INTRODUCTION.

This little book is a reproduction of a record kept day by day during the Civil War by a private soldier. It is a simple record of a "simple life", and was kept without thought of its future publication.

Portions of this Diary may be uninteresting, but certainly not more so than the life of the men who carried the rifle during long marches, stood guard on many a quiet night, or performed unending fatigue duty.

This little book is submitted in the belief that, as a whole, it may be of interest to many who have come upon the scene of action since the days of the war, as well as to those faithful comrades of mine whose memory grows more and more precious as the years go by.

Waterloo, Wis., May 1, 1906.

H. P. WHIPPLE,
The Diary of a Private Soldier.

The exact copy of a record kept day by day during the Civil War by Henry P. Whipple, late a private in the Twenty-ninth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry.

TRANSCRIBED IN 1906.

Waterloo, Wisconsin.
A SOLDIER'S DIARY.

Members of Co. A 29th Wisconsin Infantry at the time of their enlistment.

**SENGEANTS.**
- Oscar L. Ray
- Lionel E. Robbins
- James W. Pushee
- John N. Davis
- Silas D. Smith

**CORPORALS.**
- Henry B. Alvord
- John Chase
- Samuel W. Baker
- Charles F. Mathews

**MUSICANS.**
- Fernando D. Griffin
- John Batez

**PRIVATE.**
- Charles B. Andrew
- William J. Burgess
- Lysander F. Balcum
- Wenzel Blaskie
- Joseph Blaskie
- Lewis Butler
- Benjamin J. Brackey
- Nelson Butler
- Bryan Coughlin
- Jefferson Cruger Jr.
- Stephen S. Chapman
- William L. Dalton
- William Deppe
- William Forsyth
- Alanson N. Fuller
- Wilhelm Gellerman
- George K. Gaskin
- Osmen Halverson
- Stillman Holden
- Joseph Habermann
- Melville Harrington
- Moses S. Kimball
- John C. Kindlen
- John Lindas
- Joseph L. Lutschinger
- Martin M. Larabee
- Simon Moller
- John Nelson
- Sidney Pierce
- Wenc Peshak
- John Spooner
- Frederic Schmidt
- Levi H. Solomon
- Mertica S. Smith
- Albert E. Thompson
- Alonzo Thayer
- John Taylor
- Warner Wetmore
- Henry P. Whipple
- Menzor V. B. Wiseman
- Lewis Yerges

I enlisted at Waterloo, Wisconsin, on the 21st day of August, 1862, and with some thirty others drilled for some days in J. K. Ryder's pasture where James D. Ryder's house now stands. We were drilled by Oscar F. Mattice, who had already seen some service in Company C of the 11th Wisconsin Infantry. Of those who drilled there then many have answered the last roll call. Of those who are left and are now living in this vicinity are John Donovan, Joseph Blaschka, and Joseph Lutschinger of this village; O. L. Ray of Lake Mills; and S. D. Smith and William Blaschka of Marshall.

On Tuesday, the 16th of September, 1862, we went in wagons to Madison, Wis., and went into camp at Camp Randall. A portion of the company drilled at Marshall but we all went together to camp. Our Company was given the letter "A" and was assigned to the 29th Regiment, Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. We were mustered into the United States service September 30th, 1862, by Major Smith of the regular army, and left Madison for the South on November 2nd, over the Northwestern railroad to Chicago, thence over the Illinois Central to Cairo, then down the Mississippi river on board the steamer Black Hawk to Helena, Arkansas. We landed on the 6th day of November, on the east side of the river, in the state of Mississippi, opposite Helena, Ark. Our camp at this place was named Camp Salomen,
after Edward Salomen, then Governor of Wisconsin. We stayed at this camp, doing a great deal of picket and guard duty, and drilling constantly when the weather would permit. We had a great deal of rain, and there was much sickness in the regiment, from bad colds and measles and some pneumonia. We moved across the river to the bluffs west and north from Helena, Ark., December 23rd. It rained very hard; the teams all stuck in the mud, no camp equipage could be got up, so we lay on the ground in the rain until morning, all very wet, and it was about cold enough to snow. My bunk mate, John A. Wetmore, was very sick. I got him with his gun, blankets and equipment to camp, after making three extra trips through the mud about three-fourths of a mile and return. He was unable to walk alone; got to bed in the mud at 11:30 p.m. Our tents came up December 24th and we went into camp, and lay here until Dec. 31st. then took the steamer for Friars Point, Mississippi, arrived here on the steamers, Tarascon, Emma No. 2 and Charles Bowen. A body of rebel mounted infantry under Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Jackson Donaldson tried to stop our landing but a few 12-pound shells from the 16th Ohio Battery scattered them, and we heard no more of them. A good part of the village was burned that night; no doubt some of the boys did the job, but the Colonel could not learn who it was. They would have been severely punished if they had been detected.

January 1, 1863. - Camp at Friar’s Point, Mississippi. New Years and no turkey to roast and no way to roast it. Bought some oysters and sardines from the sutler and had a change of rations anyway.

Jan. 2. — Doing guard duty and picket duty and some drilling, with a good deal of scouting.

Jan. 3. Nothing exciting in camp. Company drill four hours a day.


Jan. 5. — Company drill this forenoon. Rain this afternoon. When it rains in this southern country it beats anything heard of.

Jan. 6. — Went scouting under Capt. Bissell of Company I. Some of the boys climbed a “worm” fence and appropriated some onions. The captain reprimanded us. He didn’t get any onions.

Jan. 7. — Rains hard. Nothing doing but guard duty. Received a fine silk handkerchief from my mother.

Jan. 8. — Too muddy to drill. We are building some quarters. We build of cottonwood and sycamore logs, six feet high, and put our dog tents on for roof and gables. Build log fireplaces, but most of the smoke comes out of the door. Don’t think we just know how to build chimneys. John Wetmore is quite sick.

Jan. 9, 10, 11.—Detail of Lieut. O. F. Mattice, two sergeants, one corporal, and 12 men from Company A, by order of Brig. Gen. Gorman, formerly commanding the 1st Minnesota Infaty., to go on the steamer Evansville. I was included in the detail. Left Friar’s Point this morning (Jan. 9). Rainning very hard. Colonel Compte, a rebel, on
board and seems to have full charge of everything. He has a large quantity of supplies on board, consisting of boots, shoes, flour, bacon, tea and coffee, principally, which he is trading to the farmers and guerillas along the river for cotton. The mode of operation is this: We run down the river slowly until night; it is very dark and raining hard; a light is seen on the river bank, and some one on the hurricane deck strikes with a heavy piece of iron one of the "hog chains." (These are long, heavy rods of iron running the whole length of the boat on each side of, and about two feet above the hurricane deck.) This makes a noise like a large bell, and is an answer to the signal light on the shore. The boat is run in to shore where the light is and the people come aboard and do their trading, take away their goods, and roll on the cotton bales. This is stealing cotton, for cotton is contraband and belongs to the government, as fast as the army gets possession of the country where the cotton is. Passed on down the river until another light was seen when we signaled, run ashore and sold more goods, and got more cotton, and so on for two nights, when our goods were gone and we had all the cotton we could carry.

We soldiers were quartered in the ladies' cabin. The trading was done in the main cabin forward, and there were folding doors between the two cabins. They did not fit very tight and we could see all that went on. There were twenty-two rebels aboard at one time last night, all fully armed, among them Lieutenant Colonel Andrew Jackson Donaldson. We saw him buy a pair of horse hide Cavalry boots for $25.00. He paid cash. Having a load we started up the river on the morning of Jan. 11, with 100 bales of cotton on board. At 10 o'clock a.m. we were hailed by patrol gunboat Canistoga. We kept going and the gunboat fired a 20 lb shell across our bow. We then slowed down pretty quick. The gunboat brought a cable aboard of us and began to tow us up stream under arrest. The commanding officer talked about putting us soldiers in irons, but finally did not try it as we showed him our order of regular detail by General Gorman, but he kept us tied to him until we were in sight of Helena, Ark., when we stopped with just enough steam on for steerage way and the officer of the gunboat came aboard and stayed an hour or so, and then gave orders to cast off the tow line, and he went back down the river, and we, on the Evansville, went up the river and tied up at Helena.

Note.—This cotton was confiscated. Colonel Compte was sent to prison and died there. Colonel Gill of the 29th was arrested on account of men in his regiment having been allowed to go on this expedition, but after a few days was again placed in command of the regiment and exonerated from all blame, it appearing that he had no knowledge whatever of the use his men were put to, and the detail was ordered by his superior officer, General Gorman. The general was under a cloud for a long time. He left our department and we saw no more of him. He was a brave man and a good officer, and commanded when he went into the Volunteer service, the first regiment that was organized when President Lincoln called for volunteers in April, 1861, the
first Minnesota Infantry. But the chance for speculation in cotton was too much for him. In those days cotton was gold. The 29th Wisconsin, for their part in this matter, were named “Gorman's Cotton Thieves” by the other troops that it associated with—a name that stuck to them more or less until we got into the hot part of Grant’s campaign against Vicksburg, when we gave the boys good reason to be a little more respectful. They found that guarding cotton was by no means the greatest of our accomplishments.

January 13, 1863.—Camp Gill, Ark.—The 29th having left Friar’s Point while we have been away, we landed from the Evansville at Helena and came to camp. This is Sunday. The regiment went aboard the steamers, Moderator, Emma, and Tycoon. Crossed the Mississippi to Camp Salomen, and started to-night for White river down the Mississippi. Ran all night. Lay on the hurricane deck. Pretty cold.

Jan. 14.—Steamer Moderator.—We arrived at the mouth of White river this morning at sunrise. Lay to, to get our breakfast. Cooked it and then went on up White river. Cypress swamps on both sides of the river as far as we came today; tied up to-night at Prairie landing. One store and a few houses here.

Jan. 15.—Steamer Moderator.—We started this morning, after the boys had cooked their breakfast. Ran all day; warm and pleasant; trees in the forest near the river covered with Spanish moss; a great quantity of mistletoe growing on the branches of the trees; run to-night as long as we can see.

Jan. 16.—Steamer Moderator.—Started this morning after breakfast. Reached St. Charles, Ark., at 11 a.m. This is the place where the gun-boat, Mound City, was blown up in June last by the rebels. Her hull lies about mid-stream. Went ashore; put out a picket line. Rains very hard and is quite cold. We set some “Seecesh” barracks and a saw mill on fire to get warm. Stay here to-night. I am on picket.

Jan.—17.—Steamer Moderator.—Snowed last night quite hard. Started early this morning for Clarendon Ark., up the river; got to Clarendon this evening and tied up. We went to bed on the cabin floor. It is snowing too hard to sleep on the hurricane deck. The cabin floor is covered with men packed close as they can lie. Regimental Quartermaster John Baird of Juneau, Dodge county, Wis., ordered some sick men out of the cabin. He said that the cabin was for the officers only. Colonel Gill heard of it and he told Baird to go to his stateroom and stay there. He then came on the deck and told every man there, sick or well, to come in the cabin, and said if he had any officers who did not like to stay with the men they could go on the hurricane deck and stay.

Jan. 18.—Steamer Moderator.—Left Clarendon for Du Vall’s Bluff this morning. Arrived at Du Vall’s Bluff at 3 p.m. Had a little skirmish with some “Johnnies” (mounted infantry). They had two 11-inch Columbiads and fired a round or two at our boat. We landed and captured the big guns, but their owners got away, except two or
three wounded men. I am guard
today and ordered on picket to-
night. A good many of the boys
are sick from exposure, and that is
the reason the well ones get so
much guard duty. It has stopped
snowing, and seems about as cold
as Wisconsin weather at this season
of the year.

Jan 19.--Du Vall's Bluff.—Stay-
ed here last night. Will stay here
to-night. Captured a number of
prisoners to-day. There is a rail-
road here, running by way of
Brownsville to Little Rock. Went
on a scout in the country; found a
family crying with the cold; they
said the Union soldiers had stolen
all their bed clothes. We brought
them to camp and found their
clothes in the rebel barracks. Guess
they did not notice very closely the
color of the uniforms of the men
who took their clothes.

Jan. 20.—Du Vall's Bluff, Ark.—
Stayed here last night and to-day.
There are a good many sick on the
boats; badly crowded and wet and
cold. We have been brigaded three
times since we left Friar's Point.
Brigadier General George F. Mc-
Ginnis, late Colonel of the 11th
Indiana, Lew Wallace's Zouaves,
now commands the brigade.

Jan. 21.—Du Vall's Bluff, Ark.—
We leave here to-day for the mouth
of the White river. This is the
most crooked stream I ever saw.
Arrived at Clarendon. Stay here
to-night. There are between forty
and fifty steamboats in this fleet; all
are loaded with men, guns, and
supplies.

Jan. 22.—Steamer Moderator.—
Stuck in the trees along the shore.

Left Clarendon for St. Charles;
arrived at St. Charles. Stay here
to-night. Cold as Greenland. Snow
mostly gone but freezing hard.

Jan. 23.—St. Charles, Ark.—We
shall stay here today. We left the
28th Wisconsin infantry here, com-
manded by Col. E. B. Grey, when
we went up the river; shall take
them aboard again to-day. Stay
here to-night.

Jan. 24.—Steamer Moderator.—
Left St. Charles this morning for
old Mississippi Landing, at the
mouth of the White river.

Jan. 25.—Steamer Moderator.—
We got through to the Mississippi
river last night. Pretty dark.
Started up the river for Helena,
Ark. The fog stopped us. The
fleet is all tied up. A fleet with
General Grant's headquarters
aboard passed us just at dark.
When the fog broke away this a.m.
we started up the Mississippi.
Stopped at Island No. 63 to cook
coffee. Lost seven men by deser-
tion from Company A. We hear
they were left on the Island when
we pulled out. Arrived at Helena,
Ark. Stay on board to-night.

January 26.—Helena, Ark.—
Landed this morning. Ordered to
pull up before we got staked down.
Finally moved back three or four
miles west from town. Some of the
boys are sick in their tents. Supply
teams stuck in the mud as usual.
Rains some. Sleep on a brush pile.
I got my bunk mate to camp after
quite a tussle, but he is worth it
all, for old "Jack" (John A. Wet-
more) is one of the best there is. I
have tried him in tight places and
he is always there.
Jan. 27—Camp Gill, Ark.—This is the name of our camp, and it is a slander on Colonel Gill, for he is a No. 1 white man and this is the most God forsaken camp ground ever known. Had my overcoat and blanket stolen last night while I was getting Jack to camp. He is rested and some better today but very weak. Tents came up today. We got them up and got into them. Mud about four inches deep and thin enough to drink Dark as Tophet to-night. No overcoat and no blanket.

Jan. 28—Camp Gill, Ark.—Sunday. No inspection today. We may stay here some time. We are still in McGinnis’ brigade. A good many of the boys are badly used up.

Jan. 29.—Camp Gill, Ark.—Many of the boys are sick. We are drilling when the weather permits, in brigade drill, seven regiments being drilled at once by Brigadier General George F. McGinnis; and sometimes by General Prentiss, who comes from Fort Curtiss at Helena to give us a whirl once in a while.

Jan. 30—Camp Gill, Ark.—Weather wet and dirty. Dividing the company into mess squads. Nothing much doing in camp. No one taking much comfort except the mules in the corral. They are dying by hundreds from glanders and pneumonia.

Jan. 31—Camp Gill, Ark.—Nothing stirring in camp. I have been over to Helena today drawing rations and taking notes. I find that the first federal troops in Helena were the 11th Wisconsin Infantry, July 16, 1862, and that our camp is on the plantation of the rebel General Hindman. We drew rations from the post commissary at Helena today for ten days. They consist of hard bread i.e. hard tack; bacon i.e. “sow-belly”; sugar, tea, coffee, rice, corned beef, and a hard looking mess called dehydrated vegetables. The post commissary has most of his bulky stores piled on the ground just back of the levee. He has a pile of side bacon about sixty rods long, from four to six feet high and about four feet thick, covered over the top with a tarpaulin. The sides are exposed and when the sun shines warm it is a greasy looking mess, but it tastes better than it looks.

Feb. 1—Camp Gill,—Brigade and battallion drill once a day. Nothing else doing in camp. A good many sick and quite a number of deaths. The sickness is generally pneumonia and malaria fever.

Feb. 2—Camp Gill—Nothing doing. Ground is so soft we cannot drill, and still raining.

Feb. 3—Camp Gill—Still raining hard. Sickness among the men on the increase.

Feb. 4—Camp Gill—Still rains, nothing doing.

Feb. 5—All quiet; still raining; no drill.

Feb. 6—Camp Gill—Guard duty and fixing quarters.

Feb. 7—Camp Gill—Came off picket this forenoon; twelve times on picket.

Feb. 8—Camp Gill—Inspection of arms by company. No “shoulder straps” present except Captain Hancock of Company A. He advised the men not to drink much water
unless it was boiled; no dress parade. Lieutenant Mattice brought me my rubber blanket from camp to the picket line.

Feb. 9—Camp Gill—Nothing stirring in camp; rains hard.

Feb. 10—Camp Gill—I came off picket this a.m. I am not sleepy and guess I would not sleep much if I was, as Lieutenant George W. Weeks is in my bunk sick. He has no bunk nor fire; we have both.

Feb. 11—Camp Gill—Charley Mathews of our mess and I helped Lieutenant Mattice build a bunk in his tent. Dress parade to-night. Nothing to do makes a fellow lonesome.

Feb. 12—Camp Gill—On guard at the guard house. Received a letter from George W. Johnson of Portland, Wisconsin; dress parade; answered Johnson’s letter and wrote to mother.

Feb. 13—Camp Gill—Battalion drill to-day. Hot and sultry. Dress parade; Colonel Gill gave us a lecture on camp guard and police duty. Roll call at retreat, for the first time.

Feb. 14—Camp Gill—No company drill to-day; sat in tent all the forenoon. Battalion drill this afternoon. Wrote some letters home. No dress parade.

Feb. 15—Camp Gill—No drill; inspection of arms by Company; no officers out except Captain Hancock; dress parade this evening.

Feb. 16—Camp Gill—Company drill this forenoon; no battalion drill this afternoon. Rains hard. Dress parade. Had a letter from father; twelve days on the road and seven days from Cairo.

Feb. 17—Camp Gill—Rains hard all day; I am sitting in my tent; have a hard cold and bad headache. No drill; no dress parade. A large percentage of the men go to doctors at “quinine call” (sick call) every morning and a good many in hospital. One or two deaths, sometimes more, about every day.

Feb. 18—Camp Gill—Rainy to-day; no drill, too muddy. Charley Mathews and I split some wide slabs from a cottonwood log for a floor for our tent.

Feb. 19—Camp Gill—Orders to be ready to march at a moment’s notice read on dress parade to-night. My cold is some better.

Feb. 20—Camp Gill—Battalion drill to-day by Major W. A. Greene of the 29th; first time he has drilled the battalion. Weather fine as June; very warm. Dress parade this evening.

Feb. 21—Camp at Helena, Ark. Rained all forenoon. Orders to march this afternoon with twenty days rations and 1000 rounds of ammunition to each man; each to carry three days cooked rations and one hundred rounds of ammunition on his person.

Feb. 22—Camp at Alcorn’s plantation, Miss.—We left Helena yesterday on the steamer Belle Hamilton. Came down the Mississippi to Yazoo Pass; entered the pass and followed it; arrived here at sundown to-day; landed at Thompson’s Landing; left the landing and went into camp in the road along side of a rail fence. Slept on some corn
stalks outdoors. Pretty cold but slept all right.

Feb. 23.—Alcorn’s Plantation—
We killed fifteen fine head of cattle that we picked up in this vicinity. Moved into our quarters. They are the slave quarters on this plantation. They are built of logs and are quite comfortable.

Feb. 24.—Alcorn’s Plantation—
A steamer and a gunboat went down the pass. This pass is a deep, narrow bayou, with an average width of about seventy feet and a depth of fifty feet with very little current; it reaches from Moon lake (a small body of water with an outlet into the Mississippi) to the Coldwater, which empties into the Talahatchie and that into the Mississippi just above the batteries at Vicksburg. To prevent the Union forces from getting in the rear of Vicksburg by this route, the rebels have fallen cypress trees across and into this bayou to obstruct the passage of our boats. These had to be removed as we came up the bayou. Dress parade this evening.

Feb. 25.—Alcorn’s Plantation—
Raining; no drill; ground some of Alcorn’s corn for bread; drew one day’s rations of hardtack, coffee and bacon.

Feb. 26.—Alcorn’s Plantation—
Fifty of us went foraging to-day. We got fifty head of good beef cattle and a load of turnips.

Feb. 27.—Alcorn’s Plantation—
Company drill this forenoon. There was a row and pretty near a shooting affair between the sailing master of the gunboat, Powell, and Colonel Gill. The gunboat man wanted Gill to have his men take some trees out of the bayou; he had two hundred and fifty men of his own on his boat doing nothing. Gill told him his men were not doing dirty work for any d—d river men. The sailor drew his revolver and Gill his sabre and the gunboat man backed water and went aboard his boat. We had a lot of fun about the Colonel charging a gunboat with his sabre.

Feb. 28.—Alcorn’s Plantation—
The fleet of transports haye about all got down. We are here guarding the bayou to keep the rebels from obstructing it until the fleet is safe. The fleet has been up the bayou to the Coldwater river loaded with troops, but found rebel fortifications there that prevented their further advance. They were intended to connect with General Sherman by way of the Coldwater, Talahatchie and Yazoo rivers in his operations north and in rear of Vicksburg, but had to return. We were mustered for pay to-day.

March 1—On board steamer Belle Hamilton—We left Alcorn’s Plantation this morning for Helena, Ark. Our boat got caught in the bank in rounding a curve, and in backing up to get her nose out of the bank, her stern struck a cypress stub about seventy feet high and three feet in diameter, which was burned nearly off near the ground. It fell across the hurricane deck, which was covered with men. A number of men were severely injured, two fatally, and about twenty slightly. I was one of the latter. We got to Helena, landed and went into camp.

March 2 to 4.—Camp at Helena, Ark.—No drill or dress parade. Everybody pretty tired.
March 5—Camp at Helena, Ark.—First time I ever missed my regular turn of duty. Have a bad cold, and the bruise I received on the boat the other day about uses me up.

March 6—Camp at Helena, Ark.—We received two months’ pay to-day; the first we have received since we left Camp Randall, Wis. in October.

March 7—Camp at Helena, Ark.—Raining very hard. Cold wind. Everyone that is not on duty sticks pretty close to the tents.

March 8—Camp at Helena, Ark.—Inspection of arms by Lieutenant O. F. Mattice. Colonel Gill was present.

March 9 to 11—Nothing doing in camp. Cold and rainy.

March 12—Camp at Helena, Ark.—I am comparing Hardee’s and Casey’s army tactics, when at leisure. I was detailed to oversee the company street sweeping and to drill a squad in school of the company.

March 13 and 14—Camp at Helena, Ark.—No drill and no dress parade. Received a letter from G. W. Johnson. Everything dull.

March 15—Camp at Helena, Ark.—Inspection of arms. A little excitement down town this morning. While the 8th Wisconsin Infantry, the “Eagle Regiment” was coming down the river, some of the men were allowed to go ashore, and a lot of them also jumped over and swam ashore without orders. They got on a spree, had trouble with the provost guard, and when they were ordered to go aboard they refused to obey. They had a lively time for awhile, and their officers called for help to get them on the boat. The 11th Indiana, Lew Wallace’s Zouaves went down the bank, and tried quietly to get them aboard. An 8th regiment man drew a revolver and shot a zouave in the leg. Just about that time the “Hoosiers” made a charge, and the 8th Wisconsin went aboard in quick time, some of them by the water route. The 11th Indiana is a bad crowd to fool with.

March 16—Camp at Helena, Ark.—I went on picket. The regiment is in brigade drill to-day; 14th time on picket.

March 17—Camp at Helena, Ark.—Came off picket this forenoon. Letters from home. Answered them.

March 18—Camp at Helena, Ark.—The first death in Company A occurred to-day. Abraham Wilsey of Medina, Wis. dropped dead. He has been sick some weeks. The surgeons reported him for light duty every day, and would not excuse him. The other companies of the regiment have lost some men from sickness, but Co. A has been, until now, exempt. Brigade drill this afternoon.

March 19—Camp at Helena, Ark.—Wilsey was buried this morning. Brigade drill this afternoon.

March 20—Camp at Helena, Ark.—The 11th Wisconsin Infantry landed here to-day for a little while. They are a fine regiment and a lot of good boys. They left for down the river, probably for Vicksburg. Company drill.

March 21—Camp at Helena, Ark.—Company drill earlier than usual.
to get through before it is too hot in the middle of the day. Have been in the service seven months to-day.

March 22—Camp at Helena, Ark. —Inspection by the Captain. A good many steamers are coming down the river and tying up here. Looks like a move somewhere. We were ordered to attend divine service at Fort Curtiss with side arms only. The professors of religion in the brigade, mostly Methodists, are quite numerous. In the class meeting which followed the sermon and other services the brethren many of them told their experiences. As it began to go a little slow all at once the 11th and 24th Indiana began to call for Colonel Gill, all around the fort; Gill responded. He said there were thirty transports (steamers) tied up at the levee here at Helena. He supposed they were to take troops down the river to capture Vicksburg. He said he knew of a better and cheaper plan. He would take the boats up the river to Cairo, and load them with Copperheads and run them down in front of the batteries at Vicksburg, and that in two hours he would capture Vicksburg or sink every d—d Copperhead, and he would not care which. This brought the meeting to a close, with three cheers for Colonel Gill, delivered with a will by generals, chaplains, and everybody else. Dress parade.

March 23—Camp at Helena, Ark. —Rains hard all day. No drill.

March 24—Camp at Helena, Ark. —Went on picket for the 15th time. Wrote home.

March 25—Camp at Helena, Ark. —All quiet. Company drill; dress parade.

March 26—Camp at Helena, Ark. —Skirmish drill to-day by company. Captain Hancock of Co. A received his commission to-day as Major of the regiment. We have to change our position in the regiment. Co. B takes our place on the right, as the captain of Co. B holds the ranking captain's commission. Major W. A. Greene is promoted to Lieutenant Colonel vice G. T. Thorne resigned.

March 27 Camp at Helena, Ark. —Warner Wetmore received a furlough to go home—the first furlough for the 29th. His home has been recently burned down; his wife badly burned and not expected to live, and he himself is in poor health. Hancock appeared on dress parade as Major the first time.

March 28—Camp at Helena, Ark. —Hail storm to-day. Snows nearly all day; brigade drill.

March 29—Camp at Helena, Ark. —Another hail storm; snows by spells all day; no drill.

March 30—Camp at Helena, Ark. —Snowing a little; very cold.

March 31—Camp at Helena, Ark. —Brigade drill by Brigadier General McGinnis; 11th Indiana is in the drill. We went this evening and saw the 11th drill in Zouave tactics and bayonet drill. They are said to be the best in the service, in bayonet exercise, company and battallion drill. They here drilled for prizes against both the 1st and 13th regulars and took both prizes.

April 1—Camp at Helena, Ark. —Brigade and company drill. Cavalrymen of the 1st Illinois shot at by the provost guard for running horses.
April 2—Camp at Helena, Ark.—Company drill twice today. H. H. Thompson of Company A was today reported by our surgeons for discharge. He has consumption. His home is in Portland, Wis.

April 3—Camp at Helena, Ark.—Brigade and company drill. The doctor promised Thompson that he can start home to-morrow.


April 5—Camp at Helena, Ark.—Came off picket. George Gaskins buried. Wrote to Lieutenant Weeks.

April 6—Camp at Helena, Ark.—Adjutant General Thomas, U. S. army, of Washington, D. C. gave us a talk at Fort Curtiss. He is an old, white-haired man, but smart and straight as a gun barrel.

April 7—Camp at Helena, Ark.—M. M. McDonald left the service of the 29th sutler for Waterloo, Wis. M. W. Harrington discharged started home today.

April 8—Camp at Helena, Ark.—Company and brigade drill. Reported that there are orders to march for somewhere. Nothing certain, but hope it is true.

April 9—Camp at Helena, Ark.—Went on picket. Weather fine and warm. Seventeen times on picket. We expect to march in a day or two.

April 10—Camp at Helena, Ark.—On the picket line; we are not relieved yet; we should have been relieved at 8 o'clock this morning. Expect we will march or get our pay today. Two o'clock p.m. relieved from picket; went to camp; the company had moved on board the Steamer Charley Bowen. We followed it. Detailed for guard duty again tonight in the brigade quartermaster's building.

April 11—Camp at Helena, Ark.—Stayed in brigade quartermaster's building last night. It rains very hard. Relieved this morning and went on board Steamer Charley Bowen where the rest of the company and three other companies were.

April 12—Helena, Ark. On board Steamer Charley Bowen.—We were paid off today to the first of March—four months' pay. Received the munificent sum of fifty-two dollars in greenbacks. Specie was the contract when we enlisted but they have forgotten that. The Charley Bowen being over loaded, our company and one other company were transferred to the Steamer Iatan. We ran down the Mississippi and tied up at Montgomery's Point for the night.

April 13—On board the Steamer Iatan—Started down the river this morning for Young's Point, Louisiana, at 2:30 a.m. Passed Napoleon, Ark., Lake Province, Camp Logan, and Camp McArthur, La. Tied up with the rest of the fleet on which are our brigade, at Milliken's Bend, La. for the night. We are twenty-five miles up the river from Vicksburg, Miss.
April 14—Camp near Milliken’s Bend, La. We went up the river a short distance above Milliken’s Bend this morning and landed. We expect to march back from the river eleven miles to Richmond, La. Said to be a rebel force there. There was a fight there yesterday. We are in the Ist brigade, 3d division, 13th army corps; brigade commanded by Brigadier General George F. McGinnis; division commanded by Major General Alvin P. Hovey; corps commanded by Major General John A. McClernand; all fighters and good men. This afternoon the boys from Co. G of the 23d Wisconsin Infantry came to our camp; they say that their captain, Capt. W. Hazeltine, left there last night. They don’t know where he went, but think he has a case of cannon fever and has gone to stay.

April 15—Camp at Milliken’s Bend, La.—M. M. McDonald started for home today. We pulled up our tents at one o’clock p. m.

April 16—Richmond, La.—The mule train with our baggage and ammunition and other supplies pulled out of camp at 8 o’clock this morning; we soon followed them. It was very hot and sultry. The new regiments began to throw away clothing and knapsacks soon after we started and for the first two miles the ground both sides of the road were blue with overcoats, and so forth. The old regiments did not have to throw away anything, as they knew enough not to start loaded down with clothing. I think we will next time. I did not happen to have anything to throw away, having no overcoat since I had mine stolen at Helena. Marched thirteen miles to Richmond, La. and went into camp.

April 17—Camp at Carthage, La.—We left Richmond in a heavy rain this morning; marched twelve miles to this place, and camped near General W. T. Sherman’s headquarters. Heavy firing last night in the direction of Vicksburg.

April 18—Camp at Dawson’s Plantation, La.—We marched here from Carthage, a distance of fourteen miles, today. Very hot and raining hard at times. We expect to stay here a day or two. Company drill four hours a day. Division Commander Major General A. P. Hovey orders five roll calls a day. I guess he doesn’t intend to let any of the boys get away, but he need not worry. We are as anxious to stay and see the thing through as he is.

April 19—Camp at Dawson’s Plantation, La.—It rained hard last night; hot and wet today. Had letters from home and answered them. Company drill. Very hot. Two men of the 8th Indiana killed by alligators. We saw the alligators, and saw the boys go down, but never saw the bodies again. We were bathing in Gilbert’s Bayou. There was great excitement for a while as we were nearly all of us in the water. Colonel R. A. Cameron of the 34th Indiana was with us and when he was reprimanded by General McGinnis, he answered, “Why General, alligators are not afraid of me.”

April 20.—Nothing doing all quiet in camp.
April 21.—Camp at Deserted Plantation, La.—We were ordered to move this morning from Dawson's Plantation at 6 o'clock, but did not get started until 7 o'clock. We marched fifteen miles and went into camp at this place. It hailed very hard a part of the day. This plantation is a large one with good buildings for this country, with many slave quarters. The people here say that the owners are in the rebel army and the slaves are working on the fortifications at Vicksburg. There is no one living on the place, at any rate.

April 22.—Camp at Deserted Plantation, La.—Rained hard today and last night. No drill. I killed some chickens today but hardly know what to do with them. Could hear firing very plain in the direction of Vicksburg, and see the flash of the guns on the sky and clouds last night and a bright light from some big fire, which lasted an hour or more. We think that our fleet was trying to run past the rebel batteries and that some of the boats are hit and set on fire. (Note.—Our fleet was actually running the blockade at this time and the fire we saw was from a boat belonging to the rebels that they set on fire and sent drifting down the river to give them light to fire on our fleet.)

April 23.—Camp at Dunbar's Plantation, La.—Our mess had chicken for dinner today—rebel chickens but good ones. Five gunboats and some steamers passed the Vicksburg blockade last night and the batteries located at Warrenton opposite the mouth of Grant's canal. We pulled up after dinner and marched twelve miles to this place and went into camp.

April 24.—Camp at Dunbar's Plantation, La.—Company drill this morning. Pioneers detailed from the several regiments of our brigade to bridge Gilbert's bayou. Some large siege guns have come to us today.

April 25.—Camp at Dunbar's Plantation, La.—There is nothing new of interest. I mailed some letters home. I hope we get some mail before we move for I think it will be a long time before we get another chance to get mail.

April 26.—Camp at Dunbar's Plantation, La.—Inspection of arms and ammunition today.

April 27.—Camp at Perkins' Plantation, La.—Pulled up and marched eleven miles to this place and went into camp.

April 28.—On board coal barge on the Mississippi river. Pulled up and marched five miles to the Mississippi river. Went aboard a coal barge and started down the river. Left Sergeant Philetus Johnson at the landing sick. I performed the extraordinary feat of sleeping on the narrow side of a two-by-five pine plank. Fell off sometimes but slept all the same.

April 29.—On board steamer.—Tied to the bank up the river and about two or three miles distant from Grand Gulf, Mississippi, in a northwest direction. We saw the gunboats that ran the Vicksburg batteries form in a battle line five miles above the Grand Gulf fortification, and witnessed the bombardment by our fleet. It was a grand sight. The rebel batteries are located on the top of a rock bluff, something like seventy-five feet
above the water. They are so high that they can not depress their guns enough to hit our fleet except at long range. Neither can the guns of the fleet do any damage to the rebel batteries, as they have taken out rock to make a place for their guns, which are enclosed by a natural wall of solid granite. The bombardment lasted about five or six hours. Then the fleet withdrew. We had one gunboat, a wooden vessel, disabled. We landed and marched across the bend of the river about two miles and went into camp below Grand Gulf. Went and saw the boats that came down the river, this evening; the wooden boats, some of them, are badly shattered by rebel balls and shells. The iron-clads, (turtle-backs as they are called) showed plainly that they had received plenty of attention. Every place where their sheathing was struck there is a large white patch that looks as though white paint had been spilled upon them. General Grant and his son, Fred, were with Commodore Porter on the despatch boat running about the fleet during the bombardment today. We were quite near them at times.

April 30—In battle line at Magnolia Church, making our coffee — We went aboard the iron-clad, Carondolet, this morning. Went down the river five miles to Bruinsburg, Mississippi. We landed and drew four day's rations; marched all night, in a northeasterly direction. The head of the column is skirmishing with the enemy. Some cannonading. We are in the rear of Grand Gulf now. The rebels gave away after some sharp skirmishing, and have not delayed our march very much.

May 1—Battlefield of Port Gibson or Magnolia Church—The rebels under General Gardner met us here at sunrise this morning, with a force of infantry and artillery, and a sharp fight opened up at once, the enemy using a good deal of artillery, and the shelling was very severe for a time. The right of our brigade made a charge on their lines, and drove them at once. The 29th was in support at first but we were soon ordered into the thickest of it. Five companies, the left wing of the regiment, were ordered away to the left; the right wing, in which is Company A, moved directly to the front, and while moving by the flank (in four ranks) we were fired on by the rebel infantry over the top of a low sharp ridge on our right; a heavy volley at short range—not more than seventy-five yards. It went through our ranks with deadly effect, killing and wounding seventy-four men out of about four hundred, in a second of time. We returned the fire as soon as we could come to a front formation, and held the ground for two and one-half hours, the most of the men using all of their hundred rounds of ammunition and some of them more than that. The 1st Wisconsin Light Artillery, 20-pound Parrots, took up a position from which they could sweep the ground, from which the rebels fired upon us, and which they still occupied; and they were obliged to move from our front. We were at this time relieved by the 28th Iowa, a new
and full regiment. We moved to the left across the field to a piece of timber and continued the fighting there, which lasted until dark. When the firing ceased, except a little artillery firing by the enemy, we stacked arms, and called the roll. A good many of our bravest and best had answered their last roll call. A detail was now sent for our haversacks, which we had piled up in the morning when we went into the fight, but the haversacks and our three day's rations were gone, so we are without food and likely to be for some time as we have no transportation east of the Mississippi. We are now in the rear of Grand Gulf. The troops we fought today came from there and from Vicksburg.

May 2—Camp at Port Gibson, Miss.—The rebels retreated last night. We took up the line of march for this place at 8 o'clock this morning and reached here at 10 o'clock. This village is two and one half miles from the battle field. We have stacked arms in the main street and have camped on the sidewalk. The rebel army in their retreat crossed the Black River here an hour in advance of us, and tried to destroy the suspension bridge, but we arrived too soon for them and saved the most of it. The pioneer corps are repairing it now so that we can cross. A detail is made to clear the battlefield and bury the dead; they report many rebels dead back of the ridge where we fought yesterday and nearly every man shot in the head or neck. This is because of their trying to shoot over the top of the ridge while lying on the ground. Company A lost one man killed—Wenzel Peschak; three mortally wounded—Sergeant L. E. Robbins, John Bridges, Chas. B. Andrews; and nine seriously wounded. We found plenty of bacon, honey and vegetables here today.

May 3—Camp in Field, Miss.—We started at 5 o'clock this morning, marched ten miles and camped on Big Sandy river. We found many loads of bacon today in some timber near the road, thrown away by the enemy in their hurry. The officers forbade our touching it for fear of poison. We took some of the best of it and ran the risk. Hunger will make a man do many tough things, and we have no rations.

May 4—Camp in Field, Miss.—No rations; offered a man a dollar today for a hardtack but did not get it; John Nelson, a Norwegian driver, gave me half of one.

May 5—Camp in Field, Miss.—Still in camp. No rations.

May 6—Camp in Field, Miss.—Left the Big Sandy by the Black River road; camped at Rock Springs. Marched twelve miles. No rations. No mail.

May 7—Camp in Field, Miss.—Left Rock Springs at 11 a. m., marched eleven miles. Camped in battle line. No rations except what we forage, and as the few Cavalry scouts we have are in advance they get the most of the food in reach from the line of march.

May 8—Camp in Field, Miss.—Still encamped in battle line. Drew rations—two hardtacks and one
half pound of bacon to a man. Reviewed by Major General U. S. Grant attended by Generals Hovey and McGinnis. They stopped in front of our colors and Hovey said to Grant, ‘General, this is the new Wisconsin Regiment that did so well the other day—first time under fire.’ Grant’s reply was, ‘That is right. We expect you to do well always. But do not get the idea that the war is over. It is but just begun.’

May 9—Camp in field, Miss.— Still camped in battle line. Expect to move tomorrow.

May 10—Camp in Field, Miss.— Ordered to march at 8 o’clock this morning. Moved twelve miles and went into camp in battle line. Good foraging; plenty to eat today—corn-meal, bacon, honey, some milk, and some vegetables.

May 11—Camp in Field, Miss.— Still in camp; pretty dull for active service; expect to move tomorrow.

May 12—Camp in Field, Miss.— Orders to move at four o’clock this morning; marched twenty-six miles; had a brisk skirmish with the enemy at 14-mile creek. Drove them out and went into camp in battle line. I am 25 years old today. No rations.

May 13—Camp in Field, Miss.— Ordered to move at once, at sunrise. Marched one mile and are drawn up in battle line; either a fight or a feint; don’t care which. We are getting mad and hungry enough to fight tip-top. Some skirmishing. Marched on toward Raymond.

May 14—Camp in Field, Miss.— Arrived at Raymond at two o’clock p. m.; marched until dark in the mud. Rained all day, hard. Nothing to eat. Went on picket. Rained all night. Eighteenth time on picket, and the toughest time I have seen yet.

May 15—Camp in Field, Miss.— Came off picket. Found company on the march; fell into my place. Sergeant James Pushie gave me a piece of fresh beef that he had boiled for his dinner—the first food I have had since night before last. Heard that Jackson, Miss. was taken, and also Richmond, Virginia. We passed through Clinton and encamped at Bolton, near some cotton-gins and storehouses. Looks like a fight tomorrow. Drew one day’s rations.

May 16—Camp on Battlefield of Champion Hill, or Baker’s Creek—We marched at 7:30 this morning. Came three miles and were stopped by a large rebel force. We threw out a heavy line of skirmishers, Company B acting as skirmishers for the 29th. Finally drew on a general engagement at about ten o’clock. Our division (Hovey’s), now the 12th Division of the 13th Army Corps, stood the hottest of the fight. While Carr and Osterhaus were trying a flanking movement on the enemy, General Logan coming in on the right at about two o’clock. We were charging continually, first driving the enemy and in turn being driven by them without cessation until 5:30 o’clock p. m. We were 14,000 engaged and prisoners say that the enemy have 33,000. At 5:30 we had the enemy in full retreat with Carr and Osterhaus keeping them on the run for
Black River Bridge and Vicksburg. We were relieved by General Quimby's division. We encamped on the battlefield among the dead and wounded, for the night. Our brigade is so badly cut up as to be almost disorganized; a Sergeant commands a Company, and in one instance a First Lieutenant commands a regiment. George W. Winch, my old school teacher, came to us tonight as 2nd Assistant Surgeon of our regiment. I went and showed him the road to the field hospital. Company A lost 20 men today, 4 killed and 16 wounded, out of 63 that went into the fight. To look at the field and observe the effect of the rifle firing it would seem impossible for any living thing to have been there and lived. Hazel and other brush were cut off clean as though with a scythe; oak and hickory saplings 21 and 3 inches in diameter cut down about breast high. We counted 53 bullets and two ramrods in an oak tree not more than ten inches in diameter, within twenty feet of the ground, and this was the appearance over the whole field. The killed in Company A are: Corporal C. F. Matthews; privates, Newton Carter, Richard Coughlin, and Joseph King.

May 17—Camp on the battlefield of Champion Hill, Miss.—We are lying in camp today resting and trying to get organized. Lieutenant O. L. Ray of Company A was wounded yesterday. William Bleecker of Company A, from Hubbelton, Wis., was badly wounded and doctors say he cannot live. I went to the field hospital to see the wounded boys. Large details are at work clearing the field, carrying in the wounded, burying the dead, and picking up arms and equipments.

May 18—Camp on the battlefield of Champion Hill, Miss.—We are guarding Confederate prisoners today. There are from 800 to 1000 prisoners, and 180 on guard—60 at a time. We can hear cannonading in the direction of Vicksburg. We expect to leave here for Vicksburg tomorrow. Drew one cracker to each man today.

May 19—Camp in field, Miss.—Came off guard at 10:30 this morning. Marched ten or twelve miles and camped at Big Black River bridge. Osterhaus and Carr, with their two divisions had a sharp fight with the rebels at this place on the 17th. The rebels set fire to the suspension bridge here and damaged it so much that it is useless. The pioneer corps have put down rubber pontoons to cross the river on. We drew one half a hardtack and one gill of corn meal apiece today.

May 20—Camp at Big Black River, Miss.—Orders to march at four o'clock this morning. Orders countermanded. We had a couple of good meals of dew-berries—there are acres of them here. We took up the line of march at dark and lay down at midnight. We are pretty tired and very hungry.

May 21—Camp in field, Miss.—General McGinnis had us called at day-break, told us to get our coffee and be ready to march in half an hour. We told him we had no coffee to get ready. He said, "Well, fall in line and we will go where

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we can get some." We started at sunrise, marched 6 miles, and stopped for dinner, which we picked off some beef bones that we found near some camp fires left by the troops in advance of us. We cooked and ate it in the rain. Started in the afternoon, marched two miles and went into camp.

May 22—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—General assault on the rebel works. We were ordered forward in support of Osterhaus division in the charge. Lay in support until 2 o'clock p.m., when the assaulting force fell back. The 29th moved to the right a mile at dark. Rations arrived from mouth of Yazoo above Vicksburg and the men appreciated them. They were thrown from the wagons onto the ground and we helped ourselves. It would not have been possible to deal them out to the men. They were too hungry to wait.

May 23—Siege line in rear of Vicksburg, Miss.—We took our position in the line of siege this morning. We support the 16th Ohio battery in line. A Sergeant of Co. F., 11th Indiana and a number of others were killed while sharp-shooting.

May 24—Siege line in rear of Vicksburg, Miss.—Still in the same place in the line. Drew rations of hardtack, ham, sugar, and coffee. It seems as though we could not eat enough to satisfy us.

May 25—Siege line in rear of Vicksburg, Miss.—Lieutenant O. L. Ray of Co. A. and Major Hancock leave for home on furlough today. Both were wounded at Champion Hill. Armistice until 8:30 p.m. to bury the dead who fell on the 22nd. We cease firing. Many men who were wounded on the 22nd in the general assault have since died. We could not get them away as they lay under the rebel guns.

May 26—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—The sharp-shooting is quite lively. Ordered to sleep on our arms with equipment on tonight. All quiet. The rebels shot a piece of railroad iron 17 inches long over our heads today. It landed in the sutler's camp a half mile in the rear, where after bounding over a big tent it tore up the turf three or four rods like a plow. We are digging intrenchments.

May 27—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Our brigade moved to the right to relieve the 2nd brigade. Went into the trenches. Sharp-shooting. Used just one hundred and four rounds of ammunition.

May 28—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Still sharp-shooting. The cannonading is very heavy from our batteries. No reply from the rebels. Our sharp-shooters are keeping them from using their artillery.

May 29—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Cannonading opened heavy at 6 o'clock a.m. We were relieved by the 2nd brigade. Drew rations and came back to our old position in the line. Heavy cannonading the whole length of the line at 2 p.m. Wrote to George Bleecker about his son, William.

May 30—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Drew one day's rations. Isaac Bolton, formerly of Portland, Wis., now Co. A, 21st Iowa, came to see me today. Heavy firing.

June 1—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Came off picket. Heavy skirmishing on picket line last night; twentieth time on picket.

June 2—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Governor E. A. Salomen and Adjutant General Augustus Gaylord of Wisconsin came to visit us. Made speeches and promised us those colors again. We left Madison with a Sunday school flag for our colors, and have rallied on it ever since. The motto on it is "In God we trust."

June 3—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Letters from home; first since we crossed the Mississippi.

June 4—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Ordered back into our old position. Built some bunks from fish pole cane. Went into the trenches twice, four hours each time.

June 5 to 7—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Sharpshooting twice a day. Little artillery firing. Letters from home.

June 8—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—On picket; sharp firing between pickets.

June 9—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Came off picket; 21st time. Heavy firing on the lines nearly all night; went sharpshooting. Rained all night.

June 10 to 13—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Sharpshooting twice a day. Letters from home.

June 14—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Went on picket. Lieutenant George W. Weeks of Co. A arrived here tonight from Wisconsin. Brought me some letters and stationary from home, and some handkerchiefs and other necessary articles from mother.

June 15 to 18—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Sharpshooting. Nothing else doing.

June 19—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—On picket and sharpshooting; 23rd time on picket. Lieutenant Weeks carried to hospital, very sick with congestive chills.

June 20—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—General bombardment from 4 until 6 o'clock p. m., artillery and musketry.

June 21—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Went sharpshooting. Went to the "Green Fort" (rebel) to guard our men making an advance trench near the fort.

June 22—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Went on picket on rear line towards Jackson. We have to have a heavy picket line in that direction to keep General Joseph E. Johnson, who is at Jackson with a large rebel force, from taking a hand in this siege business. Harry Thomp-
son of Waterloo, Wis., and I detailed from Co. A. Rained a good deal, considerable guerilla firing on the line tonight, but we did not have a bad time. We found lots of blackberries, and did some skirmishing.

June 23—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.— Came off picket this morning; 24th time on picket. Marched to camp on the siege line about four miles; very hot. We met Generals Hovey, Logan, and McPherson with their staffs when coming in from picket. They stopped us and asked us if there was any trouble out there, and if we had a good time generally.

June 24—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Nothing new. We are getting uncomfortably near the "Johnnies" fortifications. They throw dirt from their entrenchments at us in our rifle pits and we are careful not to get in their debt at all in that respect and return the compliment.

June 25—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—A charge was made on the right of us twice today, on the rebel works, and a fort was blown up. Our loss was not very heavy.

June 26—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Elon Cripps and I were detailed to go and take care of Lieutenant Geo W. Weeks at the hospital. He is very sick.

June 27—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Still taking care of Weeks. I saw Dr. McGuire at the hospital camp. He is from Danville, Wis. Weeks is somewhat better. Col. Gill started for home today, by order of Dr. DuBois, assistant surgeon. He has never been well since the battle of Champion Hill. He looks very bad.

June 28—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—A number of our Company are detailed to guard men working in the trenches that are being advanced in front and about forty-five feet distant from Fort Beauregard. A Lieutenant Colonel who had charge of the rebel picket line ordered our working men out of the trenches, and said if they were not in their rifle pits and out of sight in five minutes his men would fire on them. We got ready to return the fire, but our picket officer, Lieutenant Colonel Darnells, 11th Indiana, told the rebel officer that we had 300 pieces of artillery waiting for a move of that kind on their part. After a little reflection they withdrew and went into their holes, probably disgusted with Yankee impudence.

June 29—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—The enemy are firing their heavy artillery very briskly the whole length of the line this morning. Nothing else exciting.

June 30—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—The rebels are again firing their heavy guns but are not doing much execution. We are getting our pay for the months of March and April. Went on picket; 26th time.

July 1—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Came off picket. We were from twelve to thirty feet from the rebel pickets all night. Each kept his place, but we chatted together very socially and naturally. There were some things upon which we did not perfectly agree, however. We traded them coffee, of which
they were short, for whiskey and tobacco, of which they seemed to have plenty; pioneers and carpenters are building scaling ladders and frames preparing for a grand assault on the rebel works. We expect a gay old time celebrating the 4th of July on the way to Vicksburg. The rebels expect it too, we think.

July 2—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Went sharpshooting. Nothing new.

July 3—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Offers of surrender this forenoon by the rebels, but not accepted by Grant; another offer this afternoon but not accepted, so reported.

July 4—Siege line of Vicksburg, Miss.—Company A went into the trenches. Sharpshooting at 8:20 a.m. and have orders to rejoin the regiment at 10 o'clock a.m., and take our place in the front line in the grand charge to be made at that hour. Later, 9:05 a.m.—Orders passing along the line from the right to cease firing. It took some minutes for the boys to understand it, but the firing soon stopped. White flags begin to show themselves from every fort on the rebel line and along the rifle pits in places. 9:15 a.m.—The enemy are just advancing on the parapets of their works in plain view, and in some places within twenty feet of us. Most of the rebel troops march out between the two lines of entrenchments and stack their arms. There are said to be 31,000 of them. There are a lot of them anyway and hungry looking fellows too.

9:45—Vicksburg has finally surrendered. General Grant is advancing into the city with enough of the 15th corps (Steele's) to garrison the place. Our Company under O. F. Mattice, and other troops are ordered to guard duty in the rebel works tonight, over rebel ammunition and other property, and to keep the prisoners from strolling off before they are paroled. We have orders to march for Jackson, Miss. at 4 o'clock tomorrow morning. Many of the rebels came over to our camp at our invitation and got food, of which we have enough surplus to feed a good many. The terms of surrender as we hear them are that the rebels are paroled not to take up arms against the United States until exchanged; officers to retain possession of their side arms and personal effects; non-commissioned officers and privates to retain their personal effects. Company A has been on the front line sharpshooting and doing fatigue and picket duty constantly during the siege.

July 5—Camp in field, Miss.—We came off picket in the rebel works this morning and fell in for a day's march without our breakfast. Camped at Clear Creek two miles from Black River Bridge. The heat is something fearful; only 14 men of Company A got into camp at first. The rest came straggling in a few at a time; nearly all had to fall out on the march. A great many men suffered from sun-stroke.

July 6—Camp in field, Miss.—Orders to move. Camp at Black River for the night. Very hot.
July 7—Camp in field, Miss.—We marched 17 miles and went into camps one and one-half miles from Bolton, on the Edwards Station Road, near the battlefield of Champion Hills.

July 8—Camp in field, Miss.—Broke camp at 6 o'clock this morning and marched on the road to Clinton. Camped at 12 o'clock midnight.

July 9—Camp in field, Miss.—Marched eight miles. Camped one mile east of Clinton.

July 10—Camp in field, Miss.—Rains some. Marched at two o'clock p.m. on the Jackson road. Heavy firing in the front all the forenoon. Formed in battle line and marched in that formation four and one half miles. We threw out a heavy skirmish line late in the afternoon and soon drew on a heavy skirmish. Things look like "falling weather" for tomorrow. Drew some flour and beans, and are ordered not to build a fire for fear of drawing the fire of the enemy's guns. Question: What will we do with the flour and beans?

July 11—Battle line before Jackson, Miss.—We still remain in battle line. We had flour and cold water for supper last night and for breakfast this morning. No fire allowed on the line. Our commissary brought for rations on their supply trains flour and beans, no meat to speak of and no bread, when we had hundreds of tons of rations piled up at our camp at Vicksburg. Somebody made a mistake.

July 12—Siege line of Jackson, Miss.—Moved one and one half miles under a very heavy artillery fire. Co. A. is in the advance in the skirmish line; firing hot and lively. Albert E. Thompson of Company A., formerly of York, Wis. wounded on skirmish line; leg broken; will be amputated. General Lauman on our right repulsed in a grand charge on the rebel works; loss in killed and wounded very heavy.

July 12—Siege line of Jackson, Miss.—Very heavy skirmishing all day. Went skirmishing by Company; Company A. gets a place in it.

July 14—Siege line of Jackson, Miss.—Still heavy skirmishing at the front. Built some breast works, and some shelter from the sun with green boughs. We have had no tents since we left Millikin's Bend above Vicksburg and are glad of it. They are a bother anyway.

July 15—Siege line of Jackson, Miss.—Still skirmishing; nothing else doing. No rations except flour and fresh beef and not a quarter rations at that.

July 16—On siege line in front of Jackson, Miss.—All quiet. Went on picket at the front; 26th time on picket. My cousin, Alphonse Whipple, came to see me. He is in the 15th Illinois Infantry. They were in the charge of Lauman's division on the 12th and suffered heavy loss in killed and wounded.

July 17—On siege line in front of Jackson, Miss.—Came off picket. Jackson was evacuated last night by General Joseph E. Johnston with a reported force of 66,000. We think this an over-estimate, but we
have means of knowing that he had about 45,000. These troops were centralized here to cut through our lines and help Pemberton at Vicksburg. They kept brass bands playing all night after 11:00 o'clock to prevent our hearing their movement, and laid blankets and hay on the bridge for the same purpose, and we did not hear them though our picket line was within a mile of them.

July 18—Wrote some letters home. Went into the city; Johnston burned the best part of the town when he left. The court house and capitol building were on fire but we saved them before they were very much damaged. Had a good swim in Pearl river today below the city. It is the most beautiful stream I ever saw—a little larger than Rock river in Wisconsin and so clear, the sandy bottom can be plainly seen in twenty feet of water.

July 19—On siege line in front of Jackson, Miss.—Received letters from home; getting ready to move.

July 20—On siege line in front of Jackson, Miss.—Orders to march for Vicksburg tomorrow by way of Raymond and Edwards Station.

July 21—On route to Vicksburg, Miss.—Broke camp at 3:00 o'clock. Marched 16 miles to Raymond. Went into camp at 3:20 p. m. Very hot; 101 in the shade. Our troops are in three different columns on three different roads. We understand that the generals have a bet as to who will get their column into Vicksburg first, and the boys will have to win the bet if it kills them all. I do not often complain but we all know, officers and men, that there are boys who are laid out with fast marching in the heat, (and there are hundreds of them) who might just as well have been saved.

July 22—Route to Vicksburg,—Marched to Black River Bridge. Stay here tonight. Rained very hard all night. Not a tent or an ounce of food in the army.

July 23—Camp at Vicksburg, Miss.—Marched from Black River Bridge to Vicksburg. Went into camp a short distance below the city near the river. Seventeen men stacked arms in our regiment when we arrived here. Most of the boys got disgusted and fell out, and came in when they could.

July 24—Camp at Vicksburg, Miss.—Letter from G. W. Johnson. Wrote home. Nothing doing only trying to straighten out the kinks in our legs after the foot race from Jackson.

July 25 to 27—Camp at Vicksburg, Miss.—Organizing camp. Nothing doing of interest. Louis Butler and John N. Davies of Company A receive furloughs to go home.

July 28—Camp at Vicksburg, Miss.—Butler and Davies started for home. I have the rheumatism pretty bad.

July 29—Camp at Vicksburg, Miss.—On duty; have charge of a squad of men ditching and grading the Company street; must be going to move, that is what we always do when we get a camp fixed about right. Still have the rheumatism bad.

July 30—Camp at Vicksburg, Miss.—Nothing doing. Letters from home.
July 31—Camp at Vicksburg, Miss.—Ordered to go aboard the steamer for Natches, Miss. Order countermanded.

August 1—Camp at Vicksburg, Miss.—Expect to move in a day or two. I am all right again; feeling fine. Very hot; 113 in the shade today in camp.

August 2—Camp at Vicksburg, Miss.—Received a letter from Lieutenant George W. Weeks today dated July 17th.

August 3—Camp at Vicksburg, Miss.—Wrote home. Ordered aboard steamer Baltic to go down the Mississippi—don’t know how far.

August 4—On board Steamer Baltic—Detailed for fatigue duty. Moved aboard the steamer Baltic belonging to the Marine Brigade or Mosquito fleet.

August 5—Natches, Miss.—Came down the river to Natches. Moved out north east of the town of Natches-on-the-hill. There is Natches-on-the-hill and Natches-under-the-hill, the former being on the bluff some two hundred feet above the river and the latter on the flat next to the river.

August 6—Camp at Natches, Miss.—Put up some tents; that is those that had that had them did so. Went to the city. Detailed for fatigue duty.

August 7—Camp at Natches, Miss.—The 29th detailed for a scout out in the country thirteen miles to Kingston. Very hot. Heavy thunder storm.

August 8—Camp at Natches, Miss.—I am very lame with rheumatism and am off duty. So is everybody else I guess, as no one is doing anything.

August 9 and 10—Camp at Natches, Miss.—Nothing doing except buying or drawing (stealing) watermelons and eating them. I am very lame.

August 11—Camp at Natches, Miss.—We returned to camp from guarding government cotton out in the country three miles. Very hot. Heavy rain. John Kindlin of Company A. and several others in the regiment suffered sun stroke. The 24th and 34th Indiana started down the river to-day. We will go soon.

August 12—Camp at Natches, Miss.—Dress parade; first time since the commencement of the Vicksburg siege. We put up the first tents we have had since March last.

August 13—Camp at Natches, Miss.—We are told that we will go down the river in a few days, and cross salt water either to Mobile or Galveston. If we only go it will be all right. Dress parade. Very hot.

August 14—Camp at Natches, Miss.—On police duty in Company streets. Rained hard this afternoon. Wrote home.

August 15—Camp at Natches Miss.—Ordered to strike tents which we did but did not get our baggage all moved, so remained in camp tonight. Rains very hard and no tents, they having been moved the first thing.
August 13—Camp at Natches, Miss.—We are told that we will go down the river in a few days; and cross salt water either to Mobile or Galveston. If we only go it will be all right. Dress parade. Very hot.

August 14—Camp at Natches, Miss.—On police duty in Company streets. Rained hard this afternoon. Wrote home.

August 15—Camp at Natches, Miss.—Ordered to strike tents, which we did, but did not get our baggage all moved, so remained in camp tonight. Rains very hard and no tents, they having been moved the first thing.

August 16—On board Steamer Iatan, Miss. river.—We marched to the city this afternoon and went on board the steamer, Iatan, for New Orleans. Very hot. A number of men had to be carried on board, overcome with the heat. Started down the river at 5 o'clock p.m. We are now in the Department of the Gulf under the command of General N. P. Banks. Have to lay up tonight on account of heavy windstorm.

August 17—On board Steamer Iatan, Miss. river.—Still going down the river. Wind very high. Two feet of water in the hold of the boat. Passed Baton Rouge and Donaldsonville.

August 18—Camp at New Orleans, La.—Arrived at Carrollton, four and one half miles above the city at daylight. Moved down the river two miles and went into camp. Wrote home.


August 20—Camp at New Orleans, La.—On camp guard. Have twelve men in a relief. Heavy guard work while we stay here to keep the boys in camp.

August 21—Camp near New Orleans, La.—Came off camp guard. We have marching orders. I enlisted one year ago today. The troops that were here when we came are all eastern men, and they are very nicely dressed and well drilled. They don't like us western folks apparently. I suppose it is because we are pretty rugged although we are clean. They have very few of them seen any active service having been on camp and garrison duty ever since the occupation of New Orleans by General Ben Butler. We expect to have trouble with them. They are very abusive.

August 22—Camp near New Orleans, La.—Review this forenoon by Major General N. P. Banks.

August 23—Camp near New Orleans, La.—Nothing of interest in camp. Wrote home and to G. W. Johnson.


August 27—Camp near New Orleans, La.—Received a month's pay today; four month's more due.
August 28—Camp near New Orleans, La.—Regimental inspection.

August 29—Camp near New Orleans, La.—O. L. Ray arrived from home. Brought me some letters and other things from home—among other things some tobacco and a pair of boots. We all had a good time with the tobacco while it lasted, and I was offered fifteen dollars for the boots in less than ten minutes.

August 30—Camp near New Orleans, La.—Went to Carrollton today on business for the company; to buy some tin cups and plates. Saw a big fight between our corps boys and some New York and Connecticut men of the 19th corps. I did not intend to do anything but look on until a fellow of the 165th New York struck me on the head with a 10-inch navy revolver. I guess his gun was empty; the reason he used that end of it. I suppose the reason he hit me is that he saw the number and letters, "29, Wis." on my cap and knew I was from the West, and considered that reason enough. I did not ask him the reason anyway, but went in for a squeeze with some of the 47th Indiana and Lew Wallace's Zuaves. We cleaned them out all right and sent nine of them to the hospital. Some of us would have gone too, if the patrols had been in strong force enough to get us, but our place would have been the provost prison instead of the hospital.

August 31—Camp near New Orleans, La.—Regimental inspection by Colonel Greene of the 29th. Mustered for pay.

September 1—Camp at New Orleans, La.—This town is the Carrollton addition to New Orleans and is properly in the city. It is up the Mississippi four miles above the Custom House. Nothing doing. On camp guard. Dan Castello's circus is in operation close to camp and it takes a strong guard to make our boys believe that they don't belong to the circus.

September 2—Camp at New Orleans, La.—Letters from home. Letter from my cousin, Herbert Whipple. He is correspondent for the Associated Press, with the Army of the Potomac.

September 3—Camp at New Orleans, La.—Detailed as permanent guard at Castello's circus to pick up our boys found there without a pass. Have no idea of finding any such ones. Let them have a little fun. They don't get a chance often.

September 4—Camp at New Orleans, La.—General review by Generals Grant and Banks; 39,000 men of all arms in line. Very hot. General Grant's horse fell with him in turning the corner at Grand and River streets; his and Bank's horses were both going at a high rate of speed returning from the review.

September 5—Camp at New Orleans, La.—Very hot. There is a great deal of sickness among the new troops. An Iowa regiment is camped near us. They have from five to twelve funerals a day. They are going to be sent back up the river; they are nearly all sick. The health of the old troops is fine.
September 6—Camp at New Orleans, La.—Sunday. No inspection. Guess it is too hot. There is a good deal of Yellow fever in the city.

September 7—Camp at New Orleans, La.—I have the rheumatism pretty bad. I helped unload a boat load of supplies today.

September 8—Camp at New Orleans, La.—Nothing doing in camp.

September 9—Camp at New Orleans, La.—Went to Carrollton with "Tip" Smith and "Jack" Wetmore. Battalion drill this afternoon. Letter from George W. Weeks, and one from home.


September 11—Camp at Algiers, La.—Received marching orders. Went aboard the steamer, "South Wester." Went down the Mississippi and across to Algiers opposite the New Orleans Custom House; landed and went into camp.

September 12—Camp at Algiers, La.—We are ordered to leave here this morning. Orders countermanded. Orders to move tomorrow.

September 13—Camp at Breshear City, La.—We went aboard the train at Algiers this morning for this place. This is 82 miles by rail west from New Orleans and is situated on the Atchafalaya bay. (Pronounced Shafulara.) The water here is salt water. We are about 65 miles from the Gulf coast north. This town has three or four dozen houses and all of a rather poor appearance. Directly across the bay west is another "city", smaller yet than this, called Berwick City. We expect to move soon in the direction of Red River.

September 14—Camp at Breshear City, La.—Nothing of interest going on. Three or four brigades of eastern men, 19th corps, are here. They and the western boys fight every time we meet. I think either side would rather shoot at each other than at the "Johnny's."

September 15 to 17—Camp at Breshear City, La.—All quiet; nothing doing.

September 18—Camp at Breshear, La.—General inspection by Division-Inspector General.

September 19—Camp at Breshear City, La.—H. M. Mead, our regimental sutler, arrived in camp from New Orleans with a new stock of goods.

September 20—Camp at Breshear City, La.—Inspection by company.

September 21—Camp at Breshear City, La.—Moved across the Atchafalaya to Burwick City on gulf steamer; moved back again to Breshear this afternoon.

September 22 and 23—Camp at Breshear City, La.—Company drill; all quiet.

September 24—Camp at Breshear City, La.—At 2:30 p. m. brigade fell in, in two ranks five paces apart, the lines facing inward, and saw private Richard Hughes of Battery A, first Missouri Light Artillery, drummed out of the service, his offence being stealing his orderly Sergeant's pocket book and
$16.00 in money. Our line was a mile in length, and he went to the whole length of it at double quick, two of his company at each side of him and four behind, all with bayonets fixed, and two fifes and two snare drums playing the "Rogue's March." His eyes looked as though he would like to kill any man that looked at him. He does not get out of the service by any means by this process, it is merely a punishment. He goes back to his quarters and has to pack his knapsack loaded with bricks, on the guard line ten days and then goes back to his battery to duty.

September 25 and 26—Camp at Breshear City, La.—All quiet.

September 27—Camp at Breshear City, La.—Review of all troops here, and inspection by Major General E. O. C. Ord.

September 28—Camp at Berwick City, La.—We moved across the Atchafalaya to this place and went into camp. Rained hard all day.

September 29—Camp at Berwick City, La.—Rains hard. Orders to march tomorrow. Orders countermanded. Orders to march October 1st. Wrote home.

September 30—Camp at Berwick City, La.—Rained all day and all night last night. Very hot; said to be 116 in the shade.

October 1—Camp at Berwick City, La.—Cold and raw; north-west wind; cloudy and wet.

October 3—Camp at Berwick City, La.—Received our pay for the months of July and August; order-ed to move in the morning at five o'clock.

October 3—Camp in field on the Bayou Tesch, La.—We fell in at five o'clock a. m. and marched fifteen miles. Passed through Jeffersonville. Passed the wreck of a gunboat on the Bayou Tesch that our Infantry destroyed last spring.

October 4—Camp in field, La.—Fell in early this morning; passed through Centerville. Took a swim in the Bayou Tesch; camped at Franklin; had sweet potatoes for dinner; dug them ourselves. Orders very strict against foraging. These people are large planters of cane and corn and are mostly very wealthy. They have been feeding the rebel army for nothing. They all talk the French language and have the tri-colored flag on their houses, and claim French protection. General Banks has issued written safe guards to them, and says foraging on their property by a Union soldier will be punished by death. We wonder which army Banks belongs to, anyway.

October 5—Camp on Bayou Tesch, La.—Marched at 8 o'clock this morning. We came 12 miles and went into camp on the Bayou; came through the most beautiful country I have ever seen; the fences are thorn hedges covered on both sides with a climbing monthly blooming rose of all colors.

October 6—Camp in field, La.—Marched ten miles today. Passed some splendid plantations. The rebels said to be in force three or four miles in front. Orders strict against foraging.
October 7—Camp in field, La.—Lay in camp waiting for 19th corps to straighten out in marching column. Moved tents. Rained very hard. Had to move to make room for brigade inspector Wells (formerly a 29th Captain) to pitch his tents.

October 8 and 9—Nothing going on; all quiet.

October 10—Camp at Vermillionville, La. Marched 26 miles and camped at this place. Supply train has not got up, so our rations have run out, but we live well notwithstanding Banks’ orders not to forage. General C. C. Washburn of Wisconsin, commanding the detachment of our corps, told us last night that we must take nothing from a Union man, and at the same time told us that there was not a Union resident within 300 miles.

October 11—Camp at Vermillionville, La.—Went foraging. Got a good hot breakfast for four—seven ducks, six chickens, and half a hog (did the killing ourselves) for a dollar—Confederate money. The old French planter would not take greenbacks but that did not trouble us much as the rebel money is the cheapest and it comes easier.

October 12—Camp at Vermillionville, La.—Two of us went foraging. Got plenty of meat and sweet potatoes. Cavalry patrol picked us up—grub and all. Major General E. O. C. Ord issues orders to the citizens to form themselves into bodies of armed patrols to protect their property. The General seems afraid that the “Western Devils”, as he calls us, are not strictly honest, but we never take anything unless we can carry it, or eat it where we find it.

October 13—Camp at Vermillionville, La.—Brigade drill of seven regiments commanded by General Burbridge. He is a fighter from “away back”—every one likes him.

October 14—Camp at Vermillionville, La.—Brigade drill and dress parade. Had a little fun today. The rebel cavalry under General S. Buckner (the man that Grant did up at Fort Donaldson in February, ’62.) attacked our picket line. We double-quicked—about a mile across the prairie to reinforce the line, but the rebs, being mounted, got away.

October 15—Camp at Oppolousas, La.—Brigade drill this morning. Ordered to march in five minutes to reinforce the 19th corps, (our old friends from the east.) Marched at 3 p.m. Came 17 miles and camped for the remainder of the night. Pretty good work, after putting in brigade drill before we started. Expect we will be used for cavalry support on the route next thing.

October 16—Camp near Oppolousas, La.—Marched a mile. Went into camp. Ordered to support a battery shelling rebel pickets. The enemy did not stand the fire long, and retreated.

October 17—Camp near Oppolousas, La.—Co. A detailed for picket. Went to brigade guard mounting. Our line is on a prairie. Twenty-seventh time on picket. Wish it was picket duty all the time, it keeps a fellow from getting lazy.
October 18—Camp near Oppolousas, La.—Came off picket. Received our new colors today—battle flag and state flag. They look very fine. All of the engagements we have been in are inscribed on the battle flag. We have never had any colors before. We left Wisconsin with a Sunday School banner for a rallying point, with the motto, “In God we trust,” inscribed on it. Governor Salomen at Vicksburg in the trenches promised us new colors at once but I suppose they thought we had done well enough under the Sabbath School flag and did not hurry.

October 19—Camp near Oppolousas, La.—Brigade drill under Brigadier General R. A. Cameron. Reported to be 1900 “Johnnies” in our front strongly fortified. We think it is a romance.

October 20—Camp near Oppolousas, La.—General inspection. Orders to march at five o’clock in the morning. Our brigade in advance. Said to be fun ahead.

October 21—Camp at Barras Landing, La.—Marched eighteen miles. Skirmished nearly all the way. Took a few prisoners. The country from Franklin to Oppolousas is all prairie with timber along the streams.

October 22—Camp at Barras Landing, La.—Went on picket on Bayou Tesch; twenty-eighth time on picket. Rained hard all night.

October 23—Camp at Barras Landing, La.—Came off picket. It rained all day. The reason we can move in five minutes when so ordered is that we have nothing to “move” except ourselves and a rubber blanket apiece. That is the reason we can get wet when it rains too. We always have one hundred rounds of ammunition and sometimes three days’ rations but oftener three days without rations. That is what is called light marching order. In this part of the country we get enough to eat generally.

October 24—Camp at Barras Landing, La.—First frost of the season last night. Our rubbers were white when we rolled out this morning. Regiment went foraging. Got eighty loads of corn and a few sweet potatoes for the mules and officers, and plenty of chicken, turkey and honey for the privates, but we have to keep that part of the matter quiet. Several of the boys were taken “sick” and came across lots to camp and brought our stuff with them, but they recovered enough so that they had a mighty good supper cooked for us when we got in.

October 25—Camp at Barras Landing, La.—Two men arrested for foraging. That is because the officers did not get any of the chickens and honey. It is not wrong to forage for an officer of course, because he has to buy his rations.

October 26—Camp at Barras Landing, La.—This landing is on the bayou Tesch. “Catch-roll Call” ordered, to keep us from foraging. A “catch-roll” call is a roll call at any minute. We never know when
they are coming, so we just have to stick close to camp.

October 27—Camp at Barras Landing, La.—Company and Battalion drill.

October 28—Camp at Barras Landing, La.—Ordered to move tomorrow.

October 29—Camp near Oppolousos, La.—Marched at 3 o’clock this morning. We came nine miles and camped one mile from Oppolousos, La. Arrived here at 11:30 a.m. Rained hard all forenoon. Very muddy and hard marching. We are staying in slave quarters (log shanties) tonight.

October 30—Camp near Oppolousas, La.—Letters from home and from Herbert Whipple, from Annapolis, Maryland.

October 31—Camp near Oppolousas, La.—Mustered for pay. Wrote home. We have marched 190 miles this month. Had a lively skirmish with the rebels today, and got them running, though their force far outnumbered ours. The Confederate troops here are from Texas and Louisiana principally.

November 1—Camp in field, La.—Marched twelve miles. Ordered to move at six in the morning; order countermanded. We will stay here and do some foraging for the teams.

November 2—Camp in field, La.—General Burbidge reported to be fighting in our front. He has a part of our division. We know that is what he is doing if there is a chance. Ordered to march with one day’s rations, one blanket and one hundred rounds of ammunition to each man. We obeyed the order except in regard to the rations. Marched about a mile and camped. Our men “drew” some sweet potatoes and a fat pig from a French planter. He did not know it though.

November 3—Camp on Carrion Crow Bayou, La.—We voted today. Our vote is counted with the Wisconsin vote at home. General Burbridge had a hard fight here today with Texas mounted Infantry. The 23rd Wisconsin is badly cut up. Frank Fischer from Portland, Wis. and Peter Harger of Elba, Wis. of Co. G of that regiment are both seriously wounded. We double quicked across the prairie three miles to Burbridge’s support, with one Section, 1st Mo. Light Artillery. One lieutenant, one sergeant, three corporals, and twenty-one men detailed to guard 185 prisoners. I am in the Company A detail. We have seven men in a relief. The prisoners are all Texans and are a very fine looking lot of men. We have them corralled on the edge of the prairie.

November 4—Camp at Carrion Crow Bayou, La.—This Bayou gets its name from the great number of buzzards that stay in the timber along its banks. Its proper name is Bayou Corteau; it is a French name; everything is French here. The negroes do not talk any English. Still guarding prisoners. Ordered to move tomorrow. We are relieved at dark. Reinforcements arrived today.
November 6—Camp at Vermillionville, La.—Marched at four o’clock this morning. Marched twenty-one miles; arrived here at 3:00 p.m. Letter from N. C. Wiseman of York, Wis. He was shot through the body at Champion Hills, and is home on furlough. Letters from home. It rained hard all day.

November 6 to 8—Camp at Vermillionville, La.—Enemy reported in force in front. Don’t think anyone believes it. One light cavalry skirmish on the eighth, and inspection of arms.

November 9—Camp at Vermillionville, La.—Cavalry doing some scouting.

November 10—Camp at Vermillionville, La.—Cavalry had two skirmishes with rebel cavalry on the prairie in sight of camp.

November 11—Camp at Vermillionville, La.—Skirmishing in front and on our left. Went on guard at brigade headquarters. Company drill ordered three and one-half hours a day.

November 12 and 13—Camp at Vermillionville, La.—Nothing doing in camp except company drill. Went on picket; 29th time.

November 14—Camp at Vermillionville, La.—Came off picket this morning; detailed for police guard this afternoon. H. M. Mead came from Brashear with new stock of sutler’s goods.

November 15—Camp at Vermillionville, La.—Detailed for camp guard. They are sticking details in pretty thick. Three days in succession on guard. Think the rest of them must be tired. Letters from home and from George W. Weeks.

November 16—Camp near New Iberia, La.—Marched seventeen miles. Went into camp four and one half miles west of New Iberia.

November 17—Camp at New Iberia, La.—Marched to this place this morning. Arrived at 11 o’clock a.m. Went on picket by regiment.

November 18—Camp at New Iberia, La.—Wrote home and to Weeks. Built a mud and stick chimney for fireplace in our tent. We have drawn A tents, four men in each, and are crowded. The tents are intended for only two men.

November 19—Camp at New Iberia, La.—Four of us went to the French Catholic church at New Iberia this morning. We were treated very politely although everything in the church was “rebel” except us. The singing was the finest I have ever heard. Fourteen men from the regiment started for New Orleans to the hospital today—Warner Wetmore and Louis Yerges from Co. A. Most of those who went are very low. Ordered to march tomorrow morning. Letter from home.

November 20—Camp at New Iberia, La.—Marched at three o’clock this morning to Lake Spanish, five miles west, across the prairie; double quicked the last two miles. Surrounded and captured 28 men and 240 horses and all the camp equipage of the 7th Texas
cavalry. Had five men wounded. Rebels lost 8 wounded and 4 killed.

November 21—Camp at New Iberia, La.—Company drill. Went on picket by company; 29th time on picket.

November 22—Camp at New Iberia, La.—Company inspection.

November 23—Camp at New Iberia, La.—No drill or dress parade. Rains hard.

November 24—Camp at New Iberia, La.—We got our baggage from New Orleans to-day, which we left there last September. Have woolen blankets again. It is getting so cool nights that we need them.

November 25—Camp at New Iberia, La.— Went on fatigue duty, drawing rations and ammunition.

November 26—Camp at New Iberia, La.—Divine services at Division headquarters. This is Thanksgiving day.

November 27—Camp at New Iberia, La.—29th detailed to go foraging. Went across the Bayou Tesch. Went eleven miles. Rode most of the time. First ride in a wagon since went from Waterloo, Wis., to Camp Randall. We got a good fat sheep for our squad and did not get arrested either. Thanksgiving services at Headquarters yesterday did some good.

November 28—Camp at New Iberia, La.—Rained to-day. Freezing some to-night.

November 29—Camp at New Iberia, La.—Got in at 12 o’clock midnight from fatigue duty, putting up Division tents. Very cold; freezing some.

November 30—Camp at New Iberia, La.—Cold and raw. Detailed for street police work, which consists of cleaning Company streets and attending to drainage. Some firing in the front to-day.

December 1—Camp at New Iberia, La.—Drilled three hours. Signed pay roll. Mailed letters home.

December 2—Camp at New Iberia, La.—Company drill. Warmer. Rains this afternoon.

December 3—Camp at New Iberia, La. News of Grant’s victory at Chattanooga. Captain Thomas Mott of Co B took charge of the dress parade this afternoon.

December 4—Camp at New Iberia, La.—Company drill. Wrote home.

December 5—Camp at New Iberia, La.—Ten men start home to-day for recruiting service. Bayonet and skirmish drill on the prairie.

December 6—Camp at New Iberia, La.—All off duty except the guards, for the boys to go to a horse race between a mare belonging to the Major of the 34th Indiana and a Western pony called the Blue Pigeon. Race was on the prairie. The adjutant’s mare won.

December 7 to 28—Camp at Algiers, La.—From the 7th to the 24th of December there was very little to record. I kept my record from day to day but in this manuscript it is not necessary to record the experience of the Company from day to day on account of nothing of
interest having occurred. We remained in camp at this place (one of the most beautiful places I have ever seen) doing nothing but drawing rations and eating them, and performing some guard and picket duty, until the 24th of the month, when we, with the balance of the detachment of the 13th Corps to which we belonged, marched by easy stages to Berwick City, crossed the Atchafalaya to Breshear City and thence by rail 82 miles to Algiers, La., across the Mississippi river from New Orleans, where we arrived on the 28th of December. The country passed through in this time I have described only three months since and there is nothing of interest further to mention. We lay at Algiers making preparations for a trip by water to the Texas coast.

December 29—Camp at Algiers, La.—We signed the clothing roll today. This means that each man signs his name to a document and states what clothing he needs. The commanding officer of the Company then makes a requisition upon the Quartermaster and in time we get the clothes that we need. We need the clothing quite badly, having drawn nothing except ammunition since the Vicksburg siege.

December 30—Camp at Algiers, La.—Everything quiet. Drew new guns today. Springfield rifles, "Calibre 58," the same as our old ones. The old ones have the rifling (lands and creases) mostly worn out, but we dislike to part with them.

December 31—Camp at Algiers, La.—Everything quiet.

January 1, 1864—Camp at Algiers, La.—This is the coldest day we have experienced in the South. Ice formed in the wide, shallow, railway ditches near camp, a fourth of an inch in thickness. A number of old residents of New Orleans came over the river to see it. Some old men who said they had always lived at New Orleans, said they had seen ice from New York and Baltimore but that this was the first they ever saw that "growed here." We are ordered to go aboard a boat tomorrow morning at eight o'clock.

January 2—Camp at Algiers, La.—Order to embark countermanded. Weather clear and cold. Ground froze quite hard last night.

January 3—Camp at Algiers, La.—Company inspection. Orders to move tomorrow.

January 4—Camp at Algiers, La. Rained hard all night and rains hard today. The boat on which we were to embark has moved away.

January 5—On board Steamship Belvidere.—We came on board this ship at 4 o'clock this afternoon, and ran down the Mississippi to Pilot Town. This place is a few miles from the "passes," known as the mouth of the Mississippi river, where it empties into the Gulf of Mexico. We passed forts, Jackson and McPhillips today. It rains very hard. This place, Pilot Town, consists of probably fifteen or twenty cabins or shanties all stand-
ing upon piles high enough not to get wet when the tide is in. The bar, river, and gulf pilots live in them and have their little pilot boats tied to the piles that support their houses. It is on the west side of the river. A vessel coming down the river requiring a "bar" pilot (a man who knows the channel through the pass into salt water) gives two whistles. The river, where it empties into the gulf, has three general navigable channels called "passes." The pilot is supposed to be able to take a vessel safely into salt water. The pilot gets, when handling a government vessel, one dollar a foot for every foot of the width of the vessel.

January 6—On board Steamship Belvidere—A cold and stormy morning. The boys are grumbling some, but are all right. We are anchored just above Pilot Town.

January 7—On board Steamship Belvidere—Rained all night and rains this morning; cold and disagreeable. At 10 o'clock a.m. we weighed anchor and moved down the river and into the gulf. The muddy color of the Mississippi can be plainly seen as far as three miles out in the sea. The wind rising, we anchored and lay to off Berwick Bay, about fifteen miles from shore.

January 8—On board Steamship Belvidere, Gulf of Mexico—We weighed anchor this morning and made a nice run. The sea is very rough. Many of the boys are quite sea-sick; I have my usual good luck; it does not affect me.

January 9—On board Steamship Belvidere, off De Crow's Point.—We ran all night and made Matagorda Inlet off De Crow's Point, forty miles up the coast in a north-easterly direction from the old Spanish fort "Esparanza" at 11 o'clock this morning. We spoke a vessel of the blockading squadron off Galveston about thirty-five miles out last night. Very pleasant today, though the sea is very rough. Our vessel broke three cables before midnight and lost two anchors. We are lying at anchor outside the reefs at Matagorda Inlet.

January 10—On board Steamship Belvidere, off De Crow's Point—Wind very high; rains hard; very high sea running.

January 11—Camp at Pascavello, Texas.—We lay at anchor outside the reefs on the Belvidere until 2 o'clock p.m., the wind blowing very hard off shore. Sea very rough. The waves look to be thirty or forty feet high. Our vessel, not being able to cross the bar into the bay (Matagorda bay), the brig Illinois, acting as a lighter, came out and after being lashed to the Belvidere firmly and lashing a running plank to the two vessels we went aboard and were taken ashore, at 11 o'clock p.m. We went into camp in the sand with no tents, and many men without blankets. Raining hard. Our tents are still on board the Belvidere.

January 12—Camp at Pascavello, Texas.—We drew new tents today. We are picking up wood on the beach and digging holes in the sand
January 18—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—Weather very warm. Court martial in session, trying some men for stealing goods from a sutler. Dress parade.

January 19—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—Reported that we will move to Indianola, Texas. Company drill and dress parade.

January 20—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—Struck tents this morning and moved about three-fourths of a mile. Carried our tents on our backs. Got fairly good water by digging a couple of feet.

January 21—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—All quiet. Nothing doing.

January 22—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—A Sergeant of an Ohio regiment reduced to the ranks for stealing sutler's goods. Drew rations.

January 23—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—Lieut. J. N. Davis, of Co. A returned from Wisconsin.

January 24—Camp at De Crow's Point, Texas — Company inspection.

January 25—Camp at De Crow's Point, Texas.—Ordered to be ready to move at a moment's notice.

January 26—Camp at De Crow's Point, Texas.—Everything packed up ready to move. No boat reported for us. Very warm; we were all in bathing in the surf. Three or four porpoises made their appearance among us in the water and they seemed to be having as much fun as any one; they gave some of
the boys a start though. G. S. Cole of Co. A made a rush for the beach shouting, "Oh, the beasts!"

January 27 and 28—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—Nothing stirring.

January 29—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—A boat arrived from New Orleans with mail. No stirring news from the army.

January 30—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—Warm and pleasant. No news. Company A detailed for picket.

January 31—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—Regimental inspection. We did not get in from the picket line in time to be in it.

February 1—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—Nothing stirring. Very warm; went in bathing.

February 2—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—Battalion drill this forenoon. Getting short of rations; borrowed an 80 rod seine and caught 600 bluefish; one weighed 33 pounds.

February 3—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—Battalion drill. Warm and pleasant. Went bathing in the surf this forenoon. The difference between fresh and salt water is very noticeable. It is much the easier to float in salt water.

February 4—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—Battalion drill. One rebel captain, a sergeant and one private came into our camp and gave themselves up. They said they had a great deal of hardship and no pay or food.

February 5—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—Review by Major General E. O. C. Ord. The boys all look tip-top. Mail today. The 34th Indiana re-enlisted in the veteran service.

February 6—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—No drill. Cleaning up for inspection.

February 7—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—Inspection. Everything was fine. Nothing new.

February 8—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—Warm and pleasant. Battalion drill. Went on picket; 31st time on picket. We met some men of the 13th and 15th Marine Infantry on the line. They have never seen active service, but were in a little skirmish on the bayou Tesch, a year ago. They said one man had his little finger shot off, and that it was a terrible sight.

February 9—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—Battalion drill. Rains some.

February 10—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—Battalion drill. The 29th is doing fatigue duty tonight; unloading wood from a barge.


February 12—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—Battalion drill. Dress parade. Very warm.

February 13—Camp on De Crow's Point, Texas.—Battalion drill and dress parade.
February 14—Camp on De Crow’s Point, Texas.—General inspection. General E. O. C. Ord was present. Mail from home.

February 15—Camp on De Crow’s Point, Texas.—Rations very short. Our mess bought a 50 lb box of hard tack from the brigade commissary. Snows a little.

February 16—Camp on De Crow’s Point, Texas.—A very rigid inspection was had today by Major General Ord. The 29th came off all right. Orders received to move to New Orleans as soon as transportation can be procured. Dress parade.

February 17—Camp on De Crow’s Point, Texas.—Cold and rain. Wind from the north-east. No drill. Sand in our clothes, rations, guns and everything else.

February 18—Camp on De Crow’s Point, Texas.—Cold wind and rain. A regular Northeaster. No drill. About half of our tents were blown down last night. The stakes do not hold very well in the sand.

February 19—Camp on De Crow’s Point, Texas.—Battalion drill this forenoon. Recieved orders to go on board the screw propeller, Elcid, for New Orleans, at 8 o’clock tomorrow morning.

February 20—On board propeller, Elcid, at sea.—We struck tents this morning and came on board at noon. Left Matagorda Bay at three o’clock this afternoon. The sea is very rough; many of the men are seasick. I don’t get it yet.

February 21—On board propeller, Elcid.—Have had a nice run today. The boys feel pretty sober. We ran into a “school” of porpoises at about ten o’clock this morning. The surface of the sea was literally covered with them on the right as far as we could see. There must have been hundreds of thousands of them. They looked to be as heavy as from fifty to ninety or one hundred pounds each.

February 22—On board propeller, Elcid.—Had a fine run today. Wind light; no sea running. We anchored at 10 o’clock this evening at the mouth of the Mississippi river, and signalled for a pilot. Louisiana holds state election today.

February 23—On board propeller, Elcid, Mississippi river.—We signalled for a bar pilot for an hour last night; there was a fog at the river mouth that was like a blanket. About three o’clock this morning a voice “Ship Ahoy” came through the fog and then from our hurricane deck we could see a light that looked like a small star, and we soon found that it came from a little boat, which ran up to us after receiving an answer from our captain, and soon a pilot came aboard and took command of the running of our vessel. He was clothed in heavy oil-cloth from head to foot. As soon as dawn broke we crossed the bar at the river’s mouth, and started up the river. I am detailed on guard this morning. We passed Forts Jackson and St. Phillips and arrived at Algiers, La. at ten o’clock this evening.
February 24—Camp at Algiers, La.—We were run on the Elcid across from here to Bull Head landing below the New Orleans Custom House this morning. Company A detailed to unload regimental baggage. Got about half done and were ordered to re-load it and go aboard. We did so and received orders to move across to this side of the river again, (to Algiers.). We did so and disembarked and went into camp. Letter from my father.

February 25—Camp at Algiers, La.—Warm and pleasant.

February 26—Camp at Algiers, La.—The balance of our brigade arrived here today. Warm and pleasant. Peach trees in bloom. Company drill today; no rest for the wicked.

February 27—Camp at Algiers, La.—Company drill. N. C. Wiseman, H. Alvord, and S. W. Baker returned to the Company for duty from the north; they look well and hearty. Dress parade.

February 28—Camp at Algiers, La.—General inspection at 10 o'clock this morning.

February 29—Camp at Algiers, La.—We were mastered for pay this morning. Review by Brig. General R. A. Cameron; received a small mail.

March 1—Camp at Algiers, La.—Rains hard; cold and raw wind.

March 2—Camp at Algiers, La.—Wet, muddy and cold.

March 3—Camp at Algiers, La.—Reviewed by Major General John A. McCleland. Everything went fine.

March 4—Camp at Algiers, La.—Great celebration today, in honor of the state election. General Banks has all the available artillery in the department gathered here, and an attempt was made to make music on it by firing guns of different calibre in imitation of musical notes and sounds, but it was not a grand success excepting the burning of a good many tons of powder.

March 5—Camp at Algiers, La.—Ordered aboard the cars for Breashear City. 7:00 p.m. Just leaving Algiers.

March 6—Camp at Berwick City, La.—Arrived at Breashear at 3:30 this morning. Went on board a tug boat and crossed the Atchafalaya to this place. Company A detailed for fatigue. Went in camp at 10 a.m.

March 7 and 8—Camp at Berwick City, La.—Company drill and dress parade. Nothing of interest.

March 9—Camp at Berwick City, La.—Rains hard. Large mail from the north.

March 10—Camp at Berwick City, La.—Too muddy to drill.

March 11—Camp at Berwick City, La.—Turned our tents over to the department quartermaster and are turned out of doors for the summer as usual.

March 12—Camp at Berwick City, La.—Warm and pleasant. Dress parade. Orders to march at 7 o'clock tomorrow morning. Large mail from the north.
March 13—Camp at Bisland, La.—Marched at 7 o’clock this morning. Came thirteen miles. Passed through Pattersonville and encamped at this place at 2 o’clock this afternoon.

March 14—Camp near Franklin, La.—Marched thirteen miles. Passed through Pattersonville and Franklin—both small towns.

March 15—Camp near Franklin, La.—In camp to-day. We drew dog (shelter) tents. The 19th army corps passed us to-day, 18,000 men.

March 16—Camp in the field, La.—Marched fifteen miles. Received mail from home.

March 17—Camp at Lake Spanish, La.—Marched fourteen miles. Passed through New Iberville.

March 18—Camp on Vermillion Bayou, La.—Marched eighteen miles and camped for the night.

March 19—Camp Fairview, La.—Marched seventeen miles. Passed through Vermillionville this morning.

March 20—Camp near Washington, La.—Passed through Oppolousas and Washington, and found a good many of the people at home in their pretty villages. Very hot. Had our blankets carried on the baggage wagons.

March 21—Camp near Washington, La.—Lay in camp. Boys pretty tired. 19th army corps passed us again to-day. Weather rainy, with raw, cold wind.

March 22—Camp in field, La.—Marched up the bayou Vermillion eighteen miles; very muddy and hard marching. Very hot.

March 23—Camp in field, La.—Company A detailed for rear guard. Marched twenty miles; went into camp at 4:30 p. m.

March 24—Camp in field, La.—Marched sixteen miles. Rained all day; got into camp all wet and muddy.

March 25—Camp in field, La.—Weather clear. Road muddy; marched seventeen miles. Fine camp seven miles from Alexandria. Good time on the road.

March 26—Camp in field, La.—Marched through Alexandria and encamped on bank of the Bayou Rapides. We signed the pay roll for the month of January and February. "Uncle Sam" demands a receipt before he pays his hired men. Washed my shirt and waited around, not very well clothed, while it was getting dry.

March 27—Camp in field, La.—We lay in camp all day. Drew two days rations. Expect to march tomorrow.

March 28—Camp in field, La.—We struck tents in a heavy rain this morning. Roads very muddy. Marched twenty-one miles.

March 29—Camp in field, La.—Marched only sixteen miles to-day over hot and muddy roads. Pioneers are putting a floating bridge across Cane river. The timber here is very heavy, mostly hard pine (yellow.)

March 30—Camp in field, La.—Still in camp on east bank of Cane river, waiting for bridge to be finished. Report says that there is a brigade of rebels the other side
of the river to dispute our crossing.

March 31—Camp in field, La.—Crossed Cane river this morning. We marched seventeen miles; passed through the village of Clouterville; crossed the river again and went into camp. W. J. Burgess entirely used up; I carried his gun and equipments into camp.

April 1—Camp in field, La.—General A. L. Lee commanding our cavalry signalled for our division, the 3rd of the 13th corps, to support him. We marched twenty-four miles in six and one-half hours with one day’s rations and one hundred rounds of ammunition per man. (Note: This is said to have been the fastest long-distance march during the war.)

April 2—Camp in field, La., near Natchitoches, (pronounced by the natives, Nacitosh.)—Cavalry report enemy in heavy force, fifteen miles in front.

April 3—Camp in field, La.—We are still laying in camp. We are close to a Roman Catholic Convent near Natchitoches. Went on picket by company.

April 4—Camp in field, La.—Still in camp. Relieved from picket at 9 a.m. General review by Major General N. P. Banks. Dress parade.

April 5—Camp in field, La.—Expect to move in the morning. Boys are all feeling fine. Looks like a fight ahead soon.

April 6—Camp in field, La.—Marched sixteen miles and encamped in the pine woods, (the people here call it “piney” woods.) Country very poor and sandy; great deal of very heavy hard pine timber. We passed a log house to-day and the people stood in the little cleared patch of ground in front of their cabin. The man kept saying, “Who are you all?” We said we were “Uncle Sam’s people.” He said, “Who is this Uncle Sam, I never done heard of him afore?”

April 7—Camp in field, La.—Marched eleven miles; very hot and sultry. We suffer greatly from heat. All out of tobacco; chewing pitch from the pine trees, and it makes our mouths very sore. Cavalry had a fight here this forenoon with Dick Taylor’s and Kirby Smith’s rebel forces. The enemy retreated slowly, firing in alternate lines. Note: (Mr. James Ellis, a well known colored man in Jefferson county, now residing at Fort Atkinson, was a slave on the plantation where this battle called “Pleasant Hill” was fought. The 16th Ohio Battery Light Artillery took up their position in the doorway of the planter, Eb Jordan, and made things so noisy and lively that the slaves, some seventy-five or one hundred, went into the “Cane”, that is a growth of cane the same as we use in this country for fish poles. The slaves made their way to our lines, and we having just received orders from the War Department at Washington to enlist two colored men for each fifty men in our ranks as cooks, enlisted in Company A, Mr. Ellis and a mulatto, Jack De Vere. De Vere died in a few months. Mr. Ellis
came to Wisconsin with Company A and has remained here since.

April 8—Camp in field, La. Ordered to march at 6 o'clock this morning; took up the route for Sabine Cross Roads, or Mansfield. Companies A, E, H and I, of the 29th detailed as train guard. The train, it is said, consists of 713 wagons. There are six mules to each wagon. This is besides the ambulances and hospital corps wagons. General Lee encountered the enemy near Sabine Cross Roads with his cavalry in heavy force—said to be 30,000 strong. The 4th division of the 13th corps, less than 3,000 men, were ordered to support Lee, and were out-flanked and driven from the field in a few moments. Our division, the 3rd, were then sent in on the same line, and were immediately driven off. Both divisions were terribly cut to pieces. The 19th corps were seven miles in the rear drawing rations; they came up as soon as possible and behaved splendidly. It became dark, and the firing ceased; we lay down thinking we would get our revenge in the morning. At 8:30 o'clock in the evening a retreat was ordered and we began to turn the train in the heavy timber, but we did not have so many wagons to turn around as we had in the morning. General Banks, having run his train into action ahead of the troops, lost between two hundred and three hundred of them, loaded mostly with hard bread, bacon and whiskey, the three things the rebels need most at present. General Lee's Union Cavalry, some 16,000 strong, were utterly demoralized, breaking into a retreat with their horses on a run in the greatest confusion, running over the disabled men who were trying to get to the rear. (Note: The men and officers of our army believed that Banks had an understanding with the rebel commanders to deliver the supplies as he did for a consideration, said consideration being the cotton and sugar lying along the line of retreat, and after circumstances which will be noted later, confirmed the soldiers in their belief.)

April 9—Camp in field, La.—Marched in retreat all night; rebels firing on our rear, but not making an active assault. Boys very tired. Whenever there was a halt some of them actually went to sleep standing up leaning on their rifles. Reached Pleasant Hill, where the fight took place on the 7th, at eight o'clock this morning. Halted and made some coffee. General A. J. Smith's 16th corps and a portion of the 19th formed in position for action, facing the rear. The detachment of the 13th corps was ordered forward in retreat with the train. Colonel W. A. Green returned to the regiment from home.

April 10—Camp in field, La.—Marched last night until 2 p.m. Rested two hours and then resumed our retreat. A. J. Smith fought the rebels yesterday at Pleasant Hill and defeated them. Federal loss in the two days fighting re-
ported at 2,000, killed, wounded and missing; and the rebel loss at 2,700.

April 11.—Camp in field, La.—Arrived at Grand Ecore at 2 o’clock this afternoon. Went into camp in battle line facing the rear, and are ready to fight if the opportunity appears. We marched 18 miles to-day, and have marched 58 miles with 3 hours sleep.

April 12.—Camp in field, La.—Still at Grand Ecore. There is great excitement among the residents and among the troops in regard to this expedition. The rebel prisoners call General Banks “Commissary Banks.” The people think the rebel generals have traded Banks their cotton and sugar for army supplies.

April 13.—Camp in field, La.—Received mail from home. All kinds of reports as to our next move. Threw up intrenchments in our front.

April 14.—Camp in field, La.—No news except that our transports are coming down Red river and are very much troubled by the low stage of water.

April 15.—Camp in field, La.—The Confederates are troubling our fleet of transports a good deal. The rebel General Greene with some mounted infantry attempted to capture the steamer John A. Warner, which got grounded near the south bank of the river today. They waded up to the side of the boat and were met with a discharge of boiling water passed through a hose from one of the boilers. They did not wait to make terms of surrender.

April 16.—Camp in field, La.—Skirmishing between the rebel cavalry and our outposts. Things going on all right, though rations are getting short.

April 17.—Camp in field, La.—The Red river is so low that our supply boats cannot get up. We expect to have to abandon the expedition.

April 18.—Camp in field, La.—Nothing stirring. A great deal of rain.

April 19.—Camp in field, La.—Firing on outposts this morning. Fell in battle line at 4 o’clock. General inspection this afternoon. Everything was fine.

April 20.—Camp in field, La.—Regiment on picket. Companies E, I and C sent to the front as outposts. Detachments of the 16th and 17th Corps under command of Major Gen. A. J. Smith and Major General Joseph Mower passed out to Natchitoches today.

April 21.—Camp in field, La.—Companies H and A sent to the front to relieve outposts this morning. The regiment was relieved from picket duty at noon and came back to camp. Ordered to move at 5 o’clock this afternoon. Don’t know where and care less.

April 22.—Camp in field, La.—Marched all night, but the train was so long in getting straightened out that we did not get far. Passed
Clouterville. Camped at 2 o'clock in the morning. Boys stand it well.

April 23.—Camp in field, La.—Marched at day light. Met the rebels in force at Cane river. We forded the river under a heavy artillery fire. After crossing the river we attacked the rebels and drove them from their position after a severe fight.

April 24.—Camp in field, La.—Marched for Alexandria, La. Generals A. J. Smith and Joe Mower are rear guard. They were attacked by the rebels yesterday at the same time we were fighting in the front, but they whipped them.

April 25.—Camp in field, La.—Rested two hours last night and made Alexandria at 6 o'clock this afternoon. Lieut. O. L. Ray, Co. A returned to us today.

April 26.—Camp in field, La.—Received four months pay today.

April 27.—Camp in field, La.—Heavy cannonading in the front.

April 28.—Camp in field, La.—We were ordered to face to the river and did so, and advanced about two and a half miles, and then received orders from Banks to fall back to camp. We did so and found that the 19th Corps had stolen our blankets and everything of value in camp during our absence.

April 29.—Camp in field, La.—Not a rebel in sight. Some tall swearing being done about our stolen goods.

April 30.—Camp in field, La.—All right in camp. One brigade of the 1st Division, 13th Corps, arrived from Texas; also Major Gen. John A. McClernand.

May 1—Camp in field, La.—All quiet except firing in the front. That is so common that we think nothing of it. Wrote to father and mother.

May 2—Camp in field, La.—Ordered to the front, with two days rations and sixty rounds of ammunition.

May 3—Camp in field, La.—I am on camp guard; the regiment went out about three miles; Companies A and H on picket. The rebels shelled them some last night. Sent letters to father and mother.

May 4—Camp in field, La.—We moved camp out to the regiment, three miles to the rear, on the ground we have retreated over. We are building rifle pits. The "Johnny's" shelled us pretty lively when we were getting supper but they dried up after a few shots from our guns.

May 5—Camp in field, La.—I have the rheumatism pretty bad in my limbs. We are ordered to the front with two days' rations. Not being able to march I was left in camp to take care of the property so as not to have it stolen again. Regiment returned to camp tonight. Had a light skirmish.

May 6—Camp in field, La.—We marched at 6 o'clock this morning; went across Red river to work on the dam. Ordered back to the front. Again ordered across the river to the north side. Camped and pitched our tents, which have just come up the river on supply
boats; the first tents we have had since we left Algiers, and these are "pup tents."

May 7—Camp in field, La.—We are nearly all on fatigue duty, working on the dam. Jack Wetmore and I were put to felling hard pine trees and cutting logs for the dam, and the pine is hard too. The thick, heavy army axes bound, instead of cutting, most of the time when we strike.

May 8—Camp in field, La.—The 16th Indiana Volunteers took our place and we went on to the dam to work, laying logs and filling the cribs with quarry stone, which are taken out of the north bank of the river and from the river bottom. The dam broke away last night; a portion of it went down the river and we have to rebuild it.

May 9—Camp in field, La.—Detailed for fatigue. Dug stone all day. Four gunboats passed over the upper rapids above the dam to-day.

May 10—Camp in field, La.—Detailed for fatigue to-day. Working laying logs and filling the cribs with stone. Water rising fast.

May 11—Camp in field, La.—A gunboat Corporal (a small despatch boat) went over the rapids. A negro on board took a shoot from the deck into the water and was never seen again.

May 12—Camp in field, La.—Three gunboats passed the lower rapids at the dam, and all of the balance of the fleet, gunboats and transports passed the upper rapids.

We crossed the river to the south side. Bailey's dam is completed and the fleet is saved.

(Note: Some years after the close of the war there was an eastern gentleman with a military title who claimed the honor and credit of building this dam, and of planning, engineering and superintending its building and saving the fleet of Commodore Porter from destruction or capture. It was soon settled by letters from Commodore Porter and leading military officers at the time present, that Colonel Bailey, a Wisconsin lumberman, a fighter, a gentleman, and a hard worker, had the sole credit and honor of the undertaking, and its prosecution to a successful termination, with the salvation of Porter's fleet. I worked upon this dam from its commencement to its completion, as did many other better men and officers too, in the detachment of the 13th corps, at times under the direct supervision and personal orders of Colonel Bailey. He superintended the work, day and night, so that we used to ask each other when he got a rest. It has been recognized by the government, however, that Bailey built the dam and that he was commissioned by the military and naval authorities then present at Alexandria to do so, and with him in history rests the credit and the honor thereof.)

May 13—Camp in field, La.—We marched seventeen miles today. Waited a good deal of the time for the train to get straightened out. This is my birthday; I am twenty-six years old.

May 14—Camp in field, La.—Marched twenty miles. Went into camp fifteen miles from Fort De Russa, which is on the Red river. Very hot.
May 15—Camp in field, La.—Marched at daylight this morning. Very hot and dusty. Marched twenty-three miles; went into camp at 6:30 this evening.

May 16—Camp in field, La.—Marched at 3:30 this morning; arrived at a small prairie called Markville Plains. There were two lines of rebel infantry drawn up, and one line of artillery reaching clear across the plain about three-fourths of a mile in our front, under General Dick Taylor. The infantry were too far apart to do any effective work, but several batteries of our field artillery moved rapidly to the front of our line, and then began the prettiest and most lively artillery duel I ever saw. It lasted about an hour. We could see plainly the motions of both lines; all of a sudden, to our surprise, the rebel infantry line broke and went into the timber in their rear at a double quick. Soon upon their right flank appeared the lines of A. J. Smith and Joe Mower, on a grand charge from the timber. We then understood the cause of their retreat. We soon withdrew to the timber which lay along our line of march, and stopped for dinner. We had begun to cook coffee when a band of cavalry came through our line on a gallop. They never stopped until they got through, when all at once came the order: "Halt! Light fellers and hang out your critters," i.e. in good English, "Dismount and tie your horses." They were a squadron of the 1st Kansas Jayhawkers—Union cavalry.

May 17—Camp in field, La.—Marched seven miles this morning. Waited a long time for the train to pass, marched eight miles farther to the Atchafalaya river.

May 18—Camp in field, La.—General Mower had a spirited engagement with the enemy to-day. He lost quite heavily but he won out and drove the rebels ten miles. The fight was at Fort Morgan, near Simmsport.

May 19—Camp in field, La.—We marched down the Atchafalaya river a short distance to guard the flank, while the train and cavalry were crossing. We crossed the Atchafalaya on steam boats which lie in the river headed up stream and all fastened together by heavy cables. The troops went across on the bow of the lower deck, or forecastle, as it is called.

May 20—Camp in field, La.—We crossed the Atchafalaya river, marched at twelve o'clock, midnight, went to the confluence of the Atchafalaya and Red rivers and lay by the side of the road until daylight.

May 21—Camp in field, La.—In camp. All quiet. Letters from home. Bought ten pounds of hard tack at the commissary’s for 65 cents.

May 22—Camp in field, La.—Detained for picket. Went on the line at 12 o'clock midnight. Some lively skirmishing in the night.

May 23—Camp in field, La.—Came off picket at two o'clock this afternoon.
May 24—Camp in field, La.—The 47th Indiana Volunteers our old and steadfast friends, having re-enlist ed, started for home on Veterans furlough.

May 25 to 27—Camp in field, La.—All quiet. Company drill twice a day, also dress parade, in all regiments in our detachment of the 13th corps.

May 28—Camp in field, La.—Dress parade. We are ordered to move tomorrow at six o'clock in the morning.

May 29—Camp in field, La.—We moved about sixty rods. I am on chain guard. (This chain guard is a guard posted around each regimental camp to prevent straggling when it is not known at what time we may move and also to prevent people from getting into camp without proper authority.)

May 30—Camp in field, La.—Marched 22 miles in the Bayou La Fourche valley. Bushwhackers fired on us at 11 o'clock p. m. A chaplain of the 2nd Texas (Union) Cavalry killed, and nine men wounded.

May 31—Camp in field, La.—We returned 12 miles toward our yesterday's starting point. Company A, detailed for picket. Two days more rations sent for.

June 1—Camp in field, La.—Came off picket. Rations arrived.

June 2—Camp in field, La.—Still in camp. Later—Ordered to march at 4 o'clock p. m. Rains very hard. We broke camp at 4 o'clock this afternoon and got back to the banks of the old Mississippi again. Letters from home.

June 3—Camp in field, La.—Rains very hard. Captain O. F. Mattice died at New Orleans after three days' illness. Wrote letters home.

June 4—Camp in field, La.—Weather clearing up. Nothing doing in camp.

June 5—Camp in field, La.—Carried lumber a quarter of a mile and built a roof to our shanty.

June 6—Camp in field, La.—Wrote to Captain George Weeks. Company drill and dress parade.

June 7—Camp in field, La.—Company drill twice and dress parade today. Cleaning up guns and equipments.

June 8 and 9—Camp in field, La.—Battalion drill. Nothing else of interest to note.

June 10—Camp in field, La.—Company and battalion drill. Weather showery. Letter from John Leahy, 35th Wis. Inf.

June 11—Camp in field, La.—Company detailed for picket; went out at eight o'clock under Lieut. Fred Northrup. The troops reviewed by Major General Emery.

June 12—Camp in field, La.—Letter from Herbert Whipple, from Culpepper Court House, Virginia. Orders to go on board boat for New Orleans.

June 13—Camp in field, La.—Went on board steamer Nicholas Longworth for New Orleans. Passed Port Hudson, Baton Rouge, and Donaldsonville. Landed at Car roton after midnight.
June 14—Camp in field, La.—Went on board the Longworth again. Dropped down the river a mile and went into camp. Rained hard. No tents except once in a while a shelter tent (dog tent).

June 15—Camp at Carrollton, La.—On camp guard. Rains hard.

June 16—Camp at Carrollton, La.—Came off guard and went to Carrollton. Company drill and dress parade.

June 17—Camp at Carrollton, La. Battallion drill. All quiet.

June 18—Camp at Carrollton, La.—Battallion drill. Letters from home, dated June 2nd.

June 19—Camp at Carrollton, La.—Inspection by Sergeant John N. Davis. General inspection ordered for six o’clock tomorrow morning.

June 20—Camp at Carrollton, La.—Had a general inspection, battallion drill and general inspection. Sergeant Davis mustered out of the service. Dr. Darwin Dubois of Lake Mills, Wisconsin, leaves the regiment today for home. We are ordered to march in the morning at four o’clock.

June 21—Camp at Kennerville, La.—Left for Carrollton at four o’clock this afternoon. Very hot and showery.

June 22 and 23—Camp at Kennerville, La.—Rained hard all the time. Called out on camp police duty.

June 24—Camp at Kennerville, La.—Letters from home. Wrote to Captain John Leahy and D. E. Bassett, and to father and mother.

June 25—Camp at Kennerville, La.—Received pay for the months of March and April of this year. Dress parade.

June 26—Camp at Kennerville, La.—Company inspection of arms, equipments, and knapsacks. Ordered to move immediately. I am ordered to look after company baggage.

June 27—Camp at Algiers, La.—Went on board steamer. Ran down to Algiers. Went aboard the cars after unloading our baggage from the steamer.

June 28—Camp at Thibedeaux, La.—Came out from Algiers this morning and went into camp at 11 o’clock. We have a fine camp. Received papers from home.


June 30—Camp at Thibedeaux, La.—Company drill. Rained hard this afternoon. I went picking berries with M. S. Kimball after the rain.

July 1—Camp at Thibedeaux, La.—Wrote to father and mother and to G. W. Johnson. Dress parade this evening. Too wet to drill.

July 2—Camp at Thibedeaux, La.—Company drill and dress parade. Nothing stirring in camp.

July 3—Camp at Thibedeaux, La.—Company inspection by O. L. Ray.

July 4—Camp at Thibedeaux, La.—National salute by the light bat-
teries. Speech by General R. A. Cameron.

July 5—Camp at Thibedeaux, La.—On camp guard. H. M. Mead starts for his home in Wisconsin to-day.

July 6—Camp at Thibedeaux, La.—Rains hard. Some of the troops here are ordered to report at New Orleans.


July 8—Camp at Thibedeaux, La.—Letter from G. W. Johnson. Answered it and wrote letters home. Letters from father; orders to move for Algiers at 6 o'clock tomorrow morning. G. S Cole appointed sergeant, and B. J. Brackey and M. S. Kimball corporals of Company A. Papers from father.

July 9—Camp at Algiers, La.—Arrived here at one o'clock this afternoon, and went into camp. Expect to go to Ship Island.

July 10 and 11—Camp at Algiers, La.—Nothing stirring. I have rheumatism pretty bad, but can walk about quite well.

July 12 and 13—Camp at Algiers, La.—Received pay for the months of May and June, on the 12th.

July 14—Camp at Algiers, La.—Very hot. Went to the city and had my photograph taken. The man said he did not think it strained the machine much.

July 15—Camp at Algiers, La.—Nothing of interest in camp. Wrote to father and mother.

July 16—Camp at Algiers, La.—General inspection.


July 18—Camp at Algiers, La.—Rained hard all day. Very sultry. A good deal of yellow fever in the city but no cases so far this (west) side of the river.

July 19—Camp at Algiers, La.—Detailed for fatigue duty, moving company stores. We had to turn over our old guns, that stood by us in so many hard places, and drew new guns and new equipments. They are said to be just the same as the old ones but somehow the equipments don't seem to fit and the guns don't seem to balance as the old ones did on a fellow's shoulder.

July 20—Camp at Algiers, La.—Everything quiet. Letters from father, and my sister, Caroline.

July 21—Camp at Algiers, La.—Wrote to my sister, Caroline; received a letter from D. E. Bassett of Danville, Wis. Ordered to go on board the ocean steamship "Adriatic" for Baltimore, Maryland. Struck tents and had begun to load our baggage on the ship when the order was countermanded, and we had orders to land our supplies and go into camp again, which we did. (Note.) At this time we were forever separated from our
glorious old fighting friends of the 3rd brigade, 12th division of the 13th corps, as matters terminated. They, the 11th Indiana Zouaves, the 24th, 28th, 34th and 46th Indiana and the 24th and 28th Iowa went to Baltimore, thence to join Sheridan in his campaign in the Shenandoah Valley, and to participate in the glorious victory of Cedar Creek, and other notable battles, in which the troops with that interpid General took part. The 29th and the 47th Indiana alone of all our old detachment of the 13th corps were left on the Mississippi to take part in breaking up the many bands of "bushwhackers" and guerrillas along the west bank of the river, and also to take part in some exciting campaign-work against the regularly organized confederate forces.)

July 22 and 23—Camp at Algiers, La.—Nothing stirring. All quiet.

July 24—Camp at Algiers, La.—Inspection of arms, equipment and garrison equipage. Letter from G. W. Weeks.

July 25—Camp at Algiers, La.—Wrote to father and to G. W. Weeks. We expect to leave here today for the Potomac.

July 26—On board steamer Nebraska, bound up the river to Morgan's Bend (commonly called Morganza.) Came aboard the steamer at three o'clock this afternoon.

July 27—Camp at Morganza, La.—Arrived here this morning. Went into camp. Ordered to march at 11 o'clock tomorrow morning on the scout.

July 28—Camp at Morganza, La.—Marched to the crossing of the La Fouche. Had a severe skirmish with the rebel mounted infantry under General S. Buckner on the Atchafalaya. Had twelve men killed and wounded on our side. Came back to camp.

July 29—Camp at Morganza, La.—Letters from home; answered them. All quiet in camp.

July 30—Camp at Morganza, La.—All quiet. I saw Dan Thompson of York, Wis. today. He is in the 4th Wisconsin cavalry.

July 31—Camp at Morganza, La.—Company inspection by Captain Ray. The 8th Indiana Inft. left here today for New Orleans.

August 1—Camp at Morganza, La.—Company drill and dress parade.

August 2—Camp at Morganza, La.—Company drill and dress parade. Detailed for picket tomorrow.

August 3—Camp at Morganza, La.—Went on picket, on Vidette, outpost.

August 4—Camp at Morganza, La.—Came off picket. Ordered aboard steamer Nebraska for Baton Rouge, La. Order countermanded. Went aboard but did not leave the landing.

August 5—Camp at Morganza, La.—Came off the Nebraska and went into camp on the old ground. Letters from home; answered them.

August 6—Camp at Morganza, La.—Went on fatigue duty. Came off at 9 o'clock. Nothing doing.

August 7—Camp at Morganza, La.—Company inspection by Captain
Ray. I helped the sutler get his goods from the boat to his tent.

August 8—Camp at Morganza, La.—Nothing stirring. I went on a visit to the 23d Wis. Inft. down the river two miles.

August 9—Camp at Morganza, La. Went on fatigue duty this forenoon. Company drill.

August 10 and 11—Camp at Morganza, La.—All quiet. Dress parade each evening.

August 12—Camp at Morganza, La.—Rains. Detailed for camp guard tomorrow. I change with N. C. Wiseman and I go on picket in his place.

August 13—Camp at Morganza, La.—Went on picket. Nothing exciting. Regiment had battallion drill.

August 14—Camp at Morganza, La.—Came off picket. Company inspection.

August 15—Camp at Morganza, La.—General inspection. Battallion drill. Rained very hard this afternoon.

August 16, 17 and 18—Camp at Morganza, La.—Nothing stirring. Letter from my sister Caroline. Fine and pleasant weather.

August 19—Camp at Morganza, La.—Wrote to father. Went on picket.

August 20—Camp at Morganza, La.—Came off picket. The 23d Wis. Inft. left here for New Orleans today.

August 21—Camp at Morganza, La. Received letter from father and answered it. I enlisted two years ago today. Detailed to go to post commissary's headquarters to draw rations. Had a six mule team. We were all in the wagon and had a mile and a half to go. The team ran away and ran into a rifle pit and turned the wagon over and turned us over too. Nobody hurt. I always said I would never ride after a mule team, and I renewed the resolution as soon as I crawled out from under the wagon box.

August 22—Camp at Morganza, La.—Went to visit Lieutenant John Leahy of the 35th Wis. Inft. He is from Portland, Wis. His camp is two miles down the river from us.

August 23—On board steamer Ohio Belle. Ordered aboard this boat at sundown for Port Hudson with seven days' rations and one hundred rounds of ammunition to each man. Got everything on board at eleven o'clock tonight and started up the river.

August 24—Camp in field, La.—Came off the Ohio Belle at Port Hudson at 5 o'clock this morning and started back in the country to Clinton. We marched all night. Very hot and very dusty.

August 25—On the march near Clinton, La.—We had a lively skirmish this morning. Our loss, eleven men wounded. Had a large number of men disabled from sun stroke; the heat is terrible.

August 26—Camp in field near Jackson, La.—We are again headed for Port Hudson. We gave the "Johnnies" a start to get out of the way yesterday and heard nothing more of them.
August 27—Camp in field near Jackson, La.—All quiet. Expect to go to Port Hudson tomorrow.

August 28—Camp at Morganza, La.—Came in from the country to Port Hudson at 9 o’clock this morning. Went on board the steamer James Howard. Came down the river to this place and landed after dark. Letters from home, one from Herbert Whipple near Chancellorsville, Virginia.

August 29—Camp at Morganza, La.—Nothing of interest doing. Wrote to father and mother.

August 30—Camp at Morganza, La. Nothing stirring. I am detailed for picket for tomorrow.

August 31—Camp at Morganza, La.—Went on picket. Regiment mustered for pay. General orders to be ready to move at a moment’s notice, with thirty days rations and one thousand rounds of ammunition to each man.

September 1—Camp at Morganza, La.—Came off picket this morning. Letter from G. W. Johnson of Portland, Wis.

September 2—Camp at Morganza, La.—Very warm. We signed the pay roll today. Wrote home.

September 3—On board steamer Laurel Hill. Came aboard the steamer at 6 o’clock this evening, with twenty days rations and a thousand rounds of ammunition for each man. I am on guard. Don’t know where we are headed for and care less. Did not mail my letters and now there is no chance to do so.

September 4—On board steamer Laurel Hill. Left Morganza; arrived at Natchez. Left there up the river at 10 o’clock p. m.

September 5—On board steamer Laurel Hill. Arrived at Vicksburg. Lay here tonight. I am on guard.

September 6—On board steamer Laurel Hill. Still going up the Mississippi; we go very slowly. Weather very hot. The men are badly crowded.

September 7—On board steamer Laurel Hill. Nothing new. Moving up the river very slowly.

September 8—In camp at the mouth of the White river, Arkansas. Arrived here at 4 o’clock this morning. I built a bunk, and went on fatigue duty.

Sept. 9—In camp at mouth of White river, Arkansas. On fatigue tonight. We are ordered to be ready to move at a moment’s notice.

September 10—Camp at St. Charles, Ark. Went aboard steamer Rose Hamilton at 5 o’clock this morning. Came up the White river to this place and landed. We look for an attack by the “Johnny’s” tonight.


September 12—Camp at St. Charles, Ark. Came off picket. I built a house and a bunk. Detailed for picket duty again.

September 13—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Went on picket.

September 14—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Came off picket.
Had a letter from home; wrote to father. Dress parade. Company drill ordered.


September 16—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Wrote home. Peterson's body found. Steamer letting off steam raised it to the surface.

September 17—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Letters from home. Co. A is detailed for a two days' scout.

September 18—Camp at Pearson's Mill, Ark.—We left St. Charles this morning with two days' rations. We marched twenty miles after forage.

September 19—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Returned to camp with two loads of forage. Letter from my sister, Caroline. Detailed for picket.

September 20—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—On picket Colonel Hancock arrived from Wisconsin. Letters and papers from father, and some things from mother.

September 21—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Came off picket. Wrote to mother and father, and sister. Detailed for picket again.

September 22—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Went on picket. Rebels fired on our picket post at night. One man from the 21st Iowa Inft. wounded.

Sept. 23—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Came off picket. Wrote to Herbert. Luther B. Gregg of Co. A, from Medina, Wisconsin died today.

Sept. 24—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—I have charge of fatigue detail to prepare grave for Gregg. Both men are ill. I told them to go in the shade and lie down and I would dig the grave. After going down about three feet I came upon a layer of sun baked (Adobe) brick. (Note: In later years I read that this was an old trappers and government fort and I suppose these brick were remains of some of the buildings used at that time. I found there also a piece of "Scotch hone" which I gave to my brother, Casper, on my return to Wisconsin. He carried it many years in his pocket to sharpen his knife on.) Reverend Enger, Chaplain 47th Indiana Vols. made some very appropriate remarks at the grave. Letter from C. P. Mead, Waterloo, Wis. Answered it. Dress parade.


Sept. 26—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Went after live oak bark to build a "shanty." I got it and fixed up my house. Dress parade.

Sept. 27—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Rains hard. Wrote to my
sister. Nothing stirring. I have an attack of malaria. Went to the hospital tent to keep dry.

Sept. 28—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Rains continually. I am still at the hospital, but am feeling quite well.

Sept. 29—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—I am feeling very well.

Sept. 30—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—I am feeling very well and asked permission to return to Company quarters, but the surgeons refused to let me go.

Oct. 1—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Came to my quarters today. I am out of the hospital and it will be a long time before I go into it again if I have my way about it. Letter from George W. Weeks and from my sister.


Oct. 3—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—"Cut" some lumber to build my house. I cut it from the upper story of a drug store when no one was looking.

Oct. 4—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Rains very hard. We had orders to work on the parapet of the fort but it is so wet that it lets us off.

Oct. 5—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Built a chimney to my fire place. On fatigue. Have been detailed the past three days for work on the fort. Worked one day; rains every day. I bought some beans and flour from the commissary today; rations pretty short in camp.


Oct. 9—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Wrote to my brother, Casper. Detailed for work on the fort tomorrow.

Oct. 10—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Received a letter from Allen Simmons, and one from my sister, Caroline. Dress parade. Nothing stirring.

October 11—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Did my washing. Built a cupboard in my shanty. Dress parade.

October 12—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—On escort of train today, to procure railroad rails to construct the fort. Did not result in a very great success as regards iron rails. Got some grub though. Letter from Herbert. No dress parade. Camp and garrison equipage inspected and condemned.


October 14—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Trains out after lumber under command of Capt. O. L. Ray. I am on detail as escort, as usual. No news. Wrote to father. Rains very hard.


October 17—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Rains hard. Stayed in quarters all day. No dress parade. Detailed for picket. Letter from Austin Hasey; answered it.

October 18—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Went on picket. C. P. Mead arrived here today. He brought me letters from father and Casper, and forty postage stamps, which are a comfortable thing to have as they are hard to get in this part of "God's moral vineyard."

October 19—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Came off picket. Wrote to father and Casper and to Allen Simmons.

October 20—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Wrote to D. E. Basset at Danville, Wis. Letter from my sister, Caroline. Answered it. Two Milwaukee, Wisconsin, weekly papers from father. On street police work today. No dress parade.

October 21—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Nothing doing. Expect to leave here soon. No dress parade.

October 22—Camp at St. Charles, Ark.—Nothing very exciting to be seen. We expect to leave, up the White river for Du Vall’s Bluff. Our baggage goes aboard boat tonight.

October 23—On board the steamer Tycoon on the White river. Ark.—Came on board bound for Du Vall’s Bluff. Boat lay at Clarendon on the east bank of White river through the night. I am on street guard, to keep the men from destroying the rebel military quarters here.

October 24—On board steamer Tycoon.—Arrived at Du Vall’s Bluff this afternoon. On duty sharpshooting. We will lie here tonight; it is reported.

October 25—On board steamer Tycoon.—We lay on a sand bar all night. Rains very hard. We tried to sleep on the hurricane deck. It was a pretty wet job and not much sleep.

October 26—On board steamer Prairie Rose. We left the steamer Tycoon today because she was too heavy in draft to carry us, and were transferred to this steamer, and arrived at St. Charles. We expect to lie here tonight. Letter from my sister, Caroline.

October 27—On board the steamer Prairie Rose.—Left St. Charles at half past four this morning. Arrived at the mouth of the White river at 6:30 o’clock this afternoon. The 23rd Wisconsin Vols. are here. Saw some of them on guard duty.

October 28—Camp at the mouth of White river, Ark.—We came off the Prairie Rose and went into
camp. Letter from my sister, Caroline.

October 29—Camp at the mouth of White river, Ark.—Nothing stirring. Wrote to Caroline and to Herbert. Went on fatigue drawing rations and ammunition.

October 30—Camp at mouth of White river, Ark.—I commenced a shanty. Nothing new in camp. If I can get my house completed we are sure to move the next day.

October 31—Camp at mouth of White river, Ark.—I am on picket detail for tomorrow.

November 1—Camp at mouth of White river, Ark.—Went on picket. Rains hard all day. Regimental inspection.

November 2—Camp at mouth of White river, Ark.— Came off picket; finished my house.

November 3—Camp at mouth of White river, Ark.— I built a fireplace. I am detailed for picket for tomorrow.

November 4—Camp at mouth of White river, Ark.—Went on picket.

November 5—Camp at mouth of White river, Ark.— Came off picket. I drew a pair of pants and a hatchet.

November 6—Camp at mouth of White river, Ark.—Company inspection by Captain O. L. Ray. Letters from my sister, Caroline, and from Herbert Whipple. Answered them.

November 7—Camp at mouth of White river, Ark.—On picket. Rains all day. Troops are moving up White river.

November 8—Camp at mouth of White river, Ark.—Came off picket. Presidential election held in the 29th today. The 23rd Wisconsin came to our Company to vote. No great excitement. Wrote to father.

November 9—Camp at mouth of White river, Ark.—Cold and rainy. Expect to move soon.

November 10—Camp at mouth of White river, Ark.—Wrote to Caroline. Twenty-three men detailed for a scout tomorrow; I am one of them. We report on board the steamer Choctaw at 7 o'clock in the morning.

November 11—Camp at mouth of White river, Ark.—Went on a scout out near Concordia, Ark. Had a skirmish with the enemy; captured four, one killed, one wounded; no one hurt on our side.

November 12—On board steamer Anna. Going up White river. Left wing of our regiment; left on the steamer Ellwood up White river. Letter from father. I am on fatigue duty.

November 13—On board steamer Anna at St. Charles, Ark. Arrived here this morning. We lay tied to a tree at the mouth of Indian bayou last night.

November 14—On board steamer Ellwood. We came aboard this boat today at St Charles, Ark. We are lying just below Clarendon, Ark. tonight. I am on guard in the forest to prevent any attack that might be made upon our steamers which are tied up at the bank of the river.
November 15—Camp at Du Vall’s Bluff, Ark.—We arrived here tonight on board the steamer Elwood. Disembarked and went into camp. We expect to leave here for Little Rock soon.

November 16—Camp at Du Vall’s Bluff, Ark.—We will start for Little Rock at 2 o’clock p.m. tomorrow. It rains very hard and is quite cold.

November 17—Camp at Little Rock, Ark.—We came from Du Vall’s Bluff today by rail on top of freight cars. Very cold and wet. We came over a line of railroad that the rebel Generals Marmaduke and Price tore up last week. It has been repaired, but is in such a condition that we can run only six or seven miles an hour. We arrived here at ten o’clock at night and were received and provided with good quarters and food by the 9th Wisconsin Inft. Veterans. This regiment is mostly all German, but they know how to take care of a fellow when he is cold and hungry as well as any crowd I ever met.

November 18.—Camp at Little Rock, Ark.—It rained hard all day. I am on camp guard. We are ordered to go into camp and make ourselves comfortable. M. Cunningham of the 3rd Wis. Cavalry visited me in camp today.

November 19—Camp at Little Rock, Ark.—I am detailed for fatigue to cut timber for barracks. Received papers from home by express.

November 20—Camp at Little Rock, Ark.—Heavy detail to cut timber. I wrote to my sister and to my brother.

November 21—Camp at Little Rock, Ark.—Nothing new in camp. I am on picket.

November 22—Camp at Little Rock, Ark.—Came off picket. Built a fireplace. Detailed for picket for tomorrow.

November 23—Camp at Little Rock, Ark.—Heavy detail from the regiment for fatigue cutting timber.

November 24—On board steamer Franz Ogden.—Came off picket at Little Rock this morning. Went aboard cars for Du Vall’s Bluff. Arrived there and boarded the Franz Ogden and started down the White river. Letters from home, also Milwaukee papers. I am on boat guard.

November 25—On board steamer Franz Ogden.—Arrived at the mouth of White river and started up the Mississippi.

November 26—On board steamer Franz Ogden at Helena, Ark.—We arrived here this morning. Took on wood for the engines and started up the river.

November 27—On board steamer Franz Ogden at Memphis, Tenn.—Arrived here at 6:30 this evening.

November 28—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—We went into camp at 2 o’clock this afternoon near Fort Pickering. I am on fatigue duty drawing ammunition. An attack is expected here soon. Wrote to father and mother, and to my sister, Caroline.
November 29—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—Letter from G. W Weeks, and one from my sister. Answered them.

November 30—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—I am on fatigue duty staking out our camp.

December 1—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—Letter from father. Wrote to Mike Cunningham and to John Leahy. Orders for battalion drill daily, also for daily inspection and dress parade.

December 2—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—Received a letter from my sister, Caroline. Answered it. Wrote to father. Company drill one and one half hours twice daily, by general orders.

December 3—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—Company drill this forenoon. Battalion drill this afternoon, and dress parade. I am detailed for camp guard for tomorrow.

December 4—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—General inspection of the regiment by Colonel W. A. Greene of the 29th. Dress parade witnessed by Major General C. C. Washburne. I am on guard.

December 5—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—Relieved from guard duty. Dress parade.

December 6—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—Company drill and battalion drill and dress parade today. A. L Fuller of York, Wis., returned from home to the Company.

December 7—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—Wrote to my brother, Casper. Battalion drill.

December 8—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—Company and battalion drill this afternoon. Letters from Caroline and Herbert. He is on the siege line of Petersburg, Va., as correspondent of the Associated Press.

December 9—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—On camp guard. Snowed last night and this morning quite hard.

December 10—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—I came off guard. Snow and ice cover the ground. Decidedly cold.

December 11—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—Nothing stirring. Sunday, but no inspection.

December 12—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—Quite cold. Saw M. Willard of the 2nd Wisconsin Cavalry today. Orders received that we are transferred to the reserve corps of the West Mississippi.

December 13—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—Much warmer. Wrote to father. Nothing new.

December 14—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—Cloudy and warm. I am on guard at the headquarters of Brig. General Michael Lawler.

December 15—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—Relieved from guard at headquarters. Nothing new.

December 16—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—Rains hard; very wet under foot. General inspection by Lieutenant Colonel Hancock at 10 o'clock a. m. Brigade inspection this afternoon.
December 17—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—Rainy, cold and disagreeable. Orders to be ready to move at an hour’s notice, with eight days’ rations and one hundred rounds of ammunition to each man. Funeral of a Militia Colonel, who was killed yesterday by his house falling upon him, near the Guayso house in the city. We attended the funeral in force. Two regiments of Conscripts picked up from the rebel population of Memphis and surrounding country attended as escort. When they fired the first salute over the grave, (there were three salutes fired) they were on higher ground than we were. Many of their guns were loaded with ball cartridges. The bullets whistled over our heads. We began to load and rattle the ramrods in the guns and their next volley were all blank. They had evidently taken the hint that we were not good folks to fool with.

December 18—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—Letter from my sister, Caroline, and one from Mike Cunningham. Answered them. Orders to move tomorrow.

December 19—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—We do not move today. The cavalry went out on the German-town road east six miles and came back. Our orders to move countermanded on account of the bad condition of the roads. Letters from Geo. W. Weeks and from father.

December 20—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—Nothing of interest going on. Wrote to father and to Geo. W. Weeks. Orders to march at 7 o’clock tomorrow morning with eight days’ field rations, and one hundred rounds of ammunition to each man.

December 21—Camp at German-town, Tenn.—We marched fourteen miles and one half today. Roads very muddy: Quite cold: Snowed a good deal. The boys are many of them very footsore. We are quartered tonight in Masonic Temple Lodge No. 95. Having no other means to warm the room, we “scouted up” and found a sheet iron stove about five feet long, and laying it upon some bricks, and “drawing” some pine boards, we made a fire and took turns watching the fire to prevent setting the building on fire. We passed the night quite pleasantly.

December 22—Camp at Lafayette, Tenn.—We marched 18 miles today. Very cold; ground frozen hard. Very hard walking. My boots gave out today; I got some string leather from the Wagon Master Jack Wright, and tied the soles on.

December 23—Camp at Moscow, Tenn.—Marched 7 miles today and encamped on the west bank of Wolf river at 11 o’clock this morning.

December 24—Camp at Moscow, Tenn.—Heavy detail to build a bridge across Wolf river. There were a great many bushwhackers about our picket line last night.
December 25—Camp at Moscow, Tenn.—Nothing stirring. We leave at 5 a. m. tomorrow for Germantown on the back track for Memphis. Company A is detailed for advance guard and as pioneers.

December 26—Camp at Germantown, Tenn.—Marched 25 miles today. I was sent to the front as one of the advance guard. A good deal of skirmishing with bushwhackers. We leave here at nine o'clock a.m. tomorrow. We were marching this afternoon parallel with the Memphis and Nashville railroad. General M. K. Lawler and his escort composed of the 26th Kansas "Jayhawkers" and his headquarter staff were on the train with him. The Jayhawkers with their horses rode in a couple of box cars in the rear. The train stopped quite often so that we might keep near them, as we were acting, to an extent, as headquarter guard. At a point where there was a heavy thicket on the south side of the road, (we were marching on the north side of the road and just opposite the train at that time,) the train was fired upon by bushwhackers in the thicket. The train was stopped. The side doors of the cars were opened and out jumped the Jayhawkers mounted on their horses, about twenty of them, down an embankment of about three feet. They charged into the thicket with bridle reins in their teeth and a revolver (10 inch navy) in each hand. For a few moments it sounded like a battle. In about 20 minutes they came back with four prisoners, one dead man and one wounded. The train ran a little way to more level ground. They went aboard and we all moved on on our line of march.

December 27—Camp at White's Station, Tenn.—Came from Germantown today. Marched six miles. My boot soles came off yesterday. I am very lame this morning with rheumatism, from taking cold. Letter from Caroline and one from Herbert, and Milwaukee papers from father.

December 28—At Memphis, Tenn.—I went to Memphis on the train for some shoes and for some things for the boys and am to return this afternoon. Wrote to father.

December 29—Camp at White's Station, Tenn.—I could get no train out to White's Station yesterday so came back this morning. Found the boys all well. They captured a Guerilla Captain yesterday and sent him to town under guard today.

December 30—Camp at White's Station, Tenn.—It rains hard. Nothing doing. It snows hard tonight. Detailed for picket. Orders for five days more rations from Memphis, and to stay here until we eat them.

December 31—Camp at Memphis, Tenn.—Went on picket at White's Station this morning. In about two hours we were relieved and ordered to this place. Arrived here at 6 o'clock p. m. Orders to
embark on steamer for New Orleans on Monday. Guess we will get away from the snow and ice by the movement. Wrote to sister, Caroline, and to Herbert Whipple, now at Arlington Heights, Washington.

January 1, 1865—On board steamer Missouri.—Going down the Mississippi. Letter from Caroline and one from father. Ordered to embark on the steamer Missouri. Wrote to Caroline and to father.

January 2—On board steamer Missouri.—Passed the mouth of White river, Ark. at three o'clock p. m.

January 3—On board steamer Missouri, on the Mississippi.—Wrote home and mailed my letters at Vicksburg, Miss.

January 4—On board steamer Missouri.—We passed Port Hudson last night, and Baton Rouge, La. today.

January 5—On board steamer Missouri.—Arrived at New Orleans at 6 o'clock a.m. Went aboard steamer Iberville for Kennerville, La. seven miles up the river. Company A on fatigue transferring supplies and camp equipage. We arrived at Kennerville at 6 o'clock p.m. Lay on board all night.

January 6—Camp at Kennerville, La.—Went into camp this afternoon. The Pocahontas with our tents and camp equipage on board is delayed so we have no tents. I am detailed for camp guard.

January 7—Camp at Kennerville, La.—On camp guard, guarding men who were picked up by the patrol. Wrote to Lieutenant J. N. Davies of Company A.

January 8—Camp at Kennerville, La.—General inspection by Major General Steele at one o'clock a.m. Relieved from camp guard. Wrote to father. Mailed letter to Davies. Wrote to Casper.

January 9—Camp at Kennerville, La.—Rains very hard. Detailed for camp guard.

January 10—Camp at Kennerville, La.—Went on camp guard. Rained hard all day.

January 11—Camp at Kennerville, La.—Came off camp guard. Wet through and pretty well chilled. No fire; nothing to make one to be found. Paper from father—the State Journal.

January 12—Camp at Kennerville, La.—Letter to Caroline and one to Casper.

January 13—Camp at Kennerville, La.—General inspection ordered for Monday, the 16th. Cleaned my gun and equipments.

January 14—Camp at Kennerville, La.—We got some brick and built a chimney at the end of our A, tent. I am detailed for camp guard tomorrow.

January 15—Camp at Kennerville, La.—I am on camp guard.
Company inspection by Capt. O. L. Ray. Wrote to mother.

January 16—Camp at Kenner-ville, La.—Relieved from camp guard at eleven o'clock a. m. General inspection by Lieutenant Colonel Hancock.

January 17—Camp at Kenner-ville, La.—No news. Cold and raw, and raining.

January 18—Camp at Kenner-ville, La.—I have a hard cold and a good deal of fever. No news.

January 19—Camp at Kenner-ville, La.—The doctor says I have billious intermittent fever. I can not see where the intermittent comes in. It seems to me it is pretty steady. We "drawed some fire wood" by tearing down a couple of empty negro shanties.

January 20—Camp at Kenner-ville, La.—In hospital. Only place I can keep warm. Am gaining slowly. Letter from Herbert and one from Arthur Cunningham, of Portland, Wisconsin. Wrote to Cunningham.

January 21—Camp at Kenner-ville, La.—Gaining very slowly. Two letters from Caroline, one from Geo. W. Weeks, and one from John Leahy. Wrote to Herbert and to mother.

January 22—Camp at Kenner-ville, La.—Still in hospital. Wrote to Caroline and to Weeks.

January 23—Camp at Kenner-ville, La.—Still in hospital, but feel much better.

January 24—Camp at Kenner-ville, La.—Wrote to Geo. W. Weeks, Portland.

January 25—Camp at Kenner-ville, La.—Received a box by express from home with many comforts and necessities. Distributed the eatables among the mess and had one square meal.

January 26—Camp at Kenner-ville, La.—Feel good. Am going to try to get out of the hospital. A poor place to take comfort. I want to get back among the boys again.

January 27—Camp at Kenner-ville, La.—I came out of the hospital. Wrote to father and mother and to John Leahy. Was sent back to the hospital.

January 28—Camp at Kenner-ville, La.—No inspection. Found a pocket book which had eighty dollars in bills, some papers and some sutler's checks, pins, needles, list of clothing and a comb. I found the owner, a 47th Indiana man. He said, "Pard, you are welcome to the money but I allow I don't see how in h—l I could ever get along without the rest of the truck."

January 29—I came out of the hospital today.

January 30—Camp at Kenner-ville, La.—Wet and cold. The doctors are dosing me with Calomel. The weather and medicine ought to agree pretty well.

January 31—Camp at Kenner-ville, La.—Bought this book that I
am writing in from Joseph Moore. He got it at New Orleans for me. I have kept the record this month on letter paper and am now drawing it off into this diary. Letter from Mike Cunningham, Little Rock, Ark.

February 1—Camp at Kenner-ville, La.—Nothing stirring. Wrote to M. Cunningham. I am feeling quite well again.

February 2—Camp at Kenner-ville, La.—All quiet in camp. Wrote and mailed some letters.

February 3—Camp at Kenner-ville, La.—Sent my over coat and woolen blanket home per Adams Express Line. Orders to be ready to embark at a moment’s notice. Letter from Caroline. Wrote to father and mother. When we move we expect to go on to salt water, but it is surprize.

February 4—Camp at Kenner-ville, La.—Wrote to Caroline. We have no orders to embark yet, but expect to go aboard the steamship Belvidere tomorrow. Anywhere will do. We are all pretty sick of the mud and rain at this place.

February 5—On board steamer Belvidere. We were on board at eight o’clock this p. m. Went down the Mississippi seven miles to New Orleans. Lay over here to draw rations for ourselves and our rifles in the morning. Rains very hard and has done so ever since we took our tents down at nine o’clock this morning. We are badly crowded on board this vessel.

February 6—On board steamship Belvidere.—Drew rations for the 99th Illinois Inf. and ammunition for everybody, and ran down the river, past Jackson’s old battle ground, (the plains of Chalmette) past Forts Jackson and McPhillips, and stopped at “Pilot Town.” Arrived here after dark; expect to stay here until morning.

February 7—On board steamship Belvidere.—Started this morning at eight o’clock for Mobile Bay from the mouth of the Mississippi river. Arrived off Fort Morgan at ten o’clock p. m. and will lay over until morning. This fort and Fort Gaines, which lies across a narrow strait from it, are the batteries that Farragut run past tied to the rigging of his flagship. Fort Morgan was captured by our troops a few days ago, the 20th Wisconsin taking a prominent part in the action. (Note: Admiral George Dewey was aboard Farragut’s flagship when he run these batteries, ranking as a second Lieutenant.)

February 8—Camp on Big Dau-phin Island, Ala.—Came off the steamship Belvidere at ten o’clock a. m. and went into camp on the sand. Oysters are very plentiful about a mile from camp. I am on fatigue putting up headquarters tents. The gulf was not very rough yesterday but a good many of the boys were seasick, but as usual it did not hit me. We are about thirty-five miles from Mobile City. We passed Forts Morgan.
and Gaines at the entrance of the bay.

February 9—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—I went out with A. Thayer of York, Wis. and got about four gallons of oysters. Borrowed a boat and found an oyster rake and had a good time. Cleaned my gun. It got pretty rusty from the salt water spray. It is quite cool. We expect to move soon.

February 10—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—Went and got two gallons of oysters. Wrote to father and mother. Letter from father.

February 11—Camp at Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—Regimental inspection by Major H. E. Connit tomorrow.

February 12—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—Regimental inspection by Major H. E. Connit.

February 13—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—Cold and windy. Nothing exciting to mention.

February 14—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—Company inspection each day for the next three days. Major General E. R. S. Canby arrived today from New Orleans. A salute of thirteen guns was fired from Fort Gaines on his arrival. He is in command of the Military department of the Gulf. He looks to be fifty-five years old, tall, large framed and boney. He has a good reputation as an Indian fighter in New Mexico and Arizona. (Note: Gen. Canby was killed a few years after the war by Captain Jack and his Modoces in the lava beds.)


February 16—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—Very warm and pleasant. Dress parade by Major Connit on the beach. We are now in the 1st brigade, 1st division, reserve corps, Military Division West Mississippi. General John R. Black of Chicago commanding 8th brigade. Letters from home and from Herbert. Answered them.

February 17—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—General inspection by Colonel Hancock. Very strict and rigid.

February 18—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—2nd brigade ordered to turn over their tents and be ready to march with two pairs of shoes to each man. Looks as though they were expected to do some running. Very warm and pleasant. Dress parade.

February 20—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—Drew forage for our teams, and cut and loaded wood for the regiment. Flags on Forts Morgan and Gaines at half-mast yesterday and today for the death of Edward Everett.

February 21—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—We turned over our A tents today and drew "pup tents." All quiet.

February 22—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—National salute fired from Forts Morgan and Gaines. Wrote to father and mother. No dress parade.

February 23—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—All quiet. Orders to take all surplus clothing to brigade headquarters to be turned over and sent to New Orleans and sent from there home.

February 24—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—The sea is very rough and has been for a week. Twenty-five refugees and deserters came in today. Claim to have come from Mobile. All quiet.


February 27—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—Moved camp nearer the fort. Letters from father and Caroline. Muster for pay tomorrow.

February 28—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—Mustered for pay and signed the pay roll for the months of January and February. Mailed letters home.

March 1—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—On fatigue at the post. Helped unload the guns of the 1st Indiana heavy artillery. They were formerly the 26th Indiana Infantry. News of the evacuation of Charleston, S. C.

March 2—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—All quiet. Went up to the Post and saw some Michigan troops come in with their rebel prisoners captured on Cedar Point nine miles west of us. Reported evacuation of Mobile. Nobody believes it.

March 3—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—Everything quiet. Company drill this forenoon. 23rd Wisconsin Infantry arrived here from New Orleans by Lakeport and across Lake Ponchartrain this afternoon.


March 5—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—Company inspection in column by Company.

March 6—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—No news. Weather pleasant but windy and the sea is very rough.
March 7—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—Nothing new except a game of base ball. Letter from G. W. Weeks. He is in the 36th Wisconsin Infantry, army of the Potomac.

March 8—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—Wrote home and to Caroline. Orders to be ready to move at a moment's notice, by land or water.

March 9—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—Ordered to turn over everything that we cannot carry.

March 10—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—Rained hard last night. Very cold this morning. Our dog tents are not much protection against either one.

March 11—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—Heavy firing said to be between our gun boats and the rebel water batteries. Getting ready to move. The 11th Wisconsin Infantry arrived here today.

March 12—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—Regimental inspection by Colonel Hancock. Received letters from M. Cunningham and H. Fisher. Answered them. Some firing in the bay; not so heavy as yesterday.

March 13—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—All quiet in camp. Went visiting the 23rd Wisconsin Infantry.

March 14—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—Rained hard all night and today. No news.

March 15—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—Heavy firing up the bay this morning. Eleventh Wisconsin Infantry came to play base ball with us today. They beat us.

March 16—Camp on Big Dauphine Island, Ala.—We played ball with the 47th Indiana Inft. today. Beat them. Detailed for fatigue at midnight. Worked all night on the pier.


March 18—Camp on Mobile Point. Still in camp. Do not expect to move today, probably will tomorrow. Looks like rainy weather. Later—Ordered to march at 2 o'clock a.m. tomorrow.

March 19—Camp in field, Ala.—Marched 17 miles today. Broke camp at daylight. The boys flung away a heap of clothing. Very hot and muggy.

March 20—Camp in field, Ala.—Marched ten or twelve miles. Got on the wrong road and had to take the back track three or four miles. Went into camp about noon in an Alabama pine swamp. The top soil is quicksand and mighty quick
too. Let a loaded wagon stand still an hour and it will settle into the ground half way to the axle or more. We pulled up and moved a mile and a half and went into camp.

March 21—Camp in the field, Ala. —Letters from Caroline and Herbert. On fatigue building log road. We have four miles to build before we can get our wagons over. We move at daylight tomorrow.

March 22—Camp in field, Ala.—We moved about four miles. Roads very bad. Had to build a great deal of log road. On fatigue cutting pine logs for road. Captains Barney and Parsons are officers of fatigue. Move at daylight tomorrow. Cannonading in the front.

March 23—Camp in field, Ala.—Moved three miles and one half. Worked cutting logs until noon. Moved back a half mile; went into camp. On fatigue all night carrying logs for road. Heavy cannonading in the front.

March 24—Camp in field at Fish River, Ala.—Wrote to father and mother and Caroline. Got into camp from work at eight o’clock p. m. Guerillas attacked our train this evening; cut out a couple of teams and run them off with their drivers. Allen Rutherford, a drummer boy of our regiment, who was riding in one of the wagons so footsore he could not march, was also captured. We had three men wounded. Saw Mike Leahy of the 35th Wisconsin Infantry. Letters from home and from Herbert.

March 25—Camp in field. On picket line near Spanish Fort, Ala.—A. J. Smith’s corps, the 16th, left for the front. I went to see the 35th Wisconsin Infantry. Wrote to Casper and Herbert. Marching orders at three o’clock this afternoon. Marched eight miles. Camped at dark.

March 26—Camp in field, Ala.—Moved this morning seven or eight miles. Found the enemy in force, our advance skirmishing with them. We threw up breastworks. I am on picket tonight. We expect a fight in the morning. We are one mile from Spanish Fort.

March 27—Siege line of Spanish Fort, Ala.—Companies A and B of the 29th and two companies of the 47th Indiana Infantry all on the skirmish line this afternoon. It is raining. We dig rifle pits tonight. We were attacked this morning on the picket line; our line was short. The rebels flanked us on the right and poured in a deadly volley down our line. The 47th had a number of men wounded and one killed, but we changed front and made a short charge and they retreated. By that time the regiment under Hancock came to our support. Captain Charles Holmes of Company F 29th commanded our picket line at this time and no line ever will need a better man for the place than he.
We had a Color Corporal killed by shell when he advanced. He belonged in Company E.

March 28.—Camp on siege line of Spanish Fort, Ala.—Still in line. Gunboats got up today so they could throw shell to the fort. Very few casualties on the line today. We shelled Spanish Fort for the first time today. Cannonading is very heavy on both sides.

March 29.—Camp on siege line of Spanish Fort, Ala.—I wrote to father and mother and Caroline. Heavy cannonading between our gunboats and the rebel batteries.

March 30.—Camp on siege line of Spanish Fort, Ala.—Ordered out in the night tonight. Enemy charged on our skirmish line last night. Companies A and D under command of Capt. O. L. Ray detailed to support a battery. The enemy shelled us severely. The first brigade of our division, including the 29th, ordered to take supplies to General Steele. We marched four miles and went into camp.

March 31.—Camp in field, near Spanish Fort, Ala.—The regiment left for Steele’s position. I and a few others are left to guard camp supplies. Heavy cannonading along the line. Our gunboats are operating some today. Letters from home.

April 1.—Camp in field near Spanish Fort, Ala.—The regiment does not return yet. Still guarding supplies. A sergeant of Co. E, 29th, has charge of our camp. My ankles and feet are so swollen from rheumatism that I cannot get my boots on. Am excused by Dr. Potter. First time I have been excused from all duty since I have been in the service.

April 2.—Camp in field, Ala.—Heard from the regiment. They are out seven or eight miles. Expect them in today.

April 3.—Camp in field, Ala.—Heard from the regiment. The boys are all right. We will join them tomorrow.

April 4.—Camp near Blakely, Ala.—Wrote home. We came to the regiment today. I had to march barefoot. My feet and ankles, though much better, being still swollen so that I cannot wear boots or shoes.

April 5.—Siege line of Blakely, Ala.—Nothing of interest. The boys are all well. The pioneers are taking up and moving an old Confederate log road.

April 6.—Siege line of Blakely, Ala.—The 29th and the 47th Indiana are detailed to go into the rifle pits at 6:30 p. m. and remain twenty-four hours.

April 7.—Siege line of Blakely, Ala.—Menzor Wiseman and I are detailed to go back from the line and make coffee and bring to the boys. The enemy shelled our line severely this forenoon and their compliments were returned in a lively manner. No one hurt on our side so far as heard from. We are
relieved from the rifle pits. Rains hard.

April 8.—Siege line of Blakely, Ala.—Wrote to Casper. Rains some. Heavy cannonading last night. Very heavy cannonading tonight. Our brigade withdrawn from the siege line of Blakely and to march to support General A. J. Smith's corps. The 16th and the 8th Iowa of that corps charged Battery Wagner, one of the defenses of Spanish Fort, and took it with 252 prisoners. Spanish Fort surrendered.

April 9.—Camp near Blakely, Ala.—Letters from home. After the surrender of Spanish Fort we returned to Blakely this morning, and arrived just in time to get in the first line of support when the first line charged the works, which was done in fine style, capturing the works and 210 prisoners. The 11th Wisconsin Infantry lost quite heavily in the engagement. The loss on our side quite heavy. Wrote home; pretty short letters, though.

April 10.—Camp in field, Ala.—Moved camp three miles. Went into camp at eleven o'clock a.m.

April 11.—On board tin clad No. 46.—We broke camp at dark. Jack Wright of Milford or Aztalan, Wis., the wagon-master of the 29th, run over by wagon and soon died of his injuries. We marched twelve miles and came aboard this vessel. These boats are sheathed with a very thin coating of iron, and are called tin clads.

April 12.—Mobile, Ala.—Landed at Dog river bar. Came in and occupied the city. We are the second regiment in the city, and are ordered to report to the provost marshal for duty.

April 13.—Mobile, Ala.—Still doing provost duty. We are quartered in Smith & McGee's cotton press, corner of State and Royal streets, a little more than one block from the Tombigbee river.

April 14.—Mobile, Ala.—On patrol picking up arms of all descriptions wherever found, whether private property or not, and keeping order in the city generally.

April 15.—Mobile, Ala.—News of General Lee's surrender to Grant.

April 16.—Mobile, Ala.—We were out part of the day picking up contrabands. Gunboats reported sunk by torpedoes.

April 17.—Mobile, Ala.—We were on patrol today and were excused to give us a chance to clean our guns and equipments; a mouth of the kind of work we have had to perform, generally in the rain, does not tend to make our guns shine very brightly. Letter from father and one from Caroline.

April 18.—Mobile, Ala.—We relieve Company K guarding a grist mill. Wrote to Weeks and Fischer. Heard that President Lincoln was assassinated; report lacks confirmation.
April 19—Mobile, Ala.—All quiet. Still guarding grist mill. Wrote to father.

April 20—Mobile, Ala.—The 20th Iowa came into town to do provost and guard duty. The death of President Lincoln confirmed.

April 21—Mobile, Ala.—Wrote to G. W. Johnson. Two men hanged and one shot for cheering for Wilkes Booth, the murderer of Lincoln. The rebels will learn that to be an unhealthy habit.

April 22—Mobile, Ala.—Ordered to move out to Springfield where the rest of our brigade is. Order countermanded.

April 23—Mobile, Ala.—Inspection by Captain Ray. I got a pass and went up town with Smith and Burgess. Letter from Caroline; answered it. Very hot and sultry.

April 24 and 25—Mobile, Ala.—No news; all quiet.

April 26—Mobile, Ala.—Detailed for guard, reported to Captain Marsh. Did so; all sent back to our quarters.

April 27—Mobile, Ala.—On camp guard. Letter from Caroline.

April 28—Mobile, Ala.—Came off guard. I am detailed for guard at General Veach’s headquarters. Permanent detail.

April 29—Mobile, Ala.—Letter from Casper; answered it.

April 30—Mobile, Ala.—Mustered for pay for the months of March and April.

May 1—Mobile, Ala.—Five men to be relieved from headquarter guard tomorrow. There are that many more than are needed. I petitioned to be one of them. There is no chance for exercise, and I don’t like it.

May 2—Mobile, Ala.—Paymaster arrived today. I am relieved from headquarter guard with four others.

May 3—Mobile, Ala.—Letters from Caroline, father and Herbert. We received eight months pay today, up to March 1st, 1865.

May 4—Mobile, Ala.—All quiet. Wrote to father, Caroline and Herbert.

May 5—Mobile, Ala.—Detailed for guard. The doctor ordered me not to go on account of my rheumatism. E. J. Cripps took my place and I went on guard at quartermaster’s headquarters in his place; all sitting down in this place.

May 6—Mobile, Ala.—On fatigue. Swept camp. Went to Wm. Otis’ steam mill for sawdust to cover our barrack floor.

May 7—Mobile, Ala.—Settled account with J. B. Moore, Sutler’s clerk, for J. P. Pushpee. All quiet.

May 8—Mobile, Ala.—Nothing new.

May 9—Mobile, Ala.—Captured rebel fleet. Came down from McIntosh Bluff and brought down the 3rd division (Bentons) 13th corps. Saw John Leahy of the 35th Wisconsin Infantry.
May 10 and 11—Mobile, Ala.—Nothing new.

May 12—Mobile, Ala.—Sent two copies of the "Mobile News" to father. Detailed for camp guard. Lieutenant John Leahy visited the Waterloo and Portland boys here today.

May 13—Mobile, Ala.—Relieved from guard. Captain M. Leahy visited us today.

May 14—Mobile, Ala.—On guard; no news.

May 15—Mobile, Ala.—Came off guard. Wrote home.


May 17—Mobile, Ala.—Came off guard. Letter from Herbert; answered it. Wrote to father.

May 18—Mobile, Ala.—Detailed for fatigue. Drew forage and eleven days' rations from the Commissaries. Killed a lame mule and buried it. Letter from father.

May 19—Mobile, Ala.—Relieved from fatigue. Inspection by Sergeant S. D. Smith. Wrote to B. J. Walker of Danville, Wis.

May 20—Mobile, Ala.—On fatigue. All quiet.

May 21—Mobile, Ala.—Relieved from fatigue at 9 o'clock this morning. Inspection by Sergeant S. D. Smith.

May 22—Mobile, Ala.—On fatigue. All quiet.

May 23—Mobile, Ala.—No news. Everything quiet.

May 24—Mobile, Ala.—On camp guard. Letter from Caroline bearing news of the death of my cousin, Frank Hinman, at Fort Scott, Kansas. He was in the 48th or 49th Wisconsin Infantry.

May 25—Mobile, Ala.—News and excitement enough today. At about 2 o'clock this afternoon a large quantity of rebel ammunition, turned over to us, while being piled in large pyramids in a cotton press about three blocks from our quarters, exploded, laying seven brick blocks as flat as though they had been rolled, killing two men in the 29th and wounding a number more. Many colored people were buried in the ruins, how many is not known at present. It is said that there were 76 tons of powder in the magazine. It is supposed that the explosion arose from careless handling of some of the large percussion shells. Several boats at the river wharf were set on fire, the captain of one, who was sick, and his wife burned with the boat.

May 26—On board steamer Tarascon. Ordered aboard for New Orleans by way of Grant's pass and across Lake Ponchartrain. We lay off Fort Gaines at the entrance of Mobile Bay from one to five o'clock p.m. Wrote and mailed a letter to father. Another fire broke out before we left, near the scene of the explosion. Our brigade is under
the command of Brigadier General
Lawton.

May 27—Camp at New Orleans,
La.—The lake was very rough and
our boat being a river boat was not
strong enough to ride the swells,
became almost entirely disabled,
and sank at the wharf at Lakeport
on the west shore of Lake Ponchar-
train in twenty minutes after we
left her. We landed, marched
four miles, and went into camp.

May 28—Camp at New Orleans,
La.—News of the surrender of
Kirby Smith’s forces at Shreveport,
La.

May 29—Camp at New Orleans,
La.—On fatigue. Letter from Caro-
line; answered it.

May 30—On board steamer C. H.
Fairchilds. Orders to be ready to
leave for Shreveport, La. We em-
barked at ten o’clock p. m.

May 31—On board steamer Fair-
childs.—We ran up the Mississippi
river above bayou Claire and lay
over for the night.

June 1—On board steamer Fair-
childs.—Started from bayou Claire
for the mouth of Red river.

June 2—On board steamer Fair-
childs.—Passed Baton Rouge at two
o’clock a. m. Arrived at the mouth
of the Red river at six o’clock p. m.
A part of the regiment went aboard
the C. L. Chapin here.

June 3—On board steamer Fair-
childs.—Going up the Red river.
Water very high, overflowing most
of the country between the Red and
Mississippi rivers. Arrived at
Alexandria, where we built Bailey’s
dam last year.

June 4—On board steamer B. J.
Adams.—We left the Fairchilds at
Alexandria. Lay over there until
two o’clock p. m. The confederates
have nearly all left here, taking
their arms with them.

June 5—On board steamer B. J.
Adams.—Passed Grand Ecore. No
troops here. Left at two o’clock
p. m.

June 6—On board steamer B. J.
Adams.—We expected to get to
Shreveport today, but we did not.

June 7—On board steamer B. J.
Adams.—We arrived at Shreveport,
La. today. Lay on board tonight.

June 8—Camp near Shreveport,
La.—Landed and went into camp
one and one half miles from town.
We expect to go into town on duty
in a day or two. On fatigue today.

June 9—Shreveport, La.—Moved
to town today. Companies A, B
and D on provost duty tomorrow.
We are on fatigue today.

June 10—Shreveport, La.—On
guard at the Provost Marshal’s
office. Steamer Kentucky sunk last
night loaded with Confederate sol-
diers.

June 11—Shreveport, La—I am
not on duty today. Letter from
Geo. W. Weeks and one from Her-
bert. Answered them and wrote to
Caroline.

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June 12—Shreveport, La.—On guard and patrol today. No news.

June 13—Shreveport, La.—I was relieved this morning. All quiet.

June 14—Shreveport, La.—On patrol. Nothing new in town or camp.

June 15—Shreveport, La.—Relieved this morning. Shelly's Missourians came in today to go aboard boats for St. Louis.

June 16—Shreveport, La.—The balance of Shelly's command came in today. On patrol tonight.

June 17—Shreveport, La.—Relieved from patrol this morning. Ordered to make out our muster out rolls right away.

June 18—Shreveport, La.—We are ordered to be ready to muster out tomorrow. We expect to go down the river in a day or two.

June 19—Shreveport, La. Must out tomorrow.

June 20—Shreveport, La.—Ordered to stop the muster after we had begun. Letter from Geo. W. Weeks.

June 21—Shreveport, La.—Nothing new. Expect to finish our muster tomorrow.

June 22—On board steamer Iatan. We were mustered out of the United States Military Service at 2:45 this afternoon. Went aboard the steamer Iatan. Ran down the river twelve miles.


June 24—On board steamer Iatan. Accident to boiler on the boat. We lay over fifty miles from the mouth of Red river. My left eye was rendered nearly blind while lying on the hurricane deck. The boatmen turned the steam into the smoke stacks and threw out a shower of cinders. One lodged in my eye and the doctors are unable to find it. The pain is terrible and the eye is swollen shut.

June 25—On board steamer Iatan. We entered the Mississippi river at half past nine this morning. Arrived at Port Hudson at one o'clock p.m. Telegraphed to New Orleans for transportation. Had my eye treated by Dr. Joseph Barber. It is no better.

June 26—On board steamer Iatan. Left Port Hudson for Cairo, Illinois, at 9 o'clock a.m. Arrived at Natchez, Miss. at two o'clock in the night. My eye is very painful.

June 27—On board steamer Iatan. We arrived at Natchez, Miss. at two o'clock this morning and took 1500 bushel of coal and left at 11 o'clock a.m. Had my eye treated by the doctor; it is very bad.

June 28—On board steamer Iatan. Arrived at Vicksburg at half past three this morning. Left at ten o'clock this morning. Lay up at Crow's Landing at the head of
Lake Providence. My eye is entirely closed.

June 29—On board steamer Iatan. —Lay up at Irish Bend, sixty miles below the mouth of White river. Drs. Potter and Barber treated my eye. It still gets worse.

June 30—On board steamer Iatan. —We took on 500 bushels of coal at the mouth of White river. Left there at half past three p. m. Dr. Potter treated my eye today. He thinks I will entirely lose the sight.

July 1—On board steamer Iatan. Arrived at Helena, Ark. at half past three a. m. and left at five o'clock a. m. Took on 500 bushels of coal.

July 2—Cairo, Ill. —Arrived at Memphis, Tenn. at dark; started immediately for Cairo, Ill. after taking on 500 bushels of coal. Land ed at Cairo but did not go ashore.

July 3—On Illinois Central railway. —Were offered our choice to wait until tomorrow and have a passenger train, or go today in box cars. We chose the box cars, and started today. Left Cairo for Centralia, Ill. at 10 p. m.

July 4—On Centralia and Duluth railway. —Arrived at Centralia; started at once for Madison, Wis.

July 5—On North Western railway. —Arrived at Freeport. Left at once for Beloit; arrived at Beloit, Wis. at 1:30. Left for Madison, Wis. at four o'clock p. m. At Beloit the people were ready for us. They had tables set and everything to eat that one could wish for, and tea, coffee and lemonade, and while the ladies were entertaining us at the table the men bought lumber and made comfortable seats for us in our box cars. Their kindness will never be forgotten while one of us lives. Arrived at Madison, Wis. at 6:15 p. m. Father and Casper met us at the depot. John Wetmore and I went up town and stayed with them at a hotel but we could not sleep on a bed so took our bunk on the floor. Governor James T. Lewis met us at the capitol park as we came from the depot and delivered for our benefit a very feeling and pathetic address, likewise our dear old friend and Colonel Charles R. Gill. When they got through we were not sure but we had done some commendable things in the past three years after all.

July 6—Madison, Wis. —We leave here for home at 8 o'clock this evening. We have turned over our arms and equipments and are ordered to report at Camp Randall, Madison, to receive our discharges and settle with the United States Government on July 17th. Left for home at 8 o'clock p. m.

July 7—Portland, Wis.—(Home.) We arrived here at four o'clock a. m. My eye is entirely closed and very painful. Found everyone well.
July 12—Portland, Wis.—Bought a threshing machine from Jacob Johnson.

July 17—Portland, Wis.—Went to Madison today and received my discharge from the Military Service of the United States, and settled with the government, receiving the pay due me from the government.

August 12—Portland, Wis.—Finished harvesting wheat today. It is much pleasanter work than harvesting "Johnnyes."

REGIMENTAL HISTORY.

The 29th regiment was recruited principally in the counties of Jefferson, Dodge, Dane and Columbia. Was mustered into the United States service on Sept. 27, 1862, at Madison, Wisconsin, by Major Smith of the regular army, under command of Colonel Charles R. Gill of Watertown, Wis. Left Camp Randall November 2 and proceeded down the Mississippi river from Cairo, Ill. to Helena, Ark., where they remained, operating against guerillas in the vicinity until January 11, 1863, when they joined the expedition against Arkansas Post. February 21 they went through the Yazoo Pass to the Cold Water, where they remained until March 1, when they returned. They joined the 13th army corps and took part in the great expedition against Vicksburg in the rear of that stronghold, taking an active part in the battles of Port Gibson, Fourteen Mile Creek, Champion Hill, Siege of Vicksburg, and Siege of Jackson. August 6, 1863 they left Vicksburg on Transports for Natchez, Miss., where they arrived August 7. Sept. 14 they moved to Carrolton, La. near New Orleans and in a few days from there to Breashear City, La. Engaged in skirmish October 21st, 1863 at Opelouses. November 1st were in the engagement at Carlon Crow Bayou; were in the "Texas Expedition," and after returning to Louisiana were engaged in the battle of Sabine Cross Roads and many other battles, skirmishes and marches, until August 13th, when they were assigned to the 2nd Brigade 2nd Division, 19th Army Corps and they were constantly engaged in marching and skirmishing along the Mississippi river in Arkansas and Louisiana until November 24th, when they moved to Memphis, Tenn., arriving on the 28th. Left Memphis January 1, 1865 to go down the Mississippi, stopping some weeks at Kennerville, La. and Dauphine Island, Alabama. Joined the campaign against Mobile, were at Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely and were the second regi-
ment to enter the city of Mobile. Left Mobile May 26, 1865 and arrived at Shreveport, La. on the Red river near the Texas state line June 8th, where they went to assist in guard and patrol duty during the surrender and parole of Gen. Dick Taylor's forces. Mustered out of the United States service June 22nd and arrived at Madison, Wis. July 5th and received their final discharge from the service of the United States July 17, 1865.

REMINISCENCES.

1.

At the battle of Port Gibson, Miss., May 1st, 1863, General A. P. Hovey, commanding our division, knowing that we were a new regiment and had never been in a general engagement, said to us as we passed him going into action, "Boys, I expect you will do well today." As we came on the field where the first line of our brigade had been engaged on an untilled cotton field, and could see many silent forms lying on the ground with their hats placed over their faces by some kind friend, we knew that many good men had gone down. Just then a man on a dapple-grey horse rode past us to the rear at a mad gallop. Soon the 16th Ohio battery light artillery came up from the rear, thundering through the cut, their horses on a run, and with them a man on a dapple-grey horse. We supposed him to be the same man we had seen ride to the rear and that he was an orderly sent to hurry up the battery. He stopped in front of us and said to Colonel Gill, "Have your men lie down; they are in great danger standing." The minnie balls were going over our heads and around us in a perfect storm. One of our Company A, boys, Menor Wiseman, said as the man rode away, "Who in h—l put you in spokesman when your hair is so short?" The man galloped away to the front. Colonel Gill turned to us and said: "That is Major General U. S. Grant." We had seen him on board the cutter at Grand Gulf but no one but Gill recognized him. As we went into action one wing (the left) of our regiment was sent away supporting a skirmish line. The right wing, to which Co. A, belonged, moved to the front in four ranks and at a double quick and while in that formation we were fired upon at short range—a terrific volley of musketry, killing and wounding 74 men out of our five companies. When we were fired upon the rebels were over the brow of a low ridge on our right, out of our sight and not over forty feet distant. Gill ordered us to lie down and load and fire as rapidly as possible. One

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of Hovey's staff said to him when we were fired upon, "They are a green regiment and will run in spite of h—l." General Hovey replied, "You never saw men that hug the ground and shoot like that run." Gen Hovey always called our regiment his "Ironclads" after that.

II.
On the skirmish line at Spanish Fort near Mobile the first day. It was a rainy afternoon. We were under a very severe fire. General Gordon Granger appeared among us. He wore a white rubber coat and hat—an excellent mark to shoot at. He got upon a large pine log about six feet from where A. Thayer and myself were trying to do our share of the firing, and was looking at the fort through a field glass, when Thayer said, "I wish I had some tobacco." General Granger took from his pocket a package of tinfoil tobacco and handed it to him. Thayer took a chew and handed it back. The general said, "Keep it, I think I have some more in my baggage," and he stood there with bullets and pieces of shell flying about him like bees, and seemed entirely unconcerned.

III.
I was on guard one rainy morning on State street in Mobile, Alabama, when Major General E. R. S. Canby, then commanding the Department of the Gulf rode along the street. When he came in front of me I came to a present arms as was always required in such cases. He answered by a salute and said, "It is quite wet; we will omit these things and make up for it when the weather is drier." General Canby was killed a few years later by Captain Jack and his Modocs in the lava beds in the West.

IV.
When returning home from the South at the close of the war, the natives in Southern Illinois, after we left Cairo, showed their patriotism by cheering us loudly as we stopped at a station, and then charged us 15 cents for a glass of milk and 10 cents for a boiled egg. We could not blame them; they were mostly rebels and were doing as we had been doing for three years—living off the enemy. When we arrived at Beloit, Wisconsin, things were different. There we were feasted on the best of food, and were treated as though we were all Major Generals, and were waited upon by the first white ladies who had spoken a friendly word to us in three years.

V.
We were relieved by General Quimby's division at Champion Hill after General Hovey had asked for reinforcements several times, and had received the answer that he would reinforce him when ordered to do so by Major General U. S. Grant and not before. At the last request Grant had just arrived on the field from Jackson and said,
to "Quimby," in his quiet manner, "You have your orders, sir. Move your division into action at once."

VI

One night when on picket in front of our trenches at Vicksburg, our picket line was about thirty feet from the rebel picket line and our orders were to return to our trenches when the moon rose. We were a little late, and as we went over the embankment into the trenches we must have been plainly seen by the rebels who were west of us; they fired a six pound solid shot at us. It went a little above the embankment and cut down a willow tree six inches in diameter, fifteen rods in front of where we stood. We dropped into the trenches without further notice.

VII.

At Port Gibson, while lying on the ground under a heavy infantry fire, a man in Company E had his knapsack packed very full and had it on his back. A rifle ball struck it and ripped it wide open, and his clothes and other articles rolled out upon the ground. The boys set up a loud laugh, but he packed up his things again and lay down. J. C. Kindlin of Company A at Vicksburg reached for his gun to clean it one morning. A piece of shell struck it just above his hand and cut the barrel nearly in two. B. J. Brackey of the same company was raising his cup of coffee to his lips at breakfast in the rear of Vicksburg one morning. The cup was hit by a bullet. Brackey said, "I wish you wouldn't spill my coffee," and went on with his breakfast.

VIII.

May 8, 1863, a number of us went foraging; just before night we skulked through our picket lines, as we were forbidden to forage for fear of getting captured, as the rebel cavalry were everywhere present; but we were hungry with no rations and no prospect of any until we reached Vicksburg. We came to a plantation and proceeded to investigate. We found some corn meal and honey and a dry cistern half full of fine bacon. We put a man into the cistern to hand out the bacon and were getting on nicely when we saw a squad of rebel cavalry coming at a good gallop. As we had left our guns in camp, we had nothing to do but get away, which we did at a lively gait, putting the cover on the cistern and leaving our man there, as we had no time to get him out. He covered himself with the bacon. The cavalry, seeing they could not catch us, went to the cistern but did not see our man. Later some of the boys went and got him out. This man was John Rogers of Portland, Wis., father of W. H. Rogers, who was Mayor of the city of Madison, Wis., in after years; he was detailed to the 16th Ohio battery but at this time was back to the company a short time.
IX.

As we were approaching the rebel lines July 7, 1863 at Jackson, Miss., we threw out a heavy skirmish line. The enemy were doing a good deal of firing and were cutting pretty close. The line from and in front of the 29th was commanded by Lieutenant Thomas Delaney. Like the most of his countrymen in the army he was always on hand and ready if there was a fight on. In giving his orders to the skirmishers who started forward in line in one rank wishing to have them deploy and take intervals, he could not think of the word, deploy; his command was, "Skirmishers," hesitates, "Skirmishers," hesitates, "Skirmishers," hesitates, finally, "Skirmishers, d—n your souls, scatter!" That brought down the house. Everybody shouted, but Tom got the skirmishers "scattered" all right.

X.

The buzzard mentioned in this record Nov. 8, 1863, is the same shape and color as the crow in the northern states. When sitting on the dry limb of a tree, they look nearly as large as a common sized turkey. They are called by the people "Turkey Buzzards;" the wing is rounded at the point something like the owl's wing; some of them have a spread of wings of nearly three feet.

XI.

In November, 1862, on an expedition from Camp Saloman, Miss., to the mouth of the White river, Ark. by steamer, a part of our regiment were placed on a boat with the 56th Ohio Infantry. They were an old regiment and a fighting one, too; they quickly discovered that we were "green" because we acted green and had clean clothes. They stole us blind. They took everything we had that was loose whether they wanted the article or not, just because we were green. In January, 1864, we landed on the Texas coast at DeCrow's Point, in the night. In marching across the sand to our camping place, we stumbled over the 56th Ohio asleep, and we stole everything about them that we could find, even to the shoes from under their heads. We did this because we had got over being "green."

XII.

At the battle of Sabine Cross Roads, or Mansfield, as it is sometimes called, our division was commanded by General Ransom of Ohio. At the first rebel volley upon our right flank, Ransom was shot through both legs. Colonel Hancock of the 29th set him against a tree. The men were falling fast on all sides. The general said to Hancock, "They are enfilading us. Tell the men to save themselves the best way they can. Leave me here; they will not hurt me." But he was put in an ambulance and taken from the field.

As we were going to the front at Sabine Cross Roads, H. M. Mead,
our regimental sutler, had run his four mule wagon out of the road to the right. He stood beside his wagon and as we came up at quick time he handed out such provisions from his stores as he had. He knew that we had no rations, having been just about to draw them when ordered to the front. He fed a good many men that day their last meal. We had no time to pay him, but he afterward told me that he believed that every man that came out paid him well.

XIII.

Just after crossing Cane river on the retreat down Red river from Sabine Cross Roads, Dr. Jacob L. Potter, a bright and skillful young man, who had come to us from Neenah, Wis., as 2nd assistant surgeon, a short time before, sat on a large rock five or six feet above us on our left sharpening his knives. As we went past he looked at us, laughed and said, "Boys, you see I am getting ready to take care of you." We thought it rather cold comfort. At this time we saw something which we never saw before or afterward in artillery practice, and we saw our share for troops that had no more service than we did. Our cavalry had with them four pieces of mountain howitzers, which they used as flying artillery. There were four horses to each gun and a rider on each horse; the balance of the battery-men were riding the gun carriages and caissons; the horses were going at a sharp gallop trying to get the range of the retreating rebels; the riders would turn their horses so as to bring the guns pointing to the front, halt a second to fire, and away they would go, every man in his place, the gunners loading the guns and the horses running, and then another gun would come up and go through the same performance. They kept it up for a mile, until there was not a rebel in sight. We were following up behind the guns and cavalry. I have always thought it the most amusing affair in the service. It was also somewhat exciting.

XIV.

At the battle of Port Gibson, before we went into action, the rebels had got out with some field artillery and were putting their shots pretty close. We were lying on the ground in line and a man who was evidently a cook, came along. He had two or three frying pans and a couple of immense camp kettles strung together over his shoulders. The grape shot were flying very lively. The man with the kettles went down the slope (we were lying on a side hill) to our right and lay down, somewhat protected by the rising ground. He had just about got laid down when a grist of cannister or grape landed right at his side; one of the kettles was hit and it of course was a wreck. The man got up and ran, the boys all shouting, "Run! Run!" I never saw such time made in all my life by any man. I think he came out all right but I did not see him again that day.