William Henry
Lean's

Account Book

May

5th 1864
1864
Oct 13th Lay in bivouac till dark reading letters and papers received last night by playing poker for parched corn. There was heavy firing up the river from Rome at intervals during the whole day. As it is more distant at each renewal of an engagement it is evident our forces are driving the enemy. It was reported this day that the rebels captured Racca last night and still hold the place. There is a great possibility of the report being true but it is not generally credited. I wrote a few lines to mail the letter. Just after dark we fell in and marched off north-east leaving Kingston to the right calculating to strike...
Oct. 14th. Our progress was slow but steady all night. The sun was very much worn when it was lusted for breakfast and sens as seven-thirty 14th Oct. 14th. After eating and sleeping till ten o'clock we fell in and marched to Adairsville which we reached at 2 p.m.

The surface of the country is undulating and hilly covered with irregularly shaped fragments of rock which have the appearance of having been split during the process of transportation. slate, horn, flint and rotten sand and stone makes up the weight of the rock in the neighborhood. The forest trees are mostly chestnut which are loaded with very
This page contains handwritten text that is not fully legible due to the style and condition of the writing. It appears to discuss military activities related to the 12th Regiment. Specific details include guarding a supply train and the movements of the 12th and 14th Regiments. The text also mentions a large brick building with a parapet and a guardhouse, as well as the setting up of a fort. The handwriting style and legibility make it challenging to transcribe accurately.
have married ladies of this place since the Regs. has been stationed here about three months. The threatening of Rasco by the rebels occasioned their being called up the road yesterday but the danger being slight they were sent back on the train and arrived while we were bivouaced near the foundery. Their going away "flee to arms" in the most of proud style and with as much elasticity as the most devoted bride of the month.

Oct. 15th. Marched at 7 o'clock for Galbourn a small town on the railroad ten miles north. The soil is hilly rock through blue hills abounds. Water plentiful inferior... We reached Galbourn station at
11:30 A.M. Soon after noon six trains of cars were down the road empty. This seems to indicate the study evacuation of the country below here or a necessity for troops above. One train at least was for troops because it returned heavily loaded at 5 p.m. It is reported that the rebels have taken and held Sparta. Break Gap where Gen. Price was fought so hard with the 13th & 16th Corps last May. They were driven away then and will be again. Rasaca was not captured though its surrender was demanded by Gen. Hood himself. At dark we pulled out for Rasaca which we reached at 10:30. The train being very large and the four left...
Oct. 16th. Sunday. After bolting a half raw breakfast at 4:30 we marched off to the north across the Oconee to the north through town Co. "D," "E," marching in rear of the 1st Div. train which was the 2nd in order. At the supply depot on the northern border of the town our equipage wagons were filled with food and bread, delaying us till ten o'clock. We saw about fifty Johnny's in a guardhouse near the depot who were captured yesterday in a fight in Snake Break Gap which was

companies two thirds of the way to the rear it was much later when they came in. Large trains of beef cattle were corralled several miles south of town.
There was also a member of some 7thRegt confined for murdering a negro last night while his command (23rd NC) was passing through Roanoke. The black fellow was sleeping beside the road and the soldier being tired and worn out was of course out of humor. He was so enraged at the poor innocent fellow for taking comfort that he shot him remarking, "Take that you God-damned nigger and see if you'll sleep again when I have to march." This chap was a member of Pride's army in Mississippi but deserted the rebels and enlisted in our service two years ago. He has the hardest countenance of any man I ever saw. Sharp.
short features, scntos, half-closed eyes, sharp, tum-up nose, sandy hair long, straight, coarse and thin red whiskers. We left Rueda at ten marching north west through Snake Creek. Sat a deep, straight path through the mountain from the Oktanuth to Sugar Valley. This path is so gradual in its ascent and so uniform & regular in form that one might easily imagine that it is a work of art. The descent is more abrupt and irregular as well as much more picturesque. Several of my boys picked up a stray of from a drove belonging to the I. A. and had him killed and his hind quarters skinned when we came along. Each man cut off...
and a string on his bowies a good big chunk so we had a
fine fresh beef treat when we
camped at midnights without over-
taking the Rebs or even knowing
where we was but allowing the train
to go along without a guard. Had I
been in command I would not
have taken the responsibility to
help for the night without orders
but Capt. Price was willing to
risk the consequences and I made
no objections for my men
were completely worn out.
If reports from citizens are true
the rebel army has got into a
bad box. We know that blood must
fights or run immediately. The
inhabitants say the reb "rank
and file" have had nothing to eat for
four days. We ranched corn and
Oct. 17th. Arose from my poncho shivering with cold about four o'clock, rounded up my men to get them to make coffee. At five started off as a rapid pace which we maintained for two miles when we overtook the Regt. in a small valley where we halted and slept till ten A.M. TheAdjutant having received orders for us to join the Brig. we moved two or three miles to the south west and took position at the right of the Division on the
summit of a sharp, rocky ridge. Drove two days rations, hard bread, full, sugar & coffee half and read, notice that together with one day's
now on hand they augers be made to last five days. Gen. Ramon
condy the Corps received a heavy anti-
struggling order which prohibits
its any officer or soldier leaving his
place on the march except when
it is actually necessary. Eleven
infantry are attached to this bi-
division. Marched from nine
till twelve P.M. when the six bi-
conceal for the night. I was
sent on picket with my com-
pany but considered it no hard-
ship as the weather was fine and
we stopped early. We saw some
pretty dark road while falling on
a stream of the mountains. About
half way down on this (the south) side a team had run off the road and gone tumbling down the moun-
tain as far as one could see through the deeply clouded moonlight. The wagon stood poised on the
rim of the hill and looked as though it might have been over-thrown by the fierce breath of
air.

Oct. 15th, was relieved at 7.30 and ordered to report to my brigade which I found about three
miles south of the place at which we rested the night. Halted near La Fayette as shown
at 9 clock to make coffee. This is a
very pretty village of five or six hundred inhabitants and is sur-
rounded by the most lovely scenery ever seen. The imagina-
tion can picture nothing
pleasing than a neat village
encrusted among wood clad moun-
tains. Georgia ought to be a land
of poets. If ever it produces
one, his home will be at Way-
ville. Camped at sun set
on the north bank of Chatto-
goo Creek. Our mule team failed to
come up so I slept, or rather
spent the night, with my order-
ly Sergeant.

Oct. 19th. Marched off at seven
A.M., helping the 15th A.C. near
the Creek. Sent out a foraging
party which brought loads of
meat and deposited in heddocks
road to await the D.C. train.

Our course changed from south
to south southwest. Made fifteen
miles passing from Saints, Ala., and
camping near Alpine. The 12th
was sent up on picket about a mile west of the Div. camp.
The boys found plenty of pork, sweet potatoes, mutton and molasses and had a fine little saltine-feast. Our teamsters are following has helped over the mountains around for middle Tennessee. It is doubtful about our following because our teams are too much reduced to move out.

Oct. 20th. Marched at eight A.M., keeping a steady pace till seven o'clock, camping about a mile before reaching Salisbury. The country through which we passed is rich and beautiful. The fields run through a series of the most
tain which we had to at once. By
so straight and the sides are so
precipitous that it reminded me of some huge tunnel.
This is a rich field for geological labor. Limestone, sandstone,
and serpentinite are among the
rocks. The water is good
and abundant. Beautiful springs
boil up by the road side almost
every mile.

Capt. Sylvester was ordered
under arrest this morning for
allowing his foraging party to
yesterday. He was to receive his
military service as Brig. Gen. and
march in rear of the Regt.

wearing his belt and empty scal-
band. The Capt. has the sympathy
of the whole Commission of the
Regt.
Oct. 21st Moved at ten AM three miles south of Raleighville and went into camp on a grassy lawn. There is some provision of the army lying here for some time, I judge from the fact that there is a bridge being built across the Chattahooche river at the village. The boys have made graters of parts of canteens and are grating corn and making puddling of the meal. Although not sifted this meal makes very nice puddling.

Oct. 22d Officers were discharged this morning by Col. Bryant who notified me that the main portion of the Regt. would start for Chattahoochee some time during the day to be mustered out. I concluded to
going and muster out too in my care, I could get a part of my pay. All non-veterans of the Army of the Ten. were gathered at Hdqrs. 17th A.C. and started at four P.M. for Chattanooga with a train of thirty five wagons one half of which is loaded with refugees. About 25 prisoners are with us. I was assigned to command of the grand.

Sunday Oct. 23rd. Marched at daylight mak-
ing twenty five miles and camped at sunset. The boys foraged for pork, potatoes and chickens and we had a supper which I shall not soon forget. Mr. Walker, Chaplain, is blessing with me on this trip. He is on leave of absence.
Oct. 29th. Deployed found us ready to mount and draw but just came off after landing twenty six miles.

After a few hours of rest by study and consideration of the action in a typical spirit, I decided to ask the army for permission to attack at a given time of the day. As soon as a plan was laid out, I set about execution. On a clear understanding that there was nothing but a chance that we could capture the station, I thought it worth while to issue orders preparing for the work. The officer in charge of the station has been removed, and with it, the whole of its personnel. Pilkington demanded that they be commanded to deliver up all the works to the British flag. Exchanging a sample of blood but not any fault to see it.
Oct 25th. Branch Williams went one P.M. having been expected to find Dr. Rogers here but he has been gone from four days and in answer to the Regent he said the B. & B. had left. He tells it to the fact that the rest of his son Amanda has been killed which was ordered by authorities in the lifetennur to liberty but which took place Aug. 31. Professor S. is looking until his is term. Down by grape a little boy of his father's four weeks since. I am in a bad race of storms no remembrance of any and any.
When mustered out,

Oct. 26th. Proceeded towards Marshall's pike so I can go any where within the limits of the town. Hunted faithfully four hours for some sort of shelter and finally got permission to sleep in an old log of a tent for two or three nights. Dr. Cantwell to Clark just came up from Atlanta. Saw nothing of Rogers. Bank well is without blankets to I have taken him into my bed.

Oct. 27th. Borrowed a tent from St. Kennedy and set it up at the bivouac. Learned that men will be mustered out on the expiration of their time regardless of the date of organization of
its Regt. and have the papers nearly completed to muster our those whose time expires tomorrow. I shall be thankful to get away from Chattanooga for it is the most filthy, broken down place (except by the military) I ever saw.

Oct. 28th

Got Brown, Foster, Tettig, Giness, Kellogg, & Meehan mustered our today "by reason of expiration of term of service." Thy and form of Co. "C." man went north on the 5:30 train. I begin to feel anxious to be off my self but must be guided by circumstances and do not reason joining my course for a few months to come. I am tired of the service, however and shall stop here short times
longersm. I have completed the muster out papers of those men who enlisted in Co. "A," and were transferred to Co. "L." Their time expires tomorrow.

Oct. 29th. Brimine, Balcom, Dale, Riker and Wells are mustered out and gone home. I am long enough to get the blue. Think I shall follow them in a few days.

Took dinner with St. Sibley and had a long talk about old times, memories & associates. Many of the latter have been taken hence during this war. Poor brother Henry is among them. St. S. appreciates Henry's many noble traits of character and sympathizes deeply with those who
mourn for him. He is himself suffering from a similar affliction and can enter fully into our feelings.

Wrote my Jennie sending the letter by KBeleum to Fitting who will take it home.

OCT 30th. Sunday. Was surprised this morning by the appearance in camp of Allen McBy and Lebo Stiles both came with the expectation of being transferred our and without their descriptive rolls. McBy is from his home in Ohio where he has been wounded on furlough and Stiles from Atlanta hospital.

Walked up town with Dr. Law well and, while lying around the office at the Whitfield House saw Dr. Jim Simpson
of the 6th Wis. Bat. and my old
classmate in Latin & Geometry.
Also John Shaffer was a class-
mate in Algebra now Surgeon
of the 12th Mo. Light. Had
a short old-times talk then parted
with them promising to see them
again tomorrow and returned to
camp by way of the 17th A.C.
Muskrating affair and got rolls
for McVey & Stiles which I have
completed as well as their de-
scription rolls which had to
be made out from mem-
ory and what little data this
furloughs furnish. Have made
a set of commutation papers
for McVey on which he will
draw ration allowances for
the time he was on furlough.
Stiles will have to get his
through the officers of Co. A.
Oct. 31st. Went to the Co. A. office
at 7 A.M. and stayed till 3 P.M. but
no Galvy came so we returned
to camp. About five o'clock
I was most agreeably sur-
priised by Capt. Rogers walking
into my tent. He was
much more pleased to meet
a man. He replenished my
starved purse to the tune of $20.
in greenbacks. His genial
sickness has been enough to
discourage the most hardy.
Capt. Cantwell came in late in
the evening pretty well "slunk
and made merry over having
got in before 6 P.M. so drunk
that he could not get to his
office. Capt. Stevens and Lt.
Blackman are offended.
Nov. 1st. Dr. Rogers mustered our today also Medy & Stiles and are at the depot awaiting an up-country train. Capt. Stevens Lso. Blackman & Clark are there too & waiting too. Salina is in a particular hurry to get home. Have spent the day in arranging my papers relating to Lt. Tolman. Right for Oct. 27th statement of my business preparatory to leaving the service. Nov. 2nd. On account of the R.R. being taxed beyond its capacity those who were mustered out yesterday are still detained. Mr. Clark is the only one who has got off. Salina to Capt. Stevens took supper with us at the "Gibs House." The day has been rainy and drear-
agreeable. Have made our
Ordnance Invoices & Receipts
for Lt. Hoyt. to sign.

Nov. 31. Lt. Bourton started
for the Regt. at 6:30 this morning
or rather he was to. Stev. Sa-
marr & Ed. Grey went with
him. I sent a lot of Cap
letters to Lt. Hoyt + a clothes brush
+ also brush to Serg. Bro-
by by the latter. By Lt. 13. I
sent Invoices & Receipts
for Ordnance, Ordnance
Stores & for Clothing, Camp
& Garrison Equipage to Lt.
Hoyt — Troops are be-
ing crowded to the west as
rapidly as possible. The 23d
A.C. has been going to Seca-
too today. An immense drove
of cattle cam in on the military
road around the base of Lookout Mt. this P.M. The rain has fallen almost incessantly. Heard of Hood's attack and repulse this morning from 2 cents. Camp 30th; 31st 32nd. I am heartily glad of it, but cannot say that I rejoice because my thoughts do not rest a moment on the place without bringing to my mind. It is probable an account of his being engaged this in April has except my Jennie he was dearest to me than any other.
person. I cannot but feel that my affliction is too heavy.

Nov. 4th. Rained all day and weather cold. Salma got off on the 1:30 train. I took the baggage belonging to Baloan, Brewster & others from McVey and gave it to Goddard of Co. F to take to Louisville where Baloan is waiting. Stiles is sick and McVey unable to look after him and the baggage too while the road is so much crowded.

Nov. 5th. A beautiful day this has been. Made my hunting roll & got the belts & signatures to them. Left Lt. Chas. D.M. 24th 1st. Visit dinner. Think him a pleasant fellow.

Went uptown with Mr. Cantwell
Nov. 6th, Sunday. Col. Bryant tried to minster our help could not find Dr. Fadley. Contents were taken from his to turned over to the Post 2 P.M. this morning. Commenced raining at 10 A.M. to keep it up all day. Called on Prof. Silsby and took supper. Am going to sleep at 9 P.M. Snow had 24° Win.

Nov. 7th: Started out today and shall start for home the first opportunity. Think I shall feel like a free man when I get north of the Ohio river. Col. Bryant got off today.
St. Cantwell's papers are made up and he will go with me.
I regret the necessity which compels me to leave the service,
become many associations are very pleasant. Some of my
warmest and closest long-teemed friends are in the "old
twelfth." The desire to enjoy
the comforts of home and
the society of my dear love,
the wife for balance. For
those considerations,
Nov. 8th. Saw nothing of St.
Cantwell but have reason to
believe he went to Atlanta last
night. Started for Nashville
on the 1:30 train which he reached
at the foot of the mountain
where we shall have to live all
nights for some time.
Today has been fought the greatest battle of the war. For this the people have decided the fate of a nation. If they have voted for Mr. Bellan, which I very much doubt, we are dead as a nation, as individuals we are deeply disgraced.

Nov 5th. Came across the line at seven o'clock through a long tunnel. Reached Nashville at eight p.m. Met Sergt. J.L. B. Pend at N. He was sent from Atlanta on the hospital train to go into Gen. Hospital here. Looks much better than when I last saw him in Marietta last Sept. but is far from well yet. Seems to regret having lost his vote. It will make no difference in the result. Mr. Freedman re-elected.
Nov. 10th. Had a regular run on the whole city of Nashville to get my pay, in which I failed and to get transportation to Louisville, Ky., in which I succeeded and got off on the 2.30 train in the afternoon. Nashville is a very pretty city or was before military aValue it as it has all southern cities. Broadway is brick and the streets crowded with fruit and tobacco hawkers. Reached Louisville at three o'clock on the following morning.

Nov. 11th. Received six months' pay from Maj. A. Dierick including the time from January 1864 to June 30th, 1864, and amounting to Seven Hundred and Thirty Three Dollars and Seventy-five Cents.
Nov. 12th. Spent the day in visiting with Sis B. and family. Telegrammed last night to Indianapolis to have my trunks sent back. Arrived O. R. at 10:30. Do being carried fast is chargeable to the carelessness of the baggage master.

Nov. 13th. Sunday. Have not been outside of the house yard today. Chose what has been the order of the day. Went to church. Dinner at Sis. F. and Mrs. S. This evening toon.

Nov. 14th. Visited the town early and bought a little present for each of Sis Mr. Children. Mr. S. has been doing all day making improvements in his yard which is already
very pretty for a new one. Helen Alexander (this little boy fourteen years old) across a very nice little forest tree in front of their cottage which greatly improves the appearance of the establishment." If Sue and her husband are blessed with good health for a year or two they will have made their home an Eden. They strive each to outdo the other in beautifying their home.

There has been a grand satisfaction meeting here tonight. Fireworks, speeches, and general whooping and cheering indicated the general satisfaction of that portion of Horace Pond here assembled.
Nov. 15th Left Sis and her fam-
ily very reluctantly and took
the car for Chicago. Reached In-
dianapolis at 11 p.m. and left
on the one o'clock train for L.
by way of Lafayette, Michigan
City. While sitting in the cars
waiting for them to leave In-
dianapolis the Provost Guard
from the U.S. came in to ex-
amine papers and other author-
ities on which soldiers were
traveling. One fellow from
the 20th A.C. who is on furl-
lough was pretty rowdy and
used very abusive lan-
guage to the Serge of the guard
who arrested and sent him
to the guard rooms where he
will be confined till he is so-
ver. There was quite a falling
about it in the car bus, in this case, rights ruled and the fellow was marched off to prison.

Nov. 16th Reached home at seven this morning and was met at the door by sis Allie who, to judge from appearance had not been up a great while. Was very much surprised to meet my Jennie here and very much pleased to see her looking so well and happy. I feel that the time has nearly arrived when I can return upon life's journey again. — Sis Emma, Allie and teaching.

Went to the boarding school of town but visited no chart or book firm. Wrote sis Inez back.