CIVIL WAR DIARY

BATTLE OF PEA RIDGE, ARKANSAS
MARCH, 1862

BY
HENRI MARTIN DYSART
Keokuk, Ia.

Sept. 13, 1965

This diary, the original of which was donated to the National Military Park, Pea Ridge, Arkansas, was kept by Henry Martyn Dyurant, a member of the 3rd Iowa Cavalry. Henry M. Dyurant was born in Nov. 1842 in Maury (or Maurny - pronounced "Marvin") County, Tenn., near the town of Columbia. His father, Milton Hare Dyurant, being a Presbyterian Minister, and an abolitionist, was "invited" to leave Tennessee by his own brothers, who were slave owners. Things became so tense that he gathered his family together, and they fleded away down Duck River to the Tennessee, thence to Cairo, Ill. Then they boarded a steamboat far "up river." They disembarked at Keokuk, and travelled in land to Troy, Iowa, a farm community near Milton.

It was from there my Grandfather, Henry M. Dyurant, entered the 3rd Iowa Cavalry. After this diary was finished he was a Confederate Prisoner at Little Rock, Ark. for almost a year. After a prisoner "exchange" he rejoined his unit and served until 1965. After the war he returned to Troy, Iowa, near Milton, where he published the Milton Herald and was Milton's postmaster. Later, he became Librarian at Fairview State Hospital. Later, he became Librarian at Fairview State Hospital. Later, he became Librarian at Fairview State Hospital. Later, he became Librarian at Fairview State Hospital.

This Copy is presented to the Lee County Historical Society by his grandson, Paul L. Dyurant, Jr. The original was donated by his grandson, Paul L. Dyurant, Jr. to the National Military Park, Pea Ridge, and is on permanent display there.

Paul L. Dyurant, Jr.
be ready at a moment's warning. The whole battalion was under the same
order. Various conjectures were made as to what it was all for, but from
what we could learn it was in anticipation of a disturbance in St. Louis.
Benton Barracks, January 1st, 1862.
We received no further orders but slept on our arms all night. Thus the
"Time flies" and it is indeed true that it "waits for no man". Today we
may be at home in peace tomorrow at war, to-day happy, to-morrow sad,
to-day rich tomorrow poor. As Time revolves new eras open up marked
sometimes with dark events. The past is open to view but the future is
always uncertain, sometime bright sometimes dark. This first day of
January 1862 finds me about entering upon a year which is likely to be
very different from last in its events, wherefore from to day I shall
devote every minute to study in my own style giving each day a representa-
tion believing that time spent in this way will not be lost but will be to My
improvement, and pleasant to turn back too in the future.
So I went out on the plank road to see where a man was killed last
Last night after supper and feed call were over and the quiet of an
uncomonly beautiful warm evening began to pervade the camp. Mess No. 1 had
all assembled in their barrough and were begining to go about their usual
nights occupation reading, writing letters, and chatting when our Captain
came in and ordered us to arms and horse. This took Us a little on surprise
it being the first time we were called on, in 25 min., 50 men were mounted
in front of the quarters, by twos. We went to the Captains' Office where
ammunition was dealt out to Us by the hands of a lady. We were now ready
to march but received farther orders to tie up and 1 by our horses and to
be ready at a moment's warning. The whole battalion was under the same
decision. Various conjectures were made as to what it was all for but from
what we could learn it was in anticipation of a disturbance in St. Louis.
We received no further orders but slept on our arms all night. Thus the
new year dawned upon us. Were I a believer in signs I might expect this
and worse in the coming year. We drilled this forenoon in battalion drill.
This afternoon our com. escorted the last remains of another soldier to the
groundyard. William Vandyke a boy liked by all in our company. From the
groundyard (The Wesleyan cemetery) We went to the city passing by the college
in which are the prisoners taken in Missouri by Gen Pope a motley gang
they were as we could see them sitting in the doors and windows. They
seemed mostly to be clad in citizen's clothes smartly worn some of them.
They are guarded by the Iowa 2nd In. canon are stationed in the streets
around and a large crowd of citizens stood anxiously gazing at the windows.
Co A went out on the plank road to day to where a man was killed last
night probably to detect and capture the offender. While drilling this
forenoon Sam was kicked on the knee cap by a horse causing a severe wound
and very painful

Thursday Jan 2nd 1863.

A very disagreeable day misting and sleeting. Curs the only ones that
drilled before noon. To day I heard the following conversation between a
soldier and an intelligent old darky who hauls hay into camp for the cavalry
which shows that the negroes are not altogether ignorant of affairs.
"Old man have you a master?" asked Mr. Holmes and in our orderly.

N: "Yes sir." Action since insisted on giving the lieutenantcy to sergeant.

S: "Does he not give you a holiday at Christmas?" position, but the company

N: "No sir he has been my master for 16 years and I have never had a holiday yet." If the man, not a member of it, and besides that there.

S: "Does he not pay you for your Christmas work?" office. The idea of

N: "Not a cent." capability in the company to furnish it's own officers.

S: "Do you ever expect to be free"?

N: "No sir I suppose not." an idea of getting the master into the officer's

S: "Would you like to be free"?

N: "Do you ask me that question"! now soldier I must be careful how I talk or I will be taken up, but the soldiers say they are working

in the army strike down more than the army, were our armies made

for Me."

S: "Working for You! Your master has You better clad than Us and You get

salarial death free old age is scarcely known in the army, at least in

plentiful to eat."

N: Thank you sir who made the bread. The scriptures say sir that every

those who have volunteered to fight the battles of their country are of

man shall live by the sweat of his brow. Now soldier if you make me

the future and arduous, laborious and hopeless who are accustomed to

free I'll try and do a little something for myself."

unavoidable exposure in bad weather, the fatigue of forced

work that the soldiers have not least need while they are

kindness and disagreeable so much so that there was no dress-parade or

very muddy and disagreeable so much that there was no dress-parade or

The companies have all been at work building stables for their

self-suffering in some cases insufficiency and want of management on the part of

horses, by promotion Mr. Ross Our orderly sergeant takes the lieutenantcy in

the army. One of the men in their case are causing the effects of which

Our company made vacant by Lieu. Mize's resignation. B. O. Oliver leaves.
the company quarter master sargentship to Neblack and is our orderly. The Colonel sometime since insisted on giving the lieutenancy to sergeant major Jonston to whom it seems he had promised the position, but the company got up a remonstrance against having him appointed he not being very popular in the estimation of the men, not a member of it, and besides that there were men in the company more capable of filling the office. The idea of there not being a capability in the company to furnish its own officers did not seem very complimentary. When it might be easily avoided that keeping the porche stopped up besides wanting the clothing was inefficient and con-

Saturday Jan 4th 62.

Very little judgment is sometimes used in rainy.

Foggy & warm. No parade or drill. Have been at work at the horse sheds.

Selecting a proper time, hith the all over just after eating a hearty dinner Disease in the army strikes down more than the sword. Were our armies made up of old men whose heads were white for the tomb this would seem more natural death from old age is scarcely known in the army, at least in our soldiers. A soldier is taken from the sinew of the land. The majority of those who have volunteered to fight the battles of their country are of humble stock and not more than a small proportion are reared in the homes of the farmers and mechanicks, lumberman and boatman who are accustomed to hardships. Unavoidable exposure in bad weather, the fatigue of forced marches and other military duties are more than they are accustomed to at home. But unnecessary exposure, an unrestrained appetite, ignorance or care to keep off the effects of exposure on the part of the soldier and in some cases inefficiency and want of management on the part of those who have the sick in their care are causes the effects of which cannot be counteracted by good diet and exercise. We should learn to get away as well as to ward off the strokes of the enemy.
We may look to these as the causes of a great part of the sickness and death of the soldiers. Away from and amid circumstances so different from those at home in his new life one is apt too much to forget his health. It is not uncommon to see in wet or cold weather the soldier exposing himself when perhaps at the same time he carries an abundance of clothing in his knapsack or to see him on a warm day wrapped up in his whole uniform to sit in the quarters or by the fire with his overcoat on. It is a common practice to sleep with pants and socks on when it might be easily avoided thus keeping the pores stopped up besides rendering the clothing less efficient and comfortable through the day. Very little judgement is sometimes used in carrying out the order for cleanliness. I have noticed some who instead of selecting a proper time, bathe all over just after eating a hearty dinner or supper. Bacchus has a commission which ranks high in the army and with his rifling field pieces passes forth his minic rct threat (?) which too is scarcely less destructive than the artillery of the enemy. Indulgence in eating is too much a practise. Meals are sometimes irregular but a little judgement and control of the appetite may easily counteract the effects of this. The sick draw double rations, eat more fruit, pies, nuts, meat and such like than the law allows them and wonder what ails them. The soldier dislikes to go to the hospital nor do I blame him. Where so many are sick together as is sometimes the case there with nothing to cheer him he becomes discouraged. The associations of the sick room are not pleasant to the well. The pale face impure air and drooping spirits sometime want of attention have effects which can only be counteracted by good humor and hope.
"The soldier may get tired of the service allow himself to become homesick and discouraged when sick, set his time to die and fulfill it within all with day." This remark of Our Lib. is too true. At Jefferson City. He says "the 10th battalion is at Pulaski. They have done a good business by
Sunday Jan 5th 62. Taken 12 large bags of powder at one time and 700 lbs at
A wet snow has been falling all day which with the mud makes it very disagreeable. Dress parade at which two or three of Gen Sherman's strict orders for the government of the post were read. He begins the new Year with rules more strict and binding than those laid down by Gen's Curtis and Strong. One article requires the cavalry, when it is too inclement for field drill, to drill in sabre exercise in the galleries in front of the quarters where there is scarcely room for one to use his arm alone freely. We were required to work today at the stables which are yet unfinished. I felt somewhat reluctant at going to work having never done so in my life before. Hating were I convinced that it was a work of necessity I would take hold more cheerfully but we must "submit to the powers that be." There was preaching in our quarters this evening but we could not attend. Times of the day.

Monday Jan 6th 1862.

Very cold, cloudy. A brigade was formed this evening for drill. The number present and absent in every company, battalion, a regiment was required to be handed in, so that we expect to be "cracked through" on drill, by the soldiers. Gen Sherman is becoming unpopular. Major Perry instructed the regt. this afternoon under whose commands several evolutions were performed with
more regularly than ever before. He (Major Perry) is considered a poor officer by some and goes by the name "Col-u-m-e". Colonel Bussey is ill with the ague. Received a letter from Adol. Miller, at Jefferson City. He says "Your 2nd battalion is at Pulten. They have done a good business up here. They have taken 172 large kegs of powder at one time and 700 lbs at another". They have also taken several prisoners.

Tuesday Jan 7th 1862.

Hazy & Cold. Have been acting to day as sergeant on fatigue and had charge of an award squad of 15 men some of them duch and all armed with spades. Our duty when on fatigue is to shovel away into wagons the trash which accumulates about the quarters. 100 men two commissioned officers 4 ser. and 8 cor. are detailed daily for this purpose. Received a letter from home which as is the case with all was a week coming. Camp Benton is not wanting in music there being 6 or 7 brass band. One especially which plays near headquarters at about 8:00 at night gives inspiring music Hail Columbia. The Star Spangled Banner and Dixie greet our ears at all times of the day. The band of the Illinois 55th is the best skilled and plays every morning at guard mounting.

Wednesday Jan 8th 62.

Cloudy. The thaw of the sleet and snow makes it exceedingly muddy. The parade ground between the barracks being very level is a perfect pond of flowing water. Heavy guns were fired from the forts in St. Louis this
evening it being the 8th of Jan. Signed the pay roll this evening.

"Teach not taste we handle not", and now, it seemed inappropriate it being Thursday 9th 62. Just burying buried one of our comrades.

Benton Barracks is like an immense tray of batter. One little dry spot is left under Mess No. 1's tent. Received our pay to day. Two months wages, $26.00. Curiosity almost induces me to taste a little "egg-nog" ever which the boys (some only) cackle, but prudence says not.

Friday Jan 10th 1862

I was not left this morning. A soldiers' Aid Society sent to our reg. some clothing of which some may go a young place again.

To night at least 20 deg. colder than this morning.

Saturday Jan 11th

The Colonel, after inspecting our horse, remarked to Lieu. that "be wanted the men to dig some Morning very cold at evening warm and thawing. The most changeable climate I have seen." William H. Proctor who has been an invalid ever since he enlisted died at the hospital to day and was taken to the Methodist graveyard by our com. and placed in the vault where it will ly until morning when we will probably inter it. Received a letter this evening.

Sunday Jan 12th '62

to day. Some of the boys on reading a notice in this Very cold. The Lieu. with about 30 of us retired again this morning to the graveyard and buried the remains of Proctor who died yesterday, counting the soldiers' graves I was surprised to see 530 and all filled within the last ten weeks. Some of the boys wishing to take a side the lieu. took us around through the city treating to lager beer of which all drank freely except
one or two and myself. Though urged I refused to indulge having resolved to
"touch not taste not handle not," and more, it seemed inappropriate it being
the Sabbath and we just having buried one of our comrades.
And sacred with tears of the dead.
The stars are the special of union;
In Union they ever must wave!

Monday Jan 13th '62.
Ages of honor,
The end in the blood of the brave."

Very cold, so much so that my feet were frostbitten while on dress parade.
"Success to the flag of our nation!"

No brigade drill this after–noon. The 53rd Ills and 7th Iowa left this morning
The shades of our heroes are round it,
For Cairo. A soldiers aid society sent to our reg. some clothing of which
We are not in much need now, no doubt some of the soldiers in the field would
Gladly receive them. Capt. Taylor of Co. I, is sick at his brotherinlaw's
in the city and not expected to live. The Colonel after inspecting our horse
quarters this evening remarked to Lieu. that "he wanted the men to dig some
of those horses out of the mud."

Tuesday Jan 14th '62.

Very cold. The cold this morning was very severe on the sentinels. Gen.
Sherman allows no fires on his beat. he does not even allow the stable guards
to have fire it being a criminal offense for which 40 or more were imprisoned
last night. Drilled to day. Some of the boys on reading a notice in this
morning's paper in reference to Gen. McCleland's having 40 more reg. of
cavalry than he wants are jolly thinking our reg. will be discharged. The
least thought of going home makes some fancy that they are really going. so
glad would they be to return.
"Success to the flag of our Nation!
Its folds all around us be spread!
It is blazoned with deeds of the valiant,
And sacred with names of the dead!
The stars are the symbol of Union;
In Union they ever must wave!
The white is the emblem of honor,
The red is the blood of the brave."

"Success to the flag of our Nation!
Let it sweep o'er the land and the sea!
The shade of our heroes are round it,
Beneath it the ranks of the free.
We will keep it's young glory unsullied,
In the ages to come as the past;
Uprear it, a beacon of freedom,
Unbowed, through all storms to the last."

Sunday Jan 16th '62.

Cold. Drilled to day and hope these few lines may find You enjoying the same blessing though it is very rough, and severe on the horses. Went over to the doctor's office this morning to get his certificate for Sam's furlough; got it took it to the Captain he wrote a furlough which I took to the Gen. to get signed, it not being signed by the Colonel I left it in his hands. I cannot find it very difficult to get any business of this kind done, not by weeks or months (for there is no Sunday) but by the space intervening between one Thursday Jan. 16th '62.

Very cold. Col. Trimbal instructed Us this afternoon in regimental, mostly in charging. the whole reg. in line it being very cold, the men with difficulty managed their horses. One was in danger of being crippled there was so much crouding and jamming.
Friday Jan. 17th '62.

Very cold. 10 men of Co. P from the 2nd battalion were in camp yesterday. They crossed the Missouri at Jefferson City as a guard for a baggage train, while over here the river froze over so they had to come down here to cross back.

Saturday Jan 18th '62.

Every thing covered over with ice. The night has been spent in an interesting and boisterous discussion as to whether the Earth is round or flat.

Sunday Jan 19th '62.

A gloomy lonesome day drizzling all day and very muddy on which account there was no inspection of our reg. Received a letter from home to day, than which nothing gives more pleasure. The news they contain from home is not more acceptable than the good advice which they always contain. A day in the army does not seem like a day spent at home. before one is aware of it night comes, a blank is all that is to be seen on which can be traced no mark of improvement.

How fleet is time and how misspent! We mark time in the army not by weeks or sundays (or there is no sunday) but by the space intervening between one letter and another from home. Dr. Elliott the distinguished Methodist divine and editor of "The Central Christian Advocate" preached in Co. D's quarters this afternoon from 2nd Timothy 12th of 4". He is a very old man has a tall forehead over which fall long locks whitened as he said with 70 odd winters. His form is somewhat drooped from old age and his voice broken reminding me quiet. Stepping inside head-quarters one may imagine himself in a fashionable
of the beautiful description of the aged man in the last chapter of "A Tale of Two Cities." His sermon was very plain and interesting and his advice godly. "Say your prayers and keep your powder dry." This office is an older building. Each section is comfortably fitted up with rooms, furnished with a coal stove. Monday Jan 20th '62.<p>There areashes everywhere covered by our continuous rain, and gloomy and mud. No dress parade or drill. The Ohio 2nd cavalry came in last night. Camp Benton is situated north-west of St. Louis and about 3 miles from the levee. It is connected with the city by a railroad upon which street cars arrive at and leave the camp at intervals of 5 minutes. The barracks were constructed last summer by Gen. Fremont and their great cost was one of the charges brought against him by his late accusers. They are built on three sides of an area of 70 acres, the longest sides running east and west. The latter end is open except midway between the lines of barracks where are two rows parallel to the others and long enough to enclose the end of the guard house. Strongly built with cells for prisoners. Across the East end very comfortably arranged are quarters for the colonels and staff officers. In the Eastern centre and in front of the colonels' quarters is head-quarters, a neat two story building with flat roof from which extends a tall mast bearing the American Flag. From this roof the whole camp and surrounding country may be seen and I have noticed on more than one evening when all the troops were out the General making extended observations from it sometimes accompanied by ladies. Every evening at about sunset the post bugles a French Indian may be seen furling the flag at the same time sounding the retreat on his bugle at which the camp is to become quiet. Stepping inside head-quarters one may imagine himself in a fashionable
sitting room. A neat palisade fence the yard which which is yet green. A tele-
graph connects the General's office with Gen. Halleck's headquarters in the city.
South East and near to the Gen's is his adjutants office a smaller building.
Each barrack is comfortably fitted up with bunks, furnished with a coal stove
and is intended for two companies, all are covered by one continuous roof and
will accommodate 20,000 soldiers. At the end of each barrack are the Captains'
quarters in rear is a large dining room and still in rear of this is a cook
house furnished with a furnace and hydron the latter supplied with water from
the city reservoir. Between the cook houses and the guard lines are cavalry
stables, stalls and room for forage wagons. Messes from almost every company
have tents attached here preferring them to the crowded quarters. Beyond the
northern line of barracks is the post commissary a very large building in con-
bstruction resembling a railroad depot. In the vicinity of this are several
saloons barber shops two daguerreotype shops and a large bakery where bread is
baked for the whole camp, as such business is carried on here as in a
flourishing county town. An almost incessant train of army wagons passes too
and fro sometimes through the night. East of the Camp by the fair-grounds
beautifully set in evergreens and other shrubbery. Meandering paths lead to
every part! Following these a statute may be seen at almost every angle.
In the center stands a large circular shaped amphitheatre capable of seating
several thousand spectators, in its center stands a lofty stairway surrounded
with evergreens and water spouts. Several beautiful buildings adorn the grounds.
two of these are now used as hospitals. A dense grove covers the the whole
grounds. Winter does not take from them their beauty for yet they furnish.
a lovely retreat where the soldier may pleasantly spend his leisure hours.

The 3rd battalion of the Iowa 1st Cav. has been camped in here all winter.

East of the fairgrounds and outside the guards lines is the post hospital where the worst cases of sickness are taken. Benton Barracks have been under command of three different generals since the 1st of last Nov. when when they were under Gen. Curtis. He was removed to the command of St. Louis and vicinity but is now in the field. Gen Strong took his place here for a short time but the camp is now under the supervision of Gen. Sherman by whom the strictest military discipline is enforced. He is not very popular in the estimation of the soldiers. So strict were guard rules that I am told a chaplain had to appeal to Gen Halleck before he could pass the lines to visit the sick at the hospital (this I will not vouch for) Under present regulations only one Private from a company is allowed to pass per day. 25,000 or more troops have been here since the first of Nov. nearly 8000 of them cavalry. Also several batteries of artillery 15000 have been on review at one time when Gen Halleck Curtis and Strong were all present. The soldier dreads reviews and inspections worse than a forced march. Either occupies generally a whole day besides the time in which to prepare. Sometimes they have come on two or three days in succession. Sunday is the chosen day and this I believe to be one reason why our arms have not been more successful Sunday has been the day for reviews movements and battles. The troops have been drawn out several times in sham battle in which two soldiers were killed through accident or carelessness.

Guard duty is the most irksome the soldier here has to perform. Near 300 guards array themselves in front of headquarters every morning at 9:00 under command
of the officer of the day captain of the guard and lieutenants. Whilst the
brass band plays the guard passes in review before the officer who is always
a colonel lieutenant or major, from here it marches to the guard house where
it is divided into five different divisions each under command of a lieutenant.
Let the weather be good or bad there is no exemption. Several persons have
been shot whilst trying to run the guards. Various plans and tricks are used
by some of the boys in passing the lines, disguise in citizens' clothes, and
even in ladies' dress is practised, among many of the boys there is an
agreement to let each other out. A mounted police of 18 in charge of a sergeant
forms each morning in front of the Adj. Gen.'s office and are posted over the
camp whose duty it is to prevent any disturbance, to keep the parade ground
open, to keep out unlicensed peddlars who are generally poor German women
wives of soldiers under Seigle and who have no other way of earning their bread.
A fatigue party 100 strong is daily detailed in charge of a captain and ser-
geants its duty is to cleanse the camp of the trash which accumulates about
the quarters and cook houses. The citizen from home may see at Benton Barracks
much that is interesting. much that is unnoticed by Us by him would be
wondered at.

of the troops who surrendered under Colonel Buligan at Lexington
were in camp to day. Wednesday the 15th inst was with two left this morning
Tuesday Jan 21st '62.

Major Perry. "Let the first four go more moderately, that looks more like a
general skedaddle than a military movement."

16
Wednesday Jan 22nd 62.
I have not seen you to eat the dinner and.
Am on the sick list to day and have taken the first medicine.

Thursday Jan 23rd 62.
Mild.
The Camp Benton soldier sees comparatively a good time. He has all the advantages of a citizen in many respects, plenty to eat, too much to drink, may always see the sun rise whether he desires it or not. Can have plenty of reading that matter and time to spend in reading. The yellow backed literature is predominant and indulged in by almost all. Is the soldier lonesome a pedlar sells him "The Romance of Love" Is he sick blue mass is weighed out to him by the loaf, there is fresh water enough in camp to take the place of the whisky, rations used. Some have been known to get drunk and others to play cards, preaching is may be heard once a month at least. Blacked boots, cigars and cister suppers are as common as not.

Friday Jan 24th 62.
Mild. Some of the troops who surrendered under Colonel Mulligan at Lexington were in camp to day.

For Coles. Wood. We put the Coles, that was at camp, but instead of being satisfied

Saturday Jan 25th 1862.
A beautiful warm day. No leisure given to prepare for Sunday. The afternoon spent in target shooting. A sad affray in the 14th Iowa. Two soldiers falling out about the their bunk fell to fighting when one was dangerously stabbed. There is a poor opinion of the 14th among our boys. Many of them seem to have no
sense of honor, either can not or do not know how to act. The soldier and gentleman. A stranger can not pass them without insult. A pedlar is not safe among them. I do not say that they are all from the back woods, in the field long before our order after order has been given and countermanded.

Sunday, Jan. 26th 1862. I awoke with the expectation of leaving here and taking Mud. Cloudy. Dress parade this morning at which again a number of courts martials were read. Several companies drilled in forenoon. Dr. Elliot preached in the Co A's quarters. I witnessed the most beautiful scene this evening that has fallen under my eye since coming to the Barracks. The 13th Missouri Inf. on dress parade. In line it is the finest and most complete of any here. The men come out uncommonly neat in their uniform and with glistening bayonets. Go through the mannel of arms with the regularity of clock work. After parade it formed in hollow square when the Lord's Prayer was repeated by the chaplain. Gen. Sherman and a large number of citizens were spectators.

Monday Jan. 27th 1862.

Raining all forenoon. Dense fog filled the atmosphere in after noon. Gen. Grant's call for sailors creates quite a stir among the boys. 25 of the Co A have petitioned for transfers. The 13th Missouri and 12th Iowa left this morning for Cairo. Surrounding not that the Gen. was not very well pleased, and ordered another review to come off today when upon the Gen. has issued an order.

Tuesday. Jan. 28th 1862.

Rained all day. A moving mass of mortar covers the ground. Our company were all vaccinated this morning most of them by the colonel. Two cases of
the Small pox were taken to the hospital from the barrack adjoining Ours.

Keeping a journal is getting to be rather uninteresting, to record the same thing from day to day gives no satisfaction. We have expected to be in the field long before now. Order after order has been given and countermanded.

Several times we have been elated with the expectation of leaving here and taking part in the war. All believe there would be much less sickness.

**Sunday Jan. 22nd.**

**Wednesday Jan. 29th.**

Rained hard untill midnight last night then turned very cold freezing a crust over the mud upon which snow has been falling all day.

**Thursday Jan. 30th. 1862.**

Cold. There has been neither drill nor dress parade since Sunday. Have not been two days this winter when it did not thaw here a little some time in the day. A letter from Burges Garrett.

**Friday Jan 31st 1862.**

The reg. fell in line this morning without the usual preliminaries and was inspected by Gen. Hurlbut. The men were so poorly clad prepared, had so few of their equipments out that the Gen. was not very well pleased and ordered another review to come off Sunday whereupon the Colonel has issued an order requiring Us to turn out with blacked boots, arms polished and horses sandpapered. Sam was examined to day by the Medical committe at the hospital of the Michigan 2nd. They told him he would not be fit for the service for a year.
Saturday, February 1st 1862.

January has past without the grand forward movement. All is yet "quiet on the Potomac". Lord Russell said "if January passed without some grand Union victory the Rebel cause would be successful" Company inspection this afternoon in view of tomorrow's review.

Sunday Feb. 2nd '62.

Inspection again this forenoon. Gen. Hurlbut minutely inspected the regiment and still is not satisfied. Dr. Elliot preached in Co. I's quarters this evening. A choir of ladies from the city sang the "Star Spangled Banner in most beautiful strains. "Day unto day uttereth speech and night unto night showeth knowledge" Each day I realize more and more the necessity of strong resolution in resisting the many foul temptations which I find too daily increase as the men with whom we are associated give way to immorality. Some who make pretensions, who were well raised and know what is right "because they are in the army" seem to give way to and make no resistance to wrong, become offended if the Chaplain makes the least reference to their conduct.

"Is't that wrong"? "not for a soldier". "Are you not breaking the sabbath?" "There is no sabbath in the army were I at home I would not do it."

The result of this instability is that we become so accustomed to a looseness of character, Our consciences become so siered that we do daily what we would be ashamed of at home. Indecent expressions in our conversation are unnoticed and become habitual. What to us is unnoticed would seem to a parent or any other one from home redlicious.
Monday Feb. 3rd '62.
Lost a button off my coat.

Tuesday Feb 4th '62.
Clear, cold. Snow 3 in deep. By order of Gen. Sherman the Colonel took the reg. to the city through the principal streets probably to exhibit us. There seems to be little stir in the streets for so large a city as St. Louis. A very large proportion of the population seems to be German. at almost every corner we passed a squad of jowling Duchman, who seem to be all laboring men, bucherers, draymen, woodsawers and such like, about every other man is a duchman and every other door leads to a lager beer saloon. On dress-parade an order containing Gen. Hurlburt's disapproval of our appearance on inspection last Friday was read. it contained this "The reputation the 3rd Iowa Cav has formerly sustained for cleanliness (and promptness) was very much impaired." Another was read expressing his better approval of Sunday's inspection. Gen. Hurlburt is very hard to please as also Gen. Sherman. The former is the same who got into difficulty in North Missouri about __________. The latter the same who was removed from Kentucky for his (it is said incompetency) Gen. Hurlburt is a middle sized man, of rough features, with long sharp crooked nose, short upper lip, from which hangs a light colored moustache like spice on a crag, overhanging a retreation chin. He wears mostly a military cloak and the common officer's cap covered with oil-cloth. Gen. Sherman is tall and slender, in walking around invariably carries his hands in his pockets, neither one can compete in appearance with Gen's Strong or Curtis.
Wednesday Feb. 5th 62. Snow has ceased immensely but is yet incomplete. P.M. Very mild. Com's A & C left the barracks to day probably for Rolla, by railroad. For 20 mi. from Morella Station the country is a wilderness of brushwood ridges and hollows, the road follows a high ridge for every ridge, winding by their distances are seen on either side of our column.

Thursday Feb. 6th 62. Com's D & I received marching orders yesterday and were in line by 9:00 this morning. All ready and glad to march having been in Benton Barracks 3 mo. this morning. Only 3 were left in the hospital. On parading before the Colonel's quarters be remarked to our Lieu. "I thought you were the 1st battalion." It having rained all night last night we had a muddy trip to the depot. Our horses are all jammed into 6 cars and we in two baggage cars. Left St. Louis at 8:00 P.M. had gone only 35 mi. at dark. The country very broken, no prairie is yet to be seen, abundance of soft sandstone shows itself in banks through which the way is cut. About 20 mi. out we passed through two short tunnels of solid rock.

Sunday Feb. 7th 62.

Morella Station. Friday Feb. 7th 62. Back to where we camped Friday night.

It turned very cold last night so it was difficult to keep warm. the boys got hold of a large cast kettle which they set in centre of the car, in it a large fire was kept up all night until the pine seats were nearly all consumed. About 1:00 last night the cars ran upon a large rock which had fallen upon the track and so damaged the engine that that it could take the train no farther. We are now waiting for another engine from St. Louis which can not come until telegraphed for from Franklin after the damaged engine reaches.

Reading at 10th. At noon eat two cups soup in a boiling wooden bowl of heat.
there. The Pacific Railroad has cost immensely but is yet incomplete. P.M.

The mail train came up at noon, Ours is attached to it and we again resume our journey. For 20 m. from Moselle Station the country is a wilderness of brushwood ridges and hollows. the road follows a high ridge for many miles, winding columns of hills blue by their distance are seen on either side is now waiting for orders by telegraph from Gen. Mallock.

Rolla Saturday Feb. 8th 62.

Cold. Arrived at Rolla about sundown and after confusion getting our saddles & went over to where Co's A & B were camped. I was much surprised to see Rolla but a shadow of a town after having formed the opinion that it was a city of importance. About 2000 troops are stationed in and around Rolla. The 1st & 3rd battalions of the reg are here now. Co D moved about a mile from the depot south and are with Co. H camped on a point near to water and in a jack oak grove where our horses are protected from the cold. (Map p. 53, of Rolla)

Sunday Feb. 9th 62.

Cold. Clear. Struck tents and moved back to where we camped Friday night.

All the companies had to reset their tents in military order. It being the first camp organized considerable confusion attended its construction. have been very busy all day. A lot of wood was cut and stacked through the night. got to Mayesville at 9:00 stopped an hour to feed. traveled until 3:00 when we


Mild. The daily program has changed materially from what it was at Camp Benton.

Early this morning all hands went to work. Some were detailed to to haul wood, arrived at Lab. at noon and are now camped in a brushy thicket south of town.
some to clean up and burn brush. The Camp presented the appearance of a
back woods farm on log roiling day. no guards are stationed by day. Guard
mounting is at 3:00 a.m. It is of 4 reliefs each stands two hours and is
off. Col. Bussey received orders from Gen. Curtis to join him at Lebanon.

Col. Wyman Comander of this post wishes him to remain here so he is now waiting
for orders by telegraph from Gen. Halleck.

Lebanon. Feb. 14th 62.

Rolla. Feb. 11th 62.

The Col. has concluded to march tomorrow at 4:00 A.M. We are now just pre-
pared to stay awhile comfortably, but all are glad to move on. The boys have
began what they call Jayhawking. Killing and bringing in pigs, chickens
& which is wrong at least when We are furnished with plenty of provision.

Companies I and H in command of Major Drake left this morning for Salem which
place they will occupy.

Someone's boys found in a barrel something which they thought to be a cannon
but though uncertain and foolishness one threw it into the fire when it
exploded. Many boys were hurt but all are convalescent.

Wednesday, Feb. 12th 62.

Warm. Left Rolla 6 companies at 6:00 this morning. Crossed the Big Piney
at its confluence with the Gasconade, roads very marshy, after crossing the
river the country very rocky and barren. About sunset one of Co A whilst
carelessly handling his pistol shot his comrade through the leg. Got to
Waynesville at 8:00 stopped an hour to feed. Traveled until 3:00 when We
halted until 7 having gone 51 mi.

Left Lebanon this morning early and at night stopped 2 hours to feed having
gone 33 miles. Col. Hazen垦a to make Springfield to night. Taking a

Lebanon, Thursday 13th 62.

Arrived at Leb. at noon and are now camped in a brushy thicket south of town.
Our baggage train is still behind with all the provisions and tents and but for the strenuous efforts of the Colonel we would have to spend the night in the open air and storm and perhaps without provision. Tents enough and cooking utensils were borrowed. Gen. Curtis with his division left here Monday for Springfield to show that the head of our line passed over it.

Lebanon. Feb. 14th 62.

Last night was the coldest we have experienced this winter, with much difficulty we didn't sleep any to warm. We did not march as expected on account of bad roads. Our baggage train has not come up yet. The regiments from whom we borrowed tents and kettles left for Springfield this morning taking them (the tents) with them. Quite a time we have cooking our provisions. In one pot the whole capodie is cooked, first the meat which when tender is laid upon the leaves, then the bread is baked, the coffee last. Some of Capt.

Benson's boys found in a barrel something which they thought to be a cannon ball through curiosity and foolishness one threw it into the fire when it exploded throwing pieces in every direction. Fortunately no one was seriously injured. They dearly learned that bomb shells are not play-things. Whilst I journalize the ink freezes on my pen in a minute I will crawl closer to the big camp fire by the light of which I now write.

Saturday Feb. 15th 62.

Left Lebanon this morning early and at night stepped 2 hours to feed having gone 25 m. Colonel Bussey aims to make Springfield to night. Taking a
severe spell of cholera morbus. I in company with 5 others are left at a farm
house which is made a post, it being midway between Lebanon and Springfield
and the only house where accommodations can be had. The road from Lebanon
runs through a country sparsely settled. The smoking ruins of cabins and
fields laid waste show that the hand of war has passed over it.

Wednesday Feb. 19th ’62. It was raining so hard when we arrived here late on
Sunday. Feb. 16th ’62. The smoke almost all43 destroyed on the way. camped 20 mi.
Am quite unwell but will go on when the train comes up from Lebanon where it
stayed last night. The regiment reached Springfield early Sunday morning where
it remained all day.

Camped a mile south of Enterville after traveling all day. Our road all the
Monday Feb. 17th ’62. follows the Clark Mountain which are nothing but a very
The train came up this morning and found us barely able to travel. We entered
Springfield at sundown and find it entirely deserted. The Unionists were all
banished by Price’s men and the secession families left with Price. the
houses have all been desecrated by his soldiers and furniture destroyed. The
filth in every house makes it appear more like a slaughter pen than a dwelling.
300 sick were left in the court house. Springfield is a good sized county
town and old from its appearance, is surrounded by a fertile country unlike
any between it and St. Louis.

Denton Co. Arkansas Saturday Feb. 22nd ’62.

Tuesday Feb. 18th ’62. we are in the midst of a large and burning camp, struck by
Moving on from Springfield we crossed Wilson’s creek at the battle ground
but did not stop to look over it as I would have liked. I saw enough to cause

256
a shudder. I saw bullet holes in the wood. I saw the hill from which Gen.
Seigle played his cannon, the hill where Gen Lyon fell. I saw dead mens' bones. I saw soldiers graves. I saw the pool where the dying soldiers quenched their thirst and then I passed on. We camped 20 mi. from Spri.

Papsville Ark. Sunday Feb 22nd 1862. We are here again this morning at 5:00 where for we know not. At Elmira an officer came in and said we are going to the rear. Very cold and icy. Houses almost all deserted on the way. camped 20 mi.

farther on.

Wednesday Feb. 19th 62.

On Monday afternoon of the Benton House, a battery of 4 heavy cannon and two howitzers making in all more than a thousand men at 4:00 all moved off and began to march up in the rear. I was a little sick and could not keep up.

Thursday Feb. 20th 62.

Camped a mile south of Batesville after traveling all day. Our road all the way from Springfield follows the Ozark Mountains which are nothing but a very high rocky country. The only thing attractive about them is the clear water. Fresh water springs and beautiful streams are frequent. Farms are sparse and on the streams, they are most all laid waste and many of them deserted.

Direction. After a little pause the force moved up rapidly and separated in

Friday Feb. 21st 62.

our before entering the town. Our regiment formed in line and reached Gen. Curtis' camp late at night. Saw at sugar creek 12 mi back. 17 wounded soldiers in the skirmish at that place. pitiful looking fellows.

Saturday Feb. 22nd 62.

A force of about 150 rebels was discovered enquiring about town with Bentec Co. Arkansas Saturday Feb. 22nd 62.

We reached Gen. Curtis' camp late at night. Saw at sugar creek 12 mi back. 17 wounded soldiers in the skirmish at that place. pitiful looking fellows.

Mara. Woke this morning in the midst of a large and bustling camp stuck my head from under the "kiver" and in a kind of a trance witnessed 7 or 8000 troops pass by my "Sty." I found the 3rd Iowa camped a mile distant from the
main one. I expected to find the boys almost starved they having been away
from the train 10 days but on the contrary they are fairing sumptuously on
chickens fruit ham and suchlike which they have taken from the seashores
behind. I picked up a lonesome in the road in which was a live chicken. The
Fayetteville Ark. Sunday Feb 23rd 1862
left Gen. Curtis' camp this morning at 3:00 where for we knew not. At Miltown
a little deserted village 6 mi. on the way we fell in with the Illis 3rd
Cay, one battalion of the Benton Hussars, a battery of 6 heavy canons and two
howitzers making in all more than a thousand men. At 6:00 a.m. moved off and
from the ambulances harnessed up in the rear and other preparations I knew we
were to be near danger. We were starting on a reconnoitering expedition under
command of Gen. Ashboth a Hungarian officer. He is a very tall large man
wearing a pleasant feature and a moustache like a lion's mane. When within
5 miles of Fayetteville we were told that we would be fired upon as McCullough's
troops were in line when within two miles scouts were sent out in every
direction. After a little pause the force moved up rapidly and separated in
two or three divisions before entering the town. Our regiment formed in line
of battle in an open field on the north where the mud was knee deep, while
Gen. Ashboth with a small force followed the road into Fayetteville. In the
meantime a force of about 150 rebels were discovered escaping below town with
whom only a part of the Ill. 3d exchanged a few shots. The enemy fled so rapid-
ly that any pursuit was abandoned— After forming in the field our reg. again
formed on the East side of town and had it been known soon enough this time
might have been occupied in a complete capture of the enemy. A short stampede
was made in the direction in which they had fled but this was also abandoned. Two or three were killed or wounded and 25 or 30 prisoners brought in during the day. The enemy was so suddenly surprised that they left their plunder behind. I picked up a haversack in the road in which was a live chicken. The Stars & Stripes now float from the dome of the court house and were furnished by an old citizen who had, he said, been long waiting for us. A provost about Marshall will protect the town. In the evening I was detailed to guard a ladies property which our soldiers had begun to plunder. I can scarcely realize that it is the sabbath. Later I was detailed as orderly to General Asboth.

Fayetteville Ark Monday Feb. 24th 1862

This is a beautiful morning and the air seems to be softening for spring. Fayetteville is the county seat of Washington one of the preattiest counties in the state, surrounded by mountain scenery. It lies on the southern slope of a high hill between which and the spurs of the Boston Mountains which ly around it in the shape of a crescent and which look blue & ragged in the distance lies a fertile little valley from one to two miles wide. (Map p. 69) Under such circumstances, so far from home as I am and every night now is spent. Osage Springs Feb 25th 1862 as near as then at home. After marching all day Gen. Asboth evacuated Fayetteville this morning and returned to the union camp by him without any orders to do so. His orders were to make a reconaissance near the town and to dispatch some responsible officers to town to consult the citizens. More harm than good perhaps has been done. The place has been occupied and abandoned and by our presence in the community many citizens
identified themselves as union men and will be compelled to leave or be per-
secuted by the rebels. Before we left many citizens were coming in whom
General Price had made believe that we would kill and rob them.

Osage Springs Feb 26 1862

Had company inspection to day. Our quartermaster has possession of a mill about
four miles from camp by which we are furnished with flour. A train of 100
wagons was captured, loaded with supplies, and burned back near Cassville
by the rebels, cutting our supplies.

Fayetteville Thursday Feb 27th 1862

Our battalion left camp this afternoon at 2:00 on another reconnoisance.
At 9:00 at night we tied tee in a thicket a mile from Fayetteville and slept in the
open air with orders to make no noise, of any kind nor to unbridle our horses
to day it is cold and snowing. It is pleasant but has been and will be rain
Friday Feb. 28 1862

This time last year I had no thought that I should ever pass a night under
such circumstances, so far from home as last and every night now is spent.
A night’s rest here is just as sweet as then at home. After marching all day
over Arkansas Mountains and rocks it is pleasant to spend an Arkansas night
in an Arkansas thicket as last night was spent with an Arkansas rock for a
pillow and an Arkansas sky for a covering. We surrounded and entered Fayetteville
again this morning at sunrise but found no enemy, although it had been occupied
by the rebels again yesterday. They took the old gentleman who furnished the
Union flag on last Sunday prisoner. Many of the citizens who fled through fear have returned, some with their negroes. We returned to camp where was waiting a package of letters for us.

Saturday March 1st 1862 (Osage Springs)

Weather warm and dry. The army is separated into several divisions 5 or 6 miles apart in order to get forage and provision. Gen. Price is somewhere in the Boston Nts neither army is moving either way. Small parties of Rebels prowled around and occasionally capture our pickets.

This is the first Sunday on which we have been allowed to rest since leaving St. Louis. A disagreeable day it would be to march after the warm weather of last week. Last night a very heavy rain fell attended with loud thunder; day it is cold and snowing. It is pleasant but has been and will be rare to spend the Sabbath in silence as to day. to turn too and ponder over the pages of My pocket Bible in which I always find good advice. On taking it up I can commingle its precepts with those of My Mother when she told Me to keep it by My side and make it My companion. Though We can not see each other nor converse together We may spend the same hours in reading the same book, for I knew this evening's hours are partly spent by her in reading its sacred pages.

Sugar Creek. Monday March 3rd '62.

On getting up this morning I found it among one but not at noon it was moderated and the sun shines down the most as on a summer day. The boys, but a few, have gone into the country Georgia. I have a little leisure and so like sitting and playing at the blue Bible in the distance. The beauty in the 30 men from each company under Lieu. Trimbal made a scout near Fayetteville.
again to day while the others moved the camp to Sugar Creek 10 miles back to where the whole army is falling back. The position is a strong one and fortified by nature. The stream here runs through a lowland several miles long and in most places a half mile wide. High hills and rocky ledges ly along on each side covered with heavy timber and brushwood. Here Gen. Curtis' advance overtook Price's rear guard when a heavy skirmish took place. The rebel artillery was used on the hill as they retreated was charged on and as good as taken by our cavalry once but the infantry were to far back to improve our advantage. Several were killed and wounded on either side. 30 or more horses ly dead marking the ground. Cross Hollows eight miles south of here where it was expected the rebels would make a stand as its name indicates is one of Nature's fortifications where they might have made a strong resistance perhaps a successful one. A deep gulch long and wide enough to furnish room for a large force was the position chosen by Gen. Price. A comparatively level country lies around favorable to an attacking army, but breaks off at the Hollows in very high and rugged hills forming between them an almost subterranean defense three narrow roads or passes lead down into it. The eastern end lies more open but not without obstructions.

Sugar Creek Ark. Tuesday March 4th 62.

On getting up this morning I found it snowing fast but now at evening it has moderated and the sun shines down as warm as on a summer day. The boys, but a few, have gone into the country foraging. I have a little leisure and as I sit resting and glance at the blue hills in the distance, "My heart's in the
Highlands my heart is not here; as 9 miles distant is coming is at Boston.
My heart is in the Highlands; chasing the deer; this was coming through it and
Chasing the wild deer; and following the red-stuff wore charged upon by a body
My heart is in the Highlands wherever I go." was killed and a few taken.
But scenes. The enemy having been reports were supposed to be near us.
"Farewell to the Highlands; farewell to the North;" resistance. The sound of the
The birthplace of valour; the country of worth; fell upon hundreds of her men.
Wherever I wander, wherever I prove; lies forever and returned with them.
The hills of the Highlands. forever I love." going between Sciple and the enemy.
On viewing the romantic scenery around we now or turning back into my imagination
to the prairies and beauties of home. My feelings are softened, a second thought
only convinces me that I am a soldier, that these hills may be a battle field
and home a place of mourning. Soon is almost completely blocked up with engines
and trains. We have orders to be ready to march at a moment's warning and be
Sugar Creek, Ark. Wednesday March 5th 62. and by which we will sleep in the leaves
Charles W. Gordon private of Co. C. 9th Missouri was drummed out of service
to day in the presence of his brigade to the tune; "Hop goes the weasel." No;
In our the joy glory of the service though to night and there you remains.
Sugar Creek, Ark. Thursday March 6th 62.
Received Marching orders early this morning and a little to our surprise
learned that the rebel army reinforced was encamped about 14 miles distant
back instead of in the Boston Mts. At 9:00 we packed up and moved 2½ mi.
North of the creek, the troops are concentrating here and are fortifying the
hills on this side of Sugar Creek bottom. Gen. Sciple's Division which like
Gen. Davis' has been encamped 6 or 8 miles distant is coming in at Bentonville the county seat of Benton county as his train was coming through it and a small body of troops who had their arms stacked were charged upon by a body of rebel cavalry by whom several of Our men were killed and a few taken prisoners. The enemy having blue coats were supposed to be some of Our own troops until it was too late to make an effectual resistance. The sound of the guns was heard here and Our battalion sent in full speed towards it but went only about half way when We met Seigle's forces and returned with them. We supposed that a general engagement was commencing between Seigle and the enemy. All the trains and every impediment are arranged along the road for 3 mi. north of the bloofs or hills where preparations are being made for a warm reception of the enemy. Everything is being made ready to move. On each side of the road the brush which is very dense is almost completely blocked up with wagons and tents. We have orders to be ready to march at a moment's warning and to night have built a huge log heap fires near by which We will sleep in the leaves with sabres and revolvers on. Every one expects a fight tomorrow. Gen. Curtis was heard to say this evening "I will either fight them tomorrow or they Me." To get the first glimpse of the enemy through an open field where Our cannon were Sugar Creek Ark. Friday March 7th 62. force them into confusion, their ground This morning at about 8:00 the expected scene commenced. During last night Our pickets heard trains passing around Our West with this it was known that the intention was to assail us in Our rear. At 8:00 this morning it was evident that the whole rebel force had successfully got behind Us. It has been known several days that Gen. Vandorn had reinforced Price and taken the chief
along the road north and while in motion and just opposite the road where our battery was planted 5 times out where we could not move it through this bush and near the battery which we had taken, being in a body of doing and Indians we issued our men from the rear to the right flank of the battery and we began the carnage. Gen's Vandorn and Price commanded this part of the rebel force in person all day against Gen. Curtis and our main force. The deafening thunder of artillery and musketry was almost incessant here until dusk when annoyed by the cavalry a large body of infantry and Indians in two columns met forth a destructive volley taking effect mostly on our left wing. I have said in history of a year before this battle it was more desperate than the former and each assault more a more irresistible attack upon account of their increased numbers. Our men kept them back sometimes at the point of the bayonet, now they retreated now. At about 9:00 Our battalion was ordered out to take part and followed the road which leads N.W. from hospital a until we reached the open field which extends in the shape of the letter Y beyond and east of where Vandorn and Curtis were fighting.

A battery of two guns, a battalion of the Missouri Ist Cav. and a regt. of infantry were all with us the infantry nearly a mile behind.

On first entering the opening we formed in line of battle away to our right and the idea was not to fire until we were in line. Our first shot was a surprise, amed at some officers, one of whom was then Major Gen. Scott. The battery was low and in front view of us where we were in line. I could distinguish officers rushing to and fro in wild excitement seemingly preparing for an advance on us. The battery was now between us and them and the Missouri Ist Cav. between them and the battery only a little to the right. We had remained in line of battle only a few moments when we were led in column of fours
along the road North and while in motion and just opposite the nook where
our battery was planted 5 times our numbers charged upon us through this nook
and past the battery which now was taken, being in column of fours and so
suddenly overwhelmed we were thrown into confusion yet almost every man fought
until overpowered in hand to hand conflict. had the rebel cavalry been all
to contend with our victory would have been perhaps complete but at the same
time when assaulted by the cavalry a large body of infantry and Indians in
ambuscade sent forth a destructive volley taking effect mostly on our first
3 companies. I have read in history of and seen depicted the horrors of
battle where foe measured arms with foe in mortal combat but here my own
eyes witnessed them. in every direction I could see my comrades falling.
horses frenzied and riderless, ran to and fro. men and horses ran in collision
crushing each other to the ground dismounted troopers ran in every direction,
officers tried to rally their men but order gave way to confusion. The scene
baffles description. had I weeks of leisure I might perhaps give some idea
of the scene but cannot by the camp fire in haste. Any retreat was almost
impossible the enemy were on every side except one on which lay a fence. some
cut their way back towards where we first were in line. some forward and
retreated around westwardly. A number could go neither neither way. I was
among these and seeing no other way of escape I dismounted and threw down the
fence. while doing this the bullets whizzed by my head like bees, a number
ledgeing in the rails I was handling. I had not got through fairly with my
horse when as many as 20 of our boys were ready to pass through the gap and
every time I tried to mount getting my foot in the stirrup some one ran against
me, so gathering the rains I led my horse half way across the field before
mounting him. When on him I found he was shot in the thigh and very lame.

Being dismounted I escaped back to camp on foot. John Montgomery and
several others of our company had already fallen. The enemy and a number of our
men ran promiscuously across the field and a number fell on both sides here.
About 40 of all the companies got together at the west side of the field,
but did not form, only to return to camp. Major Perry was with us here but gave
no commands. Instead of rallying us and leading us back to the field he was
about the first man back into camp. Col. Trimbal was wounded at the very first
of the engagement. Col. Bussey with part of his men did not leave the field
until night. Soon after our retreat the infantry came up. Seigle reinforced
this part of our army and before night drove them back and then returned
again to our right wing. I was about the last back into camp, my horse being
disabled. On arriving there I was told that brother Sam was in the hospital
wounded. He had been hit by a cannon at about 10 o'clock and had been a
wounded I suppose he was killed for I had not seen him from the first. He
was not more glad to see me unhurt than I was to see him alive. I remained
with him the rest of the day. At dark the firing ceased, neither side claimed
any great advantage. Seigle was heard to say "Had two hours more of daylight
I would have gained the day." No attack was made from the south at all but a
force was kept there ready. The trains were held in readiness all day to move
at a moment's warning. Wounded men came in on ambulances at all times during
the evening. I have failed to mention sooner that McCollough was killed
early in the morning and McIntosh in some part of the engagement I know not
when. Pike was the leader of the Indians who probably numbered about 1200.
The number killed, wounded and missing from our battalion is 45.

Sugar Creek Ark. Saturday March 8th 62.

The troops lay on their arms last night. All were well exhausted having done a hard days' battling for their Country without dinner or rest. Not much time was given for supper or breakfast. At about 7:00 this morning Seigle renewed the battle by touching off with his own hands the first gun. All were in suspense and anxious for results, for to day must decide the battle. Regiments moved along the road by where I was waiting on the wounded. Both men and officers were as lively and jovial as if going to a corn husking. During the whole forenoon hundreds of stragglers were in camp. Some had lost their guns, some were sick, some lame, some sent to wait on the sick. Idle men stood about in squads away from their companies on a thousand different excuses. Men continually hurried back and forth between the battle field and camp. Each one was halted at almost every step by crowds of anxious fellows who asked a thousand questions. "How is the battle going?" "Who is retreating? Do the enemy fall back?" Ambulances continuously passed along with wounded. This part of the scene was sometimes the most horrible, men with broken arms and legs, mangled heads piled into the hard jolting wagons out of which the blood ran sometimes in streams. We thought once that the rebels were driving our men back. The trains and every impediment began to move south and left the wounded of our reg. 7 in number in a tent with no one in care of them but Mr. Shenk and Myself. I knew that if our men were falling back the boys (wounded) would be trampled under foot for the hospital tent lay immediately
on the road. The old Doctor disappeared. Our wagon and quartermasters would have every thing else loaded up and hauled but allowed no room for the wounded nor would they give me any satisfaction. The trains moved only a short distance and halted for orders, by hard entreaty I got help and carried the boys to the wagons where they were laid on the plunder. It was now about noon, the news came in that our men were driving them, and so they were.

We had gained the victory after "one of the hardest fought battles history will ever record. Their forces were thrown into confusion and routed. Seigel pursued them until night occasionally throwing shells among them. Before night the trains came back to their former place. tents were set up and horses unharnessed for the first time in 3 days. Our battalion was not in to day's battle but captured 50 or more prisoners. Gen Seigle's name is all the boys can mention, all give Seigle the praise. He was our main support and perhaps without his victory would not have been ours, but our success is due to Gen.

Curtis who had the supreme command and who was cognizant of of every movement.

I saw Gen. Curtis several times during the battle passing about as calmly and with as much composure as if overseeing a farm.

Sugar Creek Ark. March 9th Sunday '62.

Our main force is still in pursuit. The enemy have divided and are taking different roads in order to get back into Arkansas again. The battalion took a number of stragling Secesh to day. I have got permission to wait on Sam and other wounded a favor which I am grateful for. This evening 30 rebels came in with a flag of truce to bury their dead.
Sugar Creek Ark. Monday March 10th '62.

An alarm was given to day by our men who were on the battle field burying the dead. The rebels who came in yesterday were burying their dead and falling into line advanced rapidly to wards our men without their truce flag hoisted they (our men) supposed they were about to be attacked and being mostly unarmed fled into camp causing quite a stir. Our dead lay on the field unburied untill today. A number of them were found scalped, most of them were stripped of every thing except shirt and pants. Mrs. Kirkendall Lieu. Kirkendall's wife is very attentive and kind in waiting on the wounded especially on Col. Trimbalm. She is a woman of uncommon fortitude having come all the way from Rolla on horseback and on a forced march riding sometimes all day and night. Now her efforts to make the wounded comfortable are untiring.

Cassville No. Saturday March 10th '62.

Sugar Creek Ark. Tuesday March 11th '62.

The rebels are retreating South. Our forces are all here and about to move 8 mi. S. West from the stench which will rise from the battle ground. On taking a walk down to the hospital of the Missouri troops this evening I noticed a heap perhaps a dozen of amputated legs and arms lying outside the door which the Physician was at work amputating a mans leg above the knee.

Cassville No. Wednesday March 12th '62.

Our wounded were hauled here this evening 20 mi. from camp in two ambulances. The road was very rocky causing them severe pain. Lieu. Col. Trimbalm and Capt Vanbenthusen of Co A are on their way home. Companies D & M started to
Rolla with 300 prisoners.

Townsend’s body was taken back to the battle ground where his father will only see him in life form in a picture the fell there.

Cassville Mo. March 13th Thursday ’62.

Moved the boys out of the court house where they lay last night, into an unoccupied dwelling house. a few more moves will be death to some of them.

Capt. Montgomery has the prisoners here about 25 in number at work cleaning out the house and piling piles, painting by every little piece and track in their camp. one man in the army does not have to go out for the food as he can eat and provide for himself. One man died this morning and he is the first one I have heard of. It is on account of eating a banana and this will stop. the report was that eating, and it is not to be eaten by every one. It will not make them sick as they can stand it.

Cassville Mo. Friday March 14th ’62.

Every house in Cassville is a hospital. it is horrible to go into some of the store houses and see the floor covered with soldiers with mangled limbs. as many as a dozen lie in one room sometimes with nothing but their blankets to protect them from the hard floor and may be only one or two well men to wait on them. the court house a large brick building is full.

Cassville Mo. Saturday March 15th 62.

Milton Townsend’s arm was amputated this evening but it did not relieve his pain at dark he died with lock jaw.

Cassville Mo. Sunday March 16th ’62.

The boys are doing well. We have got cots and straw for them to ly on which relieves them much.

Cassville Mo. Monday March 17th ’62.

Dr. McGugan with several sick boys came on from camp to night. I am glad to see the boys but would have been gladder not to have seen the McGugan.
Cassville Mo. March 13th 1862.

Townsend's body was taken back to the battle ground where his father will bury his with the body of his brother who fell there.

Cassville Mo. Wednesday M. 19th 62.

Capt. Montgomery has the prisoners here about 25 in number at work cleaning out the court house yard, picking up every little stone chip and trash in their fingers. The Capt. whenever one does not work to suit him is not slow in putting the facility of a physician's seat by the governor of Iowa to ascertain the oaths and threats against them. Once he drew his sabre and was on the point of cutting a fellow but did not. The report here this evening, and it is for the hope and offers to do anything in their power to render them comfortable believed by everyone, is that the enemy are advancing on us and only 14 miles distant.

Cassville Mo. Sunday April 6th 62.

The army passed through here during the whole day. No fear of passing through this morning. From here it twice East. Gen. Bridges has gone to St. Louis.

Cassville Mo. Thursday March 20th 62.

Trains pass through here almost daily back and forth between Rolla and the army, as the wounded get able they are sent by them to Springfield or Lebanon as they can stand it.

Cassville Mo. Friday March 21st 62.

The weather for several days has been cool, heavy rains have fallen making snow fell last night and all this forenoon. The army has fallen 10 miles back the scouting and in recovering better the reconnoiter has left his axe this way to Ketesville. The rebels instead of being upon us again are still down towards Fort Smith.

Cassville Mo. Tuesday April 16th 62.

She's also recovery very slowly is still motion sick and hard about the elbow.

Cassville Mo. Saturday March 22nd '62.

The other boys are all recovering fast. Dr. Slaughter is surgeon of the total 6 paymasters passed through to day.
Cassville No. Sunday March 23rd 1862. A skillful physician in treating
every thing goes on as on week days. Occasionally a soldier dies from his
wounds, is buryed with his uniform for a winding sheet, in a plain square
box for a coffin. Another poor fellow died to day from having his limb
amputated. with his leg he lost his life.
Cassville, Monday March 24th 1862.
their fences are burned. was the country
Cassville No. March 31st 1862.
The Faculty of 3 physicians sent by the governor of Iowa to ascertain the
condition of the wounded here arrived yesterday. They express much sympathy
for the boys and offer to do any thing in their power to render them comfortable
on the field. They tell they have been and will be defeated in their project
Cassville No. Sunday April 6th 1862.
The army passed through here during the whole day. the rear is passing through
this morning, from here it turns East. Gen. Seigle has gone to St. Louis.
The weather is pleasant. peach trees have bloomed out. I am very unwell.
Sam recovers very slowly.
Cassville No. Saturday April 12th 62.
The weather for several days has been damp, heavy rains have fallen swelling
the streams. Sam is recovering faster. the Eosyphias has left his arm.
Cassville No. Friday April 18th 62.
Sam's arm recovers very slowly is still swollen some and hard about the elbow.
The other boys are all recovering fast. Dr. Slaughter is surgeon of the ward
in order to order that should not order be made, on the road the colonel still
in which we are and has proven himself a skillful physician in treating
the sick. It is believed that he may be charged upon
Typhoid fever. To-day is cold and damp heavy rains have fallen within the
last 3 or 4 days. Vegetation is springing up and every thing will soon be
green. A few farmers are preparing to plant and sow. What few farmers are
hospitals at Festusville nursing the wounded of their area, clothing, money
here is discouraged and reluctant to go to work. They have no corn or hay
in the stores taking the load, the latter whose presence in the hospitals should
to feed, many have no horses. Their fences are burned. was the country
rather hot to clear off and the wounded chose to torify and rob them as how
in peace they would have some heart to begin to repair their desolated
homes with several of the new. Dr. Slaughter seems to have his homes which now do not seem like homes. Guerrillas still infest the country
with him and he knows what is best for them. What is best of who shoot down neighbors as game, who prey about at dead of night and rob and
courage he will, whilst he causes their wounds. A feaver has a very good oppo-
steal. Unprincipled men who will not even be so honorable as to fight in the
men not to improve their morals and improve it (there is no such in
open field. They know they have been and will be defeated in their project
playing cards) by playing for the last ten years in one hospital room with
so they take this mode of revenge. It is no uncommon thing for the peacible
unarmament lieutenant and other boys when he has invited. Providence citizen to be shot from the plow or while about his daily business on mere
abuse by God. Well another week! sounds cheerful in the sick man's ear.
suspicion. Certainly civil war is the bloodiest of wars and this has
is the pulsating pulse of fit association for the sick and
no equal of its kind. In Missouri especially have the ties of friendship and
every thing else that makes home and a community happy been torn assunder.
Cassville Mo Monday April 21st 62.
Alienation reigns in peace of peace. Near 100 wounded came on from Festus-
"Long have I roamed" through lands which are not mine.
ville this evening on the way to Springfield. Tenn of Price's men returning
Served the trip. and left the Appendix.
took the oath of allegiance yesterday and six or eight more this evening,
Served Parolees, and beheld the hoe. Joe's men and Cyprian cross the stage
one of whom is a captain they now begin to see that their cause is hopeless.
But "this not all long ago here, but all
They'll nature hold me in their thrilling thrill."
Cassville Mo. Saturday April 19th 62.
Cold and snowing. There are 21 of Us (3rd Iowa) here now, by order of the
commander of the post the hospital steward calls the roll at sundown. This
York scenes sublime, from those beloved brave. "In Islam." - Byron
is done in order that should an attack be made on the town the colonel will
know what to depend on from Us. It is believed that we may be charged upon
by a band of guerrillas since the country is still infested by these inhuman
savages. A few days since a party, several of whom were woman, plundered the
hospitals at Ketesville robbing the wounded of their arms, clothing, money
& the woman taking the lead, the latter whose presence in the hospitals should
rather be to cheer and aid the wounded than to terrify and rob them are now
here prisoners with several of the men. Dr. Slaughter means no harm. The
sick are under his care and he knows what is best for them. what is best of
course he'll do, whilst he cares their wounds a fevers has a very good oppor-
tunity not to improve their morals and improves it ("there is no harm in
playing cards") by playing for the last two hours in our hospital room with a
convalescent lieutenant and other boys whom he has invited. "Diamonds is
trumps by G-d" "Hell another jack!" sounds cheerful in the sick man's ears.

Cassville Mo Monday April 21st 1862

"Long have I roam'd through lands which are not mine.
Adored the Alp, and loved the Appenine.
Revered Parnassus, and beheld the steep Jove's Ida and Olympus crown the deep:
But 'twas not all long ages lore, nor all
Their nature held me in their thrilling thrall."

"The island" -- Byron
A warm sun and healthful breeze drives away the gloom of the last week every day which of which has been cold and damp, of long hours saddened by the "Dead man's march" on life and muffled drums. Soldiers minus arms and with crippled legs are hobbling about impatient to be "furloughed home" where to their friends they may show their valor by their own blood. Though since entering this country many of its associations have been by no means pleasant and often we are at home yet a sunny day amidst the scenes of war all of which are consolations. Dr. Clark sheds cheerful rays on the heart that "kinder" longs for scenes near home. Not quite so far from home. Not quite so free. Not quite so independent. Not quite so well cared for as when it was in my power to roam and bask and have access to all that is comfortable with new and then a parent's warning voice. but long last comedy Major Halliday with one battalion of the Missouri Inf. Corp. and one year spent from home in toil and danger makes the man for hardships, gives piece of artillery, making a force scarcely 300 strong, started in search of a him both moral and physical health or perhaps kills in both. I could if kind of influence he has been a terror to the Union citizen of Public there almost adore the north Iowa's soil and free institutions, her prairie flowers. Beautiful hills lay around us here. a clear swift little stream winds it's way between them cutting a fertile little valley. only one at Cassville, the home of Major Black the commander of this part of the Ill. field in site is left in fencing and that is green with wheat knee-high, I 37th mustered off with a company of his corps and another piece of artillery like to visit this at every dawn. Cassville has been a neat little village to the aid of Major Hulsbusch but before reaching his at Cassville major Hulsbusch and one of plenty, now not a yard is enclosed by fence every house door opens to woods. There's enough that suits the soldier's thirst, to gaze on nature to the woods. Let me sit in the shade of the old cottage, it in not known how many of the serenillas were killed. A soldier of the and let the swift balmy breeze from off the prairie drive from my ears the din of arms and roll of drums. let us live where neighbors are at home. Cassville on Sunday April 27th 62.
of arms and roll of drums, let me live where neighbors are at home. these
hills are posts for hostile pickets, guerrillas haunt these fertile little
valleys and make it dangerous to roam. into his bosom killing his dead. A
thirteen bullet in each shot not compensate him for this only relic.
Cassville Mo Sunday April 27th 62
The hospital steward Dr. Squires with 9 of the boys started to Springfield
to day about 60 from other hospitals went also. John Parks and I are left in
charge of four all of whom are convalescent. Dr. Caffa is our physician now
the sixth since the 8th of March
planted or are now planting their corn.
Wheat, hay a timothy are more than half high. The bushes are very green.
Cassville Mo. Monday April 28th 62
A train of 20 wagons, laden with wounded
last monday Major Hubbard with one battalion of the Missouri 1st Cav. and one
piece of artillery, making a force scarcely 200 strong, started in search of a
band of jayhawkers who have been a terror to the Union citizens of Newton
county. Last Friday night a messenger came in with news that Major Hubbard
was surrounded by a superior force whom he had been fighting for some time
at Neosho, whereupon Major Black the commander of this post and of the 11th
37th hastened off with 6 companies of his reg. and another piece of artillery
to the aid of Major Hubbard but before reaching him at Neosho Major Hubbard
had defeated the enemy about 500 strong, part of whom were Indians, and taken
about 80 prisoners. late yestarday evening the whole force came in with the
prisoners a guilty looking crew. Major Hubbard and his boys were cheered on
their arrival by loud hurras. two of our men were killed, two or three wounded.
It is not known how many of the guerrillas were killed. A soldier of the
Smith, son and I left Cassville this morning at 10 to see great joy. We
Friday, May 5th, 62

Smith, Sam and I left Cassville this morning at 10:00 to our great joy. We
had only about a half hours' notice and came off not well prepared. Our
ambulance is drawn by two pair of old bones after the pattern of an Arkansas
furrow. one has fallen twice in as many more mudholes and a time or two on
stepping over a rail or two. At night We stopped 25 mi from Cassville at a
Mr. McCullough's (related to old Ben) 3 miles short of where We expected to
stay unless the old bones improve We will have to prep the hide out in order
to make it fill the harness which is drawn up to the the last notch. Mr. Mc-
Cullough is a very strong Union man and treats Us very kindly. he has lately
returned home having been driven from home by the rebels, five brothers all
live on this road and have large farms and orchards in one little valley about
five miles long. the most romantic and fertile I have seen.

6 mi. ahead No. Tuesday May 6th '62.
At noon We were 6 mi. from McCul.s our horses having failed in the "jints".
We stopped at an old Union farmer's house a littl off the main road. he and
his lady treated Us very kindly giving the boys the best they had to eat, and
sleep: the latter however was on the hard floor. The man's name is Steel, he
has two negro boys, the only ones in this neighborhood and they are black.

Such life as in the case every day, the countryside have both rabbits and mice.

Springfield No. Wednesday May 7th '62
We hitched the old bones too this morning, cracked the whip but they could
not move the ambulance on the level road. Our good hearted host took pity on
Us and let Us have his team which brought us safe into springfield at about
4:00 p.m. later than if We had not dallied on the way. at noon We fed and
rested an hour or two on the Wilson Creek battle ground. Two months ago today the battle of Pea Ridge commenced. On the 12th of March we came to the Cassville hospital where we stayed until now. Springfield is 50 miles from Cassville and 75 from Sugar Creek. I camped through the winter down which were left infestations. They probably took advantage of the mile and half miles of the Springfield No. Thurs. May 8th 62.

Very warm. We are quartered in the third story of the court house. Our room is very inconvenient being so high from the ground. We expected on getting here that we could get our mail but find that we are but little better of in this respect than before. Sam & I have not been paid off since the 1st of Jan, nor have we our payrolls. Our company left us at Pea Ridge and are now with Gen. Curtin. They are used as a hospital for 125 sick and wounded. From the top as I sit reclining against the railing my eye surveys a landscape.

Springfield No. Saturday May 17th 62.

In Missouri not over the mountains and the weather has been very warm for two weeks today it rains. The sale of government and contraband property commences today here. Among other things are six or eight hundred broken down and wounded horses and miles to be sold. More than 40 pedlar's wagens are in town with butter, eggs, cakes, cider and such like as is the case every day. The countrymen have been robbed of almost everything by the rebels and resort to this plan to get a little money. Salt, soda, and such like articles were almost a luxury in this part until our army again opened the market with St. Louis. Two months ago farmers were glad to get salt at 15 dollars per bushel. No setting sun, beyond this can be seen the fabric of one of Mother's old carpets and I lean my pen on the page and write.

49
Springfield Mo. Monday May 19th '62. they rest on a blue and apparently level 10 prisoners of war escaped prison last night, some of them the worst of high-waymen who deserved death. they descended through an opening in the floor under the stove into the cellar and escaped through the cellar doors which were left unfastened. They probably took advantage of the noise and darkness of the heavy rain besides the inattention of the guard with. towards the south east the country is open with here and there a bank of timber dividing the fields.

Springfield Mo. Tuesday May 20th '62 open to stock, although only the middle of After waiting on on the sick and breathing the impure air of the hospital during the warm day I find a pleasant retreat in the balcony on top of the court house where I spend a leisure hour at sundown or dawn. The court house is a large four story building now used as a hospital for 125 sick and wounded. from the top as I sit reclining against the railing my eye surveys a landscape which surpasses any I have met with in Missouri. not even the mountains and lofty ledges with their contrasting little valleys below comon in Southern Missouri and Arkansas surpass it on account of its height the balcony has been used as a military observatory. On the evening of the 14th of March last Gen. Price whilst up here observing with his spy glass was asked why he did not hurry his forces away faster his reply was "how can I when I can see a federal army on every side". On looking towards sunset my eyes rest on the camp of the Kansas 5th beyond the edge of town. their tents are nestled in a dense grove of low timber beyond which a winding little stream seemingly made up of silver cords glitters from the almost setting sun. beyond this can be seen the debris of one of Price's old camps. as I lower my pen on the page and raise returning from a rest and must go down and hear the news.
my eyes beyond this to look further they rest on a blue and apparently level plain which is said to extend almost to the Kansas line. no houses or fences can be distinguished with the naked eye which is dazzled by the sun so I turn it in another direction. In almost every direction I can see the slender Columbian poplar or a pair of lonely chimneys standing like Cymesian toomb stones over the ruins of former greatness and wealth. towards the south East the country is open with now and then a neck of timber dividing the farms. many of the latter by desolate and open to stock, although only the middle of April a few fields have wheat which seems headed cut and rises and falls in wave after wave from the successive blasts of a temperate West wind, so much resembling the surface of some billowy little water that I am almost tempted to be there and try floating on their bosom. To the North and South West nothing is to be seen but a dense mass of green covering the hills and valleys which fall towards Arkansas in a gradual descent. Springfield is on the summit of the Ozark Mountains the ascent is so gradual that one is scarcely sensible of being 25 ft above the level of the sea. the town lies in a basin the rim of which rises on every side at a distance of from four to six miles. The sun falls below the horizon which is so far distant that when it intercepts her rays it is almost immediately dark. at a distance no more is visible. the keen whistle of a why-poet-will rises from a dense grove a little way off. by the way almost every yard and house in Springfield is shaded by a cultivated grove and shrubbery which especially at this hour of the evening gives it a rural aspect and beauty much in contrast with its last years' associations and history. But I hear the rattling sabres of a battalion of cavalry just returning from a scout and must go down and hear the news.
Springfield, Mo. Wednesday May 21st 62

All were moved out of the court house into the Methodist church today which has two spacious rooms. We are still in charge of Dr. Slaughter who was employed by the government in anticipation of the battle of Pea Ridge. The posts to replace the hands of buglers are also still continue in their deportations.

Thursday May 22nd 62. Hospital last week for Rolls & St. Louis. Sickness.

A sad affair took place last night resulting in the immediate death of two individuals, a third engaged will probably die. At about 10 or 11:00 the 3rd A officer of the day, Capt. Clark and a private both of the Kansas 5th being drunk went to the house of a widow woman where were stationed two guards for her protection and demanded of one of her daughters their supper. She refused saying that supper was over and that she could not at that late hour accommodate them whereupon the private immediately drew his pistol and shot her through the brain both he and the captain at the same time trying to pass the guards. The latter both discharged their pieces to good effect. The captain was killed dead the ball passing through his chest the private's right arm and shoulder were fractured. I saw the corpse of Capt. Clark this morning he was a fine intelligent looking man but has come to a sad end from intoxication the consequences of which not only he but the innocent girl had to suffer. The guards though too tardy did their duty the mother's only sons were both killed by the rebels one at Wilson's Creek and the other in her own yard. The now has an only daughter left who I am told has for some time been betrothed to the guard who shot her sisters' murderer. Cap't Clark was buried this evening in Military Masonic style, a few masons taking part in the ceremony.
Salutes over the evacuation of Corinth are being fired this morning. Gen.
Brown of the Missouri state militia the commander of all the forces in South
West Missouri arrived last night. his forces are much needed now in those
parts to subdue the bands of highway men who still continue in their depredations.
About 25 sick left the hospital last week for Rolla & St. Louis. Scarcely
anything worth noting has taken place for some time. Until we can get off
towards St. Louis I can only content myself by looking on through the papers &
the great events that are taking place elsewhere. Corinth is evacuated but I
see no great reason to rejoice as it only prolongs the war. The future may
develop some wisely concerted plan on the part of the rebels rig to draw
our forces into some unknown trap, or the evacuation of corinth and division
of the rebel forces into several small armies may be the beginning of the
guerrilla warfare with which they threaten us if defeated in the open field.

The emancipation question begins to elicit the attention of the citizens here.
Formerly pro-slavery men begin to look to the eradication of the cause of such
a rebellion. Initiatory measures for the removal of slavery will soon be set
forth by Missouri as other border states. Should our arms be successful soon,
events will follow which I little predicted when I volunteered in less than
five years. Our ships now engaged in subduing the blackest rebellion ever known
will be engaged in removing across the water its black cause. 

One day last week a train of 16 six-mule teams were starting out to Forsyth
when suddenly two cavalry men came dashing up to the rear wagons where one of
them was thrown, his falling and the kicking and dashing of his frightened
horse startled the rear team, then in an instant 12 of the 16 ran with railroad
speed in almost as many directions. It is remarkable that only one man was hurt, two or three of the wagons were torn up badly and the telegraph wire thrown down. Almost every night lately an alarm of some kind is given by the pickets or some dispatch bearer. Several times we have went to bed certain that Springfield would be assailed before morning. The 11th had more than once been drawn up in line of battle at the dead of night.

Saturday June 7th 62

Left Springfield this morning with a train and detachment of 45 men mostly convalescents and camped at sundown 17 mi. on the way.

A citizen with a bimbo over his shoulders was noticed walking along the road as if continuing his morning exercise. He soon came up to our place and asked how many we had. When I told him we were 50 he noticed my comments on the position and said he had come up to look the place over but had been afraid to go over it by day.

Camp on the Gasconade Thursday June 12th 62.

Yesterday evening at 2:00 P.M. We camped on the Gasconade at its confluence with the piney 12 mi. from Rolla. A few miles back we saw the wreck of a train burned by Coleman and his guerrillas. The inhabitants had hauled away the bacon which was not burned so bad but that it could be eaten. During the evening we had a fine time fishing and bathing in the Gasconade too beautiful a stream for these hills and thickets. Its waters are cool and very clear caused by the frequent springs which gush from the adjoining hills. Whilst bathing in water up to my chin I could see the rocky bottom as plain as if only looking through a pane of glass. The Pacific R.R. is graded this far, on each side of the river stands a large pillar of solid masonry on which a bridge is intended, on the West bank a lofty mass of solid limestone towers perpendicularly above the water between which and its base there is just room for the track, moss and a well as if giving a signal. Knowing that Coleman and his trainburners were
little dwarf shrubbery hang from the cliffs to and from the latter flocks of birds of different kinds continually fly. on one side or the other to its mouth the Gasconade is lined with blooms like this. on the opposite side from the bloom is always a low valley where generally are located small farms. back in the hills now and then a little hut may be seen with no surrounding conveniences save a spring and garden patch. At night an incident took place which is a fair sample of the origin of camp rumors and of the excitement incident to soldiers life. at about 10:00 all had gone to bed save the sergeant in charge of the detachment. our hospital steward, two or three teamsters and myself who were chatting by the camp fire some of us stripped for bed. A citizen with a blanket over his shoulders was noticed walking among the wagons as if examining their contents and position. he soon came up to the fire where he stood a moment with his head drooped hiding his countenance from our view. a teamster asked him if he was the Frenchman (another teamster) he replied "no" in a low voice. we paid but little attention to him until he started off when I told the steward that if he would go with me I would find out who he was whereupon we halted him who a little to our surprise whirled around and with an oath drew and cocked a revolver on us. on being asked if he belonged in the camp he replied that he was a privilidge character and went where he pleased. I told him if he was a soldier he would not blame us for wanting to know his business in camp. he replied that he was a citizen. his boldness in drawing a revolver on us was rather unexpected. ours were in the wagons. he now ran into the thicket at full speed an act as cowardly as his first was bold. when a quarter of a mile off he made two or three indian like yells as if giving a signal. knowing that coleman and his train burners were
in the neighborhood we naturally supposed this to be a spy carrying information and stationed out the stoutest of our number for pickets and arranged for an attack but none was made. We arrived at Rolla this evening.

Rolla Mo. Saturday June 14th 62

The whole command the Misicons for 14 of us are camped in the shade where we sleep without house or tent. Sam and John Lain left on the morning train for St. Louis.

St. Louis Monday June 30th 62

We started for Memphis and arrived at 5 P.M. of 7 mortar boats. No wonder they are. 460 absentees and convalescents left Rolla this morning on the cars and arrived here at dark en route for Curtis' army. 11 of us belong to the 3rd cavalry and from the mortar and howitzers on land. The noise of the mortar on the river was deafening and hideous. Very little concentration in being Schofield Barracks St. Louis Tuesday July 1st 1862.

All were required to report our names a this morning for duty until we again start for our regiments. P.M. Left St. Louis at 3:00 on board the Medowel for Memphis but we are indeed quite sick in "Dixie". The heat is almost suffocating.

Memphis Tenn. Friday July 4th 1862.

We landed here this morning early, after a severe trip. Plenty of provisions we had along but no way to cook them. At night all slept on the hurricane deck. We passed Columbus at night much to our dissatisfaction for we expected to satisfy our curiosity by viewing this strong Secession hold. Fort Pillow farther down the river looks almost impregnable. I expected to see a fort of immediately on the river shore.
regular dimensions as Fort Wyman but to the contrary it is a series of fortifications on the high bluffs which extend up and down the river for some distance. Some of the intrenchments are high up on the bluffs. Some almost on the water's edge. Some midway up. Two or three heavy guns were placed in gulches running into the river. The whole commands the Mississippi for miles each way. I wonder that so strong a position was abandoned without a strong resistance. We arrived at Memphis before Sun-rise and were roused early by cannonading from the gunboats. Two of the latter lay here at anchor in the middle of the river also a fleet of 7 mortar boats. No wonder they are a terror to rebels on the water. At noon each gun boat bore aloft flags representing 24 (as near as I could count them) different nations. Salutes were fired from the mortars and batteries on land. The noise of the former on the river was deafening and hideous. Very little demonstration is being made by the citizens. We are quartered in the depot of the Memphis & Ohio R.R. by permission of the mayor of the city the negroes are having a grand barbecue and jollification in a large hall near by and the sound of "de banjo" reminds me that we are indeed quite down in "Dixy". The heat is almost suffocating. Whether this or other reasons keep the army here is not known to us. Our Helena Ark Tuesday July 15th 62. Interior of Arkansas since Senator Phelps has left Memphis Sunday night at midnight on a boat laden with supplies for Gen. Curtis army and arrived here at 9:00 Monday morning. The boys have seen hard service in the swamps and mountains of Arkansas since I last saw them, but are in as fine health and spirits as ever before. Helena is about 80 mi. below Memphis. Gen. Curtis' whole army is encamped about the town. Our camp is immediately on the river shore.
Helena Ark. Friday July 18th '62.

Two large hospital steamers from above have taken most of the sick and wounded up to St. Louis. A large number of negroes are with our army. Many are employed by the officers and men of some regiments as servants, many merely on day labor and as an auxiliary staff. The army is in good health though straggle along with the army some even begging their bread. Some encourage the situation as serious by an excuse indicating that it will result so. Helena them in joining and following us while others bitterly oppose it. Whatever are on very low ground. A heavy rain prevents high water even overflowing.
courts the slaves have taken up an idea of freedom and a rambling spirit which may prove troublesome to future masters.

Helena Ark. Thursday July 24th 62.

Our regiment was paid off yesterday. I received $56.00 and will send home $65.00. Co D will send home more than $1500.00. The 11th Ind' arrived here this evening.

Helena Ark. Thursday July 31st 62

On average we have had rain about every third day for two weeks sufficient to render the swamps between here and the interior of Arkansas almost impossible to travel.

Whether this or other reasons keep the army here is not known to us. Our

Levi Washington to be instated military governor of the state it will be necessary for the army to occupy some central position at least though the

We are to be at roll call six times per day and drill whilst we remain here. We will retire in hour to the company. At almost every street corner an
We have had comparatively an easy time so far, with none save the ordinary camp duty to perform. Each company has dug a well thus avoiding to drink the warm river water though I believe the latter to be the most wholesome as the well water has an unsalutary effect. The army is in good health though its situation at Helena by no means indicates that it will remain so. Helena lies on very low ground. A levy only prevents high water from overflowing the town. No great force of the enemy is known to be near by. guerrillas prowl near our picket lines but have done no serious injury. Our pickets are kept on the Mississippi shore to report any movements on that side of the river. Most of the regiments have been paid off many spend most of their leisure time and mony at games of chance or gambling. I happened the other day to pass where the paymaster was paying off a regiment in the shade of two or three large sycamores. Immediately by in a space of not more than a quarter acre I counted no less than twenty five games in progress, "green backs" in abundance lay on every board or blanket. "Chuck-a-luck" a game with dice, and cards are the popular employments some I noticed who immediately on receiving their mony sat down at "seven-up" staking all their wages to begin with. thousands who never threw a card before coming into the army thus throw away their hard earned money which might and ought to be sent home.

Experienced gamblers follow the army with no other employment or design than robbing the unskilled soldier of his money. The stringent measures taken by our Captain prevent all such pastimes in our company, to a very few it furnishes reason for complaint but its salutary effects can already be seen and will result in honor to the company. At almost every street corner in
Helena and at every camp soldiers may be seen behind a box or some temporarily constructed counter with a little supply from which he deals out cigars, lemonade sisters and such like groceries to the passers by at exhorbitant prices. On asking the price of a common sized melon of one he replied "one dollar and a half Sir." Peaches sell for 5 cents each. This plan is taken to get change for the large bills in which we are paid. Groceries and luxuries command a very high price on account of the difficulty in getting them from above.

Helena Ark. Friday August 1st 1862.

This morning on going to the river bank a beautiful sight was to be seen.

The whole of the cis-Vicksburg fleet came up last night and now lies at anchor in the river opposite here. It consists of rams, transports, gunboats, flat boats and tugs in all making quite a warlike appearance. It are large vessels.

In going down the river we noticed a steady rise in the current of the river. We began to discover more and more of these vessels with the eye glance.

Helena Ark Tuesday Aug. 12th 1862.

Lieu. Carkendall with 25 men from Co D and the same from I was ordered out yesterday evening with two days rations and crossed the river into Mississippi.

The Lieu. returned to day having been over in Mississippi to reinforce a party of our men who were surprised by the guerrillas.
Helena Ark. Tues. Aug 18 1862

The whole army was mustered yesterday in order to find the strength of each regiment. Gen. Curtis & wife returned a few days since. The 3rd Iowa 6 companies are in Gen. Benton's brigade composed of the 8th, 18th Ind. inf., 16th Ohio Batry, 3rd Cav. and part of the 9th Ill's. Cav. Gen. Benton was formerly Col. of the 8th Ind. and was promoted for gallant service at Pea Ridge. He is a fine looking officer with rather coarse features and wears a massive beard. Part of Com. Davis' fleet has gone down the river on some expedition. The 2nd or larger fragment above mentioned was hugged to the further side.


At about noon to day some of the boys noticed pieces of timber drifting down the river which were taken to be part of some vessel on account of their shape and white color, as if painted. Some large and more frequent fragments could be seen distant up the river. On nearing us slowly with the current of the river we began to discover more and more of their shape with the eye glass. It could soon be plainly seen that they were fragments of some steamer. A crowd gathered on the shore from the camps and various conjectures and speculations were made as to what it was. It's cause & when satisfied that it was a wreck my first thought was that the rebels had captured and blown up or burned some one of our steamers running between here and Memphus. As it neared some thought they could distinguish persons clinging to the wrecks. it required only a short time waiting to prove this to be true. The first objects had passed on down the river and were proven to be planks and boxes & & & & A fleet of vessels passed down the river past the place where the pieces bad been seen.
dimensions. People could be distinctly seen riding on it. When opposite us all agreed that it was a part of the hurricane deck with other fragments and a skiff or two fastened together in some way. A number of men and two or three women were clinging to this frail structure. They waved handkerchiefs signalling us of their distress. Other fragments could now be plentifully seen to bear upon men who were clinging to them for life. The sailors aboard the gunboats and rams at anchor in the river now saw the wreck and in a short time the orderlies or tugs and launches were busily engaged in picking up the drowning men. The raft or larger fragment above mentioned was tugged to the further shore. Among the drift were the pilothouse, boxes of goods, chairs and these forlorn passengers. The crowd dispersed to camp thinking that no one of them had yet come ashore, but soon a larger and more eager assembly than the first gathered on shore. To our astonishment Lieut. Col. Trimble who had been absent wounded since the battle of Pea Ridge came riding into camp without coat or boots. The anxious crowd now found that he was one of the wrecked and rescued. All congratulated him at his fortunate and safe return. He was welcomed into the quarters of Capt. Scott who gave him dry and suitable clothing. From him we learned that the unfortunate boat was the Acacia on which I came from Memphis over a month ago. She was on her way from the latter place last night when at about 11 o'clock she ran upon a snag completely wrecking the vessel. This occurred about 35 miles above here. About 50 lives were lost. A fleet of several large vessels came down the river this evening and has
anchored just above us in the channel. It bears a large number of rebel prisoners who are on their way to Vicksburg to be exchanged. It seems that a serious difficulty exists between Colonel Bussey and Lieu Col. Trimbol of
which, though it has existed to some extent almost ever since the organization of the regiment, little was known by the men of the reg. until lately. On the 21st ult Lieu. Col. Trimbol returned to the reg. having been absent ever since the battle of Pea Ridge on the 7th & 8th of March last. Two or three evenings afterwards it was announced that he would make a speech to the reg. at head-quarters. In this speech he announced that his health was such as to compell him to resign though he regretted very much to do so, to leave the reg. but he held out the idea that he would join the regiment again as soon as able. In congratulating the boys on their good conduct at Pea Ridge and good name at home he remarked that there was one officer of the regiment who did not carry away a very good reputation from that field, viz: Col. Bussey. Said he "it is not my place to criticise the conduct of any officer especialy in his absence". (Col. Bussey was absent at home) This was sufficient to show that in his estimation Col. Bussey deserved no praise and the first I knew of any difficulty between them. During his stay here which was short he cunningly got the regiment together two or three times in order to speak to the men, each time speaking as if he inteneded coming back when his health would permit, not once mentioning that he was a candidate at home for district judge who holds his office for four years. Through the influence of some of his friends a meeting was held and money voted to buy him a sword thus annulling all that was done some months ago for Col. Bussey. Being absent I did not contribute
towards Col. B's sword but did for Col. Trimbol not knowing that he was a that candidate at home or that he intended to use this token from the men of the 3rd Iowa to aid him in his election and detract from Col. Bussey's reputation at home and from the good will of the men of the regiment towards him. It seems that Col. Bussey's conduct at Pea Ridge was not all the reason of the former's dislike to him; he undoubtedly was seeking a higher position for himself at Bussey's expense. A day or two after Col. Bussey's return Trimbol lefts for home. This evening Col. Bussey exhibited the sabre presented to him by the regiment which he said was the finest ever in St. Louis. He also made a speech in which he exposed Col. Trimbol's actions, how he had wronged him in attempted to cause disaffection towards him in the reg. Among his other remarks he said: he had great confidence in him at first and had great difficulty in getting a commission for him, in an interview of six hours in which he told Gov. Kirkwood he must have Trimbol for his Lieutenant he obtained the consent the Gov. said it would do men of others parties and other parts of the state injustice. Later he induced certain parties whom he had promised a quartermastership in the reg. if he succeeded in getting his own commission, to circulate the report at home that Col. Bussey was very unpopular and that the men were going to institute a petition for him to resign. He frequently intimated to men of the reg. that Bussey was incompetent for his position. He told men in Co. "B" that on account of a certain man in this reg. he would not stay in it. While at Bloomfield sick with his wound he made no effort to confront the statements of those who ignorantly branded Col. Bussey with cowardice at Pea Ridge but rather encouraged them. In an account of the battle from him is the expression "Gen. Osterhous commanded Col. Bussey to charge
with two companies when Col. Bussey ordered me to charge; thus intimating that
instead of charging himself he ordered Trimble to charge. Every one now well
knows that Col. Bussey commanded a brigade at that time and had other troops
besides the 3rd Iowa to command. Until lately I have always been a friend of
Col. Trimble's, but he certainly has acted very unfairly, besides he is a can-
didate on the Mahony ticket which I believe to be semi-treasonous in its
designs. Ambition for higher office in the army not being satisfied he now turns
it in another direction. It is said by he Col. B. applied for a brigadier
generalship but failed. As to Col. Bussey's courage as yet I know no officer
in the army who has shown more courage in battle. The position he now holds in
the army of the South West shows whether or not he is considered incapable by his
superior officers. The reputation of the 3rd Iowa owes a great part of its
reputation at home to Col. Bussey's untiring efforts to confront the false
statements concerning it at Pea Ridge by Gen. Osterhous and others who attempted
to praise their own regiments and hide their cowardice at our expense.


On last Tuesday evening at 6:00 Our regiment was ordered to march with four
days rations. Capt Anderson in command. We were joined at the camp of the 9th
Iowa by one bat'n of the 6th Missouri the 4th Iowa, Kansas 5th, 11th 5th and
four mountain howitzers making in all a force of about 1500 men. After travel-
ing all night we entered Clarendon Wednesday night at 9:00 in the midst of a
heavy thunderstorm having traveled over 80 miles and fed our horses once since
leaving Helena. The enemy's pickets were immediately across White River on the
banks on which the rebel scouts were accustomed to cross back and forth.
bank of which Clarendon lies. Early in the morning before leaving Col. Woods
The rebel fortifications stormed by Col. Pitch some weeks ago were visible
planted one of his howitzers on the shore and shelled the opposite woods.
also one of their cannoneers took by the rebels to prevent its falling
seeing a horse tied up to a tree the gunners took deliberate aim at it, the shell
into our boats, whilst shelling we kept a very heavy fire full attendid with
passed through its body and bursted two or three hundred yards beyond. Thurs-
next morning making the usual early start. A guard of seven men went in an
day night we camped at Clinton while watering their horses at the river some
little excitement during which we were to follow our uncertain path. Part
of our men were fired on and one man wounded. Friday evening we approached the
river opposite St. Charles having heard the rebels were fortifying themselves
where we were to live. Col. Whallon was ordered to make himself safe there.
for 3 or more miles next to the latter place the country is indeed a
wilderness, densely covered with cypress, small bushes, vines and fallen timber.
first mud a small pack aboard for supplies. But the canoe here reached its
high water mark is sometime 25 feet high on the trees, never less than 10,
One of the riders increasing his speed to keep his place ran among the
vines entangling his horse which in struggling to get loose fell down and was
the river a short time before we might have been badly blocked at times only relieved by the vines being cut loose by five or six men who seized him
by the main and dragged him out. A large deer was scared up from the cane and
having traveled over 300 miles in the four days we accomplished and either one
ran within a few yards of Our column but no one was allowed to shoot him as We
returning an incident which we believe showed with what accuracy the next to the river.
We followed a path which was so narrow that it was difficult
travel in single file. Col. Woods little mountain howitzers were hauled
t through cane brakes and over logs where it seemed impossible for a horse to go.

On approaching St. Charles a number of men were discovered on the opposite
side near the landing traveled fourteen miles since noon. Both our and the
bloobs the 3rd Iowa were dismounted and proceeded opposite the town as
children looked as though they could travel 10. On almost every
skirmishers the vines and timber hidng us out of view. The town and bloobs
plantation a squad of armed men waited us ready with their muskets and bayonets,
were shelled by our battery but no reply was made. On firing into some of the
houses a white flag was raised. Two men swam the river and cut the ferry


Hollam Act. Tuesday, Sep. 17th 1866
loose on which the rebel scouts were accustomed to cross back and forth.

The first division in council of Secr. Benton left this evening at dark on
The rebel fortifications stormed by Col. Fitch some months ago were visible in the distance. Several gunboats accompanied them. Col. Dancy took all of his boats except the 2nd Tom which was assigned to also one of their own gunboats sunk by the rebels to prevent its falling into our hands. Whilst shelling the town a very heavy rain fell attended with loud thunder making the scene more grand. A couple of hours were spent in no little excitement, after which we began to retrace our narrow path. Just in time too, for we learned after leaving that the enemy shelled the woods in which we were. Col. Vandever our commander to us seemed rather rash in leading so large a column of cavalry into such a swamp when he might have first sent a small squad ahead to reconnoitre. He said he had been there in the woods or in the rear which would have been an easy matter (since we afterwards heard that 2000 had crossed a right which though perhaps but not much more I think is more like the river a short time before) We might have been badly beaten. At night we bivouacked 10 miles from St. Charles. On Saturday evening we returned to Helena and made a sortie, twice in our little column leaving cavalry officers having traveled over 200 miles in the four days nor accomplishing much either save to demonstrate the greatest caution. Then in the field let us be able to learn that the enemy are not in force on this side of the river. While returning an incident came within my notice showing with what eagerness the slaves escape from their masters. When leading at noon 10 miles from Helena a negro woman passed by carrying a child at the same time leading two others yesterday the roads of the 15th. Col. Dancy sent 200 men after six miles each lugging baskets. When within four miles of camp before sundown we overtook five wagons captured and two squadrons leading the horses and cows. Col. Dancy has returned from St. Louis.
transports for some point below. Several gunboats accompanied them. Col. Bussey took all of his brigade except the 3rd Iowa which was allowed to remain on account of the men and horses being so fatigued on the last march to Clarendon. Counting 12 heavy guns. The troops had the same time passed in review, as for the future, not the cheap but solid virtues of a father.


A newspaper "The Shield" was started in Helena to day. It will be carried on exclusively by soldiers. A regiment together this morning and announced the sad news of the death of Major Banks who has been more than once since since he died.

Helena Ark. Tuesday Oct 14th 62. was appointed she has to draft suitable. in

A new item of camp life is passing off to day viz. election of civil officers. a right which though perhaps just and republican I think is conclusive of more harm than good. If ever any class of men should be united and forget contention it is soldiers. Even in our little elections choosing company officers there is sometimes the greatest contention. When in the field let us be soldiers. When at home let us be citizens.

The "boys" returned to rights after exposing the country far many miles and

Helena Ark. Thursday Oct 23rd 1862. the distant feeling their horses and

Yesterday the train of the 5th Ill. Cav while out foraging about six miles from camp was captured also the two companies loading it. squads of our men are taken in every few days by the scouts of the enemy who are believed to be in large force not far distant. our regiment is erecting horse stals and camp

conveniences preparatory for winter. Col. Bussey has returned from St. Louis where he endeavored to have his regiment united but without success. Gen. Car

is commander of this post. The troops under him number probably 10,000.
Helena Ark.  Thursday Oct 30th 62

To day at 11:00 the gunboats land batteries and fort united in firing near a
hundred guns in honor of the complection and christening of the latter a for-
midable work mounting 13 heavy guns. The troops all at the same time passed
in review, nice for the future and the scene and daily advice of a father,
giving decision and maturers are to be refreshed about the things of the
Helena Ark. Nov. 4th 1862. grow into the signs of weakness, drawing weaker.

Col. Bussey called the regiment together this morning and announced the sad
news of the death of Major Drake who went home some time since where he died
on the 24th of Oct. a committee was appointed who are to draft suitable
resolutions for adoption by the regiment. and receive", be no more on his
own posession nor his own losses and rump his own success. To be it.
Nov. 5th 1862. party assent on a partially finished journey the end of which is

Our reg. has gone out with five days rations. may be millions the distance of that
passed over. a friend has led the way thus far and cleared the fatige, wished
Helena Ark. Nov. 9th 1862. good advice or more than one occasion beyond per-

The boys returned to night after scouring the country for many miles around.
while halted at Lagrange some 15 miles distant feeding their horses and pre-
paring for supper they were suddenly charged upon by a body of texan rangers.
After a little confusion caused by so unexpected an event they all rallied and
drove the enemy back. bad management by the commander who was of an Ill's abies
regiment prevented the enemy from being captured. while coming in from Lan-
Grange the advance had two or three skirmishes with concealed bushwhackers.
Involuntary gurh is put on by feelings of stronger duty and obligations to

69
Helema Ark, Nov. 19th 1862.

Today leaves me twenty-one years of age. That epoch so important in the history of every one when the tuition of the parental and guardians' roof ceases, to be the criterion, when the lessons of a kind hearted mother which have shaped the mind for the future and the stern and daily advice of a father, giving decision and manliness are to be numbered among the things of the past, effeminate childhood grows into the rigor of manhood, drawing maxims from lessons of the past the time has now come to enter upon the future following a course of one's own choice and executing plans of his own device. The care of one's own existence now rests upon his own shoulders and to succeed he is to devise, encounter, persevere, "resolve and re-resolve". He now walks on his own possessions bears his own losses and reaps his own successes. To be it seems like a lofty eminence on a partly finished journey, the end of which is unknown. It may be immediately below or it may be throbble the distance of that passed over, a friend has led the way thus far and shared the fatigue, warded off many dangers and given good advice on more than one occasion. Beyond perhaps the voyage is to be made alone perhaps friends may fall in on the way perhaps enemies. The road may lead through a country of vineyards and brooklets or mayhap through brambles and swamps, behind the winding and already trodden path lined with gardens lovely streams villages and churches—seldom a lonely mile lies in view beyond a monotonous blank. The time for rambles and innocent revelry with newer future years—a few brighter days, pets and flowers has nearly past, cares and realities begin to take their place. Though the shelter of the parental roof may not be immediately lain aside yet an involuntary garb is put on—feelings of stronger duty and obligations to

On the 20th Inst. an expedition about 12,000 strong under command of Gen. Harvey
self. Unlike the senior in some other countries, in our land of free institutions at the age of twenty-one manhood is recognized and his inheritance is liberty of speech and a voice in making the laws which regulate his own action. no feudal decrees say when he shall come or when he shall go. nor does inherited estate qualify or disqualify him for all the privileges of a free country which can render him enjoyment and happiness. My twenty-first year finds me in the midst of circumstances very different from what might have been anticipated a few years ago while engaged in the peaceful and youthful occupations of home, duty having called me away from the latter the present finds me one among thousands engaged in an occupation perilous and by no means conducive of any great present enjoyment. the benefit I expect to reap in the future in the shape of the birthright inherited from the Pilgrim Fathers and to which by my age I am now entitled, preserved, increased and rendered even more permanent than in the past. One year older than at November 19th 1861. Am I one year older in knowledge and virtue? Have I lain up the precepts of parents and of the Bible to the extent of my privileges? are questions which such an occasion might naturally call forth. the answers to which are to be found in the records of my past and can not be affirmative without exceptions. In looking back too many imprudent acts errors and many misspent hours dim the past, but these can only be lamented as all my other misgivings while I hope that better motives and firmer resolves will render future years - one day - a past brighter and more pleasant to recall.

Our forty per cent of the commissioned officers of the six companies which have been with Col. Bonney since last fall, have been made.

Helena Ark. Nov. 30th 1862.

On the 20th inst. an expedition about 12,000 strong under command of Gen. Howey.
left here on transports and disembarked at Delta 12 miles below on the Mississippi side. The object of the expedition was to destroy that railroad in Johnson's and Price's rear in order to prevent reinforcements from reaching them from the south. This they did after marching near 100 miles back, while returning the cavalry which was in command of Gen. Washburn had a skirmish with the 1st Texas in which several were wounded. three of Co. "D." while behind the company were taken prisoners, they were John Wheelis, L. Cyphers & Harison Edwards, in the skirmish the 1st Indiana Cav. lost one of their mountain howitzers. Part of the expedition returned this evening. Most of the infantry is behind yet. It was the most severe scout the 3rd has been on since coming to Helena it having rained nearly all the time they were out rendering the swamps almost impassable.

Rox Ridge, in which he commanded a brigade. Much has been done to destroy Gen. took command of the army at Helena to day over Gen. Ficet. Col. Bussey has been promoted and is now a brig. general. (on 10th inst)

Helena Ark. Dec. 11th 1862.

Considerable change has taken place among the officers of the 3rd Iowa since leaving Benton Barracks for the field. Some have been killed in battle. Some have resigned while others have been promoted to fill their places. A number of the vacancies made by old officers have been filled from the ranks. Over forty per cent of the commissioned officers of the six companies which have been with Col. Bussey since last Feb. have been made vacant while the ranks have been diminished by only about thirty per cent. Six companies have been in Missouri under a separate command ever since the reg.
took the field so that their changes in officers and men is not so well known. their loss in battle has not been so great as ours. Though that by sickness and resignations is perhaps about the same.

Our Colonel now Gen. Russey organized the regiment chiefly himself before entering the service he was a member of the State legislature of Iowa and was gaining considerable reputation through his activity during the short time he was a member. Having considerable influence with Governor Kirkwood the latter appointed him colonel and aid in which capacity he did much business and was at Washington City several times. He contracted for the clothing and equipments for the regiment himself and fitted it out in a style unequaled by any cavalry regiment from the State. he has been in but one battle of any note. that of Pea Ridge, in which he commanded a brigade. Much has been done to detract from his character as a soldier and commander. Charges of cowardice at the battle of Pea Ridge were made against him by some doubtless envious of his position but they were poorly sustained as such groundless attempts at injury should be. the same men who supported him in that battle supported his character afterwards. His regiment generally like him as a man and have confidence in him as a leader. In May while at Salem Ark. a six hundred dollar sabre was voted him by the regiment as a token of its estimation of him as a man and for his conduct at Pea Ridge. he was lately promoted and now wears a star and commands a division. The reg. is now without a Colonel though not for want of applicants.

Lieut. Col. Trimbol before entering the service was a lawyer of extensive practice and influence now Lieut. Colonel left the bar and received a commission as major of the
he organized and drilled Co. "A" intending it for the border service. Through Col. Bussey's influence he was appointed his lieutenant and while in camp of instruction did most of the drilling. Col. Bussey being absent doing business for the regiment, he exhibited great bravery at Pea Ridge where he was so severely wounded that he was compelled to be absent until in August when he joined us at Helena but remained only a few days until he resigned as he said on account of disability, but there were undoubtedly other reasons greater than this. He was a candidate at home for district judge, and more than this a personal difficulty existed between him and Col. Bussey of such a character as to prevent their association together as officers of the same regiment.

Maj. Perry adds great credit though the honor of his bosom was from the North and until he resigned was the rightful commander of the 1st battalion. From their first acquaintance with him the men formed a dislike to him which increased as they became better acquainted with his disposition to disregard and misuse the private soldier. After the 3rd Iowa were overpowered at Pea Ridge the Old Major fell in accidentally with a part of them who had reformed on the field and were waiting orders. He immediately ordered a retreat to camp and was himself about the first to arrive there. By this order the regiment barely escaped the brand of cowardice. He afterwards made acknowledgements taking the responsibility of this cowardly movement upon himself. After the battle he was placed in command of the post of Lebanon in Southern Missouri with two companies of the regiment where he remained until ordered to the field late in the campaign when he resigned his commission.

Major Caldwell now lieu. Colonel left the bar and received a commission as major of the
2nd battalion. His friendly and jovial disposition with the men instilled a 
friendship which by his skill and bravery since exhibited has grown into a love 
for him by both men and officers which has resulted in his promotion to lieut. 
Colonel. He has led his command into several successful engagements with 
guerrillas in Northern Missouri.

Maj. Drake

one among the lamented dead was commander of the 3rd battalion and well liked 
by both men and officers. While on the march to Osage Springs he was left at 
Salem Mo. with two companies where he remained until ordered to join the regi-
ment on its march from Pea Ridge to Jackson post. In an engagement or two with 
guerrillas he exhibited great courage though the honor of his successes were 
reaped by other officers. In a letter to the Colonel he expressed himself anxious to rejoin the regiment where he and his "boys" could have credit for 
their services. In Oct., he left Helena on leave of absence having been sick 
for some time from exposure instead of recovering he grew worse and died at his 
home on the 24th of Oct. On receipt of this sad news the regiment was called 
together and adopted suitable resolutions.

Adjt. Noble at about 10:00 on Friday morning, some of their wounds 
like Caldwell and Trimboli left the bar for the service. While in camp of 
instruction he did much to instill into the regiment a strict discipline and rule. 
He possesses the business qualities and speedy action necessary for an aid, 
was in the battle of Pea Ridge and is now on Gen. Curtis' staff. Since coming 
to Helena he has been to Little Rock with a flag of truce to exchange of other 
prisoners. He is arranging his own tent and accommodations comfortably while the 
wounded boys lay on the hard ground. On Saturday after the battle was over he
Adjt. Cutler

in accordance with a late order was recently appointed 1st lieut. in Co. "I" in order to hold his position as battalion adjutant.

Adjt. Lowe

son of ex Gov. Lowe of Iowa was promoted at Benton Barracks from a sergeancy in Co. "C." to the adjutancy of the 1st battalion. He was lately mustered out and has now just returned from home as lieut. in Co. "C." He is a very young officer and has proven himself efficient in his place.

Dr. McGugan

formerly, I believe, president of the medical college at Keokuk is our regimental surgeon. He is well skilled and experienced in his department but through wanton neglect of and inattention to the men when sick and wounded has become almost universally unpopular. His treatment of some has caused a feeling almost of hatred towards him. His age has rendered him childlike, rather than sympathize with the sick or wounded when in the hospital room I have noticed him frequently by some rough expression to discourage them or cause hard feeling, though perhaps not done intentionally. At Pea Ridge the wounded of our regiment were brought into camp at about 10:00 on Friday morning some of their wounds were not dressed before Saturday evening, had there been a hundred or two of them and only one surgeon to attend to them this might be looked over as one of the unavoidable calamities of battle, but there were only seven severely wounded with two surgeons McGugan and his assistant Dr. Fuller to administer to them, the former gave his chief attention to rebels, and wounded of other regiments to arranging his own tent and accoutrements comfortably while the wounded boys lay on the hard ground. On Saturday after the battle was over he
spent his time in speculating over the battle field, looking over the ground, picking up lost sabres, sciss knifes, cannon balls and such like. Saturday morning whilst he was dressing a wound it was announced and believed by all that the enemy were driving our men back towards camp when he dropped his instruments and bandage and was not seen again until the news came in that the rebels were beaten. At this critical moment only two were left to care for the wounded, the steward and myself. The hospital tent stood immediately on the road where it would have been trampled had it been true that our troops were falling back. Our train had moved off, doctors, quartermasters and all had left us alone. After hard entreaty we obtained help enough to carry the boys, one at a time, to the hindmost wagons a distance of several hundred yards where we stowed them on the plunder wherever room could be found. I never have seen in the army nor do I want to see again such disgraceful cowardice and wanton neglect as was shown here by officers whose humanity if they saw their duty not ought to have prompted them to sacrifice a little or undergo some risk for those already rendered helpless and unable to take care of themselves. In his visits to the hospital which were few while there I have known him to inquire "Where is this one wounded?" "Where is that one?" "Has his wound been dressed?" So little attention had he given them that he did not yet know where the different ones were wounded or whether they had yet been dressed. Being in the hospital as a nurse I witnessed these assertions myself. Surgeons who had care of some of these wounded sometime after this told me that some of them would suffer for life through want of proper treatment at first. On leaving Pea Ridge the Dr. stopped at Cassvillia two or three days and visited almost every other hospital but never made a prescription for ours. (The
hospitals here were not yet divided into wards or organized in any way nor had we any regular surgeon. The only attention the boys received for several days was from surgeons when we persuaded to come in at such times as they could leave their own men.) Until lately he has been at St. Louis on duty. He now has charge of the regiment again.

Dr. Fuller, surgeon of the company, was in the Pea Ridge battle and formerly a druggist in Keokuk, Iowa, was at first hospital steward but afterwards assistant surgeon. He was mustered out lately here at Helena on account of sickness.

Dr. Orr, on entering the service left an extensive practice at Ottawa. He was one of the medical commission sent by Governor Kirkwood to Cassville to find out the condition of Iowans' wounded. He visited the hospital of the 3rd Iowa while there and expressed great sympathy for the boys. Later he was appointed assistant surgeon in our regiment and is now absent on duty connected with its sick.

Dr. Ingalls, our regimental chaplain is a minister in the Methodist church. He has done his duty well, preaching on every sabbath when circumstances permitted, distributing tracts and giving religious instruction. Though a learned and good man, his influence with the men is not so great as might be desired. His congregations are very small owing not to any dislike to the chaplain but to an increasing carelessness and decreasing morality which is almost universal in the army.

Jan. 4th 1863.

Capt. Vanbenthussen, 1st Icuit., has been killed in action near Hiram. A worthy farmer of Davis Co., he was conspicuous in his service.
promoted to colonelcy he was made captain of Co. "A."

While in Arkansas, his health declined so rapidly that he necessarily resigned though his men were reluctant to give him up. With Lieut. Col. Trimble he has seen service in the Mexican War.

Capt. Baker, a Presidential locust, would that the silence of this calm being 1st Lieut. took command of the company, was in the Pea Ridge battle and for some reason has handed in his resignation which has not yet been accepted, speak the same of this beloved one that are sufficient to soften down the a mild and unassuming officer resigned in July on account of disability and Lieutenant Brown was promoted from a sergancy to fill his place whereupon sergeant now 2nd should be or as Lieut. Hamlin of passing our ambition were late made. would teach by a vote of the company took the latter's place, father such.

Capt. Scott.

Organized Co. "B" and was its commander until recently when he was promoted to the majorship. He commanded a company of Home Guards at the battle of Athens in wood bright. Venus with Adonis strayed, before entering the 3rd Iowa. In August he was sent to Iowa to recruit for the regiment. On his return being Major, he took command of the six companies here. More above the mountains, towering as they rise, though more strict than our former majors he has the good will of most of his men.

No grateful dew grass: wound from morning skies, Nor moss from the flowers arise; No rich produce refresh the fruitful fields. Nor fragrant herbs their earlier lessons yield.


A calm Sabbath eve in the new Year 1863, to spend it in camp with scarcely the tap of a drum or sound of a trumpet to molest the ear, away from the scenes
of death and suffering of which we hear daily is a favor in order to appreciate
No more my sons shall die with British blood
which we have only to spend a silent moment in looking at the contrast between
Safe on our shore each associated with
our condition and that of thousands who have fallen since last Sabbath evening.
The study cannot now be traced
it is a favor in which any other than a very ungrateful heart can trace the
direction and care of a Providential hand. Would that the silence of this calm
ere were an emblem of the worst that awaits our future yet this is a certain
Nisus principle of action can explore
tisibility and to anticipate it would be certain disappointment. If rightly
ly, like following life through certificates you daily
spent the fading moments of this blessed ere are sufficient to soften down the
feelings of the severest warrior. its silence, its gentle breezes, its glittering
Then pass'd his pen, then dashed it on the ground
tering stars associated in thought with the rules lain down in the Bible for
Plunge for his sake, not fearful to destroy them,
our guidance in observing it. If seen and felt with half the power they should
found him such a stone, such direction lay
be or as they would be, if passion and ambition were lain aside. Would teach
Up peace and lead many a very soldier home ere another such.
All that an enemy could bring,
Parts of skill best and most of all
Most over his head as a begins to roll.
In pleasing memory of life, so wrote.
(See what delights in sylvan scenes appear)
Descending gods have found Elysium here.
In woods bright - Venus with Adonis stray'd,
And chaste Diantha haunts the forest-shade,
Or if in art a marble calm you prize.
2nd Pastoral Summer
Stand the pure Vintage between that and winter
Here where the mountains, lessening as they rise,
Loose the low vales and steal into the skies;
3rd Pastoral Autumn
No grateful dew descends from evening skies,
No rich perfumes freshen the fruitful fields,
No fragrant herbs their native incense yield.
4th Past'1 Winter
Sharp Boreas blows, and Nature feels decay;
4th F'1, Winter
Be mine the blessings of a peaceful reign
No more my sons shall dye with British blood
Red Ibers' sands, or Isters' foaming flood.
Safe on my shore each unmolested swain
Shall tend the flocks, or reap the bearded grain.
The shady emprise shall retain no trace
Of wars or blood, but in the sylvan chase.
The trumpet sleep, while cheerful horses are blown
And arms employed on birds and beasts alone.

Windsor Forest

His principle of action once explore
That instant 'tis his principle no more.
Like following life through creatures you dissect
You lose it in the moment you detect.

Noral Essays, Epis 1st Line 27th man.

Then gnaw'd his pen, then dashed it on the ground,
Sinking from thought-to-thought, a vast profound!
Plunged for his sense, but found no bottom there,
Yet wrote and flound'r'd on in mere despair.
Round him much embroies, much abortion lay,
Much future ode, and abdicated play:
Nonsense precipitate, like running lead.
Then slipped through crags and zigzags of the head:
All that on folly frenzy could beget,
Fruit of dull heat and sootkins of wit.
Next o'er his books his eyes began to roll.
In pleasing memory of all, he state;
("How here he slipped, how here he plundered snug")
And snak'd all o'er like an industrious bug.
The Dunciad 117th Lines

Or if to wit a coxcomb make pretence
Guard the sure barrier between that and sense;
As quite unravel all the reasoning thread,
And hang some curious cobweb in its stead!
So forced from windguns lead itself can fly.
(And ponderous slugs cut swiftly through the sky;
As clocks to weight-their nimble motions one)
The wheels above urged by the load below.
The Dunciad Line 177-


with nearly all the troops at this post left on transports for
below Col. Bussey is left in command with a small force of infantry and cavalry.

not gone in a moment, at length the dreaded yet longed for scene commenced. It

longed for became inevitable and now he is engaged and almost certain.

Of all the sensations and apprehensions felt by the human mind those experi-
dences on every man, fear not. Like as that life would make him shrink back
anced in battle are the most powerful and disagreeable. Every power is tried
not among the sights of novelty and each as daringly leads his on. Now all the
to the utmost extent it is capable of enduring and he who can with equanimity
value and weightings of fear, suspense and doubt with steadfast
danger trembled and still kept on. This maxim is true yet and proven so in
danger in hand to hand conflict with the foe. Thus in so much forgett
are long and wearisome. Minutes are worn away like hours and hours linger
like years. The soldier stands about his camp fire with anxiety painted

on his countenance not careless and jovial as before but when he laughs it is

with affected mirth. Now he examines his gun and arranges his amunition

conveniently. Now leans upon his sabre, now fondly caresses his horse who is

chief dependence and again examines his arms. When he converses it is in

a low tone. Few questions are asked and little said to his comrades about the

a coming conflict lest they should think him ever anxious or lest he should

seen to exhibit fear. However beautiful nature's scenes around or however
calm and bright the sky his senses are dumb to their attractions. The rippling
of a brook or singing of birds seem to foretoken disaster, the breezes already

of what may soon be his destiny to be enjoyed flighty dreams of

which is no easy matter especially in the wilderness.
home and of dear ones flit through his memory. The whole past is before him
and gone in a moment. At length the dreaded yet longed for scene commences.
Longed for because inevitable and soon he is engaged amid almost certain
death on every side, fear and love of dear life would make him shrink back
but stronger love of country and dread of disgrace leads him on. Now all the
sins and misgivings of his past loom up before him in mountains of remorse,
an uncertain future lies open before him. While aiming his deadly rifle a
short petition to his God ascends imploring safety and forgiveness for the
past. The terrible combination of fears, suspense and hatred with deafening
clash of arms for a while leave him horror stricken. Then every thing else
forgotten hope of victory and hatred of the enemy control and he finds himself
struggling in hand to hand conflict with the foe. Time is so much forgotten
that if preserved from death after victory or defeat has ended the battle he
scarcely knows whether hour or only moments have thus been spent. No one
except he has been in a battle nor can he even then describe his feelings
while engaged on a field where "death measures arms with death".

Helena Ark. Wednesday Jan. 21st 63

Twelve large transports bearing about 10,000 troops from Grant's army passed
down the river to day en route for Vicksburg. Col. Russey has begun the work
of blocking by fallen timber the level way above the town in order to lessen
the number of picket posts and for a defense if attacked. Since the last
expedition left here we have more hard duty to perform each company goes on
picket every fourth day and night is required to be awake until relieved
which is no easy matter especially to the uninstructed recruits.
No. of My. pistol 117162 Jan. 1st 1862.

H. N. Co. Equipment: 8aman
George Cato Staff 1st Lt.
Horseman (resigned) 2d Lt.
Saddle blanket 1st Serg’t
Saddle bag; pairs Q. M. Serg’t
Carry comb 2d Lt. Discharged
Brush. Montgomery 3d Serg’t killed at Pea Ridge
Bridle cap 4th Lt. Disch.
Halter Calt. 5th S. 1
Horse blanket 1st Corl.
Packet pin 2d C. 1
Laristagers 2d C. 1
Hat Walt. 4th C. 1
Cap Goodwin desd at Benton Barracks 3d C.
Overcoat 5th C. 1
Bucaline dish. by Francis 7th C.
Dress jacket 1st At Pea Ridge 5th C.
Pants, pair Higler 1
Shirts Bush Wounded 2 Higler at Pea Ridge
Drawers, pairs dish. 2 St. Louis
Socks, pair 2
Boots, pair 1
Oil coat much dish. at St. Louis
Blanket, double 1
Fell machine dish. at Benton Barracks
Watering bits, pair 1
Sabre & belt, & knot 1
Pistol A. L. 1
Bullet molds 1
Shoulder Scales, pair 1
Canteen W. 1
Sewing N. S.
Boo C. prisoner at Pea Ridge.
Bell B. S.
Chaseau H. N. dish. at St. Louis
Clark B. W. H. at Pea Ridge.
Clark G. B. prisoner taken at Pea Ridge.
Clayton A. C. prisoner taken at Pea Ridge.
Cox J. W. H. at Pea Ridge
Cyphers T. C. pris. at Grandma
Taylor W. M. departed.
Crawford W. M.
Dixford W.
Dunn. Adam
Dymart H. N. Prisoner at Lagry.
Guard Rool Co. D Dec. 25th 1861

N. M. Cook Captain
George Currondall 1st Lieut
F. Mize (resigned) 2d Lieut.
F. M. Ross 1st Serg't
B. C. Oliver Co. Q. M. Serg't
F. J. Comstock 2nd S. discharged
J. W. Montgomery 3d Serg't killed at Pea Ridge
A. Beaman 4th S. disch.
A. J. Cecil 5th S.
D. A. Beers 1st Cor.
W. Niblack 2d C.
E. Springer 3rd C
J. Wall 4th C
J. Goodson des at Benton Barracks 5th C
Paul Black 6th C
C. Collins des by transf. 7th C.
J. Campbell k. at Pea Ridge 8th C.
W. M. Green Bugler
F. M. Rush Wounded Bugler at Pea Ridge
B. H. Bowen des at St. Louis
J. Suddeth J. F. at Pea Ridge
F. W. Morse
D. L. Hannah des'd at St. Louis
D. Duffey
W. Vandyne des at Benton Barracks
D. Hatch
G. S. Anderson Binge A. L.
Bazzard R. A.
Burns N.
Bender M.
Benning H. S.
Baten C. prisoner at Pea Ridge
Bell D. S.
Chadwick J. H. disch. at St. Louis
Clark G. W. k. at Pea Ridge
Clark, G. D.
Clyman, A. G.
Cox, J. W. W. at Pea Ridge
Cyphers, L. G. pris. at Grenada
Taylor, E. M. deserted
Crawford, W. M.
Deford W.
Dunn, Adam
Dysart H. M. pris. at Lagrange.
Dysart, S. A. Wounded at Pea Ridge.
Fairchild, W. J. deceas.* at Benton Barracks
Gray, T. D.
Harris, A. M.
Harris, F.
Hesse, Fred.
Hughes, W. deceas.
Kurth W.
Kelley J. J.
Koons C.
Koons J.
Juneau, C.
Kirkpatrick, E. R.
Lawson, J. prisoner at Pea Ridge
Mergau J.
Mercer, C. dischar.
Mercer, J. F. killed at Pea Ridge.
Martindale, M.
Martindale J. dischar. at Rolla
Miner, S. K. at Pea Ridge.
Martin, J.
Mason S. J. k. at Pea Ridge.
Myrick, S. G.
Moore L. J.
Miller T. J. Killed
Minnich, J. discharged.
Nelson, E.
Proctor, W. N. deceat. at Benton Barracks.
Proctor W. R.
Pearcy, B. B. deceat.
Paxton J. W.
Shepherd, J. F.
Schenck, S.
Salter Wm.
Suter, J.
Taylor J. G.
Vorhees E. killed at Pea Ridge.
Whelis, J. H. prisoner taken at Grenada.
Wolf, J. L. prisoner taken at Pea Ridge.
Wilson W. J.
Wagoner, deceat. at Benton Barracks.
Arnold deceat. at home.
Hughes deceat. at Keokuk.
Christian deceat. Keokuk
Dunn, C. transferred.