Price List of the following articles in

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Price</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coffee per #</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sugar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Salt</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flour</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soap</td>
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<tr>
<td>Molasses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rice</td>
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<tr>
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<td>March</td>
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<td>Calico per yd.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Butter per #</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eggs per doz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bacon per #</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pear</td>
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<td>Tallow candles per</td>
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Common meal per bn.  $10.00
Common tin candlestick $10.00
Ladies' shoes per pair  $10.00
Man's boots           75.00
Common boots          130.00
Brooms a piece        1.00
Common cotton Undershirt 25.00
Washed socks a pair  $10.00
Cotton               10.00
Tobacco a ring        7.00
Pepper compound per # 15.00
Beef per #            1.00
Lard                 3.00
Hens a piece          4.00
Lamb                 2.50
Servant girl's wages per mo. $100.00
Laborers' wages per day 10.00
Brass tone 140.00
Price List Continued

Linnen in boarding house $10.00
One cord of pine stove wood 4.00
Common Plates a Piece 5.00
(Dishes of any kind none to be had)
Ordinary Combs a Piece 10.00
(Furniture none yet available)
Ordinary Linen per yard 2.50
Good felt hat a Piece 15.00
Common 10.00
Common writing paper Ream 20.00
Common silk dress 10.00

Geo. W. Bourne, investor
This book is given to Nellie
by her father.
this 30th day of August 1913.
Geo. C. Burmeister
Diary for A. O.
1864
Captain Co. C, 35th Iowa Infantry.
January 1864.

Friday.

Hail glorious year, thou harbinger of peace and union, I look upon thee with unbounded joy, for I believe thou hast in thy folds peace and a united country, which precious gifts thou wilt soon present to our suffering anxious, and patient waiting people. O, if thou dost bring us these blessings how grateful we will be to thee, thy name shall be recorded in letters of light in our country's history, and shall ever be recurrently mentioned by interminable ages to come. Gradually thou wilt unroll thy stores to us, no one will know what thou dost intend for him until it is within his reach. I wish I could lift thy mystic veil and behold thee as thou art, but this can never be, and I cannot tell what good or evil thou wilt bestow on me. God alone can tell what thou hast for me. I hope for the best and live happily in ignorance hoping that no evil may come upon me that I may have the gratification of saying that thou, the year A.D. 1864 was the happiest of my life. How many are now hailing thee with unbounded gladness, who will perhaps see them hasten on thy course, curse thee for the innumerable disappointments, and woe suffering which thou hast inflicted on them. While others who look with distrust, because they have suffered many ills last year, will thank thee for the common blessings which thou hast bestowed on them. O, let me beseech thee to deal gently with all nations especially with ours.
May civilization advance with its branches more rapidly this year than it has in any one previous.
May we learn more of nature's hidden powers,
may art and science prosper as it never has before.
May it be a joy to live as to inherit
thy blessings after our career on earth is over.
Bless our nation from all evil and may
we learn to do away with all wars, and
'to do unto others as we would have them do unto
us' may we pray, as the angels proclaimed at
the birth of our Savior: 'Peace on earth and
good will to men.' Let thy light shine
into our dark minds, that we may clearly see
the path of our duty. 'Most of all I pray that
I may be made a better man that I may
do right at all times, that I may grow in
wisdom, and always have a desire to assist
my fellow mortals in every good thing as
much as I can. I am anxious that my life
shall not prove a cipher in the great scale
of existence, but that it shall be spent in
a manner both profitable to myself and
others. Here is a great work before me, may
I shake off the sluggishness and avow to
its entire importance. I firmly believe this
God has placed me here on this earth for
a grand and noble purpose, may I be prepared
to fulfill my calling, may I gather more
strength daily, that I may discharge my duties
faithfully, without fear of favor or disfavor
the approbation of good men, God and my conscience.
The eight and twelfth Iowa regiments have entered as veterans, and will soon go home. The government is paying an enormous bounty now for veterans, but after the war, no bounty will be paid, and a draft be made in all these districts which have not followed promptly with their quota of volunteers under the recent call of the President. I wish that some of these belated opposition Democrats at home may be forced to shoulder the muskets and strap the knapsacks on their backs, and march against the rebels, I think many of them would be changed in their views in a short time, and when they return to their homes would be better men and more dutiful citizens.

Nothing of special note occurred in this vicinity today. Received a letter from my parents, it was not the most encouraging. Father seems to be quite anxious, and frets many troubles to weigh on his mind heavily. My parents are in continual dread of hearing of our death; they feel as though Henry and I are half dead now, no persuasion will take away this melancholy idea. Besides, they have been rather unfortunate in their work the last year, have sustained some losses and heavy sickness, which have disheartened them to come east. Sometime ago they wrote that Henry would not come home on a furlough because they could not bear to have him go away again. Well, I think that this war will soon be ended then we may go home and comfort them.
Sunday 3.

I am Brigade officers of the day, and a very mean day it is, it is raining and sleeting; hard. I have been writing letters nearly all day; towards evening I took a horse and rode around the lines, and pursued the commandment to the guard; it was one of the worst rides I ever had in my life. The cold rain beat heavily into my face, so that I was nearly chilled to death. But this is a soldier's life. I may congratulate myself that I do not have to stand guard in this bad weather as some of our men have to do today. Some of the people at home suppose a soldier to be the happiest man on earth, the reason being, a soldier has very little work to do, receives good pay, clothing, and food. But they never think of the numerous dangers, exhausting marches, and severe guard duties he has to undergo. While the citizen sleeps in his comfortable bed, in safety, the sentinel must face his lonely post in the bitter cold storm and cold in danger of being shot down like a beast by a meddling God-forsaking rebel, but while the citizen is filling his capacious stomach with the best fare the bountiful market affords the soldier must cut his scanty army ration of the simple provisions of life. The officers are specially envied by some people, because they receive more money than the privates, let me ask, would you expose your life or health to the enemy or the inclement weather, get through pampered dollars that an officer receives? I would not give my health for all the money in God's unlimited realms.
Monday 4

Waiting for news, all my surroundings have a touch of dull monotony, the papers too don't bring any news of interest. Perhaps the tremendous snow storms have interfered with our rail roads and telegraph wires. But I must console myself with the thought that thousands of people are like myself, waiting for news, many an anxious mother, fond wife, darling sister, dear brother or affectionate father is quietly waiting to hear from the loved one in the army, and oh what joy does the intelligence of his being well bring to them, but oh, what anguish what bitter sorrow crushes their hearts when they learn that he died on the field of honor gallantly fighting to engrave his country's laws, or yielded his spirit to its Maker in the same holy cause, in his coach, in hospital. Then how eager soldiers are to hear from their homes and loved ones, what a reeling there is in camp when the mail comes in, and how triumphantly will the recipient of a letter carry it to his tent to read its contents, how correspondingly some will curse of the distributor of the mail "Is there no letter for me?" And being answered in the negative they will slowly send their way to their tents, waiting for their Comrade who has received a letter, to tell them something of its contents. If the people at home knew how much good letters do soldiers, they would certainly write more frequently, and not always wait for a reply, for soldiers cannot always write when they please.
Tuesday 5

This is the day set apart for conscription in the loyal states, by the President of the United States. I am anxious to know whose of my friends and acquaintances will be fortunate enough to be ticked to enter the army. If we are engaged in a righteous war we must have an army to carry it on. This army must be raised either by volunteering or by draft. I know that some men who have never been friendly to our cause, will grovel and crawl if they should be drafted yet this will avail them nothing. They must go. I am in favor of drafting to fill up the depleted ranks of our army, yet I do not favor the 3ca clause, that now exists in our conscript law. I would favor a law that exempts only those who are physically incapacitated from enduring the hardships of a soldier's life. Then the rich man who has more at stake in the present contest than the poor man, would come on the same republican level with the latter.

I agree to receive many residents foreigners claim exemption on account of not being citizens of this country, when they have probably resided and voted here for the last ten or fifteen years. Here they have made their livelihood, yes perhaps their fortune, have received the protection and privileges guaranteed to citizens of our country, and now when the government which so generously supported them, appeals to them for assistance in its life or death struggle with part rebellion, they, crouching like cowardly deserters in flame, exalting infamy upon the heads of such base ingrates.
Wednesday.

What a terrible winter it must be in the northern states, the newspapers are teeming with articles, stating how this and that person froze to death, what suffering was caused on board several passenger trains, among the passengers by being blocked in the deep snow.

Even here we hear people say, this is one of the coldest winters they have ever experienced here. The Mississippi River is closed to barge traffic, and the Ohio is also shut up with ice to Paducah Ky. Now I pity some people who are ill prepared to meet such awful cold and snow; in some parts of the northern states the thermometer has ranged from 10° to 52° below zero. Here the cold has not been above 10° below zero, still we have considerable labor frequently to keep our tent sufficiently warm. The ground is covered with a thin coat of ice, and the "Memphis Bulletin" has a long list of accidents occurring to persons in the city by falling down upon the slippery pavements, some have been killed almost instantly while others had their limbs broken.

This is published in its daily issue, and it is really frightful to read the account, as by cannot the citizens remove the ice from the pavements? This war appears to have dulled the better feelings of man to such an extent as to render most people incapable of the least sympathy with the sufferings of their fellow men. This is especially noticeable in cities.
Thursday

Colonel S. J. Hill started home on a leave of absence this morning. I was on duty today as officer of the day, I get on duty often. I think they think any other officer in our brigade, why it is, I cannot tell, wonder whether it is because they think I am such an excellent officer and they love me? Well, I will not murmure as long as I enjoy good health, I am willing to go on duty quite often, for I think exercise is necessary to aid me in keeping in good health. I had a long ride today with Dr. Horn. We stopped at several houses outside of the lines, while we became acquainted with some of the denizens. The majority of the people living in this vicinity are poor. Their wealthy neighbors do not love the enemy, a Union soldier, and have fled at our approach into the more congenial parts of Lincoln, where they will soon be overtaken by the vigilant Yankee, and forced to acknowledge the flag we honor, as the true emblem of national power and unity of our Republican government.

I also found that some union soldiers who came here before we did, have married some of the numerous widows here, who have become widows again by the soldier's leaving with their Commandos. I think the return of some of their husbands is rather doubtful. I have heard of marriage in this neighborhood recently that was contracted for 'three years or during the war'. Surely this is a fact not seen in fast people.
Last night I made the rounds and visited a certain home a short distance from the lines where a number of our soldiers were having a grand dance. I found about fifty soldiers and eight girls present, they were enjoying themselves hugely. I was invited to take supper with them and found the supper very good. The ladies are very fond of parties, they attend them whenever they can, and allow the men a great many privileges. They can out dance any men I ever saw, they scarcely ever go home from a party until after sunrise the next morning. A few days ago there was a party at Middletown, Penn. given by the officers of the left wing of our regiment, some thirty ladies attended it. They danced till three o'clock in the morning having commenced in the afternoon of the previous day. Not satisfied with this they went out of the lines and organized a party of their own at a neighbor's house, where they danced the entire forenoon. This is certainly carrying dancing to the extreme. It is also stated that but few ladies are to be found in this part of the state who do not indulge in the use of tobacco in some shape, they either chew, smoke, dip or practice all. O give me a girl of the free North. It is bad enough to see men use the filthy tobacco but it is awful to see a lady use it. I received an order from Major John Commanding our regiment to take command of the left wing of our regiment and the Post of Middletown.
Saturday 9. I tried my best to get rid of going to
Middleton's Farm as Commander of this
post, but Colonel Giddes, refused to allow
me from the order sending me there, I am
therefore making out my Ordinance and
Demaré Master's Returns, getting all
things ready for a move. It took a ride
into the country, and had a pleasant time.

The reconstruclion movement in some of the
seceded states is assuming an earnest, decided
character. Maryland, Mississippi, and Louisiana
are nearly free from rebels, and the state
of Arkansas is now making a determined
stand in favor of the Union, and its
Citizens a very influential man, formerly
a Senator of the United States, and a general
in the rebel service is at the head of the
reconstruction party. He made a speech
to the people of Arkansas in which he
acknowledges that the cause of the Confederacy
is a hopeless one, that the rebels are whipped
and as honorable men ought to come
boldly and acknowledge it. He also says,
that he is in favor of the old Union, and
the 'institution' of the South is abolished.
He warns the people of guerrilla warfare, for
saying to, if you introduce this system you
will certainly hurt your friends more than
your enemies, who is then safe in his home?
If you fire an hont or ears, what assurance
have you of not killing your friends instead of enemies?
Sunday 11

Had my baggage taken to the depot this morning, got transportation and waited for the train, on its arrival whom should I meet but my former school fellow Jackson Tree with whom I had many a fine game of ball and tussle, well how glad he was to see me. I learned that he was carrying on a very extensive business as Caruth's Wm. having a stock of goods to the amount of twenty thousand dollars. He began business there without any capital of his own, fifteen months ago, and now he is rich. He is a very interesting young man, more so than I supposed him to be, as he was a student at Western College, Iowa, he did not display a great deal of talent. His brother J. P. Tree, who was also a student of that college at the same time displayed more talent, he was an excellent debater and a good speaker. He was second major of the 13th Iowa Infantry, until about the 12th of May 1863, when he was made adjutant of the 17th Louisiana Colored regiment, he distinguished himself at the fight of New Berne. He was promoted to Major of that regiment, and it is reported that he is now Colonel of that regiment. He is a younger man than I am. I arrived at Middleton at 10 A.M. I did not find the men very anxious to see me, the officers too seemed to be hurt about my coming, they supposed they manage their own business.
Monday II

I looked about the place to acquaint myself with the location and find out how things were going. I found the Command in a state of poor discipline, everybody was doing just as he saw proper. The officers had been carrying on about as bad as the men. A short time ago they had a ball here when they permitted the ladies to talk the most kind of recession doctrines, and had considerable liquor to drink, then got hold of the liquor and they had quite a jolly time. Major John who was in Command here permitted this conduct yes and even indulged in it as much as any other officer. The major has become popular here on that account, and the fear that I will introduce too stringent discipline come do not like my coming on that account, others because they think that I have no right to Command them. But all agree that I cannot help it as I am here with orders. Dear situated rather unpleasantly, and would not remain here if I could possibly get away. As long as I remain here however I intend to discharge my duties as faithfully and impartially as possible. We had a drum parade here today, and I must say I felt very much astonished as I looked upon my Command to behold it in such a ragged condition. The men and officers came out in a very poor style.
It is said that the river is so full of ice between Memphis and Cairo that boats cannot sail between these two places. Colonel J. H. V. H. is now waiting at the first place for a boat to take him to Cairo, he is going to see his family.

A Brigade of Tennessee Cavalry arrived here today, and made their camp here. I came very near having a battle with them. They found some two hundred bushels of corn at Mr. Carson's, and concluded to take it. Mr. Carson is a loyal man to our government, lives inside of our lines and appears to be a very clever man. He came to me and complained about the stealing of his corn, I ordered a guard there at once. The cavalry at once stopped the corn and reported to their commander J. W. F. & C. Thamburg, who came and relieved my guard, sent them home. My men were foolish enough to go away on his orders. I heard of it and sent a new guard there, who refused to be relieved by those officers, who came to me and complained, said they had orders from their commander to take all the corn they wanted wherever found and give receipts for it. I told them I did not care for such an order since the owner of the corn is a loyal citizen of the U.S. I am going to protect him. They threaten to take it by force and with the consent of Mr. Carson, I threaten to take it by force and with the consent of Mr. Carson, I threaten.
Wednesday 13th

I board at Caro’s, pay four dollars a week, the boarding consists of coffee, biscuits, cornbread and pork for breakfast, "ditto" with the addition of turnips and a glass of milk for dinner, and the things enumerated for breakfast in a reversed order for supper. What a contrast between a northern and a southern table, why at the north I could get a magnificent boarding place for that price, at home I often amounted because I did not have the other favorite dish for dinner, and supposed people were nearly starving if they did not have a variety of vegetables on their table, here I have learned that people can subsist on very little. I therefore do not think we will ever be able to break the rebellion by starvation. We must do it by force of arms.

I must now say something of the men with whom I occupy headquarters, my bed fellow is Captain H. F. McKee of 2nd regiment, Commandant of Co. H, and the provost marshal of this Post. He is a very social companion, a man who has the confidence and esteem of every man in the regiment whose opinion is worth anything. He has discharged his duties faithfully as an officer, and I am sure that he intends to resign soon on account of his family, he has marched with the regiment when he was quite unwell, but he was determined to go on.
The other officer who stays at Headquarters is Lieutenant Charles T. Porter, he is my adjutant, I esteem him one of the best officers of our regiment. He belongs to Co.'B'. When Captain Hine was promoted to Major, Lt. Porter being 1st Lt. in his Company should have been promoted to Captain, but owing to a little personal ill feeling between himself and Colonel Hill, he was superseded by Mr. B. Stevens 2nd Lt. of Co.'B'. As in my opinion is not competent to command a Company of men, he did well enough as Lieutenant but as a Captain he cannot succeed for the want of military and business capacity. Colonel Hill did a very wrong thing to allow his animal passants to get the better of his judgment and injure Lt. Porter in this way. I know he has hurt himself very much. Lieutenant Porter is intending to resign, thus one officer after another is leaving our regiment. A number of other good officers talk of tendering their resignations on account of Colonel S. B. Hill, who has violated many a pledge to officers, he lays down a rule today to govern his conduct for promotion, tomorrow he violates it because a man has a little ill feeling towards him; to say the least of such conduct it certainly shows a very weak and oscillating mind. I would much prefer any other of the existing officers over regiment as my Commander to Col. Hill.
Friday - I have not had much time since I am here to do anything but to attend to my duties connected with my office. A number of citizens come in at all hours of the day apparently on no business whatever. The majority are rebels and scarcely deny it, if asked whether they are union men, their answers are very unsatisfactory, perhaps they will reply "No pass for nub," or "Brecken 28." They are very ignorant. If they only knew what is in their interest, they would organize the state, by electing their representatives to the federal congress. Here are many among them who seem to care very little for anything outside of their own homes, they are entirely indifferent, which army Congress is, they are not interested. Others are the most consummate hypocrites I ever saw, they boldly present themselves as strong union men, and talk of the good they have done the federal army, their love for the old union, while at heart they are rebels, and would betray in the first opportunity they get. We have a few men here, though poor, yet they are really honest union men who have suffered very much from the guerrillas. One old man by the name of Amos Foster, in this neighborhood, lost his valuable property and many slaves, the guerrillas being here, but finally released him.
Saturday. Bad news reached me this morning. Three
men belonging to Company C of our regt.
went out of the line yesterday afternoon
without permission of their officers to a family
called "Connors," living about one and a half miles
from here, in order to see a few girls
with whom they became slightly acquainted.
The remained at the house till ten p.m., when
they were ready to start for camp, they were
surrounded by three guerrillas, one of the men
had his gun and done, and before he could fire
an, a guerrilla had it, and aimed at him.
He struck the revolver away from him and ran
by him, the rebel fired at him, but luckily
missed him. The other men fired their revolvers
at the rebels but did not harm them, but were
both wounded; one was shot across the breast
and through the left upper arm, the other
through the right hip and right elbow, thus being
disabled; they were forced to surrender, and
taken off on horseback towards Ripley.
The man who escaped came to camp early this
morning, and I sent our Captain Dixon and
about fifty men, to pursue the rebels and
ascertain full particulars of the affair, they
went out about twelve miles, and returned to
Camp this evening. Capt. Dixon reports that the
rebels treated well for our men, they dressed their
wounds and promised to treat them well. The
leader of these guerrillas is a Mr. Lock, a son-in-
law of Mr. Connors, and I fear the whole family plotted this capture.
Sunday 17

Some bad news this morning. I lay in bed yet when squire Lambeth came into my room and made the following statement: "About 10 P.M. yesterday two hundred rebels came to my house, forced me to go with them to the rail road where they formed and sent some men back to escort the rest of the regiment through tonight. They said they belonged to Newcomer's command. Three miles from the rail road they crossed a small bridge, which gave way before they were all over, and during the confusion I escaped. I and Captain were sent to the rear with a small escort and found the tracks of horses, that had gone south, and north. We followed the tracks going north, and inquired on the road whether any rebel troops had been heard or seen last night. I was told that some had passed on the road, and at one place informed that 10 were seen about 7 o'clock this morning. From what I heard, I had every reason to believe the squire's statement to be true. I deemed it of sufficient importance to communicate it to Col. Edston and Beachouse, who sent the right wing of our regiment down. It was an awful night, the rain poured down in torrents, and the wind howled fiercely. We went out to the road on which we expected the rebels. Look out, and started for them in the storm. All after 1 A.M. when we started for camp. No rebel was to be seen. I fell into the deep mud on my way to camp. This was ominous.
Monday 18

We had inspection of the companies here. The men did not make as good an appearance as they should, yet I think they did as well as can be expected after such a terrible storm we had last night. Even today it is snowing and the wind is blowing a perfect gale, so that every one looks to his comfort more than he does to his appearance. Most of the men are comfortably situated in good quarters. Co. E. made the best appearance and also had their quarters in the best condition of any in this command. This is the Irish Co. that cuts me dreadfully when they have whiskey, when they are without it they make good soldiers.

The cars are running frequently during the day carrying material of war towards Memphis. The report is in circulation that the Railroad will soon be abandoned by our troops, and a grand movement is to be undertaken from Memphis towards the rebel stronghold Mobile.

Some predict that we will remain at this place but a very few days. General Sherman is reported at Memphis organizing the expedition. The citizens continue to come here, complaining of the guerrillas, who are very numerous in this part of the country, they rob wherever they can and threaten the people very much. North of here the citizens were going to hang a few guerrillas, but were threatened with retaliation if they did, and therefore permitted them to escape. The guerrillas have now devised a tax on the citizens, if not paid, they will kill them.
Thursday 19

The habit of gambling is very prevalent. Some of the men are extremely fond of it, and may be found nearly all hours of the day, with the fatal cards in their hands. I looked upon card playing for amusement as a very innocent affair, but I have come to the conclusion that it is also a bad practice, for these reasons: first, it is the means of wasting men of valuable time which might be far more profitably employed. Secondly, it makes them neglect their other duties, and then there is no excuse for theGambling. It is hurtful for young men to read instructive works and elevate their moral and intellectual faculties, than to play games of chance, thus using this time. I am not going to play any more cards. An interesting incident occurred in my life today. Mr. Jones, who had entered our men outside of the lines, to have them captured by guerrillas, asked her whether she was present at the time our men were taken. She replied she was. I told her never to come inside our lines again. She attempted to explain. Beguiled her to stay no more, I told her I knew all about it. If she ever came in again, I would have her transported. She looked very bad about. Some of the officers do not seem to like it, but I feel as if I have done my duty.
Wednesday 20

Early this morning I sent two companies and three teams in charge of Lieutenant
Menemy, to Reeves' on the road to Bolivar to
get corn. The expedition returned this
evening, and the lieutenant reports that
the roads are in a very bad condition,
that the men of his command fired
on several guerrillas but did not get any
of them. He says, the rebels have a regular
Commissary depot, at Reeves' Plantation, consisting
of meat molasses, salt leather &c. The troops
in three loads of good corn. He had quite a
debate on the system of foraging, some
officers contended that it would be perfectly
right to take everything in the Country that is
of value to us, without remuneration to the
owners, even destroy that which we could
not take, and which would be of use to the
rebels. Others took a more humane view of
the matter and argued this it would be
better for our cause not to disturb anything
anywhere, thus to get the good of the
people. By the practice of foraging is abuse
of the men, it is as a general thing
abused by them, and we make more
enemies than friends, inflicting punishment
upon many persons who are innocent.
I have issued an order forbidding men
to go out of the lines under any pretext
whatever. It will not do to permit the
men to roam about whenever wherever they please.
Thursday 21. A number of ladies came into the lines today, looking for their horses which were not returned to them to ride yesterday. They examined them, and appeared satisfied.

I am having a platform for the purpose of loading horses at on the cars. Constructed as the indications are that we will leave soon, no one can tell where we are going.

The general news of the country is not very important. Congress is still debating the conscription bill, and does not seem to make any progress in it. The payment of bounties is extended to the first of March, and I do not think there will be a draft then. A bill of importance is before them, however, for calling into the field 100,000 men to go to Richmond Va. or to any other point where our prisoners are confined and liberate them.

General Grant is to take command of these men, and they are to be officered by old soldiers, and are to leave for the period of three months. I am in favor of this grand scheme of liberation, it will terribly crush the rebellion, and give the rebels conclusive evidence that the free men of the north are determined to crush any rebellion in these United States. The American nation would have a name of unprecedented glory in history of which our people for ages to come would feel proud, if there were not so many old fogy's in Congress I think it would become
Friday 30. We had no train from the east and no passenger train from the west, the former but not active on account of a part of the rail road being destroyed near Newalla. The rebels are getting bolder every day in the vicinity of this rail road, they know as well as we that we are going to leave here soon and therefore they intend to do us all the harm they can before they go. Last night fifty rebels crossed the road about half a mile west of me. If I had enough troops to go to war they could not be helped, I have not sufficient force here to station my men along the crossing place. We received orders to day to prepare ourselves for long marches and considerable fighting, near to leave our baggage at Memphis, and take several pairs of shoes and socks, and 120 cartridges per man. It still remains unknown where we are going and a great many rumors are being made by the officers and men. Some predict that we are going to Lees, others say we are going to Mobile, or perhaps through the state of Louisiana. Many of our officers and men predict a severe campaign. I do not intend to cause trouble or do so, but to do my duty as it comes, then I think many of those lions in the way will mysteriously disappear. The officers of this Command met and made arrangements for a party on next Monday evening. Some discussion took place.
Saturday 23.

Early this morning two women came into my room and told me the following story: Yesterday morning about 10 o'clock two soldiers representing themselves as belonging to my command entered the house of the widow Full where they got some milk, then went to a neighbor's house, where no person was at home. Here they took three coverlets, one quilt, and one black silk dress, belonging to a woman by the name of Newland. I felt very bad about this and promised to restore these articles to Mrs. Newland if they could be found. Here I ordered the companies to be brought to head quarters at once, had them formed into line. Then ordered the officers to accompany me to search the quarters of the men for the stolen articles. We searched very closely, and came very near giving up the search, when the articles were found in the quarters of two men belonging to Company "K," by the name of Samuel Johnson, and Jacob Kruseman.

I dismissed all the companies except "K," and had the woman go through the ranks to identify the thieves if possible, she paused at Kruseman and said she thought he was one of them, but would not be positive. I had those men confined in the guard house, and preferred charges of stealing and disobedience of orders against them. Summoned a Court martial consisting of Capt. Biggeson, Dr. Kennedy, and Penn, to try the prisoners immediately. They were found guilty.
Sunday 21. We are having the finest weather we have had while in this state. The summer rays of the sun are having an exhilarating effect on all creation. This Command has divine service today, the first that has been held here for many weeks. The soldiers as a general thing are very little about devotional exercises in camp. I cannot give account for this but it is nevertheless a fact.

The sentence of the court passed on those men yesterday is that they lose one month's pay and be paraded before the battalion on drab parade with barrels on the word "Thief" shall be inscribed. I approved the sentence, had after taking a second thought I came to the conclusion it would be better to omit the word "Thief" since it might tarnish their characters forever, and this punishment is intended to improve them not to make them worse. He had the men paraded this afternoon before the battalion, they were marched under guard along the line while the band played the organ's march. After which I made a short address to them and to the battalion, told them the consequences of disobedience of orders and told them that if any soldier would be guilty of any more violation of law I should punish him severely. Explained to them the duties and responsibilities of soldiers of the United States.

The majority of the officers support me in inflicting discipline, Lt. W. Reed angry because his Company has three men who were fumished. I told him that's not to blame.
Monday 25th. Received intelligence this morning that the rebels about 400 strong had crossed the Rail Road half a mile west of this place. A number of citizens are anxious to leave the country and go north, some have begged me to assist them to get away from here and I am doing all I can for them. Some citizens who were formerly strong secessionists are now anxious to have peace and are endeavoring to ship their cotton, they want to get greenbacks rather than to have the rebel soldiers come in and destroy it. Hundreds of people with families would leave this country if they were able to raise sufficient means to subsist on after they get into a new country. It was only for several months, but the majority are poor people, some reduced to the most abject poverty by guerrillas. My best hopes these people, may they come in peace. I had a social party at Headquarters today; some twenty ladies attended it, I had owing to the negligence of the Committee of arrangements, the enlisted men carried on the party and the officers did not get much of a chance. Some of the ladies were quite intelligent more so than I had anticipated to find them. The party lasted about 1/2 block. P.M. I had scarcely got to bed when Weatherly 1 & Slayton next came and told me to be ready to move at a moment's notice, and to destroy the Tobacco warehouses.
Wednesday 36

Last night the rebels fired into a train coming from Memphis, three miles from here, and shot the engineer through the right breast; it is supposed that he is dead now. Of these Stone white men, who murder and plunder, none deserve the lowest hateless race of the Philistine regions.

I feel very sleepy this morning, am waiting for orders to move. I discovered that one of the soldiers stole my sword last night, it was presented to me by my company, and cost eight dollars, it matters little about the price but I felt to lose it because it is a present from my men.

The fellow who stole it must be a natural thief for what one can do more of it? Yes, and as I was getting ready for dress parade, and looked for my belt it could not be found, this is also stolen, I lost $1500 worth of property last night. Offered $25 dollars reward for the discovery of the thief, but I guess will never ascertain who is the guilty person.

I sent one of our companies to assist some refugees to move into our line, gave orders to place our constables around the stockade to fire it as soon as we should leave this place. Being rather sleepy from last night's party, I went to bed early.

About ten o'clock P.M. two trains arrived having all the troops from Occoquan on board, coming out of the line, and gave me an order from Colonel Laddes to avenge immediately. Sent the
order to the Company Commander at once, 
I had scarcely done so when Colonel Coates 
appears in my room, and asked me very 
roughly, why are you not ready? I replied: 
Colonel everything is ready with the exception 
of striking tents, these. I did not strike because 
I was waiting for further orders stating the 
time when I should move. He appeared to be 
in a great passion, and left me hurriedly. I 
continued to get things ready, while I was 
going about superintending matters, I was 
accosted by Dr. Jos. Mayer, who informed me 
that he was ordered to place one under arrest. 
I delivered my sword to a Dr. who accompanied 
him. Went on the train, feeling rather blue, but 
also innocent of having been negligent in the 
discharge of any duties. The cars were all loaded 
extcept one, in this and among the other goods 
on cars already loaded, our baggage. The 
men of the Swedes was finally crowded, our 
baggage had to be abandoned. Got into a coach 
and sat in one of the cars, meditating on the 
way I had been treated, for some hours. 
The men set the hoard and some buildings 
on fire, and amid this grand illumination, 
we left Middleton, a place with a which I 
had become perfectly disgusted. I suppose 
the southern gentility will lie in it within 
a short time. After our departure, they have 
been prowling about the place all day. I should 
not be at all surprised if we would see something
Wednesday 27

We were compelled to push the train along for some distance, but finally abandoned this mode of travelling, and divided the train into two equal numbers of cars. The locomotive took one division to Grand Junction; our division remained a few miles from Middletown till after sunrize; the men kept up good fires and thus we managed to keep warm. I slept but very little. Had but very little to say to any one. Some of our officers came to me and told me that they would support me to the very last, for they considered me as having fully discharged my duties, and as having obeyed the orders received. To the latter, they say if they had been in my place they would have acted in a similar manner. If they said, been customary to wait for a second order, after the first to be ready, I received, stating when you would move your command. It made me feel better to know that my fellow officers sustain me.

We arrived at Memphis at 2 A.M. I went to the Hotel and had a good wash and stroll about town. Our regiment marched through the city to the steamer "Emma Boyd". I procured a state room and after being all my baggage on board went uptown with Dr. L. Horn, we spent a pleasant evening together. Everybody is anticipating about the destination of our expedition, very few know whether we are to go. I am glad that our commanders have learned the most important lesson, never to keep their own secrets.
Thursday 28. I made some purchases in town, which are necessary for a march, but I found every species of merchandise unfeasibly dear, compared with prices in the South. Major W. P. Clark paid on regiments today. I drew my pay, and T. J. Brown received his, and paid a note which I held against him. I told him that I understood he gave fully and desired him to do his part to injure me, since I learned he is collecting evidence against me, I had an account to settle with him after he got through with his job. I intended to convince him that I am not without friends. He replied: "I have never spoken ill of your," and hastened away. I was summoned to Colonel Stiles' room this evening, the Colonel spoke very pleasantly to me, and said: "He regretted he had spoken so roughly to me at Medallion, he took me as a good officer, but was astonished to find me not ready to move my command as he desired." I explained to him that I had received no orders to move at that time. He said he would release me, and did so, by writing a note to Major John ordering him to restore me to duty. I went to the theater where piece entitled 'Burn' was performed. I did not enjoy it very much because the soldiers made too much noise, they constituted themselves a committee of critics and would frequently tell the actors how to improve their delivery &c. A number of the soldiers were drunk. The theater was too crowded to be comfortable and to be enjoyed.
Friday 29

A great many of our men were drunk today.

I saw more drunken men today than I ever saw before; one reason of this is the soldiers have been away from towns where they could get anything to drink, and now they think they ought to satisfy their appetites in this particular.

Another reason is they have just been paid and have plenty of money and do not fully understand what to do with it. I sent $1093 to the city of Memphis to buy for my men, immediately after they drew their money. Some in my company have not sent any money home, nor do I think they will. Some money went in the possession of Memphis as one of the fastest cities in the world and as men's money goes off like smoke almost before he is aware of it. Some married men, soldiers, who have large families at home, whom they are bound to support, and who are perhaps today anxiously waiting for the money of their father and husband, seem to have forgotten that they have any one in the world who has an interest in their earnings save themselves. They not only lose their money, but their moral integrity, and nobleness of character, which their friends expected them to guard and to return as pure and unspotted as they saw them last at home, but alas, how many men suffer moral shipwreck in this war. I spent a pleasant evening with Miss Carrie C. Martin at her boarding place Mrs. Clifford's. Had music and interesting conversation.
Saturday 30.

Paid some of my debts and purchased a revolver for $25.00 and two belts for $1.00 each one of which I gave to Captain McKelvey to pay for his Blank which I have lost. Left 7/6/85 to return to my post.

Had a good time in the city saw a number of my former school mates of Western College who belong to the 2nd Iowa Cavalry, all good fellows who have been in many a hard fought fight. I felt proud of them, their regiment is one in which the people of Iowa take a deep interest, it has won a bright name for itself. Gen. Schofield called it the "eye" of his army. We left Memphis this evening in company with the steamer Tilia.

All of my men remained in Memphis, because they had not fully spent their money & supplies. I was glad that we left Memphis, for our men were getting fearfully demoralized.

Sunday 31.

We are moving down the river at a reasonable rate. Landed at Helena Arkansas. Went on shore to see the town, this is the first time my feet ever touched the soil of this state. The houses are built principally of negroes. Gen. Bixford commands here, we landed a short distance below Helena to take some men on board, while loading a few of our men went on shore and shot some hogs, while thus engaged a man on horseback came up to them and entered into conversation with them. Colonel Eads observed being had been stalled, and demanded his papers, which the man delivered to the colonel.
they flung proof him to prove him to be an agent of the Confederacy, sent here for the purpose of purchasing blankets, gun caps &c. Considerable money, Federal and Confederate currency, and five revolvers were found with him. He and his horse were taken on the steamer "Ellia." A short distance below here our boats were compelled to lie to by the storm that raged in the vicinity, we remained at anchor here during the night. It rained severely before midnight.

**February**

Monday 1.

Left our encampment very early this morning and continued our course down the river without meeting with any incident worthy of record. I am sorry to say that some of our officers do not set a prize-worthy example before the men; they gamble from early in the morning till late at night; this of course has a bad effect on the men, who follow the example thus shown them by their officers, and this pernicious vice makes many a poor soldier lose the few dimes he had saved to send to his needy family.

The tables in the cabin are crowded with players nearly day and night. This practice is in violation of military law and orders, one of my former sergeants was reduced to the ranks for gambling by the same officers who are now violating the law for the violation of which they tried and punished him. This is certainly a poor way to encourage and enforce good discipline in our regiments. We lay to again this evening.
Tuesday 2. Sailed at a landing near Lake Providence to take some wood on board. Found some freedmen here who are engaged in cutting wood for steamboats, one of them has lost his right arm by a shot from his overseer, and many as it may appear, he said he cut generally one cord of wood per day. We landed at Norfolk at 8 P.M., went up town and took supper, after which I returned to the steamer and remained on board during the night. The clerk of our boat wanted $3.50 for the bed I had been furnished during the trip. I refused to pay him because I am and officers generally are entitled to beds on government transports in accordance with Gen. Grant's order. The other officers also refused to pay for their beds, and we had quite a lively discussion about it, yet the clerk did not get his money, he threatened to shoot us.

Wednesday 3. We commenced disembarking quite early this morning, we were ready at 9 o'clock, but did not move till 2 P.M., when we took up our line of march towards Big Black River Bridge. We camped four miles from Norfolk. While we were in the city, Gen. Magrum of the 11th Indiana major John, Capt. Dell and I took dinner at Shreve's, where we spent a pleasant hour together. The march today wearied me very much because I am not accustomed to marching, having been in camp for several months, yet I think I will soon be able to stand marching.
Thursday A.

I slept well in C. Kern's tent. We had our break fast long before daybreak, and were on our march before sunrise. O, what a grand morning this is! one of the most beautiful I have ever seen, the glorious out of day appeared to rise in his full glory over the world and all nature seemed to smile. We marched over hill and vale, with martial music and flying colors, we felt the genial influence of the magnificent scenery, and the pure air around us. I for one admired the world and wished in my heart, people would learn to live in peace, and we would soon be home with our loved ones. We reached our destination, Black River Bridge, about noon, and beheld our sorrow and disappointment, when we were told we had come one day too late for Kern's grand expedition. We must perhaps remain here for several weeks, while our old comrades in arms of former campaigns and glorious victories are marching against the enemies of our country, into the very life of the Confederacy, to add fresh laurels to their already bright chaplets of fame. I would have been pleased to have participated in this campaign, because I think it is destined to be a very important one, under the guidance of the heroic Kern, one of the best generals of modern times. But this is our fate generally to be too late. We found no tents, the other regiments did, we were too late. Thus it is that we get the worst of everything, why?
Friday 5

We learned today that Sherman's expedition is still going on towards Meridian, it has to fight the rebels from day to day, the hardest fighting has been done between Rosecrans and Jackson Reins, which latter place is not in our possession; it appears that the rebels overestimate Gen. Sherman's force, and are therefore unwilling to risk a pitched battle.

The weather is very good, if it were not for poor fellows would lie in a very pitiable condition indeed, lying as we do on the bare ground with nothing but our blankets to cover us. I ought to see us rolling our tired bodies in the dust, yet quite dark to lay the least. I try to read a paper or book during the day, but suddenly a desirous horseman will dash close by me and behold make enough dust to prevent me from seeing the letters of my book or paper I am reading, or perhaps the bright sun will be so glaring as to keep exactly into my face or on the print, and then again I can not succeed very well in deciphering it. Thus a powerful quantity of patience and endurance a soldier must have! I must confess that I sometimes get a little iritated when so many obstacles crowd upon me, and the inconveniences of my position are so glaringly presented. I wish I could view many things with a staid indifference; perhaps it would make me and others happier, but I can not do it.
Saturday. The weather is quite cold during the night, and the majority of the men emigrate to a neighboring valley where they select some quiet corner of a cut and compose their weary bodies during the night. How very little it takes in this world to make a man comfortable and happy, but how few there are who think so! Thousands are toiling from morning till night to acquire a competency to place themselves above manual labor and physical want; they are not even satisfied with a capital sufficient to make themselves comfortable, but must have the most extravagant luxuries, after they possess all that can be secured; they are not contented but foolishly ask for more, and die perhaps without having benefitted the world, ruined in morality and unhappy beings. Perhaps I would be happier if I could feel satisfied with everything, take things as they are, and trouble myself about them to improve them, as I frequently do, but I cannot do this, something within me compels me to press on and make additions and improvements wherever I deem them necessary. If God will spare my life I intend to add to the general stock of knowledge and leave in the treasury of the world more than I draw from it; it is every one's duty to strive to increase his usefulness, and assist his fellow man to advance it is to his own interest to do it.
Sunday

Yesterday I was Brigade officer of the day. I had considerable riding about to do, but nothing of a special interest occurred. After I was relieved by Major John Commanding the regiment, went to see the men and I desired to take the regiment and teams out to get hauled mild I could do so. When the permission was given by General Butler to do so, I had the men and teams get ready, and took them out on the main Jackson road, we went to McRae's plantation, about five miles from here, also we found a sufficient number of good horse buildings to load all our wagons, we tore the buildings down, took the best boards, and returned quite late at night to Camp, the wagons well loaded with good boards with which we intend to build barracks for each company so that men can be sheltered from the rain at least. We met last few people, those one met intended to he Union people. They all said we troops that marched through their county recently committed a great deal of destruction which is verified by the appearance of the road sides, where the former dwelling of the absent rebel planter blood is now a black spot and piles of brick, their beautiful gardens are defaced, and their fences burned down. What a terrible thing war is, death and destruction travels with an invading army and leaves many a stain on the face of fair nature.
Monday 8. Having nothing of any great importance to relate, I will describe an incident which took place in my company while at Vocaunus lemm, and during my absence from it at Middletown lemm. Lieutenant Jos. Mayer of my company, who is using every means to injure me, undertook to exhibit his spite towards me by having the photograph of my company taken, with him at its head as its Commander. Acting Lieutenant Frank P. Brahm was in command of the Company at the time, and although he did not approve the scheme did not have the moral courage to oppose it. The company was assembled and the photograph was taken as desired, and a number of the men purchased it, and sent it home. This Lieutenant Mayer considered a decided triumph over me, of which he boasted and is still boasting, but in the eye of all honorable men and the best men of the Company he has lowered himself very much. A number of the men did not at first understand the object of this movement, but they do now, and deplore him for it. He spent considerable money in treating the Company to beer, but, this is he promised to pay for their drinks but up to this date he has not done so and I fear he will forget it entirely.
This morning a part of my Company in charge of Lieut. H. S. Revelette went towards Edwards, Depot to get lumber. Several other Companies went out also. So they came within a mile and a half of it, they stopped, formed a sufficient quantity of lumber to load their wagons, Companies A and E were under the command of Captain Blank, who permitted four men of each Company to absent themselves, for a short time from their Companies, they went to a house in the vicinity and reported each squad letting its own course, one party (Co. B) men) were just returning to their Company when a party of fifteen mounted rebels came upon them, several shots were fired but no one was hurt and our men were captured, placed on the rebel's horses behind the men, and hurried away; a negro hastened to their Company to give them information of what had occurred. Our men pursued but not being mounted were unable to pursue the rebels. Shortly afterwards, two rebels were seen advancing towards our men in the road, our men were stationed at once in such a manner as to prevent them to come up without seeing our men, and the result was that the rebels were surprised and captured by two men from my Company Lieut. Hettiger and my brother Henry, the rebels had good arms and the horse and a blanket. My men capture at their capture, while we regret the loss of good soldiers.
Wednesday 11 I had the pleasure to have command of our regiment on Battalion or Brigade drill; it passed off very nicely. The companies were formed in accordance with the rank of the captains. Some do not like this arrangement, but I do, since I am the ranking captain in the regiment. The position in the extreme right belongs to me and I want it. Col. S. B. Steele returned today, he looks well but does not bring us any news of interest from home.

I am glad he has returned since the major is in mavorill and cannot attend to the regiment as he would if he were well. Received a few papers from Muscatine, they are little visitors still reminding me of my friends at home. His good friends do not forget us in the army for we often think of you and wish many times that we might be permitted to converse on certain points, and to enjoy your pleasant and instructive society.

But the duties we owe to our suffering country, bid us to remain as our post while the enemies of our noble land shall come back to the Constitution authorities of our majestic Republic, of which every American may justly feel proud, yes, and he will feel prouder of his country after it has emerged from its baptism of blood, and comes forth Purely regenerated. Frees the land of the free and the home of the brave. May this time come speedily.
Thursday 11

The political affairs of the old continent do not present a very cheerful phase. It seems that Denmark and the German States are going to have war with each other, which is caused by the death of the King of Denmark which the Prince of Augsburg of Holstein claims to have separated the Grand Duchies of Schleswig and Holstein from the Danish Government and returned them to their independence, thus establishing the present King of Denmark denies, and it seems to be supported by England and France. The signs are very favorable for bloody work, and if the ruling powers of Europe are not careful they may inaugurated a general war which will produce a tremendous political change. Ireland seems to be completely assembled by its popular rulers, the czars of Russia, and thousands of heroes who fought for the liberation of their country died the death of a traitor. More incidents are being built ostensibly for the emperor of China, but in reality for the Southern Confederacy, for the succession of Jeff. Davis in French Ports. Should the French government act more honorably than the English has done, & if it too acts with bad faith towards us, we will take revenge in Mexico in the French as soon as our domestic quarrel is settled. It is said that Monarlists has accepted the crown of Mexico, and has gone to Paris to receive imperial honors. I fear they will prove empty successes in a short time, for our country will never, it can not permit him to rule Mexico.
Our regiment went into the country to get more numbers. Colonel Hill desired me to go with him and to assist him in getting the men and in good shape. I procured a horse and went in the rear of the regiment. We reached to old Montgomery's place near which our men had been captured a few days ago, and loaded some of our wagons on his premises. While we were loading we received intelligence that some guerrillas were seen in the neighborhood. Received orders from Colonel Hill to take three companies and go out to the house, skirmish through the woods and see whether I could find any of the partisan gentry, I deployed through the woods but found nobody. On marching along a hedge I discovered a mule's tail with my field glass, protruding out of a hedge some distance from us. I sent several men out towards the place where I saw the tail, and when the report was there were six mules bridled hid in the hedge. Ordered them to take them along. Perhaps the guerrillas had scattered them there. We went to Mr. Montgomery's house and took the old man with us as a hostage for theproper treatment of our men, who we learned had been captured by his son, a noted guerrilla. We stopped at a few other places to get familiar and returned to camp by way of Edward's Depot, quite late to camp tired and hungry.
Saturday, 13. A number of rebel deserters, union refugees and negroes are daily coming into our lines who report the rebel army demoralized and everywhere dissatisfied with the tyrannical laws of the Jeff. Davis despotism. They also report that Gen. Sherman is advancing without much opposition. A delegation of six men arrived from the interior counties of this state with a petition bearing over five hundred signatures and to which more would have been added if the paper could have been obtained, praying the forces of the United States to come among them to assist them in organizing themselves against the Confederate authorities to resist the rebel conscription which forces every able bodied man into the Confederacy into their army. Compelling even the soldiers whose term of enlistment has expired to continue in the service. If the people of the South could have their own way I think a great many would emigrate to the North. I met two families of refugees who came from Alabama, a distance of three hundred miles, they were tolerably intelligent and reported it very difficult for persons to escape from the Confederacy, one young husband and father of one of the families, casing through the rebel lines disguised as a woman, these people say dissatisfaction is becoming more general in the South and the common people say this war is the rich man's harvest and the poor man's fight.
Sunday 14. Today I took several companies out to get more lumber, we went to Dr. Philip's plantation which was entirely deserted, it is about five miles from our camp. On the way we found several persons who reported from 50 to 100 rebels in the vicinity. I had my command completely organized and moved on carefully. I soon discovered numerous hideouts, but was not disturbed. The doctor's plantation is very beautiful, it costs a great deal of labor to bring a plantation to such a degree of culture, as this is, it is almost a paradise and it seems to me that if I could be the honor of such a beauty, I would certainly stay and defend it at all hazards, but it is said the doctor took fright one night at his slaves, since he entertained the horrible idea that they intended to kill him. We found a great many valuable books in his house which we took with us. I found a small library and only wish that I could end it at home, but the very next time we move I will be compelled to abandon it. We tore down his splendid mansion, and took other goods which would make us comfortable in camp. The furniture which the doctor left in his house had been taken by the slaves of the surrounding plantations, well if it had been at the house at our arrival there it would not have been after our departure. We arrived in camp very late, tired and hungry.
Monday 15. I commenced to erect a small building for myself; the building will be 12 x 12 ft ten feet high with two feet slope, two windows and a good floor. The furniture will consist of two benches one above another, each 2' 6" feet wide and 7' 6" long, one large table, two small benches, one old chair, some pins nailed against the side of the house to hang clothes on, one small tin stove, and a piece of carpet. Also not to be forgotten is the library which I confiscate at doctor Phillips Plantation. Now don't you think this a very grand residence for a captain? Why not build a home like this in this county when building material is so cheap here? We hear from General Sherman occasionally. The report from him still continues favorable. He is pursuing the rebels north, the rebels cannot comprehend his movement and fear he will move in some direction they least anticipate. Negroes and deserters continue to come into our lines, the latter appear to be very much dissatisfied with the Confederacy, and say they are fully convinced the rebels cannot hold our much longer, their army is demoralized and accounts of the triumphs which their government has made them and broken, and the small wages and the short rations they receive plus their poor and insufficient clothing. They say they cannot fight for their principles any longer since their leaders are not true to them, and why should they sacrifice their lives in a cause which cannot succeed.
Tuesday 16. There is an immense amount of cotton coming into our lines, and some persons say that some officers of our army, high in authority, are considerably interested in the cotton business. I know not how this is, but I think that a fine chance is offered to some man to make a few thousand dollars. A number of citizens in this neighborhood are also making notes of greenbacks, and they seem to appreciate the money of our government but seem to care very little about the government, but they will soon come to a proper understanding of the issue now before them, and ere many days have passed, they will see their error.

Wednesday 17. Nothing of special importance transpired today. Our brigade drills are still going on, and Colonel J. B. Thiele, displays his want of military knowledge at every one of them, to the supreme delight of officers of neighboring regiments and to the mortification of the officers and men of his command; he gives fearlessly a single command without making a blunder, and of course such conduct will tend to lessen the confidence his authority, feel in him, and many a man has told me, "if we could only have a good military man at the head of our regiments we would have one of the best regiments in the service, for we have as good soldiers in the ranks as any regiment, but we have not a good commander."
Thursday 18. In speaking of our colonel, I desire further that I consider him a most excellent man as far as moral excellence is concerned, and believe it is his intention to do right, but he is not a soldier and I fear never will be; he has not the material of which a good commander should be composed.

A great many rumors reach us concerning general Smith. Command of cavalry which should here have made a junction with General Sherman, but in account of the delay of some Pennsylvania and New York troops, the enemy concentrated his cavalry forces under Generals Lee, Forrest, and Cheatham, and is reported to have defeated Gen. Smith and compelled him to fall back towards Memphis, and it is believed this will force General Sherman to return south. He is said to be tearing up the R.R. at Meridian.

Friday 19. A great stir is being made by politicians to nominate, or by having certain influences to hear upon certain prominent men of our country which will nominate and elevate them to the highest positions which the people of our country can hold. In its citizens, the majority of the people and the soldiers are in favor of continuing the present president in office, our honest old Abraham, he is my first choice. I. P. Chase our worthy secretary of the treasury, is favorably spoken of for the distinguished position of President of the United States. I think we should have a man as the helms of the ship of state, who can guide her steadily without compromise.
Saturday 20.

I have my house completed and enjoyed it very much today. I feel quite at home. I wrote several letters to my friends today and read some news and some extracts from some of my books. In the evening Dr. Balfour, Capt. Hose and Dr. Kennedy, Khan and Scobey were in my house and we had a very social time late eleven o'clock, when our circle broke up.

I do not count the society of men as much as most men but when I find men who are capable of making themselves agreeable. I love to spend a few hours with them in social intercourse, for I have insufficient trade and must have some time for recreation.

Sunday 21.

My company made an excellent appearance this morning at inspection. We had divine service as the chaplain's hut which is placed in almost like, all by itself in the bottom near the river. The chaplain made some remarks, while the auditors were waiting for Mr. Borden, an agent of the Christian Commission who arrived pretty late, and delivered a short, but interesting discourse, so it was to be left a number of tracts and papers to be distributed among the men of the regiment, which the men erred at the very speedily. I think the Christian Commission is doing a very good work among the soldiers in supplying them with useful reading, this tends to allay the demoralizing influence of the yellow-covered literature, which is extensively read.
Monday 22.

This is Washington's birthday. I feel as if I could feel his noble spirit where once inspiring his countrymen to cease the cruel war for the destruction of the noble republic of his own creation, over which he presided and watched for many years with so much anxious care, and to whose people he left one of the greatest legacies, mortal man ever bequeathed to his heirs that is his Farewell address, which has been rarely read and studied by the American people this war would never have commenced, but alas his wise counsel was not taken. O hearing me noble Washington, breathe upon us thy holy influence, that we may soon have peace.

I have not been well all day and had to be in my bed while the rest of our troops had a grand review, which is said to have been a fine affair, it wound up by the firing of cannon. The city of Mobile was also treated to a review by General McArthur, the Commander of the post. It is said the negro troops, as this place makes a very good appearance, the black soldiers are meeting with more favor now than they did in the beginning of their organization, because they appear to do their duties well as soldiers, they keep their arms, accoutrements and clothing in very good order, and as far as I know have always behaved with commendable manners before the enemy. The army is a fine place to prepare them for freedom.
Saturday 23

I have neglected my journal for sometime and therefore may not give the exact dates of several occurrences. The men of Co. 7 of our regiment who were captured a short time since by the rebels near Montgomery's plantation have returned to us, having been recaptured by the Marine Fleet, with the rebels who had them in charge; they feel exceedingly glad over this good fortune. They say the rebels treated them very well and shared whatever they had with them. They were on their way to Richmond but as good fortune would have it they did not get many miles on their journey. They were retaken on the Mississippi river near the Yazoo.

Thursday 24

The reconstruction question is claiming a good deal of attention in the state of Tennessee, some of its citizens demand pay for their slaves before they will consent to abolish slavery, others are more liberal and say, if the government is to reimburse loyal owners for their slaves, it ought to do so for everything which loyal people lost in this way and which the Confederacy state from them; if men can not let their slaves go free and heartily support the President's plan of reconstruction without slavery, I say they should not come back at all until compelled to do so by force of arms, in my opinion slaves have no right to claim payment for this property since they have ruined the State constitution which has been the cause of this war, and so much suffering.
Thursday 25

The people of the north are again considerably excited about the impending draft, according with the President's recent proclamation five hundred thousand men must be raised by the 1st of March otherwise there will be a draft by the 10 of next month. The people of Iowa and other Western states are trying to raise their quotas by offering volunteers an additional bounty and they think that by this means the draft can be avoided by these states. The soldiers are very anxious to have the draft come off, they say it would do them good to see some of their copperheads and blustering friends in the ranks with their knapsacks and equipments on marching with them through the Confederacy. But if the quota can be raised without a draft I am in favor of having it done, but I am also opposed to this system of giving enormous bounties to volunteers by the general and local governments, since they will finally be raised again by taxation and the soldiers will have to pay part of it back to the government, why not leave soldiers from taxation during the war? Why not support their families at home? Or why not pay the soldiers better wages? Would it not be a better war policy than paying those enormous bounties? A great many men will enlist now simply for the money, and while soldiers make very poor ones, and drive continually to secure their discharge, thus only become a burden instead of a help to our country.
Friday 31. I have been having the blues for sometime.
I can not fully explain the cause of my feeling so, but I do not think that I am getting any
right in the regiment. I see many favors shown
to persons here who are not entitled to them. I do
not find any mention of faithfulness in duty things in
this regiment. It appears to be managed by favor
more than anything else, the greatest flatters
are most appreciated by those in authority, and
when officers who are constantly on hand and
always do their duty, but who have the boldness
to express their dissatisfaction at some of the
mismanagement of their superiors, ask for any
favors they can not obtain them. I have claimed
my position in the extreme right of the regiment
for sometime, but it has been denied me.
Because the colonel supposed I was not suitable
to it by rank, since regulations said nothing
about it, after I proved to him that the
the regulations did say that: 'Companies will
be formed in the battalion in accordance with
the rank of their captains'; he said he thought
this had reference to the organization of
the regiment. I answered, 'it' says, companies will
be formed 100, when why when they are not 20
formed', 'are our companies as formed?', 'No.'
Then it is your duty to form them as.' He has
promised to consider it for the last week
but it appears he does not intend to do so.
The regiments in our brigade are as formed. I
spoke to him again today, I told him for the last time
Saturday 24. Finally today Colonel Hill gave notice to the officers an parade that thereafter the regiment would be formed in accordance with the rank of the captains, because the other regiments of our brigade had done so. I hoped he would say because it is in accordance with regulations, but he did not do so. I had concluded to leave the regiment if I did not obtain my proper position. I feel a little better now, still I wish the war would speedily terminate. I am sick of it, there are too many things that annoy me in the army. Some of our men are catching some very fine fish in the river, some soldiers attempted to dig out a pond, to lead the water into the river, this pond is full of fish but they cannot be easily obtained. I would love to have a dish of fish myself, I have not had any yet.

Sunday 25. How foolishly I spend my time, here I sit and lie about not engaged in any particular thing sometimes sleeping for hours, I could employ it more profitably. I know, but what a tremendous power habit will have over a person, I should leave off being so idle, but many a time I make a resolution and break it as often as I make it. I must be more diligent in the future for a man's life is very short here and it is his duty to improve himself while he does live, only the thoroughly educated man can enjoy life properly.
Monday 29. My men are on picket duty today and it is raining fearfully hard. I pity the poor men. Just imagine the rain pouring down in torrents, and the soldiers on a prairie pit, any shelter dripping with rain, is this bad isn't it? Then at night to lie down on the wet ground with the water running beneath, and pouring down from above on them, is this picture agreeable to you who are enjoying your good cheerful fire with your family at your side and then when you are sleepy to lie down on your downy bed, do you ever think of the poor soldiers who are out battling for their and your loved country? If they conquer the rebels shouldn't you not reward them and feel grateful towards them for all they have done and endured for your sake as well as others? There never was such true patriotism displayed in any country as there is in ours in this war.

I feel proud of it and also that I am a soldier in the army of the United States of America.

March 1.

It still continues to rain, I amused myself the greater part of the day in completing my different returns and rolls for the last month. I was assisted in this work by my brother Henry who is taking hold of the work quite well, he aims to improve and to make his work look well, he is a very steady and good fellow, beloved by all his comrades in the company. He is a good soldier.
While I was drilling my Company, the Iowa Brigade, composed of the 11th, 13th, 15th, and 16th Iowa Regiments, arrived, and I saw some of my old friends who reported some dreadful stories of the expedition which I do not think reflect any credit on the participants, robbing and burning houses, over the heads of innocent women and children, it is brutal, and I hoped to be spared such tales of the Union army, but it is now assuming a very hard and destructive and plunder mark its progress through the country which we are trying to reclaim by force of arms from whom all. I had scarcely got half way to camp when I noticed that our camp was in motion. I went and ascertained that we were ordered to move in a few hours. I packed up and was ready more than an hour before we started. We marched half way to Tickaburry, where we camped for the night. It is a beautiful place where we are camped. We are having a nice place for our company, plenty of room and heads to live on, good water, and my men see the advantage of being on the right of the road.

At four o'clock we were up made fires, cooked our breakfast, and packed our baggage on the wagon, and can and corn found us some distance on our way. We marched inside of the fortifications of Tickaburry, into a low place a hallow or valley near the cemetery where we camped, it is a good fifty feet...
Sunday 6. Had inspection this morning after which I went to Vicksburg and attended divine service at Christ's Church. I heard good singing and praying but no sermon. This disappointed me a little but I guess it is all for the best since it directed my thoughts to heaven and I had an opportunity to commune with my heavenly Father. I went to Schroeder's and took dinner. On my way home I stepped into St. Kern's tent, the R. told me all about St. Mayer's base conduct on Big Black River Bridge. St. Mayer, deserted himself from his command without leave, and spent about a week with a prostitute in Vicksburg, he returned to his command with her (that is to the headquarters of his command) as he ascertained that it had left his General for Mosier, arrived and found the woman in his tent, and ordered Mayer and her to leave. Mayer took her to St. Kern's tent and without first obtaining his consent left her there. It is said that St. Mayer is under arrest; also that he deserted Mrs. Schroeder in Vicksburg under the pretense of marriage. If this is the case, I am going to use my influence to have him removed from my company, he is morally corrupt, and has disgraced his commission in the army by his unmanly conduct.

Monday 7. I went to Vicksburg today to make some purchases. The 4th and 12th Iowa regiments went home as veterans for 90 days. Our division will be commanded by Gen. Mosier, Gen. Little goes to S. H. W. Hill, Commandant and Brig. and Col. Wheeler and Capt.
Friday 8th. It is raining in streams, and we have marched from our camp through all this rain to Nicholson, we are thoroughly wet and very muddy, and considerable trouble in getting here. Finally pitched our tents there, we struck them and marched on board the marine steamer "Bellie," but they refused to keep us in this boat, after some argument however they took us on, and we are here without any accommodations whatever, the officers are compelled to lie on the floor with their men and cannot have a chance of having their dinners cooked. Petty, rough.

This morning I had a difficulty with one of my men, George H. Camp, the baker, who was very much excited because he was relieved as baker and ordered to report to his regiment. In conversing with him he called me a liar. I drew my sword on him and told him if he made the repetition I would run him through. He did not repeat it. He had the impression to me the most contemptuous familiarity toward me. (The above should be marked the 9th inst.)

Wednesday 9th. Left another regiment on board the fifth Minnesota Vol. I was constrained in the date what I wrote as having happened yesterday occurred today. The 9th inst. are absent in camp.

I wish to say something of the beautiful grave yard as Nicholson there are some fine vaults in, some are said to have contained costly coffins, and gold etc. which the soldiers took away.
Thursday 11. Every body is busy today in securing his baggage on board the boat and in writing letters to his friends. What a bustle and hurly burly there is everywhere. I laid in a good stock of provisions for this trip. Had my measure taken for a suit of new clothes, which I rent Mr. Jerome Brothers at Massacree Linn.

This evening our expedition left Tickfaw, it consists of 7500 men, on 18 transports and convoyed by several gun boats. I wish it success, may it accomplish its object. We are having a very crowded time on board this boat; it is very uncomfortable. Alright.

Friday 11. At sunrise this morning we passed Natchez, arrived at a plantation two miles above Red river where we landed, several gun boats can be seen at the mouth of the river. The entire expedition remained here today, and while here the soldiers got on shore and first took all the chickens, pigs, potatoes and cattle. Some not content with this commenced plundering the negro chattels and stole all the money the poor blacks had earned by their hard labor for years, one old tailor had $1250, taken, for which he had worked very hard. He said, one young negro woman lost $15, and other goods she was very much. One negroess had some gold earrings stolen most content with this they set the main house on fire, because they had found a Confederate flag and a Confederate Commission for the owner of the
Plantation. This was only a Pretense however to destroy his property and to plunder his house. For it was afterwards ascertained that the Pretend Confederate flag was nothing but a red and white window curtain and the Commissary was late 1841, it was for the State militia. I feel very sorry that this has happened, we should protect the citizens of this state if loyal and encourage them to organize a civil government under Lincoln's proclamation, which they are now trying to do. If the man whose property was so wantonly destroyed is a rebel why not let our superior officers give the proper commands to destroy their property or to imprison them some other way. We lost $1,500 in effects which come man and in the ruins. Why cannot this vandalism be stopped?

Saturday 12th.
At nine o'clock this morning we were ordered to fire up, and we got off at a little before noon; the gun boat and rafts went ahead our boat was the Fourth transport after the head quarters boat, instead of continuing our course in Red river we went down the Desalvo or a river of similar name, about 15 miles to Delegalo Bayou where we landed. The rebels had erected rifle pits on the one bank of the river. I and Capt. Dill and Mr. Clark, walked out to reconnoiter, we passed a Catholic church, and a half a mile from there we came upon a deserted Rebel camp, it had been abandoned this afternoon; the force
which had been stationed there did not number over 150 men, the appearance of things indicated that they had abandoned it very hastily. Their knapsacks, provisions &c. were lying about on the ground, their tents remained standing in camp.

Capt. Dill & Clark and I found several articles of good clothing which we took with us, Capt. Dill obtained several fine things, among the rest a watch. I found an Irish woman in the vicinity who was very much frightened, I succeeded in calming her but she did not give me much information.

She claims to be a Royal woman. I obtained some milk and eggs from her. The country through which we passed, presents a very high state of perfection, beautiful plantations especially sugar plantations lined the banks of the river generally in sight of each other,

a few insignificant houses were interspersed inhabited with negroes, or what the inhabitants of the South call: "Poor white trash." The rich people have left and their plantations are now inhabited by negro women and children or mulattoes the latter are very numerosous here. The river is very narrow so much so that our boat had just sufficient room to turn around and no more. I am really disappointed in this Country and the river of the first I entered it to be more extensive, but it is high and dry, the latter is smaller than I imagined it. A heavy guard was thrown out this evening, the enemy came
Sunday 13

This morning at 7 o'clock our Command disembarked and marched within one mile of Fort Taylor, an unfinished rebel work of considerable magnitude, and strength, near Rayon Deblaze, where the second brigade joined into line of battle, and advanced on the works we formed immediately in their rear and waited; they moved on steadily without opposition and entered the works without firing a shot or seeing an enemy. Our Brigade moved up, and I went into the works and examined them critically, I think I never saw any earth works whose front exceeded these, but they were sadly deficient in the rear in deed they were not protected at all in the rear, and therefore untenable. The second Brigade moved on and succeeded in capturing a train of five wagons with commissary and officers' baggage and eleven prisoners. Waited until the 2nd Div. returned to the fort, then retraced our steps to our boats. Shortly after our arrival at the levee we were ordered to prepare for a march, which we did immediately by taking with us our blankets, and seven days' rations of hard bread, salt & coffee. I suspect the intention is to forage sufficient provender during our progress through rebeldom. We left our boats at 7 o'clock P.M., but waited in the road near the river till 9 o'clock P.M., we marched very rapidly for seven miles, through a level and well settled and cultivated country; at midnight we rested at a large plantation; where we made short work of the fences and other lumber on the premises to make our beds for the night.
Monday 14

The rose at four this morning. Partook of the most delicious breakfast coffee and "loạebble." we passed through the burning Jfr. "Floyd," and are now on our way to the rebel fort "De Ponta Gua." Passed over a beautiful country through a little village called Marsville, near which our advance and the whole had a correspondence, but we succeeded in crossing the Ragoon below them, thus and flanking them, while our forces division drawn up in line of battle at a bridge to prevent an crossing the road through the bottom was swampy, but after we got through it, the most beautiful landscape came, a regular Delta scenery. Came in sight, we reached a level plain at least one hundred feet above the rest of the country over which we had travelled, interspersed with very large plantations, with herds of cattle, sheep, and hogs. Marched through another village called Menzega, inhabited by Thirteen, the entire county through which we have passed today contains nothing of the sort of people French inhabitants, who seem to be in a sufficiently condition. A few miles from the last named town we came upon another village called Coscville also settled by the French, situated on a grand prairie stretching for many miles around, resembling our magnificent prairies of our own beloved Cowan. The town a community here in a very flourishing condition, some pretty homes looked out of the windows and smiled upon the poor fellows almost running by them, while others were promenading in the garden with a catholic chaplain of our army. On our march we did not disturb any property of the people except
some poultry and forage. General D. J. Smith, Commanding, has issued an order strictly prohibiting soldiers from visiting houses unless accompanied by a commissioned officer who will be held responsible for their acts in his presence. I soon saw a march conducted thus, without committing those wanton depredations on private property which have hitherto disfigured our army in the sight of all good men. Another town was passed by us in which the people had a peace flag and the French flag displayed; it is a fine little town, where things appeared in a neat condition, with its tidy business-like looking citizens smiling on us as we passed them, the buildings are of the cheapest architecture, but conveniently arranged with their postices and pleasant gardens attached. They have the appurtenances of civil government also in this town, a jail and courthouse. Fort De Russy is but four miles from this town. We marched two miles farther when the booming of heavy siege guns announced that our gun boats had arrived in front of the fort, and our advance in the rear of the same, in a few minutes afterwards we learned that the ball was opened by our infantry, musketry firing could be distinctly heard, and a shell which buried itself into the ground near us told nothing the whiles intended to keep us off if they possibly could. We lay for an hour one and a half miles in the rear of the fort, then we heard heavy musketry firing, and tremendous cheering, our
ambulances came in one after another carrying our wounded horses to the rear. Suddenly troops near us commenced cheering and the news arrived that the 24th and 27th Illinois, 5th Mo. 55th Ill. Regt. and others made the charge and took it, the 24th Mo. planting its colors first on the enemy's works and the 14th Iowa next. I saw First Sergeant A. M. Baker of the 14th Iowa, was glad to see him, brave boy, he is an old college chum of mine, of course I loved to see him. This regiment had but six men wounded in the charge. I believe our entire loss is six killed and twenty wounded. We captured between 800 and 1000 prisoners, 200 firearms, 500 small arms, eight heavy Parrott rifles, great quantity of ammunition, and other appendages of a military garrison. Started from camp for the front after dark, while walking along the road in the forest I saw two men approach me, I permitted them to come up to me, said them "Good evening" and asked them, who they were, whence they came and whither they were going?" I ascertained that one was a rebel deserter who desired to come into our lines, the other a negro, who also wanted to come to the Yankees, he was almost entirely naked, without shoes, and clad in rags, so that half of his skin was visible, he complained very bitterly of the ill usage he had received at the hands of his masters, he told me the darkies were treated like brutes, forced to work hard and when they are not taken care of by their owners I gave him some crackers, those which our men return asnvighty. he loved them well and devoured
several dozen, with great anxiety, he appeared to be nearly stinted, and listened what he said: "If the maesum says I do jest want to talk, he had since las Christmas year ago. I took him to camp and told him I was free it did me good to talk him so, he was very glad and expressed his joy by shouting "Oh, Lord, I've been waiting for you a long time can you all come at las." He is quite a strong able-bodied darky, I went into the fort where I saw about 300 prisoners. The fort is a great structure not quite completed, with high walls and deep ditches, so it is very difficult for men to get into it. As soon as the union troops got onto the works the rebels surrendered, but one of their number a very recently conscript by them came running up to the rest with his gun in his hand when one of our soldiers shot him dead. This is declared by the best fort never 29m. Connect with another fort on the river, a quarter of a mile from each other, where the walls had their last works, iron hand proof covering and four heavy parrottens which they formerly captured of the Indians, if they had obtained time to have finished there work it would have been very difficult for us to have taken them if they had also a gentry strong garrison in them. Since few rebels now guarded the place longer well, there is a company of Texas Germans with them, mostly cow Indians, who are willing to lay down their arms provided we will not place the negroes on an equality with them in making soldiers of them, which is a simple argument for these deluded men to use.
Wednesday 15. This is a cold clear morning. While I am writing our men are preparing for the snowball; I will cease writing now and fill up the record of this day doing so. We marched to our boats and embarked. I took a good look at the rebel works, they present a very interesting view and are certainly planned by and executed under the guidance of a military genius. We left the fort towards evening, a brigade of our troops remained to garrison the place till our return. We tied up at 8 o'clock P.M. I am officer of the day today. The river is extremely narrow, and has numerous bends in it, so that it is very difficult for the large boats as ours to navigate it. We are going to Alexandria.

Wednesday 16. I had my hands full today in keeping order on the boats, it is difficult to make the men remain in their proper places and unless they do so it is almost impossible to manage our boat; the river is narrow and very crooked. Our boys as a general thing are good men, but a few of them seem to have no feeling whatever for their yellow man nor any living being, while rowing down the river they would cheat as goats, dogs, and other beasts, and one even was so brutal as to thrust at a boy who was horseback. Peaceably riding along the shore, he fell off his horse as if he was hit, but I hope he is not. I endeavored to stop this so much as I could, but it was almost impossible to ascertain who fired. We reached Alexandria this afternoon about three o'clock, the while had left. Some of their boats were in sight when our gunboats arrived, no engagement took place.
After I was relieved as officer of the day I went up town to take a look at it. I got acquainted with several German families and learned that there were a good many Germans in the town who had been much persecuted on account of their union sentiments; they are very glad to see us and hope we may remain here, if we go away again they intend to go with us. I gave one woman a guard of five men to protect her store. Her husband fled to New Orleans because he would not join the Confederate army. She appears to be a fine woman, her name is Nicolas. It is said this town is three-fourths union and I almost believe it for I saw a good many people who professed to be glad to see us. Notwithstanding General Smith's order, our men are committing many depredations; it is exceedingly difficult to prevent them from committing such acts. It has been allowed them too long many a time. I arrested two Germans who made themselves known as deserters from the rebel army. The town of Alexandria is situated on the southern bank of the Red River, it contains perhaps 4,000 inhabitants, who seem to possess good business qualifications, for many fine business houses are found in the town. The private residences of the citizens are mostly built of frame and have gardens about them. The fine respectable business streets here. The town is located on a large level prairie, where numerous large plantations can be seen. The opposite side of the river has also a good many houses, perhaps it is a town, but I have not learned its name.
Thursday 17. This morning my Company, Co. B of our regiment and two companies from the 30th Mo. all under the Command of Major D. Johnston, went out into the Country with three teams for the purpose of foraging. About three miles from town we came to a most grand plantation, it has the land part & evergreen, the trees are trained in beautiful shapes and the walks are tastefully arranged with evergreens on each side of them. Here we rested for a few minutes, and our men made the chickens "get". I got some milk from the landlady. We rode about one and a half miles further, where we found a deserted plantation, with a very valuable library, of which I obtained a few books. As we were loading our wagons, Captain Pate and his Company came in, and reported the rebels advancing on us, a few minutes later, a Lieut. and his Co. came in and reported the rebels in full approaching us. I asked permission from major Johnston to take my Company and advance, he said I might go. I threw out skirmishers on either side of the main road and in the road and moved on to meet the enemy, but after advancing one and a half miles, where we had been seen I halted, not having been any. We drove in a vast number of cattle and sheep, and I permitted my men to skirmish back over two plantations, and the result was that every man had at least one chicken, duck or turkey. It was a beautiful sight to see us come into camp with our poultry."
Friday 18.

Visited my German friends in town who were glad to see me, and with whom I had a very social time. I was the means of saving a lot of sugar (24 pounds) for Mr. Enzoff, a true Israelite but a good union man, the father-in-law of Mr. Nicolas. This evening an old locomotive and two open cars, which were found here, and had been sent and twelve miles from here today, with troops returned, the men report that they ran onto rebel camps, and have several hundred Confederate advancing towards them, our men retreated, and came to camp without the loss of a man. This rail road runs but 14 miles from here to some large plantations, for the purpose of shipping in their sugar and cotton, it is constructed of wood with an iron covering for the rails. The locomotive is mostly made of wood. The entire road is said to be owned by one sick planter. Chaplin Evans and I took a walk this evening and had a long and interesting talk with each other. It is said that Banks will be here in a few days with an overwhelming force, then we will move onto Shreveport, and clean the rebels out.

Saturday 19.

This was rather a dull day, nothing of any importance occurred today. The people as a general thing are anxious to take the oath of allegiance to our government. Most of my men have made acquaintances with German families in town, and are making themselves quite at home with them, the people are glad to see them.
Sunday 30. Arranged my business early this morning and visited Mrs. Nicolas and family. I remained with them all day, had a very good dinner, a very fine social time, and read a good novel based on facts called: The Landholder. Contrary to the life and scheme of attempting to revolutionise the government of the U.S. and Mexico in order to form an empire of his own, but he singularly failed and came very near losing his life as a traitor to his country.

All the churches in this city except the Catholic church were closed today. It appears the clergy are too much engaged in the political condition of the country to permit them to attend to their religious duties properly. It is a fact verified by the history of previous ages and nations that the clergy always exerted a powerful influence on every people, sometimes dictating to them their laws and religion, or the time they should come when the people of every country will divest themselves of the superstitions yoke that binds them to the juggernauts of fanaticism, and learn to think and to act for themselves; it is certainly a wise ordinance in our laws to have church and state separate, because religious doctrines connected with other laws of the state are the most dangerous to any people. For may they be ever so conflicting the different believers of them, will sacrifice everything in their defense, and suppose to be doing God will.
Monday 21. This day will ever be remembered with pride by every soldier of the 35th Iowa, who participated in today's campaign and action with his regiment. We arrived at Four o'clock this morning by the shrill notes of the bugle, and the rolling sound of the drum; it seemed to mean once that something that required our presence was on the topis, not mere we kept long in suspense for an order to have your command in readiness to move at 5:30 A.M. with two day's rations, in their haversacks, was shown me, and we made the necessary preparations at once. Our usual breakfast consisting of the inevitable hard tack and good Rio Coffee was swiftly consumed, our haversacks were filled with rations, our blankets rolled up, our accoutrements and arms taken, the line was formed and we marched off to the martial notes of the bugle and drum, leaving the column. The weather was quite inclement, the rain had descended in torrents during the night and it still rained slightly this morning, but a heavy rain clouds threatened us. Continually to discharge their contents upon us. Our command halted a short distance from the city to permit the cavalry and a battery of light artillery to precede us; then we moved forward in quick time and continued our march at this rate without resting, for ten miles, when we rested a few minutes just sufficiently to chill us thoroughly, and looked the burning heaps of cotton, sugar and forage recently fired by the rebel cavalry, to prevent
the same from falling into Canute hands.
    Five miles from this place, the first rebels were seen and a few shots from our battery invited
    them to "come to," but they preferred to distance.
    Another five miles brought us to a place where
    a bayon was immediately in our front, the
    country around us was cultivated and very level,
    the opposite side of the bayon was lined by a ridge
    of woodland; a Colonel of Cavalry was leading
    the advance with his Command, and suddenly
    came upon the rebel pikets who fired on him, and he was carried bleeding to the rear
    with two of his braves embraced in the sleep of
death. The rebels opened with their battery and
    thus announced to us their intention of contesting
    their position, to prevent its being dislodged by the
    vandal tread of the Canute hordes. Our cavalry
    advance formed in line of battle supported by the
    remainder of the troops, numbering about three
    thousand men, and a battery. I used my field
    glass and saw the enemy posted about two miles
    a head on the opposite side of the bayon, apparently
    in a fortified position. Our cavalry, one battery,
    one regiment and the 33rd New York crossed the bayon
    two or three miles below the rebels, and arrived in
    a very marshy country, where we found it exceedingly
    difficult to move our artillery, then we suddenly
    found ourselves in a dense pine forest, where
    nobody lives, and the road on which we
    were travelling was narrow and steep, dm.riable
    after advancing about several miles, and while our
cavalry was sweeping the country to find the enemy.

Col. C. of our regiment was ordered from the rear of our regiment to the front on the double quick, to
advance as skirmishers, the men were just eager
and merry but they went gladly to the
front anxious to find the rebels. They advanced
half a mile in front of the column, when they
were ordered to halt to await further orders. A short
time afterwards our cavalry made its appearance
and advanced as skirmishers and Co. C. was sent
back to the regiment. By this time darkness was rapidly
enveloping us, we were shivering with cold and wet.

The rain was descending on us in large drops, in
almost 9 streams of water; we had been wandering
about in the pine forest for several hours, separate
and alone, we stood now, wet and wet feet and
bodies, hungry and cold. Some of the men attempted
to kindle fires, but many a match and a considerable
quantity of kindling wood were used before a suffi-
ciently large flame was secured to withstand
the pouring rain. It was indeed a gloomy place
to be in, dark, cold and stormy. We dipped a
few pints of water from the neighboring pools
formed by the rain, and placed them on the fire
congratulating ourselves on the pine coffee we
would have to warm us, and strengthen us
for further exertion. Fast, the single rounds.

Forward, our coffee is just ready to be drank,
but alas, it is formed into our cheerful fire, and
mournfully we follow the steps of our comrades,
through mud and water, almost fainting and
discouraged by our ill success today. We had by this time marched nearly thirty miles, think of it, my friends, it is severe on soldiers to march thirty miles in such inclement weather and why did we do it? But what patriotism, what herculean endurance were manifested by our men not a murmur, not one word of discontent was uttered, the only sign of suffering noticeable were indistinguishable sighs which escaped the lips of some poor weary soldiers. We marched several miles towards the place whence we came, only some distance to the right of it. The column halted and was quiet; what is wrong? was asked, no one knew. In a short time we ascertained that the enemy's advanced pickets of cavalry and foot were there, and had been captured without firing a gun. They were at once secured by Company E of our regiment. A picket fire was noticed a short distance ahead of us on the road, a small force was sent in advance to surprise the pickets stationed there, in which they fully succeeded without firing a shot, the modus operandi was as follows: our men crept up to the whole sentinels at the fire where the rest of his comrades were sleeping, perhaps dreaming of their loved ones at home, to within a few yards, the sentinel would challenge, "Who goes there?" "Friends", our men would answer and would approach him quietly, perhaps into close conversation with him and they politely inform him that he was "gobbled" he of course would turn as
lie as a sheet, and quietly surrender to the "Canaris," for he knew full well the penalty of resistance. His comrades were also peacefully armed from the arms of the Americans and kindly informed that they were now in the hands of the Canaris, who were above playing on their favorite flutes. Two or similarly eight picked posts were surprised and taken without any alarm of our advance into their camp being given. Now we were only a few yards from their camp, what hopes and anxiety commingled in our breasts as we approached it in column silence. Right we were in different localities in the camps, and also in a few houses near us on the Plantations, one man reached the enclosure, a woman in the first house a small building to our right near us and her boy; to arms, to arms, the enemy, the enemy, rings clearly and distinctly through the camp, one of our men attends to the woman to keep her silent; we rush on, the 33rd Ins. a little in our rear, but part of the regiment along side of us, firing Commission at a large white house, the head quarters of the rebels where all their officers lodge. Our cannon and caissons were captured by our boys as soon as we entered the camp, another caisson and six horses came thundering through our ranks, some of our men were injured by them, but I hope not seriously. Lt. Henry Barnes A. A. A. General of our Brigade was thrown from his horse, by three runaways, and his horse was removed by them, and had his leg broken, but fortunately escaped uninjured.
Six hobbled horses broke loose from another caisson and came running along, but our men stopped them by killing one of them. The action was now fully commenced, some of the rebels attempted to escape and our men let them have a volley of leaden hail which checked them by leaving five of their number dead on the field. Every moment I expected to hear the cannon roar, since I had ascertained, that they had four pieces, and two only were in our possession, but a yell and a double quick placed them in our power at the critical moment, when the cannoners stood ready, waiting for the command of the officer to fire, to send some of our brave men to that better land from whence born no traveler returns; the pieces were double better, with ramrod and grapeshot, and many a one of us must have trod the earth with his blood if they had been discharged on us in the lane which was blocked full of our men, and then the butchery would have been awful, for the rebels would certainly have been bayoneted by our desperate men. But the officer in command of this action knew the consequences of firing those pieces, and he feared that he might kill many of his own men who were prisoners in our hands. A few of the rebels were killed while resisting the person demanding their surrender. One shot at Thomas Parcell, corporal of the Color guard, but fortunately the ball was not well aimed. It entered his mouth, injured his lip slightly and missed one of his teeth, the
shell was instantly bayonnetted. The work was ended, the
prisoners, cannon, horses and baggage were secured, and we moved on
bridge which the rebels had injured was repaired.
Several hundred of our men were mounted on Confederate
changers in poor condition however, I do not deem it
detract from the noble 33rd, Re. which stood gallantly
by no, but I must honestly admit that ninetenths
of all the work done tonight was done by the
35th Iowa. General Palmer, who was in command
and foremost in the action expressed himself
highly satisfied with the bearing of our regiment
and said: "it is well done, 35th Iowa". We marched
over the bayou to our camp, a distance of
about five miles, through mud and rain. We
reached the Confederate camp a little before midnight
and our camp a little after two o'clock the morning,
where we made large fires, spread our blankets
and ran to rest, well satisfied with the laurels
we won in this the first action in which
our regiment obtained an opportunity to distinguish
itself. And many few engagements have resulted
more gloriously, with no loss to the attacking
party, as this did, we had no man wounded
save the above mentioned corporal; the rebels
lost eight or nine killed, and several wounded.
We held about three hundred prisoners including
twenty commissioned officers, the highest in rank
among them is a Lt. Col. the Colonel escaped. The
command we have taken is the 20th. Ia. Cavalry and
Co. A. of the first Iowa light battery, the best confederate
soldiers I ever saw, they are spirited, have considerably
state pride, and appear to have been the fate of Louisiana, they are well clothed and look healthy. They feel a little chagrined at their capture and promise to repay us the first chance they get. The captured about five hundred horses and in addition to twelve cannon, I believe of which the artillerists felt quite proud, for they have rung the death knell to many a union soldier, but now they may avenge themselves, by sending the messenger of death into the rebel ranks, and breach Cherty and Union to a defeated people. The 35th Louisiana ranks now with the bravest of the brave, and our friends at home can see that the confidence they bestowed on it is placed on the right hand. Every man and officer of the 35th Louisiana did his duty, not one failed when ordered into command.

Thursday 22

We remained till noon near the scene of action of last night, looking up everything of value and awaiting for a rebel force said to be only twelve miles distant, under General D. Taylor and Walker, who are said to have two entire divisions of cavalry and fifty pieces of artillery, three messengers had been sent them the previous night, urging them to send reinforcements at once, but they were captured by us. Finally we moved, our regiment guarding the prisoners riding the rebel horses and having charge of the rebel battery. We marched till sundown and camped on Col. Hardie's plantation.
Wednesday 23. At seven o'clock this morning we again commenced our march with our prisoners for a few miles from the city. Captain Spencer's Company captured the rebel colors, tied it under our guidon and thus bore it along to the great humiliation of the rebels. Some of the prisoners are Irishmen and I had a talk with them. I asked them why they left their homes. Was it not because they desired to escape oppression and to enjoy liberty? Why then fight for slavery here? They acknowledged the propriety of my remarks and said they were anxious to take the oath of allegiance to our government and never more would they again fight for the planters of the South. We marched our prisoners and other captured property in good style through the city of Alexandria, where hundreds of people friends and relatives of the captives stood in astonishment to behold them. Several ladies gave expression to their feelings towards the prisoners as they passed them in their disgust and the prisoners' joy. They waited a few minutes at the Court house before they were confined in it, and during that time, several regiments of black soldiers passed by them in fine style, whose the rebels viewed with contempt, and said we might do anything with them but for heaven's sake not to permit negro soldiers to guard them. I had a conversation with Admiral T. Porter, who appears to be a fine man. About seventy negroes, came in this evening.
Thursday 24

General P. P. Banks, commanding the department of the East, arrived in the city today. It was raining nearly all day, and I remained in my small tent, in which I can scarcely turn myself, and read an interesting book. In the evening I attended one of the religious gatherings of the Freedmen. I did not think I would be so much impressed with solemnity as I was. The meeting was properly conducted, and one of the best prayers I ever heard was uttered by a colored man, he prayed as follows: "God of mercy, smile on thy humble worshipers, this evening and accept their humble offerings. For what thou hast bestowed upon them, gracious Father, give us sufficient light to enjoy the liberty thou hast given us. Inspire us with thy love. May we show ourselves worthy to be free. O God of mercy, bless our soldiers of the union, may they conquer the rebels, live with the sick and the wounded on the battle field, bless our enemies, bless our masters and their families, may they see the error of their ways, and turn into the path of right and righteousness. Be with us O Lord, assist me to do thy will, and when our Cause as our Father in heaven, in the Kingdom for Christ, and for Amen."

A true spirit of devotion seemed to pervade the congregation; they would sing and pray together; some of them went about shaking one by the hand and seemed to enjoy themselves.
Friday 25. This was a very cheerful day, I spent it principally in writing. I visited Mrs. Nicolas and Mr. Enhoff, in whose house I wrote several essays today. I assisted them in several particulars for which they feel very grateful. I saw a great many of Gen. Banks' troops pass through this city, they were mostly New York troops, all eastern men however, the appearance of the 89th Maine regiment pleased me most. Several heavy pieces of siege ordnance, 32 lb. Harrott guns make a good appearance. The Acassous are rather hanging their heads and are beginning to think their cause a hopeless one. Some enterprising Yankees are already opening trade here and Confederate scrip is decidedly below par, goes almost worthless here. This evening we received orders to march at three o'clock tomorrow morning. Things were prepared that we may move without delay at the appointed time. Great changes may take place before I will again be permitted to write the passing eventful history which we are now making, in this my dear journal yet whatever may come, I will hear like a man and strive to fulfill the obligations imposed on me by my beloved country. That our army will conquer the whole wherever they are found is unquestionably true, yet how many noble lives it will cost to do it is not known. I pray God that He in his infinite mercy may be with us, and guide us to victory.
Saturday 26. Contrary to any expectation I am permitted to write again into my Journal after a few days marching. At moonlight this evening, we rose, took our baggage which we did not intend to take with us on the march, on board the steamer "Baltic," attended to all the business preparatory to a march, and moved out of town as late as 8 o'clock, when we were ready to start. Though a large nine bottle full of whiskey for the benefit of some of my men who might get sick on the march, for which I paid the respectable sum of five dollars U.S. currency at the bar on board the steamer "Black Hawk," just from New Orleans, the head pro best of Lou Runes. A bar is found on nearly every steamer that comes from the Crescent city, and they are filling money into their drawers as fast as they can take it. A number of butler stores are already opened in town, by some enterprising Runes whose coming money very fast. It is remarkable how rapidly commerce is again established in a city conquered by our Army. We marched quite moderately for several hours with frequent rests, we left the Eastern troops in camp at Alexandria, they lined the road for some distance from town onwards to see the Western troops who passed them with their distinctive nonchalance. In the afternoon we pushed on with considerable speed, and at dusk we bivouacked for the night near Bretho Bayou, a few miles to the side of the memorable Tensaw River. Having marched eighteen miles today, my boots are a little too tight for me and find this cause I have any right to beautifully adorned by a very large water blisters.
Sunday 3/11.

I sold me on a march, most necessarily, in the early morning. I must remark here that I am not in favor of this practice as earnestly Commanded to youth by some wise philosophers. I do not indulge in the beautiful enjoyment of sleep, but when it is necessary to rise early, I pray to the Lord to make me an early riser. This morning we were met in great haste to move, so long after exercise we were still waiting for orders to move. Our force consisted of Gen. S. P. Smith's Command, but is accompanied by considerable cavalry. This is one of the grandest mornings I have ever beheld. The sun's path sends his beam to us to cheer and strengthen us, all nature beams, and reminds me of its eternal beauty, that it is again assuming its most gorgeous robe. A sight like Christ's resurrection which this day Easter Sunday should recall to our minds. Why is not mortal man at peace with his fellows? All things are so calm, so peaceful around us this morning, and were it not for the war-like habitation, and the men around me, I could almost forget that I am a warrior engaged in mortal combat for the preservation of the rights of man. But to resume my thoughts of nature, let me ask: Is this the normal condition of man? When I commune with nature, it tells me in my soul's deep chamber. I permitted the main force of our column to precede me, playing some national airs on brass instruments, which heightened our enthusiasm. We reached Col. Bayes, and crossed it on a bridge which the rebels attempted but failed to destroy. We camped a few hundred yards from Red River, on Judge Bayes' Plantation about noon, in good quiet.
Monday, 28. We are camped in a corn field, and the little rain which fell last night made the ground as wet and sticky that it is not possible for a person to walk a few yards in it without having several pints of mud sticking to his boots. Some prowling rebels on the opposite side of the river that at some of our men who were fishing, but fortunately did not hit any one. The rebels are imitating the Russians in their retreat to Moscow, and are destroying cotton, corn, and everything which may be of use to us. A majority of the plantations in this county are deserted by their white inhabitants, who formerly lived in great splendor on them, they were soon little gardens of Eden where happiness sat quietly enthroned till the demon of recession, changed them into deserts, where want and misery now hold forth their revels in defiant mockery of law. — Some of our gunboats and transports arrived today, the large boats did not make their appearance; I fear they cannot come on account of the rapids, in case they do not come, we must have more small transports, for we must march to Shreveport which is not feasible.

Tuesday, 29. This is a section frequented by storms, a Newbern gale all day, and the dust and cold caused by it were to say the last, very disagreeable. For this reason I remained in my tent all day. A spirit of jealousy is apparent between the Eastern and Western troops. The latter do not admire the former and vice versa. I do not love to see it, yet I feel as if our Western soldiers are inferior to Eastern, and shall continue to do so, till I am convinced.
Wednesday 3d. We are still lying in the cornfield waiting for orders. It is said that Pemberton's army is moving toward Threepoint by another road. We are to take the boats here and ascend the river about sixty miles then disembark and move toward Threepoint, which is two hundred miles from this point. I am sorry to mention again the bad conduct of some of our men, who act with the spirit of brute more than intelligent moral agents. One man of our regiment of Co. E., Charles Demming, is said to have outraged the person of an elderly colored woman by violence in the presence of her husband and son. Oh, God! what a fiendish act this was. Some of our men crossed the river and set fire to several residences of absent Planters. I do not understand why our commanders do not punish such men severely, for such conduct disgraces our entire army. God cannot approve such a course in us and I am in favor of the most stringent measures to prevent its repetition. As I have often said, we can conduct this war with a magnanimous spirit, and should rather seek to protect, save, and restore, than to destroy needlessly private property.

Thursday 3d. We obtain plenty of fresh meat here and our new live grind well. Col. W. B. Keeler seems to have the welfare of the regiment at heart and sends up foraging parties who generally return with a sufficient number of cattle, hogs and sheep to last several days. Today another month is ended, time flies on in his eventful course, heedless of the pains, sufferings and revolutions among men.
April

Friday 1. Made up a number of monthly returns. The wind continued to blow dreadfully. This evening we received orders to move our baggage aboard the steamer "Meteor," which was done; the men had to sleep without tents tonight. I learned that our mail boat, the steamer La Crosse, was captured and burned by the rebels, a few days ago, eighteen miles below Alexandria La. during the heavy gale the boat was driven on shore, and during the absence of the captain of the boat and the guards it was seized and destroyed. The rebels will have a fine time reading some of our letters. Will eat fo' salt.

Saturday 2. The troops embarked this morning, one regiment, the 3rd Maine Inf. and several recruits of the 114th N.Y. Vol. were all packed on board the steamer "Meteor" at two o'clock. The fleet left its landing and began to ascend the river. The scenery on the river is not very grand, rather monotonous, interspersed with here and there a splendid plantation, one of which in particular attracted my attention, by its magnificent buildings and numerous negroes, indicating the great wealth of the owner, Mr. Calhoun. A crowd of negroes expressed their joy at seeing us, by clapping their hands shouting and wailing in success. A number of black girls and boys ran to the shore and scrambled, for the pieces of crackers which some of our men would throw them, if one of the little nips would catch a bit of a cracker, he would almost go into ecstacy, and dance and shout, holding the piece. We tied up after dark. I wrote till late tonight.
Sunday 3.

I finished an account of our Attack on Henderson's Hill, which I sent to the "Mercantile Journal" for publication. I was also officer of the day about 11 A.M. a man of Co. C of our regiment named John Dobson, fell overboard and drowned; he struggled for a long time in the water and several men lowered, but too late to save him. It rained quite hard today, which made it rather disagreeable for the men on the deck.

We disembarked on the opposite side of the town of Grand Ecore on Mr. Dabney's plantation about three P.M. and manoeuvred about that vicinity in search of some rebels who had fired on our men the evening previous. Capt. O'Donnell of Gen. Geo. T. Shove's staff, was with the arm. We were kept on shore all night during which a tremendous wind blew the sand and dust into our faces which made our lodgings very unpleasant; but then what is the difference, who cares for an officer or soldier, a brigadier is the lowest rank noticed here.

Monday 4.

At 7 o'clock A.M., we marched up the river a distance of five miles to a small town called Caumette where the enemy had a brigade of cavalry. Our force consisted of our and the 32d Rhode Island, and a brigade of cavalry. Our cavalry charged the rebels in town, but their advance guard was checked by a heavy fire from the enemy who was concealed in the houses in town, killing and wounding several officers and men; then the rebels fled to a neighboring forest to which our cavalry pursued them and drove them across a creek; the enemy took up part of the bridge over it, and when our cavalry
Wednesday 5. Again we marched at a little after sunrise, this time without breakfast; my company and co. 3d of our regiment led the advance. We marched three miles up the river with the same expedition as yesterday under Command.
of Col. Hubbard, route and call on General Hazen. We arrived here late last S.W. M. when our cavalry returned from their reconnoissance, reporting that the rebels had straggled 14 miles. We embarked on our boats crossed the river and went into camps near S. Dept quite back from our base march. Read an interesting journal of a gambler this evening which portrays very forcibly the condition of southern society, Drinking, Gambling, Whoring and Racing appear to have been the chief amusements among the idle boys here. Our men are still increasing in their deeds of vandalism plundering private homes, and stealing property throughout this family. One of my men stole a blanket, a blanket, I made him return it under guard. Why can this not be stopped? Did we come here to destroy or to protect private property? To violate or to execute the laws of country?

Wednesday 6. Long before daylight we were ordered to get ready to leave here at 6 A.M. My company unloaded some wagons and ammunition from the steamer "Meteor" got ourselves in readiness to march, but the order was countermanded. Having my old classmate Frank Brown, who is a first line colored regiment, he brought some recruits in from Ritchie today. I am glad to see him. He gave me a great deal of information about absent friends. I deem him an excellent officer and wish him success. He formerly belonged to the 1st S.C. The present movement do not suit me all seems to be confusion. The Mayor displayed himself this morning at grand mounting on very grand style;

Thursday 7. At 7 A.M. this morning we left our camp the last men and our baggage having been placed on board
the steamer "Hamilton." We marched through Grand Eau, a French named town which means "High Bluff," and it is properly so called, since its site is a very high bluff, surrounded by heavy pines; here the able general Beauregard has his residence. He was formerly a colonel in the U.S.A. and commanded the first to left in the Mexican war; he is too old now to take a part in the Confederate service, but does some engineering for the rebels occasionally. He is absent from his home now. His son is a prisoner in our hands. Near Grand Eau we met General Bankhead, who left his headquarters as our regiments came up to him, he seems to be a pleasant man, but he of the a few words to our men and returned the salute offered him by G. W. Walker; bent to gain and confidence he must prove his qualities as a good general by his commands in the field, before the enemy. We traveled nine miles when it commenced to rain very severely and we got a good soaking; the road became very rough and mud thickly; the country through which we passed is barren, nothing but fine lined our road, which passed through a hilly country. We saw but a few settlers on our way, and among them few on who live in a good house. We pitched till five P.M. and camped in the pine forest where we hurriedly erected shelters to protect us from the falling rain. Kindled large fires, prepared our rations, and retired to bed, to sleep off the weariness caused by our traveling fifteen miles today.

Friday 8. This morning we feel very much refreshed by our last night's rest, as we put on our clothes we were reminded...
By them that it rained yesterday on us. Our tents and 
shoes did not permit us to put them on; without considerable 
pulling and straining, we were ordered to march at 7 A.M. 
Banks' 18th and 19th Corps are perhaps fifteen or twenty-
miles in advance of us. Considerable fires were made this 
morning, which were soon firing of some of their pieces. Marched 
very slowly this morning with frequent rest, so that our 
march began to hand General Banks, who they said knew 
how to march troops, but they changed their opinion in 
the afternoon when we commenced to march in quick 
time and continued at this rate for eight miles. The slow 
marching in the morning was caused by the frequent 
camping of the train which was moved with difficulty 
at several places in the roads, owing to the poor condition 
of the latter since the last rain. We heard heavy cannon 
camping in our front apparently twelve miles from us, it 
was kept up at least one hour. Camped near Pleasant 
Hill, a mile from town, at 8 P.M. Wagon trains 
about a battle and Banks' defeat reached us that evening.

Saturday 7

At 7 A.M., the reveille aroused us from our pleasant 
shelter. Orders were given to extinguish our fires as 
soon as our breakfast was prepared, and to hold 
ourselves in readiness for any emergency. A number of 
troops and a large train came from the front. Among 
them several men coming from the battlefield who told 
us that "About sixteen miles from this place near 
Mansfield's General Lee in Command of Banks' 
Cavalry had been completely surprized by the rebels 
and lay in ambush, and had been terribly beaten. 
Their Cavalry got into a perfect panic and commutted"
the same to the train which was in their immediate
rear and several batteries also falling which became
an easy prey to the rebels, our infantry was brought
up the 13th Corps first, but it was sent in by small
details a brigade at a time, and though our men
fought nobly, they were terribly cut up and compelled
to fall back before superior numbers, the 19th Corps
was several hours behind when it should have been
up with the 13th, the 19th is commanded by General
Armour who is very much Censured as is general Lee
for permitting himself to be thus assailed. It is
said we lost one hundred and fifty wagons of
substances, seventeen of ammunition and twenty-two
by number of killed wounded and prisoners is not
known but must be quite large. The 24th and 25th Divi-
sions are reported badly cut up. It was a most
mournful affair and general Banks has lost the confidence of
himself. He waited till 3 P.M. when we left our camps and
marched towards the enemy near the town of Pleasant
Hills. Firing was kept up very briskly till five P.M.
When it commenced very heavily we are now five
P.M. in line of battle waiting for the enemy. We did
not wait long our men are coming running driven
back by the victorious enemy, in great disorder.
The rebels are coming charging after our men, the shells
and balls are striking around us fearfully. Now our batteries
on our right and left open on the fleeing rebels but
unluckily the first charge on them, but our line consisting of the 85th Loud. 85th N.Y. and
the 58th Ill, led by general Provine in person, gives
the rebels a tremendous volley of musketry and make
upon them, again and again one ground volley after volley into the vanishing ranks of the rebels, now the enemy falls back gradually, he rallies once more his broken men on us with shot shell and canister, but our men press him until he runs totally routed, one man was taken and captured at least 120 prisoners, and on we go into the forest, where we come upon three demonstrate guns near which dead rebels lie in all directions. We return to the main road and see no rebels are visible in our front, after waiting here a short time a few rebels again seen but we soon drove them back. By this time it was dark, we returned to our brigade. Thereafter these ascended from our rear because we are the victors and hold the battlefield. The bloodiest portion of the field was near a ditch which we had to pass, where rebels and federals lay dead, and wounded men ends. We honored the arms of the rebels and have demonstrated to them that German's guerrillas own fight, a few of the eastern regiments in our vicinity did not fight well while a number of them displayed a great deal of bravery. We rested from our march and looked up our dead and wounded. My company lost one man killed, Frank Schlenker, who was one of my best soldiers, he always did his duty nobly without complaint, he fought like a hero and died like a patriot in defense of his country and flag which he loved as an adopted son should love. May his conduct inspire others to do as nobly. Three of my men were wounded: Christian Krettel, below the knee, severely; Fred Schmutz, in the left upper arm, slightly; and Vanorman struck to my company from
the 8th. Lewr's. [sic] shot in the grooves of the left hand. Captain Henry Blank of Co. D. of our regt. was killed. He was a most honorable man and a good officer, loved by all who knew him. His Rogan and Kenna were wounded, the former severely. The loss of our regt. is: killed: one officer and six men, wounded: two officers, and fifty-four men, missing: three men. Our men cheered General Moncrief for his heroic conduct on the field. We slept on the battlefield tonight, expecting to follow the enemy in the morning.

Sunday 10. At two A.M. we were quietly awakened and ordered to fall in; but to our surprise marched in an opposite direction from the enemy and from the one we desired to go. It was quite dark, the stars giving us just sufficient light to see the road. That a bitter feeling of disappointment and sorrow took possession of our souls as we marched by our honored dead. Comrades who lay buried on the field of their glory, and found that it was impossible for us to perform the last and rites of soldiers and to give them at least a decent burial. Some of our early wounded were also left in the hospitals. We have never before this, made a countermand in the face of an enemy and now we must run away like thieves at night and leave our dead and some of our wounded Comrades to the mercy of the enemy, with many arms, clothing and other goods on the field. The rigorous Criticism towards the generalship of W. P. Banks, uttered by our soldiers were not very complimentary. Most of our wounded were finally taken with us. Christian Merkel, as good a soldier as ever fought in battle, a member of my Company, was left.
in the hospital for want of room in an ambulance. I sent some of his comrades to him to catch a horse or mule and bring him along, if possible, they die so, but the poor man suffered a great deal of pain, but endured it little a little. We traveled very rapidly till we arrived near our camp, which we left last Friday morning, here we bivouacked or camped out this evening. I took a good wash in a creek after supper, spread my blanket in the open air, my tent. I went to Parliament to sleep in, and return to rest meditating on what I have recently seen and experienced, and on our future condition, what will happen to us next? I awoke and fell asleep.

**Monday 11.**

It is said the rebels retreated nine miles from the battlefield the same night we left, badly demoralized, and leaving many wagons and artillery, being badly shot up. They sent in a flag of truce asking permission to bury their dead. But finding no one to receive it, they returned it to their army which moved back and took possession of the field. We began our march towards Grand Ecore A. Y. H. was in front of fifteen miles, our brigade was in the rear today. Reached our camps near Grand Ecore a little after sundown and made our beds, on which we rested our weary limbs.

**Tuesday 12.**

Our troops are above us and blockaded by a rebel battery. Heavy cannonading is heard about twelve miles from here it seems to be. It will be very severe on us if we lose our transportation, the river is an unfortunate river for our boats. We started out to forage, went along the river for several miles, but were compelled to alight without any forage, since some persons had taken the little that was left in this desolate country before we arrived.
will only return my journal if they capture our transports. They are welcome to everything else.

The river is falling rapidly and it is reported that a number of our gunboats can neither go up nor down the river. We are certainly in a bad predicament and may suffer a great many hardships as we are extricated. Look Christian Mortell to the hospital at Grand Gare today. Bought some provisions there.

Wednesday 13
Great excitement in camp, the enemy is said to be advancing on us. We prepared for battle but no enemy made his appearance. Heavy cannonading is still heard in the direction of Campite. Our boats have not arrived yet. Last night, the hearts of our men were soothed by the receipt of a very long mail. I received twenty-three letters and as many papers. The men did not retire to bed till very late tonight, reading their letters around their camp fires. How glad we were.

What a delightful scene it was to see the men with shining faces sharing over their letters. I wish you at home, if you could see us now, reading the letters you wrote us you would feel surely afraid for your labor and patience.

A pontoon bridge was laid over the river and a heavy force crossed and marched towards the cannonading to assist in relieving our transports.

Thursday 14
Church! Some of our transports made their appearance this morning at our landing, a few are well riddled by bullets. I took charge of a foraging party consisting of four men to go on the other side of the river. As we reached the other side of the river we learned that the
Pontoon bridge was taken up, and we were compelled to return to camp. It is now definitely known that the rebels retreated after their defeat at Pleasant Hill. It is said the rebels had retrieved in their camp, in which they had left powder, this is thought the reason of the insufficent courage to fight us. This is curious if true.

Friday 15.
The enemy is harassing us on all sides, planting batteries above and below us, what will happen next is impossible to predict, yet things around us look rather gloomy. The rebels captured some of our men on the opposite side of the river, who were a short distance from here foraging. A few boats arrived today with several regiments. Read papers today.

Saturday 16. I learned this morning that Mr. Jon Mayer is working hard to obtain the position of captain in Co. F of our regiment. Lt. Dayton and Lucas are also mentioned for the same position. At 9 a.m. we received orders to pack up and be ready to march. Read our luggage letter to the river to be loaded on the boat and are now waiting for further orders. The governor of the State of Mo. reviewed the Mo. troops in this command, the 24th and 33rd Infantry. He was accompanied by Gen. B. J. Smith and Gen. D. Hawes; Governor Booth made a short speech to the troops. He did, Gen. Smith and Moore, the latter are better soldiers than miners. The governor told the soldiers that the people owe them a debt of gratitude, which they can never repay them, and that the people of Mo. had sent them here to fight.
the soldiers of his state, for their vigorous and devoted
in defending our common country from an enemy
who is anxious to subvert our free institutions.
It is said however that government is a great
wise man, almost as much as a slaveholder, does not fully
endorse the policy of the Administration in Washington
in reference to slavery. This is the current day here.

Sunday 17. I wrote some letters today. Our tickets were sent away.

things have the appearance as if something of importance
will soon occur, some knowing ones say we will
don't go to Alexandria others that we will go to
Alexandria, and a smaller class of people that we
will remain here since Banks' forces are building
bomb proof at Grand Sear. Did considerable writing.

Monday 18. Again we prepared for a march. Hope we will get
down the river. Saw Thomas Davis and A W. Walker, make
preps for H. D. Exam our chaplains. Still in camp.

Tuesday 19. This morning at 5 o'clock, we were hustled out of our beds
to form a line of battle. Waited in line a few minutes, and
then placed ourselves in readiness to march. It is now 5 o'clock,
the drums of adjacent regiments are beating to fall in.
We are waiting for orders; most of our transport and
rifle were sent below us last night. What it all means
I am not able to decipher. It is quiet again.

Wednesday 20. Hold yourselves in readiness to move at an hour's notice,
this was the order given us today. At twelve we were led
our camp and moved after some panting through
Grand Cane to Natchitoches, where we arrived at four
P.M. after five miles hard marching through dust
and heat. Our Brigade was in the advance of nearly 20.
We formed a line of battle on a hill near town and our cavalry went to the front, we heard the cuult of
rifles from which I supposed they were skirmishing
with the enemy. Which cleared afterwards was the case.
We faced by the rear rank and stacked arms. Smith's
Command passed us and went into camp a short
distance ahead of us. My Company was placed on pickup.
Half of it went to the right of Hume, Bird's plantation
and the other half went with me to Rice plantation,
where I spent a pleasant evening his sons all aiding
provaded. Had a nice bed to sleep in this night.

Thursday 21.
A cool cloudy morning this. My men complain they
they could not sleep last night on account of the
numerous fleas in this place. This is a girt country
for vermin of all kinds injurious to man and beast.
I was engaged in conversation with my men when
the division picked officers made his appearance, and
noticed John Harter of my Company without his accoutrements, standing at the fire. He ordered me
under arrest for permitting him to be without them.
I have told my men to keep their accoutrements on
and not this John Harter is always very dissatisfied, I
have had a great deal of trouble with him. Col. Hill
and Capt. Fickes said they would see that I am
released. I had a most excellent time with them.
Bird's Family, Capt. Clark Cockburn among the.
This evening at nine o'clock my company was relieved and reported to the regiment. I was restored to duty. Shortly afterwards we left our camp, marched through Nachistoches, crossed Kane river and bivouacked about one mile from the town. It was passed midnight when we rested. I had to lie on the ground without blankets, and thus marched a few minutes asleep.

Friday 22. We were posted at two o'clock this morning, but did not move till 5 A.M., skirmishing is going on heavily in our rear. Marched about fifteen miles and halted, it being about noon rested for three hours, when the rebels drove our cavalry, we went back about one mile from our resting place and formed to receive the rebels; some regiments got ahead of us. The 95th Indiana marched up to the rebels and gave them some volley, other regiments assisted them, and the rebels fled.

One of our men was killed, and several horses, the loss of the rebels beside one prisoner is not known. We continued our journey, posts, halting for a sufficient long period of time to rest ourselves till midnight, when we halted long enough to make a little fire. Then marched within sight of a little town of Chantillyville, is being about three P.M. There we rested till 5 A.M. Sat. 23.

Saturday 23. Moved through town and had scarcely left it when heavy cannonading was heard in our front on the opposite side of the river. We are now resting one and a half miles from the town, firing is also heard in our rear. The rebels have planted batteries on the opposite side.
of Stone river on a high bluff to command the ford, and we must cross. What is will all end and use is difficult to say, but we are between two fires. It is rumored that Gen. Croiser has attacked the rebels in their rear near the crossing and that the latter are in a brand. I don't believe it. We are waiting, I not sure what.

But not as long, orders came to move towards the enemy on the double quick. We advanced to the timber near the town and formed in line. E. Brig. had nearly formed when my Co. was ordered to advance as skirmishers in front of our regiment, which lay at the edge of the timber. My Co. advanced and took its position near a small lake & 3/4 mile from our regiment. Firing was very heavy on our left, likewise another column was delivered and it appeared that our men were falling back, but I was mistaken, our men drove the rebels the fiving needed more to the left. I saw hot one shot in our front apparently reconnoitering our position. We have been lying here now for several hours and have not fired a shot. The firing on our left is constant, growing less distinct. I think the rebels have been whipped. At four o'clock we left, and as soon as the rebels ascended that we were retreating they again attacked our rear. We marched to miles and rested for the night in line of battle. The wind blew heavily, slept in the field.

Sunday 24.

4 1/2 A.M. our cannon opened fire, and we prepared for action. The whole kept quiet. Took our breakfast and soon at 8 o'clock, we are still waiting. Shelling is going on by our guns near us. The rebels have opened their battery on us and a few shells exploded near us. Our next is on the extreme right.
We were marched and countermarched double quick, in a field of ten acres till we made nearly five miles and finally took our original position. My company was deployed as skirmishers but soon returned to its rest since no enemy was visible. Tremendous firing both of musketry and artillery is going on in our front. The rebels are trying to capture some fords and our trains get this day they have the last chance at us before we cross the river, our pontoons are only five miles from here, once on the other side of the river and we will not be much annoyed by the enemy I think. The engagement continued two hours when it slackened the enemy having been repulsed with severe loss. Our loss is light. Our battery did some good work on the rebel lines. We marched towards our pontoon bridge, as we came near we saw a number of old plantation wagons burning, which the rebels who accompany our troops used to carry their infirm people and small children, also their clothing piled in the latter day near the burning wagons. The wagons were left because they abandoned our train. But what a pitiable sight is presented near the burning train! There is a two aged women, too feeble to march, one has a babe in her arms. What will become of them when the rebels reach them? Slavery will dissolve again claim them, and bind them with its chains which freedom only a few moments since has severed. Our column crossed the bridge which was situated in such a manner that it could be taken up in a few minutes; it was guarded by the 20th N.Y. and Co. 36th U. S. batteries. After we crossed the bridge we found the country very hilly and densely timbered, on the other side it is quite level and open. If we had not been sufficiently fortunate to possess heavy artillery, we could never have crossed the river here, since the enemy...
The soldiers made a charge on Judge Boyce's estate houses and
storehouse, and carried off in triumph a considerable quantity
of meat, sugar, etc. Capt. Brant, Jas. M. is here, his gunnery
control the soldiers. I would like to know what he thinks of
Smith's gunnery now? At 2 p.m., we left our camp and moved
towards Henderson Hill, with about our troops were hiting
with the enemy, who was trying to obtain the hill to place his
batteries on, but we placed the place in safety, and marched 5 or 6
miles on.

Monday 25.
Tuesday 26. Our division was now guard today. Marched three miles as one came near a bridge over the bayou we would have to cross our troops into the timber and lay in ambush for the rebels who had been following and skirmishing with our rear guard. Our two batteries of 8 pieces were covered and concealed ourselves in the timbered log town. There we waited till 10 a.m. when the rebels approached driving our cavalry and cheering in their prairie song, but they discovered us too soon and turned our advanced infantry poured a volley into them, and our battery opened fire to repel the rest of the rebels. It is not known, but they were just as they could. At 4 p.m. we marched towards town. The weather was hot and dusty and we both several cut-offs and rested quite a while in a beautifully shady place. Reached town about sunset. Went into camp near old place.

Wednesday 27. Took our tents and put up a regular camp. Cleaned up and visited Mrs. Neves' family. They were glad to see our men and I told them our troops and cannot get over the rapids near this place. The river seems to be falling.

Thursday 28. Everybody is praising Gen. Smith, and a great number demanding General Beauregard. This afternoon quite an excitement was prevalent here, an account of the enemy approaching us. The troops formed a line of battle and firing was heard in our advance. The 13th V.C. fell back to town and come from the regiment lost considerable goods. Our regt was sent out as skirmishers. Had charge of two Co. We lay out near a creek all night but no enemy came.
Friday 29.

This early for action early this morning but since the enemy did not make his appearance, we returned to our camp a little after sunrise. It is said that Capt. Taylor commanding the white sent in a flag of truce requesting that we use no negro troops against him, if he had to fight negroes he would not give any quarter to any of our soldiers. Strange of true. If he makes an attack on us here, I think he will most certainly regret it, for I think we can whip him.

Gen. McClernand is now here in command of the 13 P.C.

Saturday 30.

Early this morning we were aroused and told to be ready to march at six A.M. with one day's rations. We waited till ten o'clock when we were marshaled and were kept ready to march all day, but did not go, why I don't know.

The other day as the rebels threatened to attack us, several of plantations in this vicinity were burned.

Sunday 1.

Moved our Camp and placed our tents regularly. I did not like this move very well for several reasons. It appears that our regiment must move twice when others move but once. Had inspection this afternoon, at three was just as satisfactory, none of my detached men did not come out in good shape. I spoke very plainly to them, and placed one of them under arrest.

Next day town and spent several hours very pleasantly with Mrs. Richards family. Our cavalry returned from a recon which they took on the opposite side of the river, where they had a small fight with an equal body of rebel cavalry whom they dispersed. It was very dusty and hot in town. I do not feel very well.
Monday 2.

Before daylight we were ordered into line of battle, another scare up, nobody came to fight us, as we returned to our quarters. Binner says the rebels captured one four mile boat going down, and one coming up Red river. This is fine is rather a severe loss for us.

The remainder copied from a memorandum found in the pocket of the author of the previous at the time he was mortally wounded.

...continued. Moved out of camp at one P.M. I was quite unwell having a severe headache and toothache and feeling quite full, yet I determined to go along. Left 13 men sick in camp. We marched about four or five miles towards Henderson’s Hill, when our cavalry began to skirmish with the rebels. After waiting some time we went back a short distance, and formed a line of battle in a road. The line about half a mile ahead of us became engaged with the enemy. Skirmishing ceased after sun set, and we retraced for the night.

Tuesday 3.

I had rather an uncomfortable night, suffering very much on account of toothache. It is now half an hour after sunrise, and we are still waiting for orders. No firing as yet going on with the enemy. I feel a little better this morning than I did, yet I am not entirely over my pain. Marched towards our left and entered the Oil creek road about a mile from our position continued (here come is illegible on account of the blood stains) skirmishing commenced with the enemy near the rebel government (J. D. Moore’s) plantation. We drove the rebels beyond Judge Bayard’s plantation, remained here till middle of morning advanced in line of battle towards the enemy beyond the bayou.
Sat in an open field an hour, when we marched to a
ridge fence, near which the enemy had engaged our
cavalry. We prepared for action, our cavalry held its ground near
us, the solid balls and shells struck quite near us.

The rebels yelled lustily, but advanced very cautiously.
They did not come near enough for us to fire on them,
and after dark we retired towards Gov. Monroe's plantation.

The governer as a fugitive from his home, perhaps an
officer in the rebel army. His wife is a warm southerner,
but as great a rebel as lives in the confederacy.

What a magnificent mansion and garden he owns!
but dissatisfied with themselves they entered into a
league with the (illegible)

Wednesday 4.

We were moved to the other side of the bayou quite early.
This morning, the rebels came upon me with a strong force
our artillery opened on them which compelled them to
devise a new plan. Our skirmishers were already engaged.
We retreated after an hour's work. The rebels followed me
and came this side of the bayou, about several of our regts.
and two batteries engaged him and drove him back, at one time
the engagement threatened to become general. In the
afternoon we moved again to the front, our battery made
the rebels turn in a hurry, when it sent several shells
into them as they advanced. Again we went to camp,
and again went to the bayou which we picketed to-night.
Thursday 5th. This morning we saw the rebels in our front very distinctly in squads. Their advance picket fired on our men, we prepared for action but the rebel did not advance. At 8 A.M. we returned to Store's plantation. Cavalry is now going to the front. It is said we will relieve a number of days. Heavy cannonading and musketry were heard towards the river this morning. Gen. Monroe's residence is plundered, and his outbuilding, house and garden almost destroyed. The rebels are shelting our cavalry, which returned in haste. The enemy advanced again and came quite close this evening but was eventually repulsed. We lost the City Belle, 50 days' rations, a transport loaded with the 13th Ohio, which regt. was nearly annihilated.

Friday 6th. Have orders to leave at 6 A.M., whether we are going I know not, but suppose we will travel towards the enemy. Did not leave till 10 A.M. about half a mile from our camp we formed in line of battle and skirmished with the enemy, driving him before us. We advanced in line over very rough ground for four miles, the enemy finally made a stand, and used his artillery on us. We advanced on the double quick step to the bayou, our skirmishers engaged the enemy fiercely, and compelled him to move. The rest, with his artillery in a hurry when we arrived. He attempted to flank, but we soon discovered his movement and compelled him to fall back. We bivouacked in line of battle near the bayou, and my company went on picket. We had a chain of pickets in front of our command.
Saturday 7. Lay in our position till 9 A.M. when we were moved back; owing as I afterwards learned to a false report that the enemy was in our rear. We went into our old position again, as soon as Gen. Moreau saw the position of the enemy. About the middle of the afternoon we moved forward toward the bayou. More heavy skirmishing and cannonading is going on in our front. Shortly we moved forward again, and came in sight of a large field where our cavalry, artillery and a brigade of our infantry was formed, our skirmishers engaged the enemy in some thick underbrush, and heavy timber on the opposite side of the bayou. The enemy finally made a stand as if he was running to get his cavalry to pursue him, and in the mean time to fall on their rear. But Gen. Moreau sent a brigade of infantry to engage the rebels. He was ordered to cross the bayou, and took our position after some difficulty in maneuvering our regiment. The enemy charged Col. Lynch's brigade, which drove him and in turn charged. The firing was quite heavy for a few minutes. It is said we lost four or five killed and twenty wounded. By this time darkness closed the action, and we returned to our old position where we prepared supper, after which we marched back to Gen. Moreau's plantation. This we reached about 9 P.M. in tired and covered with dust.
Sunday 8

Remained in camp all day without any special excitement. Armies are prevalent that the rebels have captured several more of our transports, and two of our gunboats of the Mississippi, one of which they are using to patrol the river with. The opinion is that they have us effectively surrounded and that is impossible for us to escape. It is true that we are in a bad situation and will probably have to fight our way out. We are cut off at present from all communication with the North. Our position is by no means an enviable one, but we must look on squarely in the face, and do the best we can to extricate ourselves. The rebels have captured a large mail coming up the river for us. They are doubtless having a merry time reading the correspondence of our friends to us. Well it will be our turn next to laugh at them.

Monday 9

Smoke and dust, wind and a little rain this morning, all agreeable things in camp without shelter. Several orders from department headquarters reached us, informing me what preparations should be made for our intended retreat, which I suppose will be commenced as soon as our gunboats are over the rapids. To effect this a dam has been built over the rapids to raise the water, but it broke after several boats came down. It may be a week yet before we bid adieu to this country.
Tuesday 10. The enemy attempted a little skirmish with us this morning. We advanced on him and drove him back. The same to entertain the opinion that all that is necessary on his part is, to fight a little and we must succumb. Our corps had the rear on this coming march, the 19th in advance, and the 13th corps in the center. Went to town and arranged my baggage on the boat. The soldiers in town are working hard to get things on the boat. I met Mr. Nicolae and family, who pay $25. 00 per head to get to New Orleans. Alexandria looks deserted, except here and there you may notice a few seceh families women with smiling faces advising doubtless that the Yankees are so unimportant here. Left 13 men sick here on board the steamer. Went back to the camp this evening.

Wednesday 11. Everything remained in a quiet monotony all day. This evening we had divine service, which was scarcely concluded when the rebels attacked several of our pickets, but were driven back. We fell in under arms but soon returned to our bunks to sleep soundly.

Thursday 12. We sent a flag of truce to the rebels, fearing a communication to them from Gen. Canute. No information was received from them. Vague rumors reached me that Gen. Grant has taken Richmond and 30,000 prisoners. Glory to God.

Friday 13. Learned that our gunboats are safely over the rapids. If this is true we will move soon. Nothing special exciting. Went on picket with my Co. this evening.
Saturday, 14. At three A.M. reveille was sounded in the camp. We prepared our breakfast and soon after fell in with our regt. and moved towards the river, the army marched along the river road for about two miles, when the rebels engaged us. Heavy firing is now going on a short distance from me. The rebels who were on the opposite shore by letting them have several volleys of musketry, and each gunboat as it passed saluted them with its shells and shotguns. Marched till about 8 P.M. then bivouacked near the boats on the side of the road. The road we march on is well protected from the river side by a high dam, so if the rebels fire from the opposite side of the river at us, we have good works to protect us. Am quite tired to-night.

Sunday, 15. Banks' train occupied nearly all last night in plying us. It is perhaps seven miles long. What a tremendous incumbrance in a campaign. The 16th corps is in the rear by some mistake. This morning we were nearly in front yesterday. The report is that the river is blocked below us. We waited till almost noon before we started and then proceeded very slowly for two hours. The 16th corps train was then passed by Banks' train, which latter was called for dinner. Marched quite rapidly through heat and dust by the side of the wagons, five men to each wagon. It was no small undertaking to keep pace with the wagons which would sometimes go very slow, then suddenly start into a run. Paused at sunset several hours about two miles from Fort DeRussy, our which we bivouacked at midnight. Here we learned that Gen. Grant and Lee's army fought a great battle near
the Potomac, and that Lee's army was repulsed with
the probability being that Gen. Grant is in possession
of Richmond by this time.

Monday 16.

A little before sunrise three A. M. we were roused from
our beds and ordered to march immediately. The stars
shone beautifully and the morning was glorious, yet
you cannot expect a soldier to admire nature, when
his stomach announces to him that it desires break-
fast. After marching about a mile and a half we
halted to permit the 19th Corps to pass us, in the
meantime we took a cup of coffee. The 19th Corps
had scarcely passed us, when heavy cannonading
announced that the enemy intended to dispute
near Markabille, a little town that looked so cheer-
ful when we passed through it, with all its inhab-
itants at home then, but now it appeared
very desolate, its citizens having fled. We formed on
the right of the 19th Corps. The enemy had taken his
position in the timber, bordering on a prairie
which is perhaps ten miles in circumference.

Each regt. sent out a company of skirmishers.

Ct. B. I once was sent out. The rebels came up
very boldly, deployed their skirmishers, and sent
a number of shells near us. Some of their rifle balls
also passed very near us. One of Ct. F. of our regt.
corporal Fitz, was wounded in the knee, while
advancing in line. It will probably cost him his
leg. Our skirmishers advanced boldly, and we con-
founded to support them, thinking when we reached
the timber we would receive a terrible volley from
the rebels since we saw them advance in column to our right. We had to advance on a prairie toward them, but behold our astonishment when we reached the timber, to find the rebels gone.

Our skirmishers pursued them a short distance then returned and some two and a half miles onward towards bayon De Glaze. The left in our regt. is three severely wounded. Most of the other regts. lost more than we did. Our entire loss nor the rebels is not known. The rebels are said to have from 13,000 to 21,000 men, commanded by Genl. Major, Pla. and Bob, with 45 pieces of artillery of the latter they made excellent use. The artillery duel was very fierce for a while. We crossed the bayou without further opposition, and camped at 9 P.M. about 12 miles from Simsport.

Tuesday, 11

Lay in camp till 9 p.m. to permit the other troops and all the train to pass, we took the rear. I saw my old teacher St. Dillman, and several other friends in the 47th Iowa Inf. At the time above mentioned we were marched at first in quick time, then in double quick to the rear, over the plank road about two miles, where we found the cavalry in position with their artillery, in a lane to the right of the main road. A position which could not have been held by them, and if the rebels had made a charge they might have lost their battery. We arrived opportunity to open our artillery on the advancing rebels. The firing was very rapid for several minutes. It checked them, and they fell back. Their battery kept
silent. After the firing, part of our cavalry, the 3d Maryland made a charge along a narrow lane up to a house where the rebels lay concealed. As our men reached them, they received a tremendous volley of musketry, which killed and wounded many of their officers and men. The rebels pressed them so heavily that they were compelled to return almost as fast as they came, leaving many of their men in rebel hands. It was very dusty, and our own men covered with dust could scarcely be distinguished from rebels. He remained in position there a short time, then retreated gradually.

Taking up new position

Here the journal ceases. The next day May 18th, 1864, my dearest friend received the fatal wound, from the effects of which he died June 16th, 1864. After receiving the wound at Yellow Bayou La. he was taken to a hospital boat and transported to a hospital at Jefferson Barracks near St. Louis, where he remained until his death. At his own request, he was brought to Muscatine and buried with Masonic rites. Two of his brothers Char. and Henry came with the remains, arriving the 20th inst. The funeral services were held at the Episcopal church 22d inst. Dr. Vale officiating. Henry went to Homestead, Iowa, the 21st inst, starting the first train after his arrival in Muscatine, in his present, brothers, and other relatives, he returned with him. The 21st, saw his father, who becoming alarmed at not hearing from Leo had gone to St. Louis to learn his fate. He did not return until after the funeral, his son.
THE 35TH IOWA IN ANOTHER BATTLE.—A dispatch from Captain C. G. A. C. in the Chicago paper, gives the details of a severe engagement on the crossing of the Arkansas, on the 13th ult., in which General Mower's division of the 10th Army Corps, and a portion of the 13th Army Corps, were engaged. The Union cavalry, under the command of General Mower, crossed Yellow Bayou and advanced two miles to meet the rebel cavalry, which was driven back three times. The rebels then made the attack as the rear of Banks' army was crossing the Arkansas, and drove back the cavalry, when General Mower recrossed Yellow Bayou and advanced two miles to meet them. After a severe fight of about an hour's duration, the rebels were driven from the field, with loss, of less than 100 killed, wounded, and over 200 prisoners. About 200 prisoners taken in this brilliant affair were brought to New Orleans. The loss on our side was about 150 killed and wounded. We did not lose a single prisoner.

General Mower conducted himself nobly. The heaviest loss was the 5th Illinois, the 7th Massachusetts, and 3d Maryland cavalry. The following are the casualties reported in the 35th Iowa, all from Muscatine:


All the above were brought up to Cairo last Monday, on the hospital boat Thomas F. Taylor.

REPORTED DEATH OF CAPT. BURNEISTER.—We understand a letter was received yesterday announcing the death of Capt. Geo. C. Burneister, of Co. C, 35th Iowa, in hospital at St. Louis, on the 13th inst. It will be remembered that he was shot through the right lung while leading a party of skirmishers at Yellow Bayou, La. Capt. B. was one of the best officers in the regiment, and a young man of most exemplary character.

MASONIC.—The brethren of Hawkeye Lodge No. 30, A. F. & A. M., are notified to attend a special communication of their Lodge this day, (Friday,) at 2 o'clock, P. M., to assist in paying the last tribute of respect to the memory of our deceased brother, Maj. Abraham John. All brother of sister Lodges, in good standing, are cordially invited to attend.

Wm. Calder, W. M.
H. L. Jefferies, Sec'y.

ANOTHER FALLEN HERO.—The remains of Capt. Geo. C. Burneister, who died of wounds received in the action of Yellow Bayou, arrived in this city Sunday night. The body, we understand, is now at the residence of Mr. Jefferies. The funeral obsequies will be observed on Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock, the Masonic fraternity giving to the dead its ancient honors. All Masons are requested to partake of the banquet at 6 o'clock, the Masonic fraternity giving to the dead its ancient honors. All Masons are requested to partake of the banquet at 6 o'clock. We were frequently thrown together in the discharge of guard or escort duty, and it is but a small tribute to his sterling qualities as a soldier, to say that no man surpassed him for precision, discipline, and cheerful, prompt obedience. Some months after the expiration of his term of service, he came to the city to pursue his legal studies. During his leisure hours, he rendered efficient aid to our common school system, under the direction of our County Superintendent. He was possessed of a well educated mind, and gave his friends much hope of his future success in life. When the 35th was organized Capt. Burneister found himself at the head of the only company exclusively of Germans that had gone from this county. We met him frequently upon the hustings, and know that his efforts were more than commensurate with his reward. During the care of his he has sustained the reputation of an intelligent gentleman, a courageous soldier and a thorough disciplinarian. He has gone to the soldiers' home, where the brave and pure only enter. Let his memory be cherished as one who died that liberty might live.
Muster Roll of Co. C, 25th Regiment Iowa Volunteer infantry—
“Siegell Rifles.”

OFFICERS.
Geo. C. Burmeister—Captain.
Joseph Mayer—1st Lieut.
Conrad Kranz—2d “
Frank S. Kohler—1st Sergeant.
Lorenz Goetzmann—2d “
Charles R. Rink—3d “
John Hill—4th “
Constantin Hinkel—5th “
Bernhard Nave—1st Corporal.
Louis Mueller—2d “
Fredrick Mayer—3d “
Conrad Brenner—4th “
William Achter—5th “
John Huber—6th “
William Kaiser—7th “
Joseph Bosten—8th “
Adan Hartman—Drummer.
Conrad Brann—Fifer.
Charles Weneck—Wagoner.
Albert Sibley—Company Clerk.
Charles Knoblauch—Company Cook.

PRIVATE.
Burmeister, Henry F
Brenner, Geo.
Brenner, Adam
Bloch, Jacob
Bosten, Peter
Bobler, John M
Baling, John
Bender, Ehrenreich
Barer, Jacob
Bach, John
Berg, Charles
Cantwell, William
Dormier, Geo.
Dallar, John
Eckhardt, Henry
Egli, Jacob
Ernst, John
Funke, William
Frohmer, John
Fronzel, Christian J
Giebler, Fredric
Guese, Fredric
Hesse, Jacob
Hettinger, Geo.
Holze, Henry
Hilt, Mathew
Hess, Jacob
Haner, Joseph
Hende, Jacob
Holtz, Fredric
Hillweg, John
Hofer, Jacob
Irwin, William
Irvin, Henry
Kindler, August
Kurtz, John
Kessler, Henry
Knopp, Geo. P
Kienzer, Henry
Lang, Jacob
Lange, August
Lang, Henry
Markart, Gustave
Mark, Henry
Martin, Henry J
Martin, Wm.
Moss, Edward M
Monroe, Frank J
Merkel, Christian
Neupert, Jacob
Othmer, August
Pikelher, John
Peterka, Frank
Regenbogen, John
Rank, Jacob
Rezoth, Lorenz
Savelsberg, Lorenz
Scheffler, John
Schomberg, Jacob
Schnoeker, Fredric
Schmidt, Hermann
Schmidt, Conrad
Schmelzer, William
Schlegelmich, John
Spohn, Geo.
Strutz, Charles
Stauffer, Ulrich
Saner, Dietrich
Volberg, Peter
Weimann, Geo.
Weber, Fredric
Wunderlich, Geo.
Wunderlich, Jacob
Young, Geo. H