing. They now talk of before making the change that we had no interest with it and that it would be easy to run into the court and that they could shoot down all this science but they reckon without this fact this time and the full time turns with out much ceremony. They won’t fight with the courage and desperation that they formerly did. They seem to have lost spirit and determination, though they still make some desparate efforts to arrest their lost fortunes.

Thursday 21st.

Thus in my fighting to say. The opposing forces are most fierce from every bit of each other from the long line of sinkers which towns constructorous during the night, occasionally their shots fire out in the angry current of a shell that goes cracking through the town and destroying the line itself or someone. Half a dozen men with ere profusely spread themselves over a Minmi ball whistled by your way as a whistle almost that you had better “be there.” Poor Capt. Post died to say from the effects of the wound he received yesterday. He lives on Hartford and leaves a wife and 3 children to mourn the loss of a husband and father. He was for some time editor of the Hartford Post printer in that city and may
to the reader will remain in the cool, cutting and eloquent writing from his pen. He had fine talents and a good education. Capt. John M. McCall left camp at noon on the 13th and moved to Manilla with his body. He will try to get permission to go to Hot Springs and stay.

Mr. left camp at 10 A.M. and crossed Peach tree Creek finally reaching about 2 miles from our lines. In front of the battle field of the 26th and the trench line was visible as the storm of guns at that point. One tree a little way from the section was struck by a 3 inch shell which passed completely through it. Though I had seen a storm, this was of a less diameter. One cut in two and the sheltered limbs lay scattering in every direction. Every little about us was cut and scored by musket balls while the hundreds of the larger trees had some trunks so many as 30 to 60 balls within them. It seems almost impossible that anyone could live through such a storm. But many did and but few complained of the number who were the largest were injured. But for all that, there can't be much fun in being a soldier, particularly when no umbrella is allowed in such a shower. Maj. Gen. W. F. Chinn's command 23 A.C. was killed today.

It was reported to him that a body of Rebel cavalry was
the men of his corps and he went out to gain information for his capture when they fired a volley which unfortunately pierced his mouth. We were an all officer and the men of his command had the most perfect confidence in him and his knowledge and skill has added much to the success of this campaign, Saturday 23rd.

We remained in camp all day today. Nothing of any interest transpiring east of the front. The Rebels made a charge on our lines about 9 o'clock but were repulsed. Loss not much on either side. The cavalry came on the run very near at times but have not heard of any accident to our Regt. The day was very cool and cloudy and threatened to rain. In the forenoon I was busy building a tent of soft to 'Keep on' but it seems that I was not a very poor carpenter for it fell down in the night, pelting me myself into a jolly heap but things soon went righted, and in fine had our camp on the ground.

Sunday 24th

Nothing new. No commenced to have sheet into the city of Atlanta to day from one of our batteries. We have splendid range and have shot the animal which is on the opposite side of the city. They return my shot so they think of the range. This will shooting with
the night while the left made an advance. Sheridan
was made to attract attention on the right while the left made an advance.

Sheridan was ordered forward. The picket line began a vigorous fire
the charge was sounded, and the men try to show
as if a charge really was introduced. A battery of 20 pounds
thundered away and the roar of musketry was continuous
for half an hour when it gradually slackened and after
a while nothing could be heard but the solitary gun that
threw an admonishing shell at intervals of 15 minutes
into the city of St. Louis. S. sent an order to the 32nd conny
O. S. Army to arm in the city at 12 M. on the 23st stating
that if the order was not complied with he would commence
shelling it (not the order, but the city) Conny did not even get to
comply with the demand and about 4 P.M. of the same
day S. sent his "compliments" in the shape of a 20 pounder
which no doubt caused as little commotion among the
few who remain to live in town as to cling to the dark forests
of the Lost City of the South. Before morning a full battery (no
was engaged in evading those lovely "low mists" into the last ditch
of the Confederate confederacy and have probably succeeded in
convincing Lottin Rutte that some things need to be done as
well as others. It seems foolish that this should attempt to held
the place, for it is certain that they must burn or latern.
aborted it to the ruthless invader whom Orson has so admirably excelled in "marrying on" and "on" until they stand or stand.

At the gate of the city he is much more to protect the city with a determination which the fields of Rosea check or unforgivable Rosean wilfulness.

15th Monday

Early this morning I went to the front to see what I could for I had no little curiosity to witness a possible and a fight of some kind. Of course I did not intend to take a gun and go into the works. My curiosity did not lead that way, but I hoped to be able to post myself on a hill which commanded a view of the field of operations and at the same time afforded me protection by being out of range and consequently danger for though people might stay at home and an as thoroughly patriotic as to tell a soldier what a glorious thing it is to die for your country and then furnish a substitute when drafted, this was showing to the invader that they don't believe what they say. Though such people may ridicule my courage still I had a year to run a fight from such a place with no other and started out with the hope of having my curiosity gratified. There was no particular indication of a fight or even a skirmish but I concluded that I should be more likely to see what I wanted at the "seat of war" than if I remained at the room. My view out now on from join-
ticular interest unless it was that my voyage rode
about as many as a crossbar and around to be in a secondary
altitude to pitch my umbrella on the top, but
without force, they set a deluge of rain within the clouds
I turned and was endeavor to go with a horse
and after leaping him to a tree, setting the precaution to
as usual a manner that should any thing evers happen
I should not have to tug and pull at the strings of
my boat, I finish the rest of the journey on foot before
I reach the reef. Which is the only justification
I thought, and that the whole camp down through planning of a day
with this choice. They are on a small hill, though the
line of woods which they occupy during an early afternoon
are on the shore, and the one out of land
by the fireside. They first build a frame
of wood about a foot high, then behind this dig a trough, then
up the dirt in front and turn the turf forming a protection
against any hostile misdeed that may come that may not matter
how determined it may to put an end to the northern middle
who sits in conscious security. Here it is built a
sort of brush in a protection from the hot sun and tree
both of which are exceedingly uncomfortable. The men
to earn as little about the danger which surrounds them
thought as if they were on board a mile away. Some men writing
letters others playing cards and others sleeping as soundly.
as they moved at home, not even disturbed by the roar of the batteries. I saw a few people on the left of the regiment which kept thundering away, sending their blue balls of "moral suasion" to the quarters of A. for general distribution. I expected, if possible, the division to reenter the city of the Union. After visiting all my friends, Bob McLean, Frank Smith, and the rest of the boys, the picture clearly and distinctly vanished from their own lips of their continued vitality. I went up on the hill to the battery I spoke of was stationed, hoping to catch a glimpse of it, but the air was so full of smoke and dust that it was impossible to see any great distance, and I was obliged to be satisfied with looking in the direction of the city and leave this visit to my imagination. The course of a shell can be distinctly traced by the sound in the daytime and by the burning fur. It might. I cannot describe the sound for I never heard anything like it. It is said to be extremely unpleasant to one who hears the coming towards him and don't know that way to judge. They have completely demolished the arsenal and eady shatterd a good many other buildings. A citizen who came from thon this morning say that the afternoon repair shops were
I went out to the Front again in the morning but there was nothing of any interest going on. It was the receiving by rocket, between different portions of the Army, which is quite a display of "gun salute" and would do honor to the public spirit of a small village in the Fourth. I was not conversant with the modes of sending off the rockets and consequently it was nothing but the red, green, blue, and white lights which interested me. From the hill on which I stood we could plainly see the flash of the Rebel guns, the night being quite dark, but could hear no report from them. In due time the shell would burst on our own line, but then range was too high and nearly every shell must for that weight to intended mark. This making it far more dangerous to be held as a means than to be stationed in the front line. Shell were thrown all night from either side and the Pickets kept up a continual peppering with their muskets in their endeavors to dislodge either a rebel or imaginary foe. Probably both, but it is necessary to use a great deal of caution on the lines, as well a powder for when an attack is intended in the night the Picket is the most important man to capture. For crossting the enemy's coming and gives the alarm and the line is ready for any thing that may present itself, but if he
...earlier and suffer himself to be captured without giving an alarm. The men in the works are not even of the approach of a gun until it is too late. All because of the worthlessness of one man or a few men at most.

Tuesday 26th

I went to the Right again this morning for the purpose of assisting the 28th in issuing some clothing. They were much as I left them last night. One man (George Tommam, 5th B.) was killed yesterday by a sharp shot...and his death was the result of his own indiscretion more than anything else. He's back line at work in the front line in the rifle pits with a squad of men and sat in the top of the works to met a few moments. A 55 degree curve came and fired at him. The ball struck him in the back bone just below the shoulder and came out through the upper lip, killing him instantly. He was buried in the 21st of the 2 line and to the right of our regiment. Sergt. Corcoran of the same company was the deceased officer at his burial. While busy in issuing the clothing a rifle ball came cutting through the brush which outlined the pit in which we were, and though doing no serious injury it made our flesh a little uncom fortable. They go with a velocity that renders it impossible to get out of their way and if they hit, they always produce an ugly wound. That we came...
very close to my head and the breach it cut off was
sitting on my hat at the time. Wonder if I didn't lose
he was shot there. A short time after I went up to
"Robe fort" and just as I stepped into the hole another
compliments came hissing by, the time is clear that
I could plainly feel the wind hit on my cheek, I
suppose some B.S. saw me as I went from one place
to the other and felt a custom desire to try his skill,
I call him a good shot, and hope he will always
just fortunate enough to come without 6 inches of
his mark, though certainly I have no desire to be
seen an accidental target for him to practice on.
A few shells exploded in our vicinity last night and
they all went over and buried themselves in the hill
side in our row they came up clouds of dust and smoke.
Few of them exploded which don't speak in very
high tone of the ammunition which the Rebels are
against us. They are reported to be short of the article
and from what I have seen I am inclined to give
some credit to the rumors. All the packing cases I have
noticed lately have been filled during the months of June
July 64. From some boxes which I saw on the little
field of the 20" stock a label and I as usually come
with a lot of cartridges which states that this cartridge
made at Augusta Arsenal on July 1863. Now it is customary to use the oldest ammunition first for it may improve with age, and the most natural conclusion is that they are suffering from a scarcity of that most necessary material of war for the conclusion is strengthened by the noticeable fact that they used very little Shelling at the Battle of Horseshoe Mt. and this from their siege (if I may use a word it seems but little has) of Atlanta. They have exhibited a very parsimonious way of returning our lavish present of 20 Pound Shells. Perhaps they have failed to appreciate our liberality, but no = really prefer to say nothing about it. for fear we should pay no attention to their commotions. They are completely correct in their reasoning, and I for one am heartily sorry that they are thus obliged to keep the painful truth to themselves. I wish by a little common sense they might have as many valuable lives. But I did not mean in this way when I was in the R.A. While there I was ready to advocate in the strictest sense of the term a "War of Annihilation" for I possessed no very amiable feeling toward the S.A. but they as usually tried to add my name to the list of Killers. Now I think that follow for not doing the work instead of breasting the job to some one else, who might have been a better shot, and am willing
To let the old 'Confederate' go to town at its usual pace. We can get no papers and consequently no news. Every one is full of excitement in regard to the operations of the Grants before Petersburg and Richmond and when such a vanity as a paper will so may into camp with the unions intelligence that no news has been received from Grant of any importance on all front a great deal of disappointment. Not that one from the rear. No letter is to be received over again. That comes one is satisfied is certain if any paper is in their opinion in regard to the line the grand finale is to come off. But for the present to hear nothing is done from day to day. A Soldier knows that though a lounging says "all quiet along the line." There is an activity everywhere that plainly contradicts his statement. A new breastwork is built or an old one strengthened; a new fortification placed, a slight advance in certain forts of the line is performed; a little skirmish creates a little fire among 'secession' or some deserter comes in with his story. Which he protests is "perfectly reliable" in every particular. Though it is "slightly different" from the one his comrade told this one in the day before. One says Lee's army is in an absolutely starving condition while another says they...
leaves an abun-dance. One tells a very tall of the condi-
tion of the clothing a of the Red. While the other says that
they are piny clothing to the desti-tute inhabi-tants of the
country. To believe and state-ments orgains an *Inden Bel-
lieve and one loses all interest in such "reli-able
information" much sooner than he num-ber if the stories
had a little more of the truth inter-mixed with them.

Wednesday 27th.

Nothing new to-day. Two or three showers cooled the air
and leaid the dust which was too thick for comfort and
so I went the town look as though they had been out to
take a bath and dressed out in linen best to be
feared in the Sun which is just starting to set behind a golden
bank of clouds. A shower is a very pleasent thing when one
has some thing to shelter them but when one feels
leaks as mine did this PM. It is not quite so common
like as the description in those "True and Novel" which
are so comnon in the Army. We had just finish a game to
our turn when it started raining and we had the misfor-
ently satisfaction of feeling as calm if another shower
showed come up which was not likely to happen as the
sky was still clear as could be, but that is the way to be
on the safe side and a little trouble may in the mean-
time carry us from a good sound dozing on "pleasant"
night. The soldiers were comfortable for a few hours at least for the ground was dry, dusty, and parched, and the air full of smoke our living hardly able to an
1st of a mile with any accuracy. The fire was quiet for a few hours as the atmosphere is too cool for this incendiary operation. Our unfortunate sufferers who are obliged to withstand this joke! When Egypt was afflicted by the Plague of Decubitus, the original stock must have been obtained from the Souther State (not organized until 8 or 9) for the quantity is enormous and they would draw all echations of impatience from the most perfect that ever lived for this certain torment with a most refined cruelty. If you lii down to take an afternoon nap and as a preface announce your head in a friendly manner with the most liberal amplitude, and thinking you have security closed all avenues of ingress and ingress, reign yourself to the God of Sleep, with a mental chuckle over the skill with which you have foiled the insidious tormentors, you are startled out of your sleep by a triumphant buzz from some inquisitive fly who in spite of your efforts has forced an entrance into your sleeping sanctum sanctorum. And begins his exploration by a grand buzz, step, jump, chatter, fizzle and tinkle on your nose, which is sure to call you to the full consciousness of the terrible martyrdom. In vain you begu
apart, enuff and might. He mont go out until you
raise the paper might a top contrary off your head and
try to court clip from a new basis. But the second
effort is seldom more successful than the first and you
have to grind out your anathemas to the chorus of nips that
bay around your head with the most tantalizing familiarity.
But most poetic accuracy you might so will attempt
to hit a passing shot or to bring the hand of justice and
vengeance on the myriad scum. But they suffer at the last
dish which ornament the table for the seem possessed
a perfect mania to bathe in the last spoons and prawns
of our episcopian nurse. Great caution is necessary that
a stray body may not find refuge in the knife which
is making a journey to a hungry mouth. They have not
the mountfulness which would elevate them to the dignity
of a first class dish.

# Thursday 38/Fr

 Went to the front again this morning. No one has been hurt since
yesterday though a large number have been thrown during
the last 24 hours. Pvt. W. A. Cowan was today relieved from
his command the 20th A.C. and ordered to report to Emil
Grant in Pa. Nothing could more disappoint his brave
soldiers for they loved him only as a favorite and
can be loved by his soldiers. It is to be hoped that
His absence is to be only temporary, for the 20th Corps have fought through this campaign under him, and nobody could be restored or comforted by any other Commander who might be placed in the position he formerly held.

Thursday, 29th

It is today reported that the forces on our right had a severe fight yesterday, though as yet I have heard no particulars. Papers report us to be in Atlanta but they are a little to eager to be the first to tell the joyful news to the waiting ones at home. I wish they could truly say we held the place, for I fear the loss of life and limbs will be great before our armies finish our object. But it is more a question of time than any thing else. We have force enough to successfully meet any thing they can oppose us with, and they will wake up some fine morning to find Genl. Sherman knocking at their doors; his being gained his object by one of those terrible flanking movements which the Rebel, think his weakness of the time don't it is trying to rain (9 P.M.) and the prospect is a rainy night. It is much needed for the sun is as hot that nearly the moisture has been evaporated from the earth by its rays, and life is the tenebroses anything last yearable when the earth and air is in
dry and very reassuring. Letter from home tells me that they are suffering for rain very much at the North, and that the crops will probably be lost for the season. Drought has affected the economy. This will undoubtedly cause a great deal of suffering for many families who depended on the vegetable to which they could raise in their gardens in a great measure for their daily food. But they will probably have much better crops than they now expect. We are very anxious to be much more certain than before. The division moved to the right, leaving their old position about noon, and are now about 6 miles from the town. The Rube, are massing their forces on their left (our right) and will in a day or two hold the Macon & Macon R.R. Poisonous or have taken no steps. Gen. Hood will hold the road if it takes any mean in the Confederate army, but if their efforts to hold it from a successful post on their attempt to drive us back or check our advances on the 27th & 28th of June, will come to grief. They can leave it only by the old R.R. all the other lives in our possession and their only salvation & hope is in retaking control of it. Some things will be done and that soon too. God has shown much more commons.
than Lord Johnston with his men. Nor has made a
post many changes along with no success while
his loss was always great. Johnston would most
likely have evacuated the place by this time and
had 14,000 more men at his command than Lord
has now. Perhaps this is the quickest way to end the
rebellion. One thing is certain, if the rebels throw away
this man the way they have for the last few days,
they will have a very small army to oppose with in
the fall campaign.

Saturday 30th. Dudley

Nothing new has transpired today, or at least nothing
to my knowledge which I must confess a little limited
in military movements since my place is so far in the rear
where the truth comes if it comes at all in such distorted
and wrong proportions that it is difficult to separate the right
from the wrong. I heard more in relation to the fight on our
right the 17th. The PM, which is "reliable" the rebels charged
five times on our lines, but were repulsed each time. Some
of these Regiments (cavalry) were given their muskets in the
air instead of at the enemy in their faces. They were
drunk and many of the pioneers we captured were
under the influence of liquor that they had to be led
off the battlefield. Such fighting don't help their cause.
unless it is on the road to ruin. Our forces must be some victorious. and after the fight. we buried over 200 of these dead. We also captured a hospital belonging to them and the terrible scene we saw there was too horrible to relate and found how terribly certain had been the fire from our muskets and cannon. Their loss must have been four times greater than ours for they were perfectly reckless. They too much gunpowder and Whiskey dealt out to them before the fight. Many of the prisoners had Whiskey in their system which was the first effect of their defeat. Genl. K. O. has said he would hold the M. C. P. if it took every man in his army to do so. That road is their only salvation for we have completely destroyed all the other and they must have to suffer the greatest vigilance else the M. C. P. will be murder among the things that were. Genl. Kildare has a strange faculty for disarming such things and may prove troublesome when and when they least expect. A letter from my old friend Mr. Wilt, (Surp. I.D.C.C..) tells me that things are all quiet for Petersburg Grant will get every thing fixed to his perfect satisfaction and then will come a victory that will only add new laurels to his successful career. Lee has found a foe who will never give him a moment's rest, and whose genius is equal to any that
may appear from time. It being is too far to un
the
merit of the while the cases some day
rips of miseries to take possession of their hearts
not know that the Lord has surround such a firm footing
in front of their capital. May the most prompt
success crown his efforts.

August 31st 1864

I have been a long time since I have made any
notice in this diary not from a want of interest but
for want of something to write about, or some thing that it
would in any estimative bear interest for future reference.

I began with the intention of writing down any any thing
that came under my notice which would be worth remem-
bering or relating at some future time and for a record of
daily events such a task would be out of my power to
perform. Aside the one must and often be diary of any
interest unless life is usually so such a summary that one
days record answers for the whole and is easily describ'd by
itself in the morning. to at noon or at night. Our army
remained in front of Atlanta from the date of my last
entry until the 24th of August when the 20th A.C. was
ordered to proceed to the Chattahoochee river to guard Turner,
Paice, and Calhoun Ferries while the main army moved
to the right and toward the Macon R.R. The 1st Division
was stationed at Cahoon Ferry, the 2d at Dace and the 3d at Furness about 4 miles apart. The rebels had built strong earthworks on the south bank of the river for the purpose of obliterating our crossing but they proved to be of no avail to them. All the faults of Carl Sherman's course for he avoided them by one of his flank movements, so if he desired to take one of them must first be had only to throw his line of skirmishers to the bank of the river and under them five days. His pontoon, once over and pass
the ford concentrated, 2000 guns left, and there was good hope to the contrary. Each side to a splendid location on the south bank of the river and with 3 or 4 men can easily defend the salient against future them numbering. Dace Ferry is on the extreme left, Cahoon Ferry in the center and Furness Ferry on the right. The R. K. crosses at Cahoon Ferry and the bridge at the point is one of the curiosities of military history. It is 700 feet long and has an average height of 70 feet and was built in these days. The timbers having been previously prepared in the area the R. K. having the plans and specifications of the structure in his possession at the beginning of the campaign this greatly aided the work. There was nothing left of the old bridge except the piers and these might have been torn down with
out materially extending the work. Reports from the army have been very vague; if any, unless it was some that no one could believe, even those who in the mostanguish of their manyaccesses, and though every thing was nothing more or supposed to be so one could be found of nothing important having been as yet accomplished. On the 26th, the 26th, the 9th made a movement with a force of 2000 men, toward our Div. But finding me in a strong position they retired tillign one man in the 26th Div, and a journey for our zeros. They found no use with three, and for some time our batteries remained silent, but finally returned shot for a host and even forced them to fall back. We found several guns of eight in the field beside two or three dead, which told that they were hardly prepared for this reception. They arrived yesterday a man by the name of Moultrie belonging to the 13th, was injured by the accidental discharge of a musket so that he died at 10 P.M. It was cleaning his gun and in trying to draw the ramrod the percussion powder remaining on the fork became ignited in some way and ramrod was forced running through his body. It was the result of careless work, more than any
thing vils and ought to treat men as we can
find as possible. When they are cleaning their pro-
particulars if it is loaded. Our location is splendid
and we have a beautiful view of the river. Many
of the Regt. in the Div. have tents with them, and
there is hardly an hour in the day but what some
one of them is breathing away as though the life of the
army depended on their efforts to play the "Cherry
Down." or "Hail Columbia." A portion Regt. seem to feel
as though their organization was not complete unless
they had a band attached to it. But the quality
of the music is of little consequence. If they only make a loud
noise, that is all they require. There is no skill to
play, and the piece they select are more suitable
for "Eat Calla!" than rational music. For a month or
more we had the 33rd Mass. Regt guarding the Nyan
Trans and they have a band that would do credit
to any city. They play fully equal to Portsmouth celebrated
band, and their rendition of songs from the best
authors and their execution is perfect or as near as
possible. They used to belong to Mr. Hooker or Mr.
in the A. F. and A. M. and were called his "Big Band."
That may not make them a better but it shows
that I am not alone in my good opinion of them.
The weather has been very pleasant for the past month and it has been nothing but fair to be a soldier but the nights are coming to be cold and blankets are in demand. We had to say a requisition for 6. Many of the men have had snow through the whole campaign preferring to lie cold rather than carry a blanket all day. Particularly if it is wet.

Sept. 2nd 1864

Atlanta has fallen! The late city was surrendered 2nd by the Mayor to Col. Cobb's Comdg. 3rd Div. 20th A.C. on the 2nd and after a little skirmishing with a few cavalry the men went entering the city, the place was taken formal possession of by our troops. I have not heard anything particular of the surrender and must wait like Mr. McClellan until some thing "turns up" when if I can state anything valuable.

Sept. 6th 1864

The Honorable G. W. Dept. 20th Com. P. L. I. wrote the famous city of Atlanta, Ga. on the 4th of Sept. 1864 at 10 O'clock P.M. and I will recite some of the sight I saw and a few of the first impressions we came in on the streets which...
runs parallel with the Atlantic and Western R.R. nearly east and west. It might not be out of place to speak of the fortifications the R.R. had erected to oppose our advance. They were certainly the most formidable I have ever seen, and it would have been impossible to have taken them by a direct assault. They were protected in every possible way, and no one of the wonders of the war. Some of the guns in the fort were left, some in good condition, other partially demounted, and others with their carriages still burning, and was their tact to get away from the cowardly Yankee meddles. I saw some splendid 100-pound guns made in April 1864, at Selma, Ala. The heaviest of the fort was on the North West side, and looked large and devastating enough as we passed them. A few houses stood between the two lines and some perfectly pillar with balls and shell. They looked for all the world like a large coal lawn. As we passed into the town the damage done by our shell became more and more apparent, and some very fine residences were completely torn down by them. It seems a pity to destroy so much property but they would not give up the city until it was reduced, and they are trouble for the damage. Marietta street suffered the most being in direct range, and every house but one was hit more or less twice. That one was a of brick and very fine building
though houses never it had been ruined, strange to say, not a shot had struck that. Of course more lived in that part of the city. It would have been almost certain death. Some buildings had our sides completely torn off by the breezing of a shell inside, this man celebrate if a chimney, and all were without windows and had holes in them everywhere.

As we proceeded into the city, the damage grew less as that part was more out of range than the rest. So that part on W. 1st Street. Only three buildings were burned — but they were very large and valuable. We passed the Trout House in good style, and came to that portion of the city which had been considered safe. The houses were most of them small and reminded one of the houses one sees in towns in New England, though they did not have that comfortable, cozy, and inviting look that those do. Most of them were inhabited mostly by rich men who had heard the bombardment and were now determined to meet the benefit of their having.

Here were General St. Clair, Capt. Brown, and your humble servant maintained the dignity of our respective positions in fine style. Brown on a Mule that would hardly carry him, and Clark and String on foot there.
That would fall over with a very slight jerk, oh! the
pangs and circumstances of war. The men went on their
journey through the town, for it is very long, and one
of course must slow, as a matter of accommodation to our
horses and mules, nothing else. Oh now! The Reds came in the
day before and ran on the South part side, and on me
looking for them and had to turn our trade in every di-
rection to be sure that we did not pass them. Then we
were on the outskirts of the city on the South, we saw
the ruins of the R.R. tracks which the Reds had burned
when they left, consisting of 100 cars loads of ammunition
of every description, and four locomotives. The shells were
exploding continually, and it was dangerous to be near
the wreck. Such profit destruction I never saw, and
the dead loss must have been very great. A large rolling
mill was also burned, where they manufactured a great
deal of their R.R. iron. The locomotives were smashed
one into the other but not injured beyond repair. Large
quantities of small arms were destroyed. bereile sections of
two battery's 7 guns with caissons in all. Pieces of the
small arms stove around for a great distance and
took how fearful the destruction was. Every kind of shell
from a hundred pound to a hand grenade, men lying east-
tented round in dangerous position, and bits of wood
and turned the grain. Our car was loaded with clear powder and the rails were twisted into thin cylinders - hopes in vain - and the heavy timbers on which the metal was turned into splinters & one log than another. Our Rigs lay in pools instead of the Ribs before they left, and when I came up they were preparing to move to some other position, so I let the team remain as it was until something definite should be known. At 6 PM, we got orders to move towards the Right but I had to wait for the troops to pass before I could move my team and it was 7 before I started. I must about 3 miles and did not come up with them and as the mile men time out I concluded to camp out when the sun, which I did, much to the relief of the drivers who were being acquainted with the road was fearful of turning over. I rode on to see if I could find the Rigs and to report to the Col. my position, and after a two mile ride found them. Every thing was satisfactory and I started to go back but as the night was so dark and I knew so little of the road I got lost, and had to start again, and this time with better success - I was hungry and tired.
at my supper and laid me down to sleep on the ground with as much satisfaction as if I had been in hellard or "fellonious."

Sept 17th, 1864

That I remained to obtain the baggage of the Raj which was brought there by H. M. Sorantin. The city had not changed much though I looked more desolate than when I first saw it. Col. Rip

commands the 5th.

Nov 3rd, 1864

Received orders to pack up and move at 8 P.M. and at 3 A.M. the troops move on the march. Leaving the city by the M. A. Donald road toward Jonesborough on the Mccon

R. R. They reach Rich Camp about 6 P.M., 4 miles from the city; the 3rd, 20th R., & Co. in the advance and

the 1st 3rd in the rear. The Aspers train got into

park about 10 P.M., and by 11 all was quiet.

Nov 6th, 1864, (Sunday)

Last night was quite cold, and a large quantity of

blankets was not in the least uncomfortable to those

no prospect of a snow. I went down town to see

what was supposed was. I in a familiar look of this

city, I could not but notice the change that had taken

place since the day I first saw this place. From the
our half the houses in the outskirts of the city have been
lowered to furnish material for building quarters
for the troops and to aid in the construction of
the impregnable line of forts and earthworks which
have sprung up as if by magic all around the city.
Every thing is changed. Young forts are built in gardens
and front yards and often in front of fine dwelling.
Any place that commands any approach to the city is
crowded with a fort and the whole are connected
by a line of the most formidable rifle pits. Some of
these are really beautiful if a pile of dirt can
be considered beautiful. They are as square and
trim as if made of stone or brick and their
imperfections are protected by heavy iron doors
which might not stop a cannonball but would
most effectually destroy all the killing properties
of a musket shot. The walls of the most unimportant
of these built by the 1st Mich. Engineers and would do
credit to any act of men lining North or South. The
line of forts completely around the city and a small
force could make it in perfect security behind it. To
our much accustomed to military movements the scene
the stretch of it would indicate that every thing was
confusion. The streets were full of wagons, horses
Mules, horses, and cattle. and the noise was a perfect babel, but if they were closely scoured it could be seen that many one had some particular plan to go to or some definite object to accomplish, and what appeared to be confusion was in reality perfect order. The most busy part of the town was near the depot where trains were loading with the surplus stores and baggage which had all been ordered to the men. (Chattanooga Bridge post +) The depot takes up a large space in the very center of the town, and a very fine one. The building can shelter 40 locomotives, and there are accommodations in other buildings for 100 more. They are all more or less damaged by the shell which was aimed at liberal with and look rather dilapidated; but a few hundred dollars would put them in complete repair. The passenger depot is very large and looks fine. Unlike the one in Philadelphia only the roof of the one in Pitt is of iron, while this is post iron and post wood, but it is a very architectonic structure and adds greatly to the good look of the city. It stands near the Whitehall St. About 10 A.M., it began to rain, and I concluded to cut my farewell tour short, and elected for camp.
near by, then I went over and the old man told me that we must return back into our old camp. Of course I was pleased with that arrangement and made all possible haste to reach the town and find out whether there was any truth in the statement. I found to my satisfaction that it was all true and leaving Sgt. Smith to take care of the wagon, to, I started back for the camp in company with Wilson, to secure what was left of the chairs, table &c. at our old tent. I was very fortunate in finding very thing just as I had left it and soon the wagon came along and my tent was up and things "put to rights" before the regiment came into camp. A curious event, the loss one man killed and one wounded, from the 33 and 55th, Big 5th, tiring on picket and were fired on by a patrol of 35 or 50 Rebel cavalry. It is the general impression that we know some but no one can tell whom, or whom to. I am with the rest of the men until some "thing turns up."

Monday Nov. 14th, 1864

I have not left Atlanta Ga. yet and I am still at a loss to tell when we shall. It is very recent rumors that we shall go soon, for the R.A. is being destroyed as
fast as possible by our troops, and every thing that
was possible to of any use to the Rebels is speedily
transformed into nothing, or a great quantity of small
pieces. The Roundhouse of the Atlantic & Western R.R. was
torn down Friday and is now nothing but a mass of
ruins. It was a very large building having accommodation
for forty locomotives, besides a large repair shop for both
locomotives and freight cars. It was constructed of brick
the roof supported by iron pillars, which were pulled
out thus letting the whole thing down, from the large
quantities of cement in that direction I infer that
the ruins are on fire. The Roundhouse of the Firkin R.R. was
burned yesterday, and the Roundhouse of the Atlantic
& Macon R.R. was torn down. This building is built of
heavy granite blocks and was a fine structure, but
a few days have gone and not a thing is left. Near
it were lying eight or ten large guns abandoned by
the Rebels. The turrets were broken off and driven into the
muzzle thus rendering them useless unfit for use,
their wheels were broken, R.R. iron built and fastened
by fire, machinery destroyed, building torn down or
burned, and every piece of public property destroyed
as completely as possible. But in all cases, this seems
to have been the greatest regret said to private
proper. Not a single dwelling house has been injured since this wholesale destruction began. A few nights ago some one set fire to a few houses that stood in a cluster on the north side of the town. Every section was made to extinguish the fire, Gen. Gray and Slocum aiding with their own hands in the work. The next morning Gen. Slocum offered a reward of $20 for the arrest and detection of the one who fired the building, and a like reward for the detection of the perpetrator of any like crime hereafter. The 19th and 20th A.C. are now under the command of Maj. Gen. Slocum, and form the left wing of the Army of Georgia, while Gen. William assumes the command of the 20th A.C. All have confidence in Gen. Slocum, and his old 15th A.C. will follow wherun he may lead.