Henry W. Bennett
Company C
12th Regt Mo Vols
Robbed jelly cake

2 cups of sugar
2 cups of flour

4 eggs to whites and yolk beaten separately 2 teaspoon

Baking powder cake
in a dripping pan
Saturday Aug 1st

the first of this month comes around much as all months do.

only it is some hotter than

others. I have spent the day

in serving my livery by

serving up my gun for the

first time. Since we came

up to the rear of Petersburg

the weather has been fair

with the exception of a

shower this afternoon.

Sunday Aug 2nd

four of out boys. No cotton

tomato. Heartburn. Pap Sexton

and Sergt. Stanton ssent me

home today on Thirty days

furlough. Stewart aphewed

them to help carry their

things.
August

knapsacks. They go up on the
Minnecoska hill which could go
with them. There is talk that
we are to start for Chaltees in
a few days. Wrote a letter home

weather fair shower this after

Monday Aug. 3rd

I have not done much today
or heard any news except
that the 9th Army Corps is
going up the river! They are
now at Homes Bluff! Most
of the Officers of our Regt got
over to the horse and to take the
Boat to go up the river on
furlough of twenty days but
all the Boats are to be used
in taking up the 9th Corps.
August

so they could not go today, two of our two Officers Lieut. McGinnell and Thibeyr, we amongst the lot, have not heard any more about going down to chat they hope we shall not go down that way here neither go up to Memphis or somewhere near the mouth or Stars, the sick in our Regt have been examined and four of our men are to go up the river to some of the General Hospitals.

weather fair and clear average

Tuesday Aug 4th

this morning Eddy, Riggs, and myself took it into our heads to try and catch some fish, some caught up and after
August

Dinner started and went down to the river we fished till sundown and our labors were rewarded by three middles pretty good but I seen folks do better it did not put no new very good horses to sit half a day in the scorching sun and catch nary fish there were some marine Boutley along the bank waiting to transport troops down the river part of our troops were to go onto them weather fair and very overin

Wednesday Aug 6th

Common guard at the Magazine about fifty men most of our hands. There is put one for not
August

Getting up to roll call yesterday morning it is the first time I have been put on extra duty while in the service. If all the Rebel Magazine were as well filled as the one I am helping to send they could not have been very hard up for ammunition. Weather fair. Thursday Aug 6th

Have not been doing anything of any account neither have I heard any news consequently have not much to write about this time.

Weather fair and warm.

Friday Aug 7th.
August

do not hear or see much about
No one else would consider any interesting. The plans we
will improve from here before long. Lots of the boys are getting
sick again. A stream with the
Dietzfeld. Than you be well with
said the real northern
Saturdays largely by that
they still keep talking that
we are going down to Watchey
but when we are to start
I guess is not known whether
August 6th

Annoying Aug 9th.

I do not feel well, nor like working for any thing else today. My throat is so sore and I do not feel very well, any way tonight.
August 10th 1863.

Brother Hank was taken to the hospital today having been brought down by the hardships he has undergone and his injury. He is receiving proper medical attention under the supervision of doctors who are taking good care of him. Things are proceeding as expected, with his condition improving steadily. We are all hoping for a full recovery soon.
Aug 11th 1843

Here I am in the Hospital with the Diphtheria. The Dr. told me I would not live, could not see the end and now am getting better.

Wednesday Aug 12th

I am doing very well still am very weak.

Thursday Aug 13th

I am about the same do not feel any worse or better. Up all I can and sit about.
August 17th

This afternoon the Doctor called on me to get ready to go to the U.S. Hospital. To-night there was no news of our men. Besides myself they are H L Ginniss, James A. Cope and J. H. Vincent. I hear that ten of our men are sick with typhus fever. Eddy is in good health and I hope will continue so.

We are in U.S. Hospital and I have not seen any of the boys."
Aug 17

To home off the Pesthouse. The next place we shall visit is Sonora. Healthcare weather fair.

Saturday Aug 27

Inland trying to get all hands on our men. Marched and we go. We will make out. This for some 10 days. Some improve brought on. Descriptive rolls. She says the Regiment is going onto the front but traveled. We make today to go down the river. Council. I wish I could go along. They brought up stories of people left in the hospital for mononeurus.

August

...of our old Reigled Hospital... have come to work... in this but not in this... and... two of them are... boys from... Co. 90-24... His... name... H.D. Ream...  

**Sundaysy Aug 16th**

there has not much trans-... pin to day worthy of mention... most of us... that is only... are... doing first rate... we have... quite a thunder shower this... afternoon... it wet up things up nicely... to... every thing... looks fresh...  

**Monday Aug 17th**

...has been... chinery... pleasant... boys all doing well. The Scones...
August around this forenoon taking merrues of them fit to go here on sick furlough. My name is amongst them. We come very near hearing a fire here last night about twelve o'clock the tent caught fire above my head from the candle and burned out quite a hole before they could put it out. One man from the sixty-ninth Ohio died in this was last night.

Wednesday Aug 18th
We have been living on hope to day hoping that we would get leave to start home on furlough. Our.
August

Loughs are here all right but there is no Boat going up today so we could not get started. We expect to get off tomorrow. I hope we shall. I do not like living in the Hospital very well. We have had a thunder-storm this afternoon.

Wednesday, Aug 17th

Yesterday we expected to get started up the river but tonight finds us still here in the Hospital and expecting to leave tomorrow. There was a terrible accident happened up at the levee this forenoon. They were
August 1863

landing the Boat City of

Meridian with ammunition

and Negro let full some

precaution shell and they

exploded and set fire to the

rest of the ammunition blowing

up the Boat report says

there were one hundred

and fifty killed and wound

ed. I guess that is a large

estimate. Most that were

killed were Negroes

weather has been fair

Thursday August 15th

this time one hundred ages

just after trimmng and many

straining of ambulances

crossed and about nineteen
August 1868

of the ships got in and rode to the wharf. Where Dr. Edwarses
were a lot of roughs and we went into the Boat City of Alton.
It is the first at Boat on the

our daze we expect it is quick and
delelent trip to behave. The

about an hour before sundown
but it is making good time

and we are all feeling first rate
to weather fine and warm

Fridtory Aug. 21st

our ride today has been without
any incident worthy of mention
it has not been very pleasant
very little while it rained and
and must make it very
August 1863

my Concast from on deck Saturday Aug 2nd

early this morning as we come into Helena we chance upon near hearing a smashing our Boat run into the Ouachita. Luckily no great damage was done to either Boat, when noon we landed at Memphis where we stayed until half past four and again pulled out. Made some purchases in the market line another

This morning I procured the "Pony at a wood station" th Lape Memphis about 3 or 4 hours ahead of us about
August 1868

ten o'clock she perceived us while we were rowing up and soon after we perceived her again to stay ahead the rest of the trip about comin coming very near having collision with a shero Boat that was coming down stream loaded with a Stick of gun the bow of our boat come within a foot of their stem if we had struck them in the side they would have sworn and his after dark we landed her at 11m there is a train going out at three thousand the morning but we cannot get oceely to go so we will
here to meet until noon
weather has been fair
Monday Aug 24th
we got our trucks right but as we could not
get our tickets in time so we
have to stop over until half
past three tomorrow morning.

It has been quite cool this
afternoon and then we have
that felt very well about tiny.

[Illegible]

Tuesday Aug 25th

took the cars at 6:30 this morning
had a pleasant ride through
all the country and went
into Chicago at 8 1/2 P.M.

took an express wagon and rode
over to a dock saloon near the...
Aug 1863

Chicago and Milwaukee
R R Eustas do not feel very well

Wednesday Aug 26th

got home this evening and
have to much talking to do
so cannot write in this much

Cure for sore throat
Powder, one tablespoon full
Alum ... ... ... ...
Peppercorns, one teaspoon
One pint of vinegar
and a blade of salt pork well
covered with black pepper bound on
the throat.

Cure for Ague
Turkish rhubarb, one ounce
Anise seed ... ...
to one pint of the best brandy
St. Louis from Ste. Genevieve to St. Louis,
City of Alton from St. Louis to Cairo,
Merry & Forsythe's steamer from Cairo to Memphis,
C. C. on Ste. Genevieve steamer from Memphis to Vicksburg,
Mergo from Memphis to Vicksburg,
Hobkirk from Vicksburg to Chattanooga.
1868
November 18th

Lancaster

Richard is himself again or Bill Dikes is with his leg once more which every way you will have it so that I am not you my friend is the least I wanted to do to come down to the essence of the thing I myself indeed individually have got back amongst my combaters after an absence of about three months do you want to know where I’ve been and what I’ve been doing I shan’t tell every place I have been nor everything I have done in these
Three months of part will satisfy your particular self, I will try and accommodate you otherwise I cannot.

If you will turn back eight leaves you will see that I went to the Regal Hospital on the tenth of August. Also by looking over some pages you will become informed in regard to my being sent to the Genl Hospital where the Dr. himself gave me physic and the went to Soing and for Dysentery and the Cholera poor fellows slept all night and let those of us that were able to sit up do the nursing. All they could do was to bury
those they killed. But here I've left the Doc out in the cold, after he found out there were about ninety of us that he could not kill off in no style. he gave us furloughs in hopes the Boats would blow up with us on the way up the River I suppose. But the kind old fellow was destined to be disappointed all but one of us lived to get off the Boat at Cairo and as far as I can inform reach our respective homes (if not in the best of health) feeling pretty well in mind. Now you ask we will want to know if I had a good time while at home.
it yourself. get a furlough and
stay as long as I did. that was seven
weeks. I think you will say you had
a good time. anyway I did.
Part of the time I was sick about
that was the unpleasant part
but then there were so many
to sympathise with a fellow that
battles not half so hard to be sick
there as it is in the army.

on the 19th of last November
we had to start to rejoins our
Regt. but at Camp Randall they
stayed us a week. then at Memphis
we stayed four or five days and
when we did start had to get
onto one of the Slowest Boats
the Arago. there is on the river.
we were eight days from the
on the Boat from Memphis to
Vicksburg. There we heard the
Division was coming up so waited
two days then got onto the wharf
and arrived here in Battey this
morning. I found part of our
Regt. troops down at the wharf but
the Boat we came on brought
Gen. Crocker and orders for the
rest of the Division to stay a
while the Second Brigade had
got up to Vicksburg on the way
to Black River. I found most
of the boys all right two of my
shave died during my absence
they are J. C. Edmonds and
is not in very good health but is better than he was a while ago. Things in the Regt have not changed as much as I expected. The little deal is with the as yet but little (Broad side) is promoted Blunt deal. My Strong has not returned to the Regt yet and it is expected he will not during the of our term of service.

Saturday Nov 17th

If you ever what home on furlong you know how the first few days were passed after you returned to the company. I suppose I have done about the same as any one would under similar circumstances. Talk much and do
litter. Her person I went up town and got five dollars for vagtions I had not eat while at home. By so doing I see some of the town. I do not mean by going home I see the town but by going after the five dollars and to my notions it is the prettiest town I have seen in my travels in the south. Do not know but I should like to live here in peaceful times. It is situated very high and as near as I can find out is the most healthy place between St. Louis and New Orleans. today has been very pleasant and upon Saturday Nov. 16th has been spent much as yesterday was. talking about what and what I had seen.
while at home. had to go over to the pioneer corps and have a talk with one of our boys about his friends that I seen. wondered how long it be before I shall get through with this walking operation. weather pleasant.

Monday Nov 16th

had a time with my old gun. cleaning it up. cold had kept it pretty well but I thought perhaps it would feel slighted if I did not tend to it a little. so tonight it looks as it did before I parted with it.

heard that our forces had give the rebels a good one at Chatta-

cool. hope its all so. weather fair and warm.
Tuesday Nov 17th
been fixing my barn and traps
done a little work to the old gun
went out and pulled some grapes
for my bed and saw some huckleberries
that looks the most like the huckleberries of any place I have seen in the South
White Oak Pines growing quite plenty
and sandy soil that looks like the vicinity of Louisianna
but the temperature of the air is some warmer than it was when I left

Wednesday Nov 18th

answered the letter I got from home
and have been cleaning up my things
done some work on the Parade for the first time in over three months also
heard some good news from our army in Tennessee that they had routed Bragg's army with a loss to the rebels of forty thousand and killed, wounded, and missing. That's pretty good for one fight. Every one feels good over it—weather fair and warm.

Thursday Nov 19th

I spent a little letter writing and took a walk over to the thirty third. It is so warm a little out of the country between here and their summer, besides getting quit tired. No news from above of consequence. Weather fair and warm.

Friday Nov 20th

Here's been occupied mostly in tailoring a little and writing. Most of our leg I went out with the brigade trains but it
looked so much like rain and my throat felt so bad I did not go; it has not been very pleasant. Part of the time it has rained and the rest it has tried to

Saturday Nov 21 1861

today the Boat welcome arrived here from Hicksburg about twenty miles above here she was fired into. the rebels had a masked battery and threw some twenty eight shot and shell through her without hitting any one which considering that she had on quite a number of passengers was somewhat strange.

yesterday we signed the heavy rolls for the armaments of Sift and Set.

The talk is that we have to get our forces backs this evening as we
We under marching orders for
Vicksburg they will have quite
convenient weather fine and warm

Sunday Nov 26th

Early this morning we loaded our
troops onto the tugs and about ten
O'clock got onto the Boat Wharf and
and soon after we started for Be-
we expected some from all Waterforf
and the 63 I met off the Emprp
there and took fifteen prisoners but
had no fighting. We did not get our
green umbrellas to keep as expected. Weather
warm and pleasant

Monday Nov 27th

This evening we arrived here at
Vicksburg all right. had some trouble
with Quireties about ten miles above
Grand Gulf. They were going to fire into the Empress but they discovered them before they got near enough and threw some shell over their way which did not seem to suit swift ships as they got out of their way. Sudden and two boats with 14 guns and the Empress landed there. The 53 went into pursuit and took five prisoners. We did not get off the Boat tonight. It was raining most of the day. Tuesday Nov. 26th.

This morning we got off the Boat and marched up here and now are camped on the old rebel lines about eighty rods south of Fort Hill. We did not pitch tents as there is not many because we did not have them. It has not rained but there has been drizzly all day.
Wednesday Nov 25th
We got our Green backs this morning. Our clothing account was settled up and I got three Dollars extra and sent home twenty. There are circumstances as to where we are going one is that we are to go back to Skeetleby land. Another says we are to go one on Skeet River. All seem to think our stay here will be short which I am kind hopes will be the case write a letter home.

Thursday Nov 26th
Talk is that are are to go on the Bore tomorrow some way up the river. Others say down. I do not know which way do but that are leave this place. We are getting expecting some new tents soon. Weather warm and clear. Our package of money did go
out till this morning could not seventy instead of twenty

Friday Nov 27th
this morning we pulled up and started on a trip but not very long one only about eight miles towards Black River, our landing now is about three miles from the bridge near a large brick house and a camp of cavalry. They say there are plenty of rebels on the other side of the river. Weather cloudy and warm.

Saturday about 9th.
Heard of the death of one of our lieutenants Mr. Barbour. He died in the hospital at St. Denis. He was an esteemed member of our line and his death is much regretted. For it we have not done much about.
fixing up dump as it has been cold
and unpleasant this morning our
boat started for Hicks Bluff to take a boat
up the river...he is going to this recruiting
one of our boys there was his orderly has
gone with him to A Broughton

Sunday Nov 2 1871

Lest night and today has been quite cool
for this locality, so the ground has remained
frosty all day.

There has been a cold wind blowing all
day that the bright sun could not thaw
out so as to be comfortable. Wrote a letter
to S & B and one from home.

Monday 3rd

略

brough for no lie & Others George, Mr
like me ready and myself. Bill, likes
brough for his 50 cents, have torpedo
buck on our back about half a mile and build a chimney or rather a fire place in front of our tent circle, to night all we are enjoying the comforts of. It has been cold and warm today but is chilly this evening.

**Tuesday Dec 1st**

There has been warm in the pleasant, I have been heard at work all day and have gotten nothing done but two hanks of thread and a towel washed. Having the day's work close. There were this afternoon.

**Wednesday Dec 2nd**

Heard some good news about the front. A whisker of Boay's and a ten thousand and prisoners. Forty pieces of light artillery and all his baggage lost and Boay's
is no full retreat towards at all. Nothing unusual transpired hereabouts today. Weather fair.

Thursday Dec 8th

I heard by one of the guards of one Ray, they say Black Albert went down the pike to New Orleans to see one of his constant friends sick. Early went out pocket this morning for the first time since action. Weather fair.

Friday Dec 9th

Last evening late we met orders to move which we did this forenoon about ten o'clock.Proceeded to Unionburg and got aboard of the Shenandoah that his the left wing of our Regt. The right is on the attack the thirty-second N Y is on the attack on Chaffin's Farm cavalry on South Point.
and two pieces of the 2nd corral. Ill. It is now eight o'clock and we have not pulled out yet where the expedition is going none of us knows but conjectureショウ
the river somewhere. We are in light
marching order our trains being left
badly done with it to look after our troops
the 2nd corral along with 45th which
is located with cavalry also the marine fleet
Dismounted of the Bunts Buhle.

Adjutant: John Brine & A. Penhallic

Latin New Dec 5

about-dear break this morning we surmised
still not knowing our destination
there were numerous reports as to it
some say we are going to New Orleans
other say we are bound up Red River while others say we are to get
off at Rodney. Twenty miles below Grand Gulf and anchor to Sketches and on the way take a rescript camp of five hundred while we don't. That is if they do Sketches before we get there. where we are this evening tells that we did not get off at Rodney, in that we did not stop at that place but came on by and about dark arrived at Sketches and still were there it is about nine o'clock. all are at sea to know where we are going most of think we will stay here a while as they are expecting an attack. It is reported there are sixty thousand Rebs from new sidewalk. How true it is I don't tell but will probably know in the morning.
Sunday Dec 6th

about twelve first night we got off the boat and marched through town and turned in line of battle about half a mile south of where our old encampment was. Lieut-LCol Provost adopts a few words to say, saying most likely by day light we would be attacked. But it did not need a speech to get the twelfth to fight then when the time came we would not be found wanting. But his words were like the rose that wasted its sweet on the desert air. Day broke and ten Colblock came still any fight but we took arms marched up into town, turned around and pushed our bivouac of last night where we were going north then we were over the Washington Bridge but turned off to the right after marching about three
Miles. Soon after Jim Freshmor talked to us a little, said the enemy was in force behind, most likely out number us. But he professed to place them between us and the titches. If we done so we would have to whip them or go to Richmond. If they did not shake off before, we could get them off; he asked us if we were willing to try it; as he saw a hearty response in the affirmative, we started on and traveled till this time eight o'clock, and are not much nearer the rebels than when we started. Request sent the cavalry off the creek, about five miles from here. There are about two thousand of them and have four pieces of artillery. There are about fifteen hundred of our cavalry and all other armed force. It is about eight miles.
on a plantation owned by a man
from Natchez, weather, fair and warm
Monday Dec

rushed out again this morning about day
light, we had marched about three miles when
our advance company began to skirmish with
the rebels, we fell back about a mile and took
our position in a field of fallen timber,
heightening continued for about an hour,
and our lines tried to draw them on but
they drew on the other way. Skedaddled for
parts unknown to us, we took another round
and just after them, after marching about four
miles, we came to a bridge they had burned
and I guess the gun concluded it was a long way
there as we ascended they were all in
Infantry. So we turned around and marched
two miles towards Natchez, which leaves them
to go in the morning. The boys are sneaking
dec keno with the comforts of life such as the country affords. Beef. Pork. Horse. Turkeys. Chickens Dec 7. I do not enjoy it much as a fever came on this afternoon and brings me under the weather dome. Weather threatens rain to night. Hope it will not as we have no shelter. Tuesday Dec 8th.

the weather put its threat in execution to the immense discomfort of us. About nine O'clock it began to sprinkle and soon rained quite hard. They in blissful ignorance of it until the water came through the blankets and run under me in boundless profusion. Then got up and stood shivering around the first existing fires a while. But that was not very comfortable so I like a sensible youth started with keep Oslache for a horse about a mile off but were pleasantly disappointed by finding
good quarters in the shape of a shed before
going half the distance. Some boys ahead
of us had built a good fire and after dishing
ourselves we layed down like the soldiers
and soon were in the land of nod, or some other
good place. About day break I came back from
said land, picked up my traps and went to
camp where I found the boys getting some
thing to fill up the aching void in the stomach.
I followed their example and soon had stored
away a large quantity of Beef, Honey and hard
tack fruit in my haversack which for a lick soldier
I think was doing pretty well. The Sargent gave
us till nine o'clock to dry blankets and clothes
after which we started on and about noon
found ourselves in aetcheg or in the outfields
we pulled up on the old leamph ground of
the Thirty Third Nis where we lined till now
and there is not much prospect of our going away to-night as it is now eight o’clock and I begin to think of hunting up logs for the night.

the reports say we are going up Red River and then the 2nd and 3rd Brigade have arrived here since our departure... weather fair and cool.

Wednesday Dec 9th

Last night I took up my abode in the Barn 12 feet about thirty rods from our camp. Slept quite comfortable but they wanted us out quite to early. Soon after breakfast I went back and went to sleep but was wakened up by Old Ague. He was shacking me the best he knew. Kind old fellow. I suppose he thought I would sleep too much he kept at one about two hours then his locomotion is Feverish...
in and between them both they gave me a hard one before the latter got alone the order came for us to fall in which we did, and about two hours after marched up town to this place where our whole gpt is quartered in some sheds formerly used to store cotton in, how living among they will be we cannot tell. I find that reports lied about the Second Brigade. it is not here. I also learn that the force we went after is commanded by W. T. Adams. he has one regt under him by the name of Bob Wood. most of their troops have been in most of the battles in the east.

The country we passed through is the finest I have seen in the south. the land is good and fertile, pretty. The houses and grounds on the plantations look as
if currency had not been mixed in small quantities for their improvement.

since we got here the Henry Von Buhl has arrived from below, about ten miles below

here she was fired into, the leapt - goase

killed and four men were killed and seven

wounded. weather fair and cool

Thursday Dec 15th

Still in the streets or as we call it the Ren

for wheat of our grounds is not enclosed.

by streets and a large brick building. is by

a high wall. all together we enjoy about a

corner of an acre. pretty small space for

us. the marine fleet has gone up the

river. Ammers say our lands equipment is

sent for and we are to stay here a while.

I hope so. we hear the rebels have pulled

abattery of ten guns fifteen miles below
the mouth of Red River. That was where the Ben Rhul was fired into and the Atlantic as she went down to New Orleans. I guess that is a big story. Do not the Rebs have their enemy camps in that part of the country. Tried to ruin but did not succeed.

Friday Dec 11th

Right-finers as still in our Pen and not much prospect of our getting out very soon not before things come from Vicksburg. We have free range of a part of the town but we do not like the style of living we long for our tents and our open camp ground. The Bourdi gallop and I decline arrived from below this morning without being molested by kind and considerate friend. Agreed head a skirmish against to day but I fanned him and drove off first belt. It has rained a very little today. The rain showed Bour-
Brazil arrived from above this evening. She was fired into between for Rodney and Waterloo proof. Two women killed, the chambermaid and a chaplain’s wife; the chaplain and two other men were wounded.

It was from the sauce one shore she was fired into. They say the Rebels have a six gun Beiler planted there. If it is so I think we will have another scout before long. Some seem to think this place will be attacked before long. My opinion is that if the Rebels try us they will get a bitter pill.

Saturday Dec 12th

Very still. Our troops have not come yet but we hear by a boat from Wick being that they were being loaded onto a boat this morning. Weather fair and warm. Mistake in the print—our things while I was writing the
preceding the Metropolitan was coming into the levee with their rest of the day and our traps on her. Hakely came with the rest in a better health than when I left this forenoon. They brought about thirty prisoners from the other side of the River somewhere that the cavalry took Sunday Dec 18th.

Our things were unloaded from the boat last night and in rather promiscuous manner consequently many of the boys had some trouble in finding their knapsacks and many have not found them yet. But thank to Hakely who took good care of my Stuff and here it all right. Hakely has some and yet we are in the sheds but it has rained here most of the day and I suppose that is the reason we have not moved this morning.
we Rec'd orders to march with two days rations in haversacks when it pleased we did not know untill this afternoon when it was reported the Rovellry pickets had been drove in and a force held been sent out to ascertain the strength of the Enemy and if they could not whip them we were to go out and do the thing up right - Monday Dec 14th

we have got our camp moved and set up they gave us thirteen new tents. I was detailed with 19 others before noon and went to work on fortifications while we were off they moved -end we formed things all right - weather fair

Tuesday Dec 15th

we all have been very busy fixing up we sent a piece of our tent to the outside
it up about two feet and built a chimney and banks besides we drew some clothing to have not had time to do much else weather has been fair and warm

Wednesday Dec 16th

done nothing but keep still as possible on account of the rain. It has been one of the most unpleasant, uncomfortable lonely, cold, lowly, rainy, drizzly, slushy and muddy days imaginable and we like a miserable old wet mend of have kept in (not one house for that luxury is not easy to be had) our tent even there the water leaked the condority to come into sufficient quantities to make it quite muddy. if it was not for the warm influence of our fire place we would have rather dump quarters to night
Thursday 17th

Early this morning two of our boys arrived here from furlough. J B. Snider and 
W S. Briggs; they brought two boxes of goodies from friends at home. Amongst them
was a pair of Slaves and some canned hams and meat for Eddy and me. If you wish to
know whether it tasted good or not try soldier's life a year or so and then if
you should get some of the delicacies of home you could form some opinion
of how my goodies tasted.

This afternoon I was on fatigue unloading a Boat laden of Coal and
Cats. It has been clear and cold today this evening promises to a sleep of a
night. Eddy is on guard over the hogs

Robees
Friday Dec 18

I am on picket for the first time in four
months. Our post is on the liberty road
about one mile from camp. There are six
of us and a corporal. Four from our company
two from 8 and the corporal from 16. The day
has passed without anything unusual. It has
been clear and cold.

Saturday Dec 19

I came off picket this morning about
10 o'clock, and have done nothing to
day except lay around camp. Last
night nothing without any incident.

Sunday Dec 20

detained to work on the fortifications
but for some reason I thought best
to let me have a day of rest so we did.
not work. Things go on and camp much as all Sundays. Some writing some reading some doing one thing some another some shut in their rooms and stroll around There others go to church. Lord & Stash is among the latter slept today while your humble serv. Sonneges in and out of the tent all day not knowing what to do with himself. Should have gone to church but held no service. Weather clear and cool

Monday Dec 21st

determined to work on fortifications and died so this forenoon. When we came to camp for dinner found the Regt under marching orders and about two o'clock they started but Bill Gates played off and did not go or I did not feel like
a trump do stoped. Eddy fell first route and went. They started out on the Washington Route but knew not their destination. Three days outions in haversack. It threatened rain this evening but I can no hopes for the sake of the boys I'll try it all. It will do

Tuesday Dec 22

at work heard all clay building fine place and chimney the one she built first seemed inclined to make up a nest inside the tent some time before long. I did not feel disposed to receive that kind of company so look it all down and rebuilt it. Held not brick enough to finish it so went and got a load this afternoon. Have heard nothing from the boys. Some of the others little were left being they bumed
Artillery firing this afternoon off towards Washington. It has been cloudy all day, but this evening has sprinkled some. I am afraid the boys will get wet jackets before morning. Brent Simnell has got back from Mechanicsburg and I suppose is surely to swear on all of us who may feel disposed to enlist, as I understand he went up for the purpose of finding out all about the matter. While Simnell is very liberal in his offers for us to stay with him three years longer then he will give us a furlough of thirty days inside our State or if three fourths of a company enlist those third four are to be sent to their State recruiting. Those three do not one to be transferred to other camps or Regts. That is if three fourths of their company should go he also
he will give us four hundred and two
40 1 20 dollars bounty to be paid before
the term of service expires. These end-
rements are offered only to troops that
have been in two years. I have not con-
cluded yet whether to take any more Sol-
cering or not but think I shall serve
out only first term and then if I have
not got tired of this kind of life perhaps
will try it again.

Wednesday Dec. 20th
I was busy at work this forenoon fixing up
around the tent when some of the boys
said the Rebs would be in town about
two hours they did come tired and hungry but all safe they
could get me fight out of the Rebs but
took three prisoners and one

quantity of turkeys, hens, and chickens about two. Black James detainted and went on guard over a Bastion. Weather looks some like rain.

Thursday Dec 24th.

did not come off guard until half past four this afternoon, here for Dinner something a little extra Turkey, chicken and some Dumplings. I tell you what they tasted Bullie. if you do not believe it try hard tack awhile and then see weather fair and warm?

Christmas

wrote an old letter of a letter to the folks at home and layed around Camp. Edie is on Picket. there are about fifty of the Regt. swore into the Volunteers that are not
The day and company combined
censored many of the boys to feel to
cut and make hard impressions from
a straight line into their walk or
in other words many of them were
comfortably tight whichever fine.

Saturday Dec 26th

if I was a prophet I should
speak. Something of considerable
importance was about to transpire
perhaps the war close or something
of like moment. The sense of my
thinking so is this. I've not been
on duty for two days. Strange but
never the less tone! This afternoon
I was eating mushmerta for
Bill likes. He is still a poor free
minister still acts as though


under particular obligations to him. As I sit here on my knees writing, my Comrade ottman sits in the tent door enjoying this warm place and evening and smoking his pipe, as comely as ever seeing busy circumstances, and a fine horse. Would wonder if another slope will find him and myself. Comrades in Uncle Sam’s service Wealthy Four.

Sunday Dec 27th

Nothing remarkable transpired today. I was held to a hard job of laying around tough but unavoidable.

Last night it rained considerable thundered some and lightened a little and has been belowy all day so taking it all around it's been rather
uncomfortable out of doors (tent doors) everything hereabout seems to be jiggling in the Indian style once in awhile a scare and following it a scent then reminds me it is about time for another reconnaissance into the surrounding for the purpose of finding bark-lid.

Ach, these retreating ragamuffins were leaving cattle, hogs, sheep, turkeys, fowl, chickens, and the like from attaining to great an age to be saleable. There about which most of our scouts and troops came to. Sure if it gives us a taste of the luxuries of the land we ought not to complain. But if we could accomplish something in the line of moccasin holes into Rebel lines it would seem.
more as if we were doing something

two words sustaining that cure

for which we put on the uniform

of Uncle Sam and took my arms

Monday Dec 28th

take a big job in the line of Gun

cleaning. Worked most all day hard

and to-night the old Belgium looks as

if it might pass inspection. as

regards the camp generally all has

been quiet. nothing going on except

the recruiting for the veterans. two

or three of outsiders went in today.

hence not aware of my mind to

go we get weather fair and warm
1. Henry H. Stinson
2. Lorenzo J. Clement
3. Alpheus G. Kenney
4. James I. Bowman
5. Aaron W. Wheeler
6. Abe Kehoe
7. Isaac Henry
8. James A. Cope
   corn H. Kehoe
Thursday Dec 27th

Hardly know what to write, there is so little happened to-day worthy of mention. At noon roll call there was and order read come in which some dozen of our boys were accused of conscripting for playing off and not going on the first scout since we got back. It included one of our Co. R.W.G.

I have been busy tinkering at my gun and Cabinet making here manufactured two carbines. So tonight we have more furniture in the tent. This is about the shape of things.
Wednesday Dec 30th

Finned most of the day and I have hardly put my head outside the tent so have employed myself inside laying about most of the time.

Thursday Dec 31st

I was woken this morning by Tony Kinney at the tent door saying that the Bernett was on picket duty. Thinks it's welcome intelligence considering it is raining like fury. Never the less I got up took something for the stomach since put some rations into my haversack. Shouldered the old Belgians and went on just past 9am. Just there are eighteen of us on, it is on what is called the Pine Ridge Road. We are on the side of Lieni-Thorey. There has been a great change in the weather since
Morning, from rain to extreme cold
Tonight the ground begins to freeze a
little, nothing of moment taken place
as yet.
January 1st 1862

Happy New Year to everybody. I scarce know what the matter is. I feel first-rate and hope everyone else does.

Notwithstanding I had rather a serious time last night from Gen J. Frock's attacking us in front near and all around.

Camp R. Coolidge came to my support but for all that I could not stand and his galling fire repeated charges consequently had to withdraw to a breastwork of logs to which fire had been applied causing clouds of sparks and smoke to ascend high in the heavens; even there our enemy would attack our men causing us fright about quite often or to expose it more plainly to one not accustomed to military terms, it was devils' cold one.
We were not disposed to stay longer away from the fire then duly completed us to. Two hours at 12 on top of a hill when the moon had full sweep satisfied me in regard to the temperature of the air. Perhaps a little adventure.

I heard while on Viilet between eleven and one O'clock 1863 and 1864 would not be an interesting to some of you stay at home who may chance to run across this after myself and friends have chird land.

Any way I'll relate it for my own amusement or no one else.

Very near the exit of the old year and the birth of the New. I was standing with my back against a sturdy Oak tree. Why Ehino resting on the wrinkle of my constant companion. Ominating on
the past, present and future. I said to myself, the first day I was on the first night of
1868, that I was doing similar duty as I was on duty the same hour in the night. The idea of our
journey to this place, and the long distance that lay between here and there, first
ly, I was contemplating with myself the propriety of re-enlisting into the 7 V B. Before
I had come to any conclusion in regard to it, my reflections were brought to a
close by the rustle of leaves as though some one was walking near by. I quickly
crest my eyes in the direction from whence the sound proceeded. I saw something
which at first I took for a stump, but kept a strict watch on it for about a minute when I became almost
Some it moved and towards myself.
I did not like the style of [inaudible] therefore brought the gun to bare on it and challenged. I was about to fire when my enemy appeared to halt. Then asked who came there not getting any answer I about concluded again to fire and brought up my gun to do so but on reflection thought perhaps it would needlessly alarm the revere and that I would reconnoiter a little then commenced a series of creeping, crawling and dodging on the part of the subscriber that is not lead down in the articles for skirmishers or any other drill. Whenever I could get a sight of the object which covered all this maneuvering it seemed sometimes to move as if
looking after my welfare or whereabouts. Finally after various skullduggings and long
thought I reached a big log close enough
to lift. I thought to find out settle or about had
cursed all this trouble accordingly I
raised my head cautiously above the log
and think not more than about from me
heart laying down. — listening against

It was a — what — why
what I first took it to be a Stinkhp
or rather a short-log so I was a little
mistaken and soke was not.

we got relieved about nine o'clock and
come into camp. found Em. and had
give them a touch as well as as clear
and cold.
1867

Saturday Jan 2

we have had some excitement in our company on the radical question and a good number have gone in today about a dozen I think. as yet your humble servant is one of the outsiders. my tent company still shushed walked by this afternoon and swore to serve the same for the period of three years more should he need his services for that length of time. will I hearly expect it of him but so it is. this forenoon I was detained and went to work on the Fortifications. did not work after dinner as it is Saturday so done a little in the line of washing clean and cold.
Sunday Jan 8th

This forenoon it threatened rain, since dinner it put its threat no execution but not very severely, eight or ten of our boys were stuck in today with the drillist on the ground accordingly went into the drill. I've felt some symptoms of it but have been cured every time. Thoughts of some of the officers I would have to serve under come last but our company officers

Monday Jan 9th

The same old story nothing but Vets and talk about the first words one says on meeting another is how you gone for a veteran yet? The weather has been very unfavorable for recruiting or anything else but
Tuesday Feb 5th

the story of groose ther arrived and past
still I myself. Individually own an
old or young volunteer nght it is not
too late and I may yet repent of my
evil ways. Sam Drishman spoke to
the Regt it is evening on the all
absorbing topic shpud me to make up
the member to send the Regt home.
our 2nd Company has got enough
to send them home. Ten old men
come and our Regt has got the request
member to go to the state recruiting.
I suppose we shall feel some but will
have to stand it weather evol
Wednesday Jan 6

I am on picket-on the Pine Ridge Road at the same place I was from years ago. It is cloudy and cool, still not as severe as then. Nothing of note has taken place here on the Post but in camp the farmers are having a jolly good time or one would think so from the noise they make. I guess old Yellow has something to do with it also a little ale.

Thursday Jan 7th

Early this morning I saw a cavalry wagon come in with a man who had come to his post. The fellow told a jilted story about some fellows out in his neighborhood who were stealing and plundering and were going to join the
Rebel Cavalry is not prevented by some of our scouts from the appearance and actions of the fellows, we, the privates and uncommissioned, come to the conclusion that he belonged to the same gang and most likely they got into a disunited state of dividing the spoils and this one got mad accordingly took that man of spying the rest; however, he was sent to the General, and that is all I know about it. We were relieved about nine o'clock this morning. There is a rumor that the time for Reenlisting is to be extended to the fifth of next month. Our recruits that came to town since we left Camp Ponderall who have Reenlisted are not to be accepted as they have not served two.
Fourth Jan. 7th

Ottawa Friday J. McVey

Yours yet, there are none from our Company. So we have only fifty. We had some roast Beef for dinner. I was behind so did not get any. Solb Tolkien his coffee with Beer. Trouble some times in the family. Mother clean and cool. Ottawa lays on his bunk looking as calm as a spring evening. He says he is thinking of the one he loves best. I also heard turned this thoughts back to Kansas and the time he had an opportunity of tasting the alkaline wash which is found in the soil of some parts of that State. He heard crossing down the River but do not know the cause.

Friday Jan. 8th

I do not doubt many think every day of a Soldier's life is connected with some excitement or incident of interest.
tire enough to one not-engaged in it, but—to a person that has spent two or three years in camp. I well remember the time when I thought a soldier must be one of the most d---ny fellows on the earth, leading a life of pleasure devoid of care and trouble. That view of the question was changed soon after I entered the service. Two years in the service has somewhat changed my mind in regard to that. Many days are like that—perhaps slowly growing Israel without any for all there are so many quick that are sometimes are handsome. While I today have been so, the excitement of being-based bus prospects and no have settled
back into the old dull routine of Camp
get up in the morning, eat breakfast,
set around till noon, then eat dinner
and sit around until supper and
so it goes to sleep some days when we
go on picket or fatigue. Well I have the
consolations of knowing in the course
of ten months, I shall be out of the Army
and I should choose to go in engage
before the expiration of that time.

Sunday Jan 9th
all quiet on the Potomac and
everywhere else I guess I have done
nothing but sit around all day
and wrote a one horse letter home.

Sunday Jan 10th
General review of all the troops at Eastern
by Gen Two Ladies. not for the
purpose of ascertaining their condition but to try and recognize one individual who robbed them of jewelry and Plate to the amount of ten thousands and Dolls. The first I knew of it our Co. was ordered to fall in and march up to the Co's head quarters where the Sack was looked at but not finding the one  Co. To went up and and each one in turn all the Co's has been through a thorough scrutiny without me better Searce than ours. I understood their intention is to examine all the troops here as near as I could learn the circumstances are these. Last night about nine o'clock three men in soldiers uniform
come to their residence which is on
the Woodville Road about six miles
out. With orders as they said to
search the house for arms and
proceeded to do so, but instead of
looking for arms they took what
money they could find. And jewelry they
could find. The ladies must have
been quite cool as one of them de-
scribed the dress and every thing about
them as if well acquainted! All I
can say is that I hope any mem-
ber enough to rob as handsome
women as one of them is will get
carried and punished according
to the deserver of a General Court
Marshall. Weather has been nasty.
Monday Jan 11th

Well this was like a winter day. Took little comfort in or out of doors. This rain and the wind these few past and last today. They were a member of Co. G.

Fort 7 --Got to start it - but it is

unbearable hard. What they will do with them we do not know either do we care men that will not defend us. Do not deserve a thought from one of inhaling grade of standing and social and I know many that got very little sympathy in the dry.

Two years ago today we left

Camp Sandhill for instant town then called the Emigrant Camp. This State of Kansas. Since then we have seen some hard times and some easy ones.
believed to — which — to keep and gratification of hard bread from going. I wonder when I’ll be a year from now whether or service or not. Hope the tour will be over and all of us at home or some other good place. Autumn is on picket and I will be tomorrow.

Tuesday, June 12th

I’ve been on picket this day on the Lehigh pond. There are eight of us, just seven of our Company who are leaving now for Washington. Brumley in case any things should happen on the Post that one should be modified. So far today there has been no occurrence, for one here only for company of which he is the best kind. I’ve just met of no feel pretty well.
jokes and Pan points. The letter of which were brought to us in plentiful quantities by a negro who takes out for off. The liberty around us has been free from Rebs so far as our knowledge extended, which is about four miles out on this road. The library men took two rides in that direction that's the way we ascertained that fact. The weather is none of the finest and the prospect is now that we shall have a rainy night of it. Heard there were some two hundred Rebs in Washington yesterday. Before we got here this morning two Rebel soldiers came in and gave them liberty. They come from the force at Parrotts which they said was about thirteen hundred strong.
Wednesday Jan 13th

came in about ten o'clock this morning
nobody disturbed us and we disturbed
no one during the night. it ruined some
but not hard. we hear herd stories
about Orderly Proutton who went to stay
at a house with a minister by the name
of Watkins. today (he) Watkins was arrest-
ated for giving aid and comfort to the
enemy, also for sending intelligence to
thence concerning the Indian and con-
ditions of troops at this post. as Orderly
stood at the house and bought some
Revolver for him. he is suspected of being
connected with and Watkins. I believe he
has not been arrested yet. there has
been quite a number of citizens arrested
today among them are a Landy and
Gentlemen on whose persons were found some watches. Rebel mail and one hundred and twenty-nine thousand dollars in Confederate money. They were then suspected and taken on the packet-boat as they came in. It cleared off about dawn and since then has been pleasant.

Thursday, Jan 14th.

What a brave boy am I got a pair this morning and went up town all alone for the first time since the twenty-third of last month... did you look what I saw. Well if you must know I suppose you must see here goes. And the first place I ran onto a fellow on the corner of the street, who had a game with a thing on the
end of it that looked like Dads old sylite without the snortle on it. Says I how do do and says he prep sir, yes sir said and started to go by supposing he meant for me to prep on but when I tried to do what I thought he intended me to he grabbed the gun and pointed it right at my stomach I told him to please hold it on one side a little as towns dangerone to play with guns and he might slip and shoot that pointed bone into me but he only said your head thats what I'll do simple if you will put your gun down. then he appeared really mad and asked if I had to permit me in writing from any kid to go into the town thats what you want isn't I got it so handed him the piece of
paper Mr. Brogdon gave me he looked at it and said go on which I did and hope I not miss such an Ill-tempered fellow may soon again. I saw some more men that was just like him only more gentlemen and did not mind this. I also saw a little boy and some handsome women that looked very crafty at me. Those times because I had on foreign clothes then these men a man rode through the streets on a horse with two rows of buttons on this coat and some wrap on his head, he looked mighty proud and there were more than a dozen fellows riding behind him says I what are they taking you to jail for. He looked as if he would
cheer one up there but I put on a savage look as I could and quieted
scared hims for he said you'll be rested
not till I get tired them think you. I come
back here and unfellow with some
pictures on his coat-sleeve and you
lay abed to long this mornning cons-
sequently will sleep with the kids horse
Tonight I did not want to do it but
he insisted on it so here I am with
some horses in an old stable.

Friday June 15th

come off grand this morning and
found it was my Bint. Joe the twenty
first went out as I feel of look like day
I flew out yesterday
more like on mean as flat nothing
must be mean of one. My conception this
forenoon would some day to be
female, showered, washed, ate dinner

I claimed my good some and that

about all I've done, one year ago
today, our camp was about two miles
south of Moscow, Tenn. I wondered
then where we would be at this time.

Why not stay the same of where we will
be one year from now? Well, my camp
will be somewhere in Wisconsin, hope so
anyway. There is talk that we who have
not reenlisted are to be sent to the
Twenty-third Reg't. It is somewhere in
Texas, that is part of the country I should
much like to see still do not like the
thoughts of being separated from the two
brothers here been pleasant
Saturday, June 16th

had some late work then, President in which we learned that they had some very cold weather up there. During the first of this month, it makes me shiver to hear of two or three feet of snow and that piled up in drifts in many places so as to shut up the rail road.

Blank in the family rainy table fell down small the ink and raised the D. generally besides putting out the candle. The absence of constable here to post one writing any more this evening there is nothing of any consequence to write about any more. weather fair and cool.

Sunday, June 17th

We spent this lounging about the Camp. could not go to Church because...
Where no clothes fit, great trust will
not cause me to stay in from picket
tomorrow. The prospect now is that
we shall not have a very nice or
comfortable at it. The wind is blowing
like fire and once in a while a draft
of wind comes down as a despatch
bearer of what is to come.

What the devil is the matter now
or nothing. Where sign only the
Dent is falling down. S. D. is
I pray you'll have to split writing,
that's my humble opinion do
fact on it.

Mondays Jan. 9th
I find myself on Picket at the left
of the reservoir on the down River Road.

There are fires of me. the post is near a fine

mansion owned by a man by the name of

Marshall who shortly says is a good

man and always was. he is

immensely rich owning eleven large

Plantations in this state and Bradford.

I do not know the number of his

Negroes. the day has rolled slowly

on without Adventure or incident.

The day has been one of the finest of the season.

Tuesday June 19th

We had a little Adventure last night.

These are the particulars. about two O'clock

I come of violet and Edie arrived

me. I heard loud oars and was almost

asleep when I heard him challenge
and close following the report of his gun, the acrivity with which we tumble out from under our shelter would not very well represent the movements of some of our one horse generals. Still, one like them were too late to see the enemy. His coat had disappeared over an adjacent hill. Of course Eilds shot did not take effect, where it was intended to. He said the first he saw of the hussar he was slowly making this way towards us. He politely requested him to build said Individual did not seem inclined to comply with Eilds request, but began moving off as a natural consequence Eild fired before we could get out. He was out of sight, what his intentions towards
as or business ours we are of course ignorant. probably always will be.

I'm got into camp all right before dinner. This afternoon we were inspected by Col. Chilton. and drew some clothing. Sheriff says we are going to Dickerson in a few days weather fair.

Wednesday 20th

I have not much to say. again same as always consequently I do not feel like writing a long letter. so will just say that look place in our camp we drew some clothing and one be is excused from all work for one week because they had the cleanest gun on inspection. yesterday weather fair and warm.

(Harrison Gun Day Pattin)
Thursday Jan 21st

We are having some of the finest weather for the season. Warm and pleasant like the May weather in May. Most of the boys are in excellent health. Only the few we hear are to start for Vicksburg tomorrow or next day. I done a little writing for odd this afternoon.

Friday Jan 22nd

This morning early our copt with six or seven men went over into Louisiana on a mission they intend to go about forty miles back from the River. The country is supposed to be full of Snipers. It is considered something of an undertaking. Ottawa went with him. They are
all mounted on horses and mils.
nothing of importance in Camp.
This evening went with some of
the boys to the house of a citizen whom
had a good chat and got back
Camp found orders had come for
me to be ready to move onto the Boat
at daylight to-morrow morning.

Saturday June 28

trampled out long before day this
morning punched our traps starting for
some hard tack and Coffee then
layed around till ten o'clock. Moved
to the River. our Regt is on the
W & L siding. the Thirty second is
on the Diligent. about two hours before
sun down we pulled out and came
with the Daylight and leaving
of hanks and handkerchiefs (straggler items)
and are now steering (not very rapidly) towards Vicksburg.

Sunday, Jan 24th
about 8am we got to Vicksburg
for some reason we do not get off the
Boats. had first rate weather.

Monday, Jan 25th
This morning we disembarked and
marched but here to Abbevon. have
pitched tents on our old camp
ground. Hope we will get more rain
than at Hatchey another fair

Tuesday, Jan 26th
we have been engaged in slicking
up Camp and all boys have signed
the pay Rolls. nothing else transpired.
mostly of mention Breathe fair
Wednesday Jan 22nd

The expedition was when we came here that we were going with an expedition out to Jackson and vicinity but as yet we have heard nothing more about it so cannot tell anything how long we will stay here. I understand the expedition is for the purpose of establishing Gen. John A. Logan as military governor of this state and establishing his head quarters at Rockport. all has been quiet about camp most of the boys have been engaged in building brush and washing up the camp another fair Thursday Jan 28th

Nothing of moment taken place today no signs of leaving very soon
or of getting prey within a day or two.

We received a few letters from home this afternoon all well. Col. Brandy fell into the creek and perished sometime during the cold spell they had up there. So warm here today that one is uncomfortable with a Blinco on.

Friday Jan 19th

Commenced to muster the deserters in our Regt. I hear that three of the B.B. would not muster no. the cause of their standing out I did not learn. They have not got to our late yet. Nothing more in regard to our expedition towards Jackson. A little cloudy this afternoon but no rain.
Saturday Jan 30th
been quite busy tailoring for some of the boys fixing up the pockets in their new pointed shirts heard some news concerning the movements of the army. Our do, was mustered today. It's rather cloudy and tonight it rains some

Sunday Jan 31st
took a ride down to the R.C. Station but to tell the truth it was not a very stylish one. you'd thought if you had seen me sitting in the bottom of the army wagon box just where I enjoyed all the spring of the forward deck. that wasn't all of it either. when we arrived at the station
here to load hay and go to Bally for the Reg't five days.

This afternoon, the first and second Brigade of our Division joined here on the way to some place I do not know where.

What the devil is the matter with the girls up in this greg? They are tired of waiting for soldiers and have concluded to take up with anything that comes along.

tried to remain but did not make out very well.

Monday Feb 1st

I understand the thirty second I'll have been [in] jail for two months and that we are to get ours tomorrow. Hope that it the
case, my pockets feel as though a supply of Greenbacks would be a very acceptable addition to them. Some of the boys feel rather limpy today. Took some medicine last night. I was one of the chaps myself. Weather fair most of the day.

Tuesday Feb 1st

This here was an eventful day with me. I've tried about a peck of dough. Mat. Eat very many and Rec'd two letters. Gen Washington was over here and picked spits with the boys. Tonight our teams have gone for twenty days sections so I guess we start on a march before long. Write if ever.
Wednesday Feb 3rd

might find me four miles east of Black River Bridge, advanced in our field near Edwards Station, that is our Division. How many troops are along beside. I do not know. Here there are three army corps of us. Nothing taken place worthy of note together.

Thursday Feb 4th

early this morning we started on the second Brigade in advance. Our men at Chambersville till our advance met the enemy and sharp skirmishing ensued which lasted till night our forces steadily driving them back four or five miles to a creek, the name which I do not know. Here the Rols took a position about a mile south
of the creek and our Regt which relieved the second Brigade of the skirmish line about one mile and a half back, took a position at the Bridge. The rest of our Regt are about three fourths of a mile back camped in a field. This matter took tonight.

We expect some trouble in crossing the Bridge in the morning. This afternoon we could hear commanding off to our left, suppose it is Norrell's corps. Three of our men Regt were killed by a shell while advancing. That is all the loss our Regt has sustained as yet.

Friday Feb 5th

This morning the Third Division took the advance. The sixty-eight...
Ohio crossed the Bridge first at sunrise we could the Rebel line about a mile from us and when the Sixty eighth got onto the Bridge they opened a Battery on them but done no harm still after they formed a line on the other side the whole division followed the Rebs all the while keeping a brisk fire from their Artillery on the Bridge and our infantry line but soon after we got a Battery into position on the other side and opened their fire was less frequent and in a few minutes ceased altogether. For some minutes the fire from Infantry was quite brisk then that ceased. The Rebs move on the retreat and our boys after them full tilt and they have kept it up relentlessly.
towards Jackson. All the while skirmishing tonight we are bamped in a large
field eight miles from Jackson. Our Brigade got into camp about ten
o'clock, as near as I can find out our loss this morning was twenty
killed and wounded. That of the Rebs thirteen killed and thirty-seven
wounded so we judged where the Rebel Battery was planted I saw
a gate covered with the blood and brains of some unlucky individual. Whether
Deese or Union I do not know. Our advance has been skirmishing
and there was another fair.

Saturday Feb 16th

about sunrise we started on again
and about ten o'clock got to the old
Rebel works on the south side of Jackson where we stacked arms and
laid awhile I suppose waiting for the
Pontoon to be laid across the River.
we prefect a cannon that the Rebs
Cavalry took yesterday. It was a rifled
Drop Piece. we expeced the Rebs
would make a stand here but it seem
they have not. their reason for not
doing so we cannot tell unless it is because
they have not force enough to effect us
very. about six down we left town
crossed Pearl River and are now Camped
on an open field about one mile and
a half from town we crossed on Reb
Pontoon. not this morning our
kops had lost 85 men in killed
wounded and Missing. Weather fair.
while we lay the other side of两手
Gen. Sherman came up through the Comp
and stopped near and Gen. in the Boys
of the Brigade crowded around him.
He knew what they wanted accordingly
talked to them a few minutes and
nothing would please him more than
to get the old Fourth Division back
into his Corps. he offered McPherson
the biggest blank in the world but he
was so hoity tooty he would not trade. the
boys gave him three hearty cheers.

Sunday Feb 7th

We have got about thirteen miles
of country and tonight in a
field just east of this place which
is on the Jackson and Mississippia.
Twelve miles east of Jackson. we were
some ways behind the advance and I do not know whether there was any skirmishing or not but from the swiftness of our march should think there was but little if any. The RR is in repair to this place from the east. This morning there was a train of cars here. The boys in advance got considerably better here. It is not of the best quality. Tonight our camp looks like a meat market. Beef, pork, fish, chickens and bacon of southern manufacture are plenty with us. There was a detail gone out from our Regt. we suppose to destroy some of the RR. Gen' Sherman passed us on the road today. He is a fine looking man. Weather fair and warm.
Monday Feb 8th

We have had the longest march today of any since we started. Tonight are some over seventeen miles east of our last night's camp, consequently are foot sore and tired. For the last five or six miles the Rebs have been quite stubborn skirmishing with our cavalry all that distance. About three miles back they formed a line behind a house. The Skvdlrs did not get out and when our boys fired killed the mother of five little children besides two Rebs. It is said that this morning two divisions of Rebs formed a line of battle at this cross roads where we are bivouced until that they will give us battle in the morning about
four miles from here at Morton. I think it will be a sorry job for them if they do, it is reported that there is 8 thousand cavalry under Genl. Schoor to form a junction with us some where out in this country. Weather fair and warm one of the boys just under arrest for making a trip in the ranges 1. Tuesday Feb 9th.

Tonight we are Bivouced just in the suburbs of Morton so have not had much of a march today, about two O'clock we pulled as their and Colonel Horne presented us this afternoon. The Rebs as we expected formed a line here to fight us, but when our advance commenced fighting
with theirs, they were suddenly took with a desire to go to Mussulman or some other place and followed their inclinations, judging from the appearance of the road between here and our last night's camp they judged over it in something of a hurry. Clothing mostly of grey clothes lay along in glistening profusion. Last night one 60 of them come into our lines and gave themselves up besides scuttling ones I've had a little touch of Cyn. this afternoon. I understand there are fifteen thousand of our troops from Tennessee to meet us at Mussulman as the sixteenth Corps pursues us the boys have an opportunity of seeing some eastern
trips for the first time. Some
have shot up very favorable oppor
ition of them. Weather fair.
Rebell deserters say there were fifty
thousands of them here and that
they calculated to stand at this
town but as they did not would
not try again untill they get to
Tunnel Ridge four miles this side
of this town.

Wednesday Feb 10th

I've rode most all day in the Ambulance
for the first time in any army since age. I
would not let me stay in the ranks. So I have
not had any chance of observing the route.
All I know is that this evening we passed
through a town or the ruins of one called
Wilisborough, after traveling about two
miles.
H.H. Bennett Diary Typescript 1863-1864
H.H. Bennett's Second Civil War Diary
Rolled Jelly Cake
1 cup of sugar
1 cup of flour
4 eggs it white and yolk beatedn separately
2 teaspoons baking powder bake in a dripping (?) pan
Saturday Aug. 1st
the first of this month comes around much as all months does only it is some hoter than others. I have spent the day in serving my Country by scouring up my gun for the first time since we come up to the rear of Vicksburg. the weather has been fair with the exception of a shower this afternoon
Sunday Aug. 2nd
four of our boys Mr. Cotton. Truman Hurlbut. Pap Sexton and Sergt. Stutson started home today on thirty days furlough I went up with them to help carry their knapsacks. They go up on the Minnahuker (?) wish I could go with them there is talk that we are to start for Natches in a few days i wrote a letter home weather fair shower this afternoon
Monday Aug. 3rd
I have not done much today or heared any news except that the 9th Army is going up the river they are now at Hanes Bluff most of the officers of our Regt. got over to the levee to take the Boat to go up the river on furlough of twenty days but all the Boats are to be used in taking (?) up the 9th Corps so they could not go today two of our Co. officers Lieuts. Linnell and Thayer we(re) amongst the lot have not heared any more about going down to Natches Hope we shall not go down that way had rather go up to Memphis or somewhere nearer the north star. the sick in our Regt. have been exam- ined and four of our Co. are to go up the river to some of the General Hospitals. weather fair and warm.
Tuesday Aug. 4th
this morning Eddy. Muggins and myself took it into our heads to try and catch some Fish so we rig(ed) up and after dinner started and went down to the river we fished till sundown and our labours were rewarded by three nibbles pretty good but I seen folks do better it did not put us in very good humor
to sit half a day in the scorching sun and catch nary fish
there were some Marine Boats lay along the bank waiting to
transport troops down the river part of our Corps are to go
onto them. weather fair and very warm.

Wednesday Aug. 5th
I am on guard at a Magazine about fifty rods west of our Camp.
I was put ore(?) for not getting up to roll call yesterday
morning. it is the first time I have been put on extra duty
while in the service. if all the rebel Magazines were as
well filled as the one I am helping guard they could not have
been very hard up for ammunition weather fair

Thursday Aug. 6
have not been doing anything of any account neither have I
heared any news consequently have not much to write about
this time weather fair and warm.

Friday Aug. 7th
everything about as usual do not hear or see much that I or
anyone else would consider I hope we will move from here be-
fore long. lots of the boys are getting sick most of them
with the Diaphreah I am unwell with sore throat weather fair

Saturday Aug. 8th
they still keep talking that we are going down to Natchez but
when we are to start I guess is not known weather fair

Sunday Aug. 9th
I do not feel much like working or anything else today my
throat is so sore and I do not feel very well anyway weather fair

August 10th 1863
(written by brother Edd)

Brother Hank was taken to the hospital today having been
brought down sick by the putrid sore throat or diptheria
he wishes me to continue his diary while unable to do so him-
self. There is no very exciting news about war matters in the
papers. today things are gradually coming to a focus down at
Charleston and on the potomac Things and matters look(?) and
are again moderately well in our favor weather warm through
the day but refreshing and cool mornings and evenings

Aug. 11, 1863
(written by H.H. again)

Here I am in the Hospital with the Dyptheria the Dr. told me
I would not live, and could not see the die and now am getting
better
Wednesday Aug. 12th
I am doing very well still am very weak
Thursday Aug. 13th
I am about the same not feel any worse or better keep up all
I can and stir around but time passes slow,y hope I shall
get out of here soon weather fair
Friday Aug. 14th
this afternoon the Dr. told twelve of us to get ready to go
to the Gen. Hospital so tonight finds us in new quarters
there are three of our Co. here besides myself they are
H.W. Squire James A. Cope and J.M. Clement I hear that ten
of our Co. are to get sick furloughs Eddy is in good health
and I hope will continue so we are in Gen. Hospital No 4
some of the boys think we will be sent north soon to some of
the Hospitals there hope we shall its so much healthier
weather fair
Saturday Aug. 15th
we are trying to get along in our new quarters and I guess
we will make out this forenoon S G Swain come up and brought
our Descriptive (?) rolls he says the Regt. is going onto the
Boats at twelve o'clock today to go down the River how I wish
I could go along they brought up three more of our Co. to
this Hospital this forenoon W. Harbaugh C. Headstream and
G.W. Marshall three of our old Reigtl (?) Hospital nurses
have come to work in this but not in this ward two of them
are boys from our Co. W.H. Dunham and W.H. Bowman.
Sunday Aug. 16th
there has not much transpired today worthy of mention most of
us that is our Co. are doing first rate we had quite a thunder
shower this afternoon that wet up things up nicely so every-
thing looks fresh and nice.
Monday Aug. 17th
has been fair and pleasant boys all doing well the Dr. come
around this forenoon taking names of them fit to go home on
sick furlough my name is amongst them we come very near
having a fire here last night about twelve o'clock the tent
caught fire above my head from the candle and burned out quite
a hole before they could put it out one man from the sixty-
nineth Ohio died in this ward last night.
Tuesday Aug. 18th
we have been living on hope today hoping that we would get
started home on furlough our furloughs are here all right
but there is no Boat going up today so we could not get
started we expect to get off tomorrow I hope we shall I do
not like living in the Hospital very well we have had a thun-
der shower this afternoon.

Wednesday Aug. 19th
yesterday we expected to get started up the river today but
tonight finds us still here in the Hospital and expecting to
leave tomorrow there was a terrible accident happened up at
the levee this forenoon they were loading the Boat City of
Madison with ammunition and negro let fall some percussion
shell and they exploded and set fire to the rest of the ammun-
ton blowing up the Boat. report says there were one hundred
and fifty killed and wounded. I guess that is a large esti-
mate, most that were killed were negroes. weather has been f
fair.

Thursday Aug. 20th
this time we made a go of it just after Dinner a long string
of ambulances drove up and about ninety of us invalids got
in and rode to the wharf where Dr. Edwards gave us our fur-
loughs and we got onto the Boat City of Alton it is the fast-
est Boat on the river so we expect a quick and pleasant trip
to Cairo. the Boat did not get started till about an hour
before sundown but it is making good time and we are all feel-
ing first rate weather fair and warm

Friday Aug. 21st
our ride today has been without any incident worthy of mention
it has not been very(?) pleasant every little while it would
rain and mist making it very unpleasant for us on Deck

Saturday Aug. 22
early this morning as we come into Helena(?) we come very near
having a smashup our Boat ran into the Evansville luckily no
great damage was done to either Boat. about noon we landed
at Memphis where we stayed until half past four and again
pulled out I made some purchases in the eatable line weather
fair

Sunday Aug. 23
this morning we passed the D J Perry at a wood station she
left Memphis about two hours ahead of us about ten o'clock
we passed her again to stay ahead the rest of the trip about noon we came very near having a collision with a new boat that was coming downstream loaded with a Darkie Regt. the bow of our boat came within a foot of their stern if we had struck them in the side they would have sunk as they were very heavy loaded. a while after dark we landed here at Cairo. there is a train going out at three thirty in the morning but we cannot get ready to go on it so will have to wait until noon weather has been fair.

Monday Aug. 24th

we got our transportation all right but alas we could not get our tickets in time so we have to stop over until half past three tomorrow morning it has been quite cool this afternoon and then we have not felt very well about being left.

Tuesday Aug. 25

took the cars at 3 1/2 this morn had a pleasant ride through Ill. on the Central road and got into Chicago at 8 1/2 p.m. took an express wagon and rode over to a Dutch saloon near the Chicago and Milwaukee RR Depot do not feel very well.

Wednesday Aug 26

got home this evening and have to much talking to do so I cannot write in this much

(someone else's writing. I think maybe these are boats he rode on when in service — J.R.)

Estella from Leavenworth City to Columbus
Continental from Memphis to Vicksburg
Forest Queen from below Warrenton to Grand Gulf
Cheesman from Grand Gulf to Warrenton City of Alton
from Vicksburg to Cairo
Mary Forsyth from Cairo to Memphis
Arago from Memphis to Vicksburg
Choufeal from Vicksburg to Natchez
Choufeal from Natchez to Vicksburg. Shenango from
Vicksburg to Natchez
??Erving from Natchez to Vicksburg
(H.H.'s writing again, I think) J.J. Roe from Vicksburg to Cairo
Alone from Cairo to Paducah, Ky. Hospital Boat

Cure for putrid sore throat
Powder one tablespoon full
Alum    "     "
Cayenne pepper one teaspoon full
One pint of vinegar
and a slice of salt pork well covered with black pepper bound on the throat
Cure for Ague
Turkish rhubarb one ounce
anise seed    "    "
to one pint of the best brandy
(different writing again)
Estella from Leavenworth to Columbus City of Alton from
Vicksburg to Cairo Mary E. Forsythe...Cairo to Memphis
Continental from Memphis to Vicksburg Arago from Memphis to
Vicksburg Chouteau from Vicksburg to Natchez

November 13th
Richard is himself again or Bill Sikes is with his Co. once
more which ever way you will have it so that I suit you
my friend is the most I want to do. to come down to the
essence of the thing I myself individually have got back
amongst my Comrades after an absence of about three months.
do you want to know where I've been and what I've been doing
I shant tell every place I have been nor everything I have
done in these three months if part will satisfy your parti-
cular self I will try and accommodate you otherwise I cant
if you will turn back eight leaves you will see that I went
to the Regtal Hospital on the tenth of August also by look-
ing over some pages you will become informed in regard to my
being sent to the Gen Hospital where the Dr. bless hisself
gave me physic and the(n) went to Doing me for Dysentary
and the Nurse poor fellow slept all night and let those of
us that were able to sit up do the Nursing. all they could
do was to bury those they killed but here I've left the Dr.
out in the cold after he found out there were about ninety
of us that he could not kill off in style he gave us fur-
loughs in hope the Boats would blow up with us on the way
up the River I suppose. but the kind old Fellow was des-
tined to be disappointed all but one of us lived to get off
the Boat at Cairo and as far as I am informed reached our
respective homes(if not in the best of health) feeling pretty
well in mind now you will want to know if I had a good time
while at home try it yourself get a furlough and stay as
long as I did that was seven weeks I think you will say
you had a good time anyway I did part of the time I was
sick abed that was the unpleasant part
but then there were so many to sympathize with a fellow that it
is not half so hard to be sick there as it is in the Army.
on the 19th of last month we had to start to rejoin our Rgt.
but at Camp Randall they stoped us a weak. then at Memphis
we stayed four or five days and when we did start had to get
onto one of the slowest Boats the Arago, there is on the river
we were eight days from the on the Boat from Memphis to Vicks-
burg. there we heared the Division was coming up so waited
two days then got onto the Chouteau and arrived here in Natchez
this morning. we found part of our Regts. traps down at the wharf
but the Boat we came on brought Gen Crocker and orders for the
rest of the Division to stay a while the Second Brigade had
got up to Vicksburg on the way to Black River. I found most
of the boys all right two of my have died during my absence
they are J.C.Edmonds(Harley's relative) and G.W. Marshall
Brother Edd is not in very good health but is better than he
was a while ago. things in the Regt have not changed as much
as I expected the little Col is with us yet but Adj. Proudfit
is promoted Lieut. Col Maj(?) has not returned to the Regt
yet and it is expected he will not during our term of service.
Saturday Nov. 14th
if you ever went home on furlough you know how the first few
days were passed after you returned to the Company. I suppose
I have done about the same as any one would under similar cir-
cumstances. talk much and do little. beg pardon I went up town
and got five dollars for rations I had not eat while at home.
by so doing I see some of the town but by going after the five
Dollars and to my notion it is the prettiest town I have seen
in my travels in the south. do not know but I should like to
live here in peaceful times. it is situated very high and as
near as I can find out is the most healthy place on the river
between St. Louis and New Orleans. today as been very pleasant
and warm.
Sunday Nov. 15th
has been spent much as yesterday was talking about what and who
I seen while at home. had to go over to the pioneer Corps and
have a talk with one of our boys about his friends that I had
seen. wonder how long it be before I shall get through with
this talking operation. weather pleasant.
Monday Nov. 16th

had a time with my old Gun cleaning it up. Edd has kept it pretty well but I thought perhaps it would feel slighted if I did not tend to it a little. so tonight it looks as it did when I parted with it.

heared that our forces had give the rebs a good one at Chatenougha lately. hope its all so. weather fair and warm.

Tuesday Nov. 17th

been fixing up my bunk and traps. done a little more to the old gun. went out and pulled some grass(?) for my bed and saw some country that looks the most like the North of any place I have seen in the South Norway Pines growing quite plenty and sandy soil that looks like the vicinity of Kilbourn City. but the temperature of the air is some warmer than it was when I left got a letter from home.

Wednesday Nov 18th

answered the letter I got from home and have been slicking up my things some. went on Dress Parade for the first time in over three months: also heared some good news from our army in Tennessee. that they had routed Braggs army with a loss to the rebs of forty thousand killed. wounded and Missing. thats pretty good for one fight. every one feels good over it weather fair and warm.

Thursday Nov. 19th

I done a little letter writing and took a walk over to the thirty third Wis so saw a little of the Country between here and their camp besides getting quite tired. no news from above of consequence. weather fair and warm.

Friday Nov. 20th

has been occupied by me in tailoring a little and writing. most of our Co. went out with the foriage trains but it looked so much like rain and my throat felt so bad I did not go. it has not been very pleasant. part of the time it has rained and the rest has tried to.

Saturday Nov 21st

today the Boat welcome arrived here from Vicksburg about twenty miles above here she was fired into. the rebs had a masked Battery and threw some twenty eight shot and shell through her without hitting any one which considering that she had on quite a
number of passengers was somewhat strange yesterday we signed the pay rolls for the months of Sept and Oct the talk is that we are to get our green backs this evening as we are under marching orders for Vicksburg they will come quite convenient. weather fair and warm

Sunday Nov 22nd

early this morning we loaded our traps onto the teams(?) and about ten o'clock got onto the Boat Chouteau and soon started after we started for Vicksburg we expected some fun at Waterproof and the 53rd Ind got off the Empress there and took fifteen prisoners but had no fighting. we did not get our green backs today as expected. weather warm and pleasant

Monday Nov 23

this evening we arrived here at Vicksburg all right had some trouble with Guerillas about ten miles above Grand Gulf they were going to fire into the Empress but they discovered them before they got crew enough and threw some shells over that way which did not seem to suit said Rebs as they got out of that mighty sudden our Boat and the Empress landed there the 53 went in pursuit and took five prisoners we do not get off the Boat tonight it has rained most of the day.

Tuesday Nov 24

this morning we got off the Boat and marched up here and now are Camped on the old reb lines about Eighty rods south of Fort Hill. we did not pitch tents that is not many because we did not have them it has not rained but has been Cloudy all day

Wednesday Nov. 25th

We got our Green Backs this morning. our Clothing acct. was settled up and I got three Dollars extra and sent home twenty. there are various rumors as to where we are going one is that we are to go back to Natchez by land another says we are to out on Black River all seem to think our stay here will be short which I am in hopes will be the case wrote a letter home

Thursday Nov 26

talk is that we are to go onto the Boat tomorrow some say up the river others say down. I do not care much which way so that we leave this place we are expecting some new tents soon. weather warm and fair. our package of money did (not) go out till this morning and I sent seventy instead of twenty
Friday Nov. 27th
this morning we pulled up and started on a tramp but not a very long one only about eight miles towards Black River. our camp now is about three miles from the bridge near a large brick house and a Camp of Cavalry they say there are plenty of rebs on the other side of the river. weather cloudy and warm.

Saturday Nov. 28th
heard of the death of one of our Comrades W. Harbaugh he died in the hospital at St. Louis he was an esteemed member of our Co. and his death is much regreted by us we have not done much about fixing up Camp as it has been cold and unpleasant this forenoon our Col. started for Vicksburg to take a boat up the river. he is going to Wis. recruiting one of our Co. that was his Orderly has gone with him Co. A. Boughton

Sunday Nov. 29th
last night and today has been quite cool for this country. in shady places the ground has remained froze all day there has been a cold wind blowing all day that the bright sun could not thaw out so as to be comfortable wrote a letter to SGS(?) and recd one from home

Monday 30th Ottawa
hurrah for us i.e. Corp O'Shea Mike McCarty and myself. Bill Sikes hurrah for us I say we have tug(g)ed(?) brick on our back about half a mile and built a Chimney or rather a fire place in front of our tent and tonight we are enjoying the Comforts of it. it has been clear and warm today but is chilly this evening.

Tues. Dec. 1st
has been warm and pleasant I have been hard at work all day and have got nothing done but two handkerchiefs and a towel washed heavy days work dress parade this afternoon

Wednesday Dec. 2nd
heared some good news that Grant has whiped Bragg and taken ten thousand prisoners forty pieces of light artillery and all his baggage train and Bragg is in full retreat towards Atlanta nothing unusual transpired here abouts today weather fair.

Thursday Dec. 3rd
I heared by one of the Lieuts of our Regt. that my Uncle Albert went down the river to New Orleans to see one of his sons that is there sick. Eddy went on picket this morning for the first carry(?) return(?) weather fair
Friday Dec. 4th

last evening late we recd orders to move which we did this forenoon about ten o'clock we marched to Vicksburg and got aboard of the Shenango(?), that is the left wing of our Regt. the right is on the ______ the thirty second Ill is on the Madison(?). there is some Cavalry on each boat and two pieces of the second Ill Battery it is now eight o'clock and we have not pulled out where the expedition is going none of us know but conjecture down the river somewhere. we are in light marching order our camp being left Eddy stays with it to look after our traps Everis(?) along with us loaded with Cavalry also the Marine fleet composed of the Boats Bultie(?) Adams. John Raine E.H. Fairchild(?)

Saturday Dec. 5th

About day break this morning we swung out still not knowing our destination there were numerous reports as to it some say we are going to New Orleans others that we are bound up Red River while others say we are to get off at Rodney twenty miles below Grand Gulf and march to Natchez and on the way take a conscript Camp of five hundred or there abouts. that is if they do skedaddle before we get there where we are this evening tells that we did not get off at Rodney in fact we did not stop at that place but came on by and about dark arrived at Natchez and still are there it is about nine o'clock all are at loss to know where we are going Most of think we will stay here awhile as they are expecting an attact. it is reported there are six thousand Rebs just outside town how true it is I cannot tell but will probably know in the morning.

Sunday Dec. 6th

about twelve last night we got off the boat marched through town and formed in line of battle about half a mile south of where our old Camp was. Lieut. Col. Proudfit addressed a few words to us saying most likely by day light we would be attacked. that it did not need a speach to get the twelfth to fight that when the time come we would not be found wanting but his words were like the rose that wasted its sweets on the desert air. day broke and ten o'clock came still nix fight. but we took arms marched up into town turned around and passed our bivouac of last night none knew where we were going only that we were on the Washington Road but turned off to the right after marching about three miles soon after Gen. Gresham talked to us a little said the Enemy was in force ahead most likely outnumbered us but he proposed to place them
between us and Natchez if we done so we would have to whip them or go to Richmond if they did not skedadle before we could cut them off. He asked us if we were willing to try it as he recd a hearty response in the affirmative we started on and traveled till this time Eight o'clock and are not much nearer the Rebs than when we started. Reports say the Cavalry have them cornered about five miles from here there are about two thousand of them and have four pieces of Artillery there are about fifteen hundred of us Cavalry and all our Camp tonight is about Eight miles from Natchez on a plantation owned by a man or woman by the name(?) of Bennett. Weather fair and warm.

Monday Dec 7th

Pulled out again this morning about day light we had marched about three miles when our advance Cavalry began to skirmish with the Rebs we fell back about a mile and took our position in a field of fallen timber skirmishing continued for about an hour and our Cavalry tried to draw them on but they drew on the other way skedaddled for parts unknown to us we took another road and put after them after marching about four miles we came to a Bridge they had burned and I guess the Gen concluded it was a fruitless chase as we ascertained they were all mounted Infantry so we turned around and marched two miles towards Natchez which leaves seven to go in the morning. The boys are making (there was an orderly of the 4th Ill Cavalry killed) sad(?) havoc with the comforts of life such as the Country affords Beef Pork Honey Turkeys Chickens____ I do not enjoy it much as a fever came on this afternoon and brings me under the weather some weather threatens rain tonight hope it will not as we have no shelter.

Tuesday Dec 8th

The weather put itself in execution to the immense discomfort of us. About nine o'clock it began to sprinkle and soon rained quite hard I lay in blissful ignorance of it until the water came through the blankets and ran under me in bountiful profusion then got up and stood shivering around the fast expiring fires a while. But that was not very comfortable so like a sensible youth started with Corp. O Slush for a house about a mile off but were pleasantly disappointed by finding good quarters in the shape of a shed before going half that distance. Some boys ahead of us had built a good fire and after drying ourselves we layed down like true Soldiers and soon were in the land of Nod or some other good place. About day break I come back from said land picked up
my traps and went to Camp where I found the boys getting something to fill up the aching void in the stomach I followed their example and soon had stored away a large quantity of Beef Honey Coffee and hard tack (not in my haversack) which for a sick soldier I think was doing pretty well. the Lieut. Col. gave us till nine o'clock to dry blankets and clothes after which we started on and about noon found ourselves in Natchez or in the outskirts we pulled up on the old Camp ground of the thirty-third Wis. where we layed till now and there is not much prospect of our going away tonight it is now Eight o'clock and I begin to think of hunting logging for the night the reports say we are going up Red River and the second Brigade has arrived here since our departure weather fair and cool

Wednesday Dec 9th

last night I took up my abode in the Bum Hotel about thirty rods from our Camp. slept quite comfortable but they routed us out quite to early. soon after breakfast I went back and went to sleep but was woke up by Old Ague. he was shaking me the best he knew kind old fellow I suppose he thought I would sleep to much he kept at us about two hours then his Comrade H (?) Fever pitched in and between them both they gave me a hard one before the latter got done the order came for us to fall in which we did and about two hours after marched uptown to this place where our whole regt. is quartered in some sheds formerly used to store cotton as how long our stay will be we cannot tell I find the reports lied about the Second Brigade it is not here. I also learn that the force we went after is commanded by Wirt Adams he has one Col under him by the name of Bob Wood most of their troops have been in most of the battle in the west. The Country we passed through is the finest I have seen in the South the land is good and lays pretty the houses and grounds on the plantations look as if money had not been used in small quantities for their improvement. since we got here the Henry Von Phul has arrived from below about ten miles below here she was fired into the Capt. and four men were killed and seven wounded weather fair and cool

Thursday Dec. 10th

still in the sheds or as we call it the Pen for what of our grounds is not enclosed by sheds and a large Brick Building is by a high wall all together occupy about a quarter of an acre pretty small space for us the marine fleet has gone up the river. Rumors say our Camp equipage is sent for and we are to stay here a while.
hope so we hear the rebs have planted a Battery of ten guns fifteen miles below the mouth of Red River that was where the Von Phul was fired into and the Atlantic as she went down to New Orleans I guess that is a big story do not think the Rebs have that many guns in that part of the Country tried to rain but did not come it(?)

Friday Dec. 11th

night finds us still in our Pen and not much prospect of our getting out very soon not before our things come from Vicksburg we have free run of a part of the town but we do nmt like the style of living we long for our tents and an open Camp ground the Boats Julia(?) and Ida May arrived from below this morning without being molested. my kind and considerate friend Ague and I had a skirmish again today but I funked(?) him and come off first best. it has rained a very little today the Stern Wheel Boat Brazil arrived from above this evening. she was fired into between Rodney and Waterproof two Women killed the Chambermaid and a Chaplains wife the Chaplain and two other men were wounded. it was from the Louisiana shore she was fired into they say the Rebs have a six gun Battery planted there if it is so I think we will have another scout before long. some seem to think this place will be attacked before long. my opinion is that if the Rebs try us they will get a bitter pill

Saturday Dec. 12th

very dull. our traps have not come yet but we hear by a boat from Vicksburg that they were being loaded onto a Boat this morning weather fair and warm Mistake in the print our things while I was writing the proceeding the Metropolitan was coming into the levee with the rest of the Regt. and our traps on her Eddy came with the rest in better health than when I left. this forenoon they brought about thirty Prisoners from the other side of the River somewhere that the Cavalry took

Sunday Dec. 13th

our things were unloaded from the Boat last night and in rather promiscus manner consequently many of the boys had some trouble in finding their knapsacks and many have not found them yet but thanks to Eddy who took good care of my stuff and had it all right night has come and yet we are in the sheds but it has rained hard most of the day and I suppose that is the reason we have not moved this morning we recd orders to march with two days rations in haversacks what it meanted we did not know untill this afternoon
when it was reported the Cavalry pickets had been drove in and a force had been sent out to ascertain the strength of the Enemy and if they could not whip them we were to go out and do the thing up right

Monday Dec. 14th
we have got our Camp moved and set up they gave us thirteen new wedge tents I was detailed with 19 others before noon and went to work on fortifications while we were off they moved and we found things all right weather fair

Tuesday Dec. 15th
we all have been very busy fixing up we put a piece on our tent and raised it up about two foot and built a Chimney and bunks besides we drew some clothing so have not had time to do much else weather has been fair and warm

Wednesday Dec. 16th
done nothing but keep still as possible on acct. of the rains it has been one of the most unpleasant uncomfortable Cloudy Cold lowery(?) rainey drizzley Sploshy and Mudy days imaginable and we like a venerable rat we read of have kept in(not our Cheese for that luxury is not easy to be had) our tents even there the water had the audacity to come in sufficient quantities to make it quite mudy. if it was not for the warming influence of our fire place we would have rather damp quarters tonight

Thursday 17th
early this morning two of our boys arrived here from furlough S.C. Swain and W.S. Briggs they brought two boxes of goodies from friends at home amongst them was a pair of Gloves and some canned Mince Meat for Eddy and me if you wish to know whether it tasted good or not try soldiers life a year or so and then if you should get some of the delicacies of home you could form some opinion of how my goodies tasted. this afternoon I was on fatigue unloading a Boat load of Corn and Oats. it has been clear and cold today this evening promises a nip(p?)er of a night Eddy is on guard over the Cols Horses(?)

Friday Dec. 18th
I am on picket for the first time in four months our post is on the liberty road about one mile from Camp there are six of us and a Corp. four from our Company two from K and the Corp from H.
the day has passed and nothing unusual transpired it has been clear and cold

Saturday Dec. 19th

come off picket this morning about ten o'clock and have done nothing today except lay around Camp. last night passed without any incident worthy of mention weather clear and cool

Sunday Dec 20th

details to work on the fortifications but for some reason they thought best to let us have a day of rest so we did not work things go on in Camp much as all Sundays some writing some reading some doing one thing some another some put on their pretties and stroll around Town others go to Church Corp. O'Slash is among the latter class today while your humble Servt lounges in and out of the Tent all day not knowing what to do with himself Should have gone to Church but had no new Pants weather clear and cool

Monday Dec. 21st

detailed to work on fortifications and did so this forenoon when we come to Camp for Dinner found the Regt under marching orders and about two o'clock they started but Bill Sikes played off and did not go and did not feel like a tramp so stayed Eddy felt first rate and went they started out on the Washington Road but knew not their destination. three days rations in haversack it threatens rain this evening but I am in hopes for the sake of the boys that is all it will do the thirty second Ill. is out with them.

Tuesday Dec. 22nd

at work hard all day building fireplace and Chimney the one we built first seemed inclined to make us a visit inside the tent sometime before long. I did not feel disposed to receive that kind of Company so took it all down and rebuilt it. had not brick enough to finish it so went and got a load this afternoon have heared nothing from the boys some of the others that were left say they heared Artillery firing this forenoon off towards Washington it has been cloudy and this evening has sprinkled some I am afraid the boys will get wet Jackets before morning Lieut Linnell has got back from Vicksburg and I suppose is ready to swear in all of us who may feel disposed to reenlist as I understand he went up for the purpose of finding out all about the matter. Uncle Samuel is very liberal in his offers for us to stay with him three years longer says he will give us a furlough of
thirty days inside our State or if three-fourths of a Company reinlist those that do are to be sent to their state recruiting those that do not are to be transferred to other Camps or Regts that is if three fourths of their Company should go in also he will give us four hundred and two $02.00 dollars bounty to be paid before the term of service expires these inducements are offered only to troops that have been in two years I have not concluded yet whether to take any more Soldiering or not but think I shall serve out my first term and then if I have not got tired of this kind of life perhaps will try it again

Wednesday Dec. 23rd

I was busy at work this forenoon fixing up around the tent when some of the boys said the Regt. would be in soon and in about two hours they did come tired and hungry but all safe. they could get no fight out of the Rebs but took three Prisoners and an any quantity of turkeys, Geese, and Chickens about two o'clock I was detailed and went on guard over a Cistern weather looks some like rain

Thursday Dec. 24th

did not come off guard untill half past four this afternoon had for Dinner something a little extra Turkey Chicken and some Dumplings I tell you what they tasted Bullie if you do not believe it try hard tack awhile and then see weather fair and warm

Christmas

Wrote an old Secker(?) of a letter to the folks at home and laid around Camp Eddie is on Picket there has about fifty of the Regt. scrawled into the Veterans that and the day and the commissary combined caused many of the boys to feel to and make many dig-ressions from a straight line in their walk. or in other words many of them were comfortably tight weather fine

Saturday Dec. 26th

if I was a Phrophet I should say something of considerable import-ance was about to transpire perhaps the war close or something of like moment. the cause of my thinking so is this I've not been on duty for two days strange but never the less true this forenoon I was acting wash woman for Bill Sikes he is rather a poor pay master still acts as though I was under particular obligation to him as I sit here on my knees writing my Comrade Ottawa sits in the tent door enjoying the warm pleasant evening and smoking his pipe as complacently as any man in easy circum-
stances and a fine house would wonder if another Christmas will find him and myself Comrades in Uncle Sam's service weather fair

Sunday Dec. 27th

nothing remarkable transpired today I've had a hard job of laying around tough but unavoidable last night it rained considerable thundered some and lightened a little and has been Cloudy all day so taking it all around its been rather uncomfortable out of doors (tent doors) everything hereabouts seems to be joging in the usual style once in a while a scare and following it a scout that reminds me its about time for another reconisance into the surrounding Country for the purpose of saving Cattle Hogs Sheep Turkies Geese Chickens and the like from attaining to great an age to be palatable. that's about what most of our scouts and tramps amt to. sure if it gives us a taste of the luxuries of the land we ought not to complain but if we could accomplish something in the line of making holes in Rebel hides it would seem more as if we were doing something towards sustaining that cause for which we put on the Uniform of Uncle Sam and taking up arms

Monday Dec. 28th

done a big job in the line of Gun cleaning worked most all day hard and tonight the old Belgium looks as if it might pass inspection as regards the Camp generally all has been quiet nothing going on except the recruiting for the Veterans two or three of our Co. went in today I have not made up my mind to go in yet weather fair and Warm

1. Henry W. Stutson
2. Lorenzo D. Clement
3. Alpheus E. Kinney
4. James I. Bowman
5. Aaron M. Wheeler
6. Abe Knapp
7. Isaac Henry
8. James A. Cope
Oren W. Wharby

Tuesday Dec. 29th

I hardly know what to write there is so little happened today worthy of mention at noon roll call there was an order read to us in which some Dozen of our boys were accused of cowardice for playing off and not going on the first Scout since we got back
it included one of our Co. R.W.G. I have been busy tinkering at my Gun and Cabinet-Making have manufactured two chairs so tonight we have more furniture in the Tent this is about the shape of them

weather fair and warm

Wednesday Dec. 30th

rained most all day and I have hardly put my head outside the tent so have employed myself inside laying abed most of the time

Thursday Dec. 31st

I was woke up this morning by Sarg. Kinney at the tent door saying H.H. Bennett on Picket today thinks I thats welcome inteligen- ce considering it is rain like fun. nevertheless I got up took something for the stomachs sake and put some rations into my haversack shouldered the old Belgian and went on post(not Lamp post) there are eighteen of us on it is on what is called the Pine Ridge road in Comd. of Lieut. Thayer there has been a great change in the weather since morning from rain to extreme cold tonight the ground begins to freeze a little nothing of moment taken place as yet

January 1st 1864

Happy New Year to everybody that's whats the matter I feel first rate and hope everyone else does notwithstanding I had rather a serious time last night from Gen. J. Frost attacking us in front rear and all around Camp R. Overcoat came to my support but for all that I could not stand not his galling fire repeated charges consequently had to withdraw to a breastworks of logs to which fire had been applied causing clouds of sparks and smoke to ascend high in the heavens even there our enemy would attack our rear causing us to right about quite often or to express it more plain to one not accustomed to military terms it was Devilish cold and we were not disposed to stay longer away from the fire than duty compelled us to. two hours Videt on top of a hill where the wind had full sweep satisfied me in regard to the temperature of the air perhaps a little adventure I had while on Videt between eleven and one o'clock 1863 and 1864 would not be uninteresting to some of you stay at homes who may chance to run across this after my- self and friends have entered land(?) anyway I'll related it for my own amusement if no one else
very near the exit of the old Year and the birth of the New I was standing with my back against a sturdy Oak and my Chin resting on the muzzle of my constant companion ruminating on the past, present and future had brought to mind where I was on the first night of 1863 that I was doing similar duty at Harmony Hill and was on Videt duty the same hours in the night thought of our Journey to this place and the long distance that lay between and there and lastly I was consulting with myself the propriety of reenlisting into the VVs before I had come to any conclusions in regard to it my reflections were brought to a close by the rustle of leaves as though some one was walking near by I quickly cast my eyes in the direction from whence the sound proceeded I saw something which at first I took for a stump still I kept strict watch on it for about a minute when I became almost sure it moved and towards myself. I did not like the style of its advancing therefore brought the gun to bare on it and chalanged was about to fire when my enemy appeared to halt then I asked who come there not getting any answer I about concluded again to fire and brought up my gun to do so but on reflection thought perhaps it would needlessly alarm the reserve and that I would reconnoiter a little then commenced a series of creeping crawling and dodging on the part of the subscriber that is not laid down in the tactics for skirmishes or any other drill. whenever I could get a sight of the object which caused all this maneuvering it seemed sometimes to move as if looking after my welfare or whereabouts finally after various skulking and laying down I reached a big log close enough I thought to find out who or what had caused all this trouble accordingly I raised my head cautiously above the log and there not more than a rod from me partly laying down was a -what- why what I first took it to be a Stump or rather a short log so I was a little mistaken and some was not. We got relieved about Nine o'clock and come into Camp found Gen Frost had give them a touch as well as us clear and cold

Saturday Jan. 2nd

we have had some excitement in our Company on the reinlist question and quite a number have gone in today about a dozen I think as yet your humble servant is one of the outsiders My tent Comrade Corp O'Slush walked up this afternoon and swore to serve U Sam for the period of three years more should he need his service for that length of time. Well I hardly expected it of him but so it is this forenoon I was detailed and went to work in the Fortifications
did not work after dinner as it is Saturday so done a little in
the line of washing clear and cold this forenoon an order came
for us stating that none could reenlist and receive the benefit of
the four hundred and two Dollars

Sunday Jan 3rd
this forenoon it threatened rain since dinner it puts its threat
in execution but not very severely eight or ten of our boys were
taken today with the reenlist on the brain accordingly went into
the Veterans I've felt some symptoms of it but have been cured
every time thoughts of some of the Officers I would have to serve
under come up not our Company Officers

Monday Jan. 4th
the same old story nothing but Veterans talked about—the first
words one says on meeting another is have you gone for a Veteran
yet the Weather has been very unfavorable for recruiting or any-
thing else but getting wet if one is long from under cover

Tuesday Jan. 5th
the day of grace has arrived and past still I myself Individually
am an old (or Young) Volunteer yet it is not too late and I may
yet repent of my evil ways Gen. Greshum spoke to the Regt. this
evening on the all absorbing topic hoped we would make up the num-
ber to send the Regt. home our Company has got enough to send
them home. ten o'clock has come and our Regt. has got the
requisite number to go to the state recruiting I suppose we shall
feel lonesome but will have to stand it weather cool

Wednesday Jan. 6
I am on picket on the Pine Ridge Road at the same place I was New
years Eve. it is cloudy and cool still not as severe as then
nothing of note take place here on the Post but in Camp the Veterans
are having a jolly good time or one would think so from the noise
they make. I guess old Call (?) has something to do with it also
a little ale

Thursday Jan. 7th
Early this morning our Cavalry Videt come in with a man who had
come to his Post the fellow told a pitiful story about some fellows
out in his neighborhood who were stealing and plundering and were
going to join the Rebel Cavalry if not prevented by some of our
Scouts from the appearance and actions of the fellow we ie us
privates and noncommissioned come to the conclusion that he ge
belonged to the same gang and most likely they got into a dispute about dividing the spoils and this one got mad accordingly took that way of spiting the rest. However he was sent into the Gen. and that's all I know about it. We were relieved about nine o'clock this morning. There is a rumor that the time for Reenlisting is to be extended to the fifth of next month our recruits that come to us since we left Camp Randall who have reenlisted are not to be accepted as they have not served two years yet there are nine from our Company so we have only fifty. We had some roast beef for supper. I was behind so did not get any. Edd milked his coffee with beer troublesome times in the family. Weather clear and cool Ottawa (pencilled note says "Ottawa probably J. McVey") who later married Sarah Bennett) lays on his bunk looking as calm as a spring evening. He says he is thinking of the one he loves best also has turned his thoughts back to Kansas and the time he had an opportunity of tasting the alcalie (alkali?) which is found in the soil of some parts of that state. He used gun boat firing down the River but do not know the cause.

Friday Jan. 8th

I do not doubt many think every day of a soldier's life is connected with some excitement or incident of interest. True enough to one not engaged in it but to a person that has passed two or three years in Camp it's not so. I will remember the time when I thought a Soldier must be one of the most merry fellows on the earth leading a life of pleasure devoid of care and trouble. Two years in the service has somewhat changed my mind in regard to that. Many days we see that pass slowly away and I might say for all there are so many of us that we sometimes are lonesome. With me today has been so the excitement of reenlisting has passed and we have settled into the old dull routine of Camp. Get up in the morning, eat breakfast, sit around till noon then eat dinner and sit around untill supper and so it goes unless some days when we go on picket or fatigue. Well I have the consolation of knowing in the course of ten months I shall be out of the Army unless I should choose to go in again before the expiration of that time.

Sunday Jan. 9th (really Saturday)

All quiet on the Potomac and everywhere else I guess I haven't done nothing but sit around all day and wrote a one horse letter home.
Sunday Jan. 10th
General review of all the troops at Natchez by Gen. Two Ladies not for the purpose of ascertaining their condition but to try and recognize an individual who robbed them of Jewelry and Plate to the amount of ten thousand Dollars. the first I knew of it our Co. was ordered to fall in and march up to the Cols. headquarters where the Ladies took a good look at us but not finding the one Co. F. went up and so on each one in turn till all the Co.'s has been through a thorough scouting with no better success than ours. I understand their intention is to examine all the troops here as near as I could learn the circumstances are these last night about nine o'clock three men in soldiers uniform come to their residence which is on the Woodville road about six miles out with orders as they said to search the house for arms and proceeded to do so but instead of looking for Arms they took what money and Jewelry they could find the Ladies must have been quite cool as one of them described the dress and everything about them as if well acquainted all I can say is that I hope any men low enough to rob as handsome Women as one of them is will get caught and punished according to the discretion (?) of a General Court Marshall weather has been nasty

Monday Jan. 11th
well this has been a nasty day took little comfort in or out of doors the men who Robbed the house have been found out today they are members of Co. G. of our Regt. Sorry to state it but is an undeniable fact what they will do with them we do not know neither do we care men that will rob defenseless women do not deserve a thought from any one of whatever grade or standing in society and I can say they get very little sympathy in the Regt. Two years ago today we left Camp Randall for what was then called the Enemie's Country the state of Missouri since then we have seen some hard times and some easy ones helped to-what-to keep any quantity of hard Bread from spoiling wonder where I'll be a year from now whether in service or not hope the war will be over and all of us at home or some other good place Ottawa is on picket and I will be tomorrow

Tues. Jan. 12th
I've been on Picket this day on the Liberty road there are eight of on post-seven of our Co. and one Cavalry man for dispatch Bearer in case anything should happen on the Post that one should be needed so far today there has been no occasion for one here
only for company of which he is the best kind in fact most of us feel pretty well have passed the time in cracking jokes and Pea Nuts the latter of which were brought to us in plentifull quantities by a negro who lives not far off the Country around us has been free from Rebs so far as our knowledge extended which is about four miles out on this road the Cavalry man took two rides in that direction thats they way we ascertained that fact. the weather is none of the fairest and the prospect is now that we shall have a rainy night of it heared there were some two hundred Rebs in Washington yesterday before we got here this morning two Rebel soldiers come in and gave themselves up they come from the force at Fayette which they said was about thirteen hundred strong.

Wednesday Jan. 13th

come in about ten o'clock this morning nobody disturbed us and we disturbed no one during the night it rained some but not hard we hear hard stories about Orderly Moulton who went to stay at a house with a minister by the name of Watkins today(he) Watkins was arrested for giveing aid and comfort to the enemy also for sending intelgience to them concerning the number and conditions of troops at this post as Orderly staid at the house and bought some Revolvers for him he is suspected of being conected with said Watkins I believe he has not been arrested yet there has been quite a number of citizens arrested today among them are a Lady and Gentleman on whose persons were found some Watches Rebel Mail and one hundred and twenty-nine thousand Dollars in Confederate money. they were suspected and taken on the picket post as they come in it cleared off about noon and since then has been pleasant.

Thursday Jan. 14th

what a brave boy am I got a pass this morning and went up town all alone for the first time in since the twenty-third of last month did you ask what I saw well if you must know I suppose you must so here goes in the first place I run onto a fellow on the corner of the street who had a gun with a thing on the end of it that looked like Dads old sythe without the snathe on it says I how de do and says he pass sir yes sir said and started to go by supposing he meaneed for me to pass on but when I tried to do what I thought he intended me to he grabbed the gun and
and pointed it right at my stomach I told him to please hold it one side a little as twas dangerous to play with guns and he only said your pass that's what I'll do says I if you will put your gun down then he appeared not mad and asked if I had a permit in writing from any Col to go into the town that's what you want is it-I've got it so handed him the piece of paper Mr Proudfit gave me he looked at it and said go on which I did and hope I not meet such an Ill manored fellow very soon again. I saw some more men that was just like him only were gentlemen and did not molest me I also saw a little ___ser and some handsome woman (or) (or) (or) (or) (or) (or)

(or women) that looked very cross at me spose twas because I had on poorer clothes than them there was a man rode through the streets on a horse with two rows of buttons on this coat and there were more than a dozen fellows riding behind him says I what are they taking to you to jail for he looked as if he would chew me up then but I put on a savage look as I could and guess it scared him for he said you'll be rested not till I get tired thank you. so come back here and a fellow with some pictures on his Coat sleeve said you laid abed to long this morning consequently will sleep with the Cols. horse tonight I did not want to do it but he insisted on it so here I am with some horses in an old Barn.

Friday Jan. 15th

came off guard this morning and found it was my Birth Day the twenty first- can't see as I feel or look any more like a man than I did yesterday but suppose I must be more of one My occupation this forenoon would denote me to be a female washerwoman after dinner cleaned my gun some and thats about all I've done one year ago today our Camp was about two miles south of Moscow Tenn. I wondered then where we would be at this time why not say the same of where we will be one year from now I guess my Camp will be somewhere in Wisconsin hope so anyway there is talk that us who have not reenlisted are to be sent to the twenty-third Regt. it is somewhere in Texas that's a part of the country I would much like to see still do not like the thoughts of being separated from the Co. weather has been pleasant

Saturday Jan. 16th

had some late northern papers in which we learned that they had some very cold weather up there during the first of this month it makes us shiver to hear of two or three feet of snow and that
piled up in drifts in many places so as to shut up the Rail Roads in the family my table fell down spilt the ink and raised the Devil generally besides putting out the candle. the absence of ink causes me to postpone writing any more this evening there is nothing of any consequence to write about anyway weather fair and cool.

Sunday Jan. 17th

I've spent in lounging about the Camp could not go to Church because I had no clothes fit guess that will not cause me to stay in from picket tomorrow the prospect now is that we shall not have a very nice or comfortable time at it the wind is blowing like fun and once in a while a drop of rain comes down as a dispatch bearer of what is to come what the Devil is the matter now Oh nothing says only the Tent is falling down Dyer is very short and blunt(?) says say Mister I guess you'll have to quit writing that's my humble opinion so I act on it.

Monday Jan. 18th

I find myself on Picket at the levee of the reserves(?) on the down River Road. there are five us the post is near a fine mansion owned by a man by the name of Marshall who report says is a good Union man and always was he is immensely rich owning eleven large Plantations in this state and Louisiana does not know the number of his Niggers the day has rolled slowly away without adventure or incident to us worth of mention the day has been one of the finest of the season.

Tuesday Jan. 19th

We had a little adventure last night these are the particulars. about two o'clock I come off(f) videt and Eddy relieved me. I had laid down and was almost asleep when I heared him chalange and close following the report of his gun. the alacrity with which we tumble out from under our shelter would not very well represent the movements of our one horse Generals. still we like them were to late to see the enemy. his coat had disappeared over an adjacent hill. of course Edds shot did not take effect where it was intended too. he said the first he saw of the person he was slowly makeing his way towards us. he politely requested him to halt said Individual did not seem inclined to comply with Edds request but began moving off. as a natural consequence Edd fired before we could get out he was out of sight. what his intentions towards us or business was we are of course ignorant. probably always will be.
we got into Camp all right before dinner. this afternoon we were inspected by Capt Norton and drew some clothing report says we are going to Vicksburg in a few days. weather fair

Wednesday 20th
I have not much to say. Ague gave me a tuch consequently I do not feel like writing a long palaver so will put down just what took place in our Camp we drew some clothing. and our Co. is excused from all duty for one week because they had the cleanest gun on in inspection yesterday weather fair and warm

(Note: His own gun, say I Mother, Meb) Thursday Jan 21st
We are having some of the finest weather for the season. warm and pleasant like the May weather in Wis. Most of the boys are in excellent health. I am only the Ague we hear we are to start for Vicksburg tomorrow or next day. I done a little Tailoring for Edd this afternoon.

This morning early our Capt with six of our Co went over into Louisiana on a (?S)cout they intend to go about forty miles back from the River as the Country is supposed to be full of Guerrillas it is considered something of an undertaking Ottawa went with him. they are all mounted on horses and mules. nothing of importance in Camp. this evening I went with some of the boys to the house of a citizen Mr. Waren(?) had a good chat and got back to Camp found orders had come for us to be ready to move onto the Boat at day light tomorrow morning.

Saturday Jan 23
Tumbled out long before day this morning packed our traps par took of some hard tack and coffee. then layed around till ten o'clock. Marched to the River. our Regt. is on the U.S. Ewing. the thirty second is on the Dilligent. about two hours before sundown we pulled out amid the regrets and waving of handkerchiefs (ckigger Wenches) and are now sailing (not very rapidly) towards Vicksburg

Sunday 2 Jan 24
About sundown we got to Vicksburg for some reason we do not get off the Boats. had first rate weather.

Monday Jan 25th
This morning we disembarked and marched out here to Hebron. have picked tents on our old Camp ground. hope we will get more rations than at Natchez. weather fair

Tuesday Jan 26th
We have been engaged in slicking up Camp and us Vols have signed
the pay rolls. nothing else transpired worthy of mention. Weather fair.

Wednesday Jan 27th

the expection(?) was when we came here that were going within expection(?) out to Jackson and vicinity but as yet we have heard nothing more about it so cannot tell any thing how long we will stay here. I understand the expedition is for the purpose of establishing Gen. John A. Logan as military governor of this state and making his head quarters at Jackson. all has been quiet about Camp most of the boys have been engaged in building Bunks and slicking up the Camp weather fair.

Thursday Jan 28th

nothing of moment taken place today. no signs of leaveing very soon or of getting pay within a day or two we read two letters from home this afternoon all well. Old Brandy fell into the creek and perished sometime during the cold spell they had up there. so warm here today that one is uncomfortable with a Blouse on

Friday Jan 29th

commenced to muster the Veterans in our Regt. I hear that three of Co B would not muster in. the cause of their standing out I did not learn. they have not got to our Co yet. heared nothing more in regard to our expedition towards Jackson. a little cloudy this afternoon but no rain.

Saturday Jan 30th

been quite busy tailoring for some of the Boys fixing up the pockets in their new pants. have heared now news concerning the movements of the Army. our Co. was mustered (?) today. weather cloudy and tonight rains some.

Sunday Jan 31st

took a ride to the R.R. station but to tell the truth it was not a very stylish one. you d thought so if you had seen me sitting in the bottom(?) of the Army Wagon Box just where I enjoyed all the spring of the forward axle that was not all of it either. when we arrived to the station had to load hard tack and Sow Belly for the Regt. five days this afternoon. the first and second Brigade of our Division passed here on the way to some place I do not know where.

What the divil is the matter with the Girls up in Wis. guess they are tired of waiting for soldiers and have concluded to take up with anything that comes along tried to rain but did not make out very well.
Monday Feb 1st
I understand the thirty second Ill has been paid of(f) for two Months and that we are to get ours tomorrow hope thats the case my pockets feel as though a supply of Green Backs would be a very accutable addition to them some of the boys feel rather limpy today. took some Medicine last night. I was one of the chaps myself. weather fair most of the Day

Tuesday Feb 2nd
this has been an eventfull day with me I've fried about a peck of Dough Nuts. eat very many and Recd two letters. Gen Gresham was over here and picked (probably pitched) quoits with the boys. tonight our teams have gone for twenty days rations so I guess we start on a march before long. weather fair

Wednesday Feb 3
night finds us four miles east of Black River bivouced in a field near Edwards station. that is our Division. how many troops are along besides I do not know. hear there are three Army Corps of us. nothing taken place worthy of note weather fair

Thursday Feb 4th
early this morning we started on the second Brigade in advance. our next at Champion Hill our advance met the enemy and sharp skirmishing ensued which last till night our forces steadily driving them back four or five miles to a Creek. the name which I do not know. here the Rebs took a position about a mile south of the Creek and our Regt which relieved the Second Brigade on the skirmish line about one mile and a half back took a position at the Bridge. the rest of our troops are about three fourths of a mile back camped in a field. thus matters stand tonight. We expect some trouble in crossing the Bridge in the morning this afternoon we could hear cannonading off to our left suppose it is Hurlbuts' Corps three of Co. I of our Regt. were killed by a shell while advancing that is all the loss our Regt. has sustained as yet. saw some dead and wounded secesh but do not know their loss our right wing captured four Rebs

Friday Feb. 5th
this morning the third Division took the advance. the sixty-eighth Ohio crossed the Bridge first at sun rise we could (see) the Rebel line about a mile from us and when the sixty-eighth got onto the Bridge they opened a Battery on them but done no harm untill after they formed a line with the other side the whole
division followed the Rebs all the while keeping a Brisk fire from their Artillery on the Bridge and our advancing line but soon after we got a Battery into position on the other side and opened their fire was frequent and in a few minutes ceased altogether for some minutes the fire from Infantry was quite brisk then that ceased the Rebs were on the retreat and our boys after them full tilt and they have kept it up retreating towards Jackson all the while skirmishing tonight we are Camped in a large field eight miles from Jackson our Brigade got into Camp about ten o'clock. as near as I can find out our loss this morning was seventeen killed and wounded that of the Rebs thirteen killed and thirty-seven wounded as we passed where the Rebel Battery was planted I saw a gate covered with the blood and brains of some unlucky individual whether secesh or union I do not know weather fair
Saturday Feb. 6th
about sun rise we started on again and about ten o'clock got to the old Rebel works on the south side of Jackson where we stacked arms and laid while I suppose waiting for the Pontoons to be laid across the River we passed a cannon that the Cavalry took yesterday it was a rifled Brass piece we expected the Rebs would make a stand here but it seems they have not. their reason for not doing so we cannot tell unless it is because they have not force enough to affect us any. about sun down we left town crossed Pearl River and are now Camped on an open field about one mile and a half from town we crossed on Reb Pontoons this morning our Corps had lost 85 men in killed wounded and missing weather fair while we lay on the other side of town Gen. Hurlbut come up through the Camped and stopped near our Camp. the Boys of the Brigade crowded around him he knew what they wanted accordingly talked to them a few minutes said nothing would please him more than to get the old Fourth Division back into his Corps. had offered McPherson the biggest trade in the World but he was so hogish he would not trade the boys gave him three hearty cheers
Sunday Feb 7th
We have got over about thirteen miles of Country and tonight lay in a field just east of Brandon(?) which is on the Jackson and Maridian RR twelve miles east of Jackson we were some ways behind the advance so I do not know whether there was any skirmishing or not but from the rapidity of our march should think there was but little if any. the RR is in repair to this place from the east.
this morning there was a train of Cars here. the boys in advance
got considerable tobacco here it is not of the best quality
tonight our Camp looks like a Meat Market Beef Pork Geese Chickens
and Bacon of southern manufacture are plenty with us there has a
detail gone out from our Regt we suppose to destroy some of the
R.R. Gen. Sherman passed us on the road today he is a fine look-
ing man weather fair and warm
Monday Feb. 8th
we have had the longest march today of any since we started
tonight are some over seventeen miles east of our last Nights
Camp consequently are foot sore and tired for the last five or
six miles the Rebs have been quite stubborn skirmishing with our
Cavalry all that distance about three miles back they formed
a line behind a house the dwellers did not get out and when our
boys fired killed the Mother of five Children besides two Rebs
it is said that this morning two Divisions of Rebels formed a line
of Battle at this Creek where we are camped and that they will
give us Battle in the morning about four miles from here at Morton
think it will be a sorry Job for them if they do it is reported that
there is eight thousand Cavalry under Grierson to form a
junction with us some where out in this Country Weather fair and
warm one of the boys put under arrest for making a fuss(?) in
the ranks
Thursday Feb. 9th
tonight we are Camped just in the suburbs of Morton so have not
had much of a march today about two o'clock we pulled in here
and Hurlbuts Corps has passed us this afternoon the Rebs as we
expected formed a line here to fight us but when our advance com-
cenced fighting with theirs they were suddenly took with a desire
to go to Maridian or some other place and followed their inclina-
tions judging from the appearance of the Road between here and
our last nights Camp they passed over it in something of a
hurry clothing mostly of Grey colour lay along in plentifull
profusion last night one Co. of them come into our lines and
gave themselves up besides scattering ones I've had a little
touch of Ague this afternoon I understand there are fifteen
thousand of our Troops from Tusumbia to meet us at Meridian
as the sixteenth Corps passed us the boys had an opportunity of
seeing some eastern troops for the first time some have not a very favorable opinion of them weather fair Rebel deserters say there was fifteen thousand of them here and that they calculated to stand at this town but as they did not would not try again untill they got to Tunnel(?) Ridge four miles this side of Maridian

Wednesday Feb 10th
I've rode most all day in the ambulance for the first time in my soldiering old Ague would not let me stay in the ranks so I have not had any chance of observing our route all I know is that this evening we passed through a town or the ruins of one called Hillsborough after traveling about fourteen

END OF SECOND DIARY
see page 75x for Feb. 21 and 22

Loose papers tucked in end of Second Diary

Monday, Feb 22nd
we have made a march of about nineteen miles today consequently are foot sore and tired are Camped three miles west of one of our former Camps have not found only one of our teams yet the rest of them have gone on to some place ahead weather fair

Tuesday Feb. 23rd
	tonight our Camp is three miles west of Hillsborough at that place we passed our teams and those of the sixteenth Corps arms have come up tonight we got here before noon most of us have improved the time in washing up a little and resting we have left our old route to the south and are going by way of Canton it some further but promises a better Chance for forage than by J____ weather fair and warm

Wednesday Feb. 24
we have had a very hard march only 12 miles but we got started late and the roads bad our route lay over a different Country from any we had seen before on this trip it was very flat and level and differently timbered from most of the other mostly Oak the soil appeared fertile but was wet and hindered the train very much consequently our progress was slow and tiresome we got into Camp tonight at Eleven o'clock weather fair and warm
Saturday Feb 20th

tonight our Camp is about half a mile from the place we stayed the night before we left the teams. we do not find them here now they have gone back to Decatur there to wait for us since we got here the third Division has passed us gone on aways to Camp we have marched about fifteen miles today weather fair and warmer than yesterday heared nothing from the other Corps yet

Sunday Feb 21st

back again to Decatur we got here about sundown marched about thirteen miles did not start till most noon expected to find our teams here but they have gone on to Hillsborough(?) so report says we are to have a detail for foraging meat tomorrow good thing we have been hard up for that article during the past two days also hard tack is getting scarce begin to hanker for corn(?) weather fair and quite warm
Thursday Feb. 25th
we marched about seven miles got here about ten o'clock are
Camped on a plantation two miles from where we are to cross
Pearl River now hve been waiting for the pontoons to be laid
and for the sixteenth Corps to pass us which they commenced
doing at three o'clock this P.M. but this evening they have stopped
the pontoons are sinking and they have to wait till they can be
fixed which will not be much before morning. weather indicates
rain before many days
Friday Feb 26th
Did not move until two o'clock this P.M. the sixteenth Corps
could not move till this morning layed in the road where they
stoped last night when we did start it was jerky(?) Bob for
two miles untill we got to the Bridge which we did not till most
sundown have not marched only about one mile this side so are not
very tired weather fair and warm
Saturday Feb. 27th
cant say we have not marched today for we have and that about half
mile are not much foot sore or tired now the cause of it is this
our Division only is left here and two Regts of it has gone on into
Vicksburg with the other Corps. they are the fifty-third Indiana
and fifty-third Ill. they went to guard part of our Division
train in we are to stay here until our Cavalry comes and then take
up the Pontoons. the Cavalry were sent back from Hillsborough to
try and learn something in regard to Smith and Griersons forces
that were to come from LaGrange and conect with us at Maridian but
failed to do so we hear that they have been fighting near Maridian
with Chalmers forces what ground for there is for the report I
cannot tell some Mounted Inft. that was sent out from the Division
to forage were drove in by a Rebel Brigade with a loss of seven,
whether killed or wounded they do not know weather fair
Sunday Feb. 28
at half past ten this forenoon we pulled out and marched till four
o'clock which brought us within a mile of Canton have marched
about thirteen miles today. while on the road heared cannonading
off to our left. have not heared the cause of it weather pleasant
Monday Feb. 29th
still on our yesterdays Camp but have took a walk of five miles
and back went after some Rebs. about nine o'clock A.M. the
Pickets east of us and about half a mile off began skirmishing quite lively with some Rebel Cavalry and kept it up assisted by our Cavalry untill most noon when some Artillery went out onto the line but the Rebs were quite stubborn so soon after our Brigade fell in and after marching out four miles on a road north of the one we come in on relieved the Cavalry skirmishers and went on for half a mile when skirmishing commenced again. As our line was advancing over a hill the Rebs opened a Battery from a hill eighty rods in front threw a couple of six pound percussion shell at us both of which went too high and neither burst it seems the sight of us was enough to scare them off for they hustled (?) out of that mighty sudden we stoped about half an hour could not see or hear anything of them so come back to Camp were three hours and a half away considering that we marched ten miles and fought a Battle thats doing pretty well. suppose the secesh come up to reconoiter a little guess they did not satisfy their curiosity much weather indicates rain before long

Don't know where this section comes in-JR
"29 supplies have come from Vicksburg and tonight we have drew three full days rations of hard tack, sugar and Coffee had the Ague Edd on picket"

Tuesday March 1

woke up sometime in the night and my ears were greeted with the not very pleasant sound of rain coming down quite plentifully and pattering on our shelter made of Rubber Blankets but thats not the whole story two hours or so after day had to take down our shelter fall in and start off in the rain have been until now (ten o'clock P.M.) coming to this Camp which is about ten miles from Canton it ceased raining about Eleven o'clock but the mud and cold has made it very uncomfortable marching. tonight is clear and cold as we passed through Canton had plenty of time to observe the place should judge it had been quite a business town and that not long since there were twenty-three Locomotives here which our forces destroyed think that must be the cause of the Rebels repairing the RR to Jackson which they had done except about four miles when we went out suppose they wanted to get them out to Maridian and use them on the M & O RR there was but few houses burned in Canton except Depot Buildings saw some
very fine residences and surrounding grounds this morning the
sixteenth Corps was two miles ahead of us tonight the third
Division is Camped on the other side of a swamp three miles back
Wednesday March 2nd
it seems the Rebs are bound to give us all the trouble in their
power this morning before the third Division crossed the swamp
the Rebs pached in and anoved them considerable our Division
waited till they passed the second Brigade was in the rear ours
next all day we have heared Cannonading in our rear about two
miles this side of a town called Livingston and once when we
stopped could see their line and hear musketry quite plain the
loss on our side is very slight got into Camp about ten o'clock
tonight have come twelve miles had the Ague and weather fair
Thursday March 3rd
soon after starting this morning cross a creek the name of which
I do not know where three of our Parrot guns we planted to pro-
tect our (the retreat of) rear guard which consisted of one Brigade
the Rebs tried to flank them and lost forty men and a Col. since
then they have been more peaceable have marched about seventeen
miles nine miles from our last nights Camp passed through a
one horse town called Brownsville got into Camp a little after
Dark weather indicates rain.
Friday March 4th
we have marched twenty miles and got into Camp found nine recruits
for our Co. our Divs was in advance and done some good marching
got here a little afternoon
Saturday March 5th
I have been engaged in enjoying some hard rest which I do not con-
sider very remarkable or extraordinary if you do my friend you must
be a recruit or something of that kind most of the boy that went
out have been employed about the same we like(just now) a quiet
retired sort of life the same as a Citizen does when he has a
Pocket full of rocks? or green backs by the way we expect some of
the agents of Old Uncle S. Around with some green backs for us be-
fore long.
Sunday March 6th
more recruits come this afternoon for the Regt. one for our Co.
looks as if the Cradle had been robbed of its occupant to make
(three hundred Dollars) a soldier the Recruit that come today
numbered forty-six were with Capt. Wheelock(of Co.M) our mess
have some holed Beans doing tonight. expect a good breakfast
weather fair and warm

Monday March 7th

Beans did not come out quite as good as we expected and an order come this afternoon say no non Veterans would be transfered to the sixteenth Corps if we did not reenlist and have to go up Red River. that when the Veterans returned from furlough they would rendezvous at Louisville Kentucky. taking it all around has not been a very good day. particularly for us six months men. Beans poor and got to go up the River with the Wood Peckers plenty of rot gut whisky in the Regt. consequently some men slightly inebriated. weather fair.

Tuesday March 8th

nothing much took place today only the veterans of our Brigade are ordered to hold themselves in readiness to go to Vicksburg and take the Boats to go home on furlough at any moment. they have not been paid yet and are not to be untill they arrive a Madison some of the boys do not like it very well want their money all the Regts in the Brigade have three fourths reenlisted Gen. Gresham wants to take them all home at once and go by the Capitol of his State Indiana weather fair and hot.

Monday March 14th

has been about as dull a day as we are very often called upon to pass away I tried to pass the time by cooking some Pea Soup but did not succeed very well most of the non Veterans of our Co. are detailed on some duty driving team or taking care of the Cols. horses so it leaves few of us besides the recruits here at the Co. the boys were quite busy this forenoon cleaning up the Camp ground got it cleaned so it looks first rate had a roll call at Retreat which was played by one fifer and two Drummers Co(?) not as long as twas three days ago weather has been fair.

Tuesday March 15th

Edd and I have been hard at work most all day remodeling this tent. Jim has gone into one of the other tents with Benson LE(?). so it leaves only Edd and me to occupy this one we put out one bunk turned the other around and fixed up generally the only trouble is we have got too much room guess we'll have to rent one set of rooms on the first floor and one upstairs for a Parlor or something of the like. here is a plan of the ground floor also a representation of the outside of the shebang.
if you think you would like to live with us come on there is considerable room in the upper part that is not occupied except by flies and I killed lots of them this morning before the cold would let them stir and the prospect is that tonight will freeze the rest for its so cold that my toes ache

Thursday March 24th
this morning there was orders for a drill of what there is of us here this afternoon at three o'clock but it rained so we did not have it this forenoon Drew some clothing no news of any kind I wish something would take place to relieve and break this dull monotony Ague and the meanest kind of weather do not tend to raise one spirits very high or give him much energy but what can't be cured must be endured and the best way is to take life as it comes and not grumble James Price name is sent in to go to the Battery

Friday March 25
the principal part of the Day has been occupied by me in doing a little in the tailoring line fixing the pockets of some pants I drew yesterday and helping draw rations there is a little improvement in the weather today not so cold as yesterday and no rain but cloudy part of the time hear nothing from the Regt since they left Cairo

Saturday March 26th
fifty-three Recruits come for the Regt. this forenoon four of which are for our Company one is Brother of one of the Old Co. George Lawsha an order come to the Camp today revoking the one in which all men that did not reenlist were to be transfered and all men that have been detached are to return to their Regts.
well can't say I am very sorry that we are to stay with the old
Regt. till our time is out weather has been nice
Sunday March 27th
nothing going on no news no nothing so I will just say that
we've had a fine day but this evening it is clouding up and looks
as if we would get rain before morning
Monday March 28th
We. us Individually and alone us old Soldiers and recruits had a
Battalion Drill this afternoon Capt. Sylvester Col. command
Regt. and the old Soldiers as Capts. Sargts. Corps.(?) we did
not claim that we made quite as good an appearance as the old
Regt. would but we done first rate considering that we are green
ones at it our Music which consisted of one fifer and one Drum-
mer was not very good in fact could be called a nuisance the
Divil could not keep step with it much less raw recruits This
morning there was quite a shower but it cleared off early and we
have had a fine day warm and pleasant overhead
Tuesday March 29th
nothing of importance transpired today here in Camp and I have
heard no news from other quarters in fact do not believe there
is any everything seems extremely dull this spring.
Wednesday March 30th
had another Battalion Drill this afternoon I did not go on didn't
feel like it about all I've done today is to go down after some
water to the Creek and play a game of Ball there is a probability
of our leaving here before long to go up the River tenty third
left this forenoon. weather has been fair and quite warm have
heared nothing from the Regt. yet since they left Cairo
Thursday March 31st
dull as usual nothing going on here or anywhere else we have
had one or two showers this afternoon by way of variety. got a
letter from home this evening folks usually well
Friday April 1st
detailed for picket this morning went on with ten men on or by
road west of Camp at two o'clock come to camp and found all the
tents struck ready for a march started about three and got into
Vicksburg about dark got onto the Boat John J. Doe and are still
here at V-----g that is the parts of our Regt. thirty-second
Ill fifty third Ind and the Pioneer Corps the teams will not
be loaded on tonight cloudy and cool
Saturday April 2nd
finished loading the teams on the Boat this morning and got started
about eight o' clock the Boat is a slow one consequently we are
not very far up tonight weather fair and warm
Sunday April 3rd
still are going slowly up have not got half way to Memphis yet
nothing unusual taken place today unless you call a cold rainy
day unusual anyway we found it uncomfortable on the hurricane
Deck (One week ago today the Boat Novelty B____woon to the shore
opposite of the wood yard and last night the Rebs burned her the
gun Boat had took off her cargo where we wooded I talked with a
citizen that saw Quantralls Band twelve hundred strong were on the op
opposite side of the river Camped about six miles back
Monday April 4th
this morning we passed Napoleon which is called half way from
Vicksburg to Memphis nothing worthy of mention taken place
Tuesday April 5th
this morning early got into Helena stoped a few minutes then
started on have wooded twice today and are now about twenty miles
from Memphis expect to get there sometime before morning
Wednesday April 6th
this morning before day light we arrived at Memphis after stay-
ing until ten o' clock took our departure and now are forty miles
below Fort Pillow
Thursday April 7th
about two o' clock this morning passed Fort Pillow and now are
thirty miles below Island 10 or 11 (?) heared that yesterday seven
hundred of Forrests troops occupied Hickman but did not offer to
molest unarmed Boats from what we can learn Forrests forces are
having good times out towards Union City and Humboldt both places
we that is our Regt. were in two years ago the coming summer I
understand Forrest has issued orders forbidding his men fireing
on unarmed Boats weather fair
Friday April 8th
this forenoon we passed Hickman but saw no Rebel troops about
noon got to Columbus and at two o' clock arrived here at Cairo.
did not get our traps off the Boat till most sun down then had to pl
pitch(pitch) tents which we did not get done in our Co. till after
dark considering its been a rainy day we have not had a very
Comfortable time