1863
CIVIL WAR DIARY
JAMES M. HART
7TH INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

WITH A BRIEF REGIMENTAL HISTORY OF THE SEVENTH INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

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SEVENTH INDIANA VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

James Hart was a member of the 7th Indiana Infantry in the Civil War. Like many of the Civil War Regiments, the Seventh's history is divided into two parts, the three month's service and the three year's service.

The 7th was one of the first two Indiana Regiments mustered for the war. The numbering for Indiana Regiments was begun with the number six in deference to the five Indiana Regiments that had served in the Mexican War. The 7th was actually the first regiment mustered but their commander was superstitious and, when given the choice of numbers, chose the 7th rather than the 6th.

James did not serve in the three month's service but enlisted when the regiment was re-organized for the three year's service. He was joined by his brother Asa, who served until wounded in a skirmish sometime between the battles at Port Republic and Cedar Mountain. Asa was discharged with a disability on June 25, 1862.

James Hart was wounded twice during his three year term. The first was in the battle at Port Republic and following this action he was promoted to Corporal. He was demoted to private after returning from his unauthorized trip home following the battle at Fredericksburg.

Morale was at all time low in the Army of the Potomac after the debacle at Fredericksburg and it was during this period that the largest number of desertions occurred in the Federal forces. Most of the deserters were treated as AWOL's and accepted back into their regiments with very minor punishment.

James Hart deserted on January 20, 1863 and stayed at home until March 3, 1863 when he turned himself in at Indianapolis. His only punishment was a demotion to private and the loss of $41.21 in pay.

In January of 1867 the charge of desertion was removed from his records and changed to read "Absent without leave from January 21, 1863 to March 1, 1863".

THREE MONTH'S SERVICE

The three month Seventh was mustered into the service on April 25, 1861 with Ebenezer Dumont, a Mexican War veteran, as Colonel. On May 25, 1861 the regiment was ordered to Western Virginia and went at once by rail to Grafton, Virginia. On June 2 they proceeded to Webster, Virginia and were joined by other regiments. The entire force was divided into two commands under the overall command of a Col Kelley. They marched to Philippi, Virginia with the 7th in the advance. When within rifle range of Philippi the 7th drove in the enemy's pickets and drove the rebels out of town. This minor action was to become known as "The Philippi Races" and is regarded as the first land engagement of the Civil War.

The 7th skirmished with the rebels for six weeks and on July 12 the rebels fell back to St. Georges, Virginia. The yankees followed and at Carrick's Ford the rebels, under General Garnett, made a stand and the 7th charged
Three Month's Service (continued)

down the bank of the river, crossed over and captured the rebel's baggage.
The 7th continued pursuit of the rebels and after a sharp engagement they
routed the rebels and killed Gen. Garnett and captured their field gun.

The three month's 7th mustered out on August 3, 1861 having recorded a
number of Civil War "Firsts".

First Indiana Regiment mustered for the war.
First volley fired in the first land engagement (Philippi) of the war.
First Confederate General (Gen. Garnett) killed by a Union regiment.
First field gun captured by a Union regiment. (At Carrick's Ford)
First amputation performed on a Civil War casualty. (The removal of a
leg from a Confederate private named James Hanger of the 1st Virginia.
The amputation was performed by Dr. G.W. New of Greensburg who was the
Regimental surgeon of the 7th.)
First Union soldier killed in a battle. (Private John Smith of Co. C on
June 14, 1861

THREE YEAR'S SERVICE

On the way home, news of the defeat at Bull Run reached the men of the
7th and they vowed to re-enlist for the three year's service and reorga-
nize the regiment. Ninety percent of the men did reenlist and on Sept-
ember 13, 1861 the regiment was mustered into the US Service with Brig.
Gen. Ebenezer Dumont as commander.

On September 14, they proceeded to Elkwater, Virginia with 10 companies of
men. James Hart and his brother Ace were members of Co. G. The 7th was
attached to Gen. Joseph J. Reynolds command and participated in the battle
at Greenbriar with very little loss.

Winter camp was spent at Elkwater where casualties from sickness and ex-
posure were severe. Eighteen men died at Elkwater and Beverly and forty
one died in hospitals at Wheeling, Grafton and Cumberland. Many more were
in hospitals unable to march or perform any duty.

The Division then moved to the Shenandoah Valley under the command of Gen.
Shields and went into camp north of Winchester. Gen. Shields' picket line
was driven in on the afternoon of March 22 by Gen. Ashby's cavalry and
artillery. Shields' Division formed in line of battle and fought in the
bloody battle that ensued. The action was between the villages of Kerns-
town and Winchester and is known as the battle of Winchester. The 7th
formed the right wing of Tyler's Brigade in this battle and according to
the Official Report of the Brigade commander they fought like veterans
and made a splendid record for themselves in their first major action.

The next page is a complete list of the actions of the three year's 7th
in the war followed by an elaboration of some of the more notable actions.
SERVICE RECORD OF 7th INDIANA

Engagement at Greenbriar River, Cheat Mountain, Va.
Skirmish at Middleton, Va.
Battle of Winchester, Va.
Occupation of Mt. Jackson & New Market, Va.
Skirmish near Front Royal, Va.
Battle of Port Republic, Va.
Battle of Cedar Mountain, Va.
Actions along the Rappahannock at Rappahannock Station.
Second Battle of Bull Run, Manassas, Va.
Battle of South Mountain, Md.
Battle of Antietam, Sharpsburg, Md.
Actions at Union, Va.
Battle of Fredericksburg, Va.
Demonstrations of the Rapidan, Va.
Expedition from Bell Plains to Mattaw Creek, Carrioman,
and Nomina Bay, Va.
Campaign of Chancellorsville, Va.
Operations at Pollack's Mill Creek or Fitzhugh's
Crossing, White Oak Run, Rappahannock River, Va.
Engagement at Fitzhugh Crossing, Rappahannock River, Va.
Battle of Chancellorsville, Va.
Battle of Gettysburg, Pa.
The Bristoe Campaign
Advance to line of the Rappahannock River, Va.
Mine Run Campaign, Actions at Locust Grove, Paynes Farm,
Orange Court House or Orange Grove; Robertson's Tavern
and New Hope Church, Va.
Campaign from the Rapidan River to the James River, Va.
Battle of The Wilderness, Va.
Battle at Laurel Hill, Va.
Battles of Spotsylvania Court House, Laurel River,
My River and Fredericksburg Road, Va.
Assault of the salient at Spotsylvania Ct. House, Va.
Operations on the line of the North Anna River, Va.
Engagement at Jericho Bridge, Ford or Mills, Va.
Operations on the line of the Pamunkey River, Va.
Operations-Engagements on line of Totopotony River, Va.
Battle of Bethesda Church, Va.
Assault on Petersburg, Va.
Siege operations against Petersburg & Richmond, Va.
Battle of Weldon RR, Globe Tavern or Yellow House and
Blick's Station or Six Mile House, Va.

Oct. 3-4, 1861
Mar. 18, 1862
Mar. 23, 1862
Apr. 17, 1862
May 31, 1862
June 6-7, 1862
Aug. 9, 1862
Aug. 20-23, 1862
Aug. 30, 1862
Sept. 11, 1862
Sept. 16-17, 1862
Nov. 2-3, 1862
Dec. 12-15, 1862
Feb. 6-7, 1863
Feb. 12-14, 1863
Apr. 27-May 6, 1863
Apr. 29-May 2, 1863
Apr. 29-30, 1863
May 1-5, 1863
July 1-3, 1863
Oct. 9-22, 1863
Nov. 7-8, 1863
Nov. 26-Dec. 2, 1863
May 4-June 12, 1864
May 5-7, 1864
May 8, 1864
May 8-21, 1864
May 12, 1864
May 22-26, 1864
May 25, 1864
May 26-28, 1864
May 28-31, 1864
June 1-3, 1864
June 16-18, 1864
June 16-20, 1864
Aug. 16-21, 1864

The non-veterans of the Seventh Indiana were mustered out on September 20, 1864. Veterans and recruits (including a William L. Hart) were transferred to the 19th Indiana Infantry of the famous "Iron Brigade" on September 23, 1864. Shortly thereafter the 19th was consolidated with the 20th Indiana.
BATTLE OF FORT REPUBLIC

On June 8th and 9th, 1862 the 7th, as a part of Tyler's Brigade, participated in the Battle at Fort Republic, Va. Tyler's Brigade and Carroll's Brigade comprising a force of about 3,000 men made a desperate stand for four hours, holding in check a Confederate force of three times their number. The union troops were finally compelled to fall back before the overwhelming odds.

In Gen. Tyler's report of the action special mention is given to Col. Gavin (Commander of the 7th) and the men of the 7th "for heroic gallantry I will place them beside the bravest men of the US Army".

Col. Carroll also commended Col. Gavin and Maj. Patterson of the 7th and tells of them having their "horses killed under them in the heat of action". He also commended all for their gallantry.

Losses of the 7th in this battle were; 1 Officer and 8 men killed, 4 Officers and 103 men (including James Hart) wounded and 1 Officer and 28 men missing in action for a total of 145 casualties.

BATTLE OF GETTYSBURG

Prior to the engagement at Gettysburg the 7th was detached from the Division at Emmitsburg and ordered to guard the cattle train. When July 1 came they were supposed to be relieved by a Vermont Regiment. However, the Vermont regiment never showed up and, after waiting for over 5 hours, Col. Grover ordered the 7th to march toward Gettysburg.

While the regiment was stopped preparing to eat lunch the noise of the battle reached the men and they were ordered to "quick march" toward Gettysburg. They marched through the mountain passes in a rain shower and arrived on the field late in the first day of action after Gen. Reynolds had been killed.

Gen. Wadsworth had assumed command and he ordered the 7th to take a position on Culp's Hill east of Gettysburg, forming the extreme right of the Union lines. During the night a force of the rebels attempted to occupy Culp's Hill but were repulsed by the 7th. The rebels mistakenly assumed that they were confronted by a much larger force and made no further attempt to occupy Culp's Hill during the rest of the night.

In actuality the 7th was alone on Culp's Hill that first night and had the rebels pressed the issue and won, the Union right flank would have collapsed and Gettysburg would, in all probability, have been lost for the Union.

During the evening's action some prisoners were taken and this probably added to the Confederates belief that Culp's Hill was too strongly occupied to attempt an all out assault. Many historians credit the 7th Indiana with having saved the Army of the Potomac from another disastrous defeat at Gettysburg.

Colonel Grover was brought before a Court Martial hearing for his action of having left the cattle train unguarded but he was cleared of all charges. Following the war he was Breveted Brigadier General of US Volunteers.
THE WILDERNESS—LAUREL HILL—SPOTTSYLVANIA

In that tangled mass of confusion that was to become known as the Battle of The Wilderness the Seventh Indiana moved forward on May 5 and attacked and captured the 50th Virginia, some 200 strong, but in the confusion that followed, Col. Grover and some 50 men of the Seventh were captured by the rebels.

Major Welch assumed command and attacked the rebels near Spottsylvania Court House. On the morning of May 8th the brigade was the extreme right of the Fifth Corps and was attacked by the enemy. They were forced to fall back to a commanding position where they threw up rifle pits and held the line until the 10th. On the 10th the Seventh Indiana charged the enemy works twice and were forced back both times.

On the 12th the regiment was ordered to the left of the Division. They attacked and gained a position just 30 yards from the rebel works and fired continuously until the enemy was silenced.

FINAL MUSTER

After participating in the siege of Petersburg, Virginia and taking part in action at Yellow House or Weldon RR, the Seventh was mustered out on September 20, 1864.

Among the recruits transferred to the 19th Indiana was a recruit named William L. Hart, but it is not known if he was related to James Hart.

During their three years of service the Seventh lost 8 Officers and 108 enlisted men killed in action and 2 Officers and 111 enlisted men died of disease for a total of 229 deaths. Nineteen Officers and 349 enlisted men were wounded in action.

A total of 1299 men were connected with the Seventh Indiana and 597 of them either died or were wounded.

The veterans and recruits of the Seventh that had transferred to the 19th Indiana and were subsequently consolidated with the 20th Indiana were present at Appomattox Court House when Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered.

"That from these honored dead we take increased devotion to that cause for which they gave the last full measure of devotion—That we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain—That this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom—and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth".

Abraham Lincoln
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
November 19, 1863
This diary reveals that James M. Hart was very literate for a 19th Century Middle West farmer. His use of the language, spelling and handwriting are, for the most part, excellent. In those instances where he has misspelled a word, it appears as he wrote it. Where he has misspelled or incorrectly identified a location or town it appears as he wrote it with a correction, if necessary for clarity, in parenthesis.

As with most Civil War soldiers from the farms of the Midwest he appears to be honest, religious, frugal and hard working.

A number of notations in the diary indicate that he earned some extra money by shaving his comrades. He most likely charged five cents for a shave as all of the entries are multiples of five.

It also appears that he had a small scale loan business going. Several entries indicate loans to individuals and the date the individual paid the loan back.

He kept meticulous records of his correspondences with his wife, noting each letter to her by number. Then, as she responded to his letters, he numbered her responses.

A deep concern for his family probably coupled with some old-fashioned home sickness motivated him to desert in January of 1863 when illness struck several members of his family including his wife and newborn child.

After setting his house in order he calmly turned himself in for return to his Regiment on March 14, 1863.

Following the Civil War the War Department reviewed the thousands of cases of desertion that occurred during the late 1862 - early 1863 period and, in most cases, removed the charges of desertion from their military records. They were declared to have been absent without leave. Such was the case with James Hart.

He served with the Seventh Indiana until the regiment was mustered out in September of 1864. He mustered out with the regiment with an Honorable Discharge.

During the war he received two wounds in battle, one at Port Republic and the other during a minor skirmish near Bethesda Church, Virginia. The wound received at Port Republic was severe enough to cause a disability to occur later in life and he applied for and received a pension until his death.
Mon., Jan. 19: Laying in camp preparing to march

Tue., Jan. 20: Marched at 11 AM today I and Wm Walters fell out and deserted for the purpose of seeing our families being all sick or nearly so. Rained hard all night


Fri., Jan. 23: Onward. Run into the rebel cavalry but did not get caught.

Sat., Jan. 24: Onward. Arrived at or near Thoroughfare Gap dodging the rebel cavalry.


Mon., Jan. 26: Passed Aldie (Aldie Gap) today and Leesburg. Got to within 2 miles of the Potomac today escaping both cavalry.

Tue., Jan. 27: Attempted to cross the river today but failed. Made 3 attempts but failed.

Wed., Jan. 28: Crossed today between Burlin (Berlin) and pt (Point) of Rocks near 9 oclock AM during a severe snow storm. Traveled on and passed Aurora Town.

Thur., Jan. 29: Travelled on passing Boonsborough and Haggerstown to about 6 miles westward.

Fri., Jan. 30: Onward today passing through Shady Bower Clear Springs.

Sat., Jan. 31: Put up tonight at Zimmermans and staid over Sunday 7 miles out of Cumberland City M.


Mon., Feb. 2: Traveled on today passing through Cumberland thence through Frostburg thence toward Petersburgh.

Tue., Feb. 3: Onward passed Petersburgh thence toward Union Town Pa.

Wed., Feb. 4: Passed through Union Town today thence to Brownsville. Run down the river 2 miles and boarded the boat for Pittsburgh.

Thur., Feb. 5: Boarded the boat Hastings at daylight for Cincinnati. River full of ice prolonged our trip a little.

Fri., Feb. 6: Running down the Ohio River. Slow navigation on account of ice for 200 miles.

Sat., Feb. 7: Landed at Cincinnati at 10½ PM. Staid aboard till daylight.
Sun., Feb. 8: Disembarked and footed it to Lawrenceburg Ind and passed through 3 miles

Mon., Feb. 9: Footed it on home where I arrived at 7 PM Happily received by my family friend and relatives

Tue., Feb. 10: Home today Nothing transpiring accept common farm duties and sugar making till Tuesday March the 3

No further entries until March 2.

Mon., Mar. 2: Preparing to return to my Regt

Tue., Mar. 3: Started today Boarded the cars at Newport bound for Indianapolis where I arrived at quarter past 12N We went up to Noble Barricks Staid all night

Wed., Mar. 4: AM Went and gave myself up to the Military Authorities and received transportation Started at 7:40 PM Run all night changing cars at Dayton and at Columbus Ohio

Thur., Mar. 5: Crossed the Ohio River at Bellaire then boarded the train for Baltimore

Fri., Mar. 6: Arrived at the Balt House about 6 or 7 AM then changed cars for Washington where we arrived at 9 AM PM Now laying in the soldiers retreat awaiting transportation

Sat., Mar. 7: Received transportation this AM Arrived at the Regt at 3 PM Rained some

Sun., Mar. 8: Nothing doing James M Hart March the 8 1863

Mon., Mar. 9: This pen was drew as a prize from NY PM Winslow & Co Cost $1.40 Price Marked $15.00 Drew June the 13 1863

Tue., Mar. 10: Snowing this morning

Wed., Mar. 11: Pleasant today

Thur., Mar. 12: Pleasant AM PM Snowed

Fri., Mar. 13: Snowing today and very disagreeable

Sat., Mar. 14: High winds today Very cold I received a letter today from my wife

Sun., Mar. 15: Cool today with Storm

Mon., Mar. 16: No entry

Tue., Mar. 17: Pleasant today

Wed., Mar. 18: Cool JMH
Thur., Mar. 19: Thursday March the 19 1863

Fri., Mar. 20: Snow storm today Drew clothing I got a haversack canteen knapsack and oil blanket & 1 dress coat

Sat., Mar. 21: Snowed til noon then rained in the afternoon

Sun., Mar. 22: Damp and misty I wrote a letter today No 1 8 oclock PM I received letter from my wife

Mon., Mar. 23: Pleasant today I drew of the sutler $2.00 in checks and loaned 1.50 to DG Doyle paid

Tue., Mar. 24: I washed some today Rained all night

Wed., Mar. 25: I drew $2.00 of sutler checks paid

Thur., Mar. 26: AM Snowed hard but melted as it fell PM Drilled I wrote a part of a letter No 2

Fri., Mar. 27: Prepared for review today but put off

Sat., Mar. 28: Expected to have review today but rained all day

Sun., Mar. 29: Received 2 letters from my wife Cool today I wrote a letter to my wife No 2 & to parents Gov Morton visited us today and made a few remarks After night we serenaded him Music by the band of the 21st Michigan Regt

Mon., Mar. 30: AM I went to the Daguerreotype and got my miniture taken PM Wrote a letter to my wife No 3 Dress parade Inspection by Brigd Gen Cutler

Tue., Mar. 31: Rained and snowed today

Wed., Apr. 1: High winds today and cool I received a letter from my brother

Thur., Apr. 2: Grand review today by Maj Gen Joseph Hooker Comdr Army of the Potomac Verry high winds

Fri., Apr. 3: Pleasant today

Sat., Apr. 4: Verry high winds with snow storm at night I wrote a letter to my wife No 4

Sun., Apr. 5: Cool with high winds

Mon., Apr. 6: AM Gen inspection PM Drummmed a man out of service out of the 76th NY Regt for desertion I received a letter from my wife letter No 1

Tue., Apr. 7: AM Wrote a letter to my wife letter No 5

Wed., Apr. 8: Company inspection

Thur., Apr. 9: Grand review by the President of the US States Abraham Lincoln
Fri., Apr. 10: Gen muster today I shall end to quit this

Sat., Apr. 11: Received a letter from my wife also from brother Asa

Sun., Apr. 12: Wrote a letter to my wife letter No 6

Mon., Apr. 13: Orders to be ready to march

Tue., Apr. 14: 7th Ind went on picket today Army begins to move

Wed., Apr. 15: Rained all day

Thur., Apr. 16: Our Regt returned off of picket to get their pay

Fri., Apr. 17: Our Regt paid off I paid to the sutler $4.00 Bazzle Boyce paid me $1.55 Wm L Hart paid me $2.75

Sat., Apr. 18: Received my miniature Drew from the commissary 8 days rations to carry

Sun., Apr. 19: Wrote a letter to my wife letter No 7

Mon., Apr. 20: Started out for Div drill but appearance of rain We returned to camp PM Rained I sold John N Opel my watch for $20 10 down and 10 next pay day following

Tue., Apr. 21: Comp drill today

Wed., Apr. 22: 12N We was called out today supposing to go on picket but was ordered back to camp

Thur., Apr. 23: Rained all day verry hard

Fri., Apr. 24: Mail was robbed here last night I am writing a letter to my wife letter No 8

Sat., Apr. 25: No entry

Sun., Apr. 26: 9 AM Gen inspection After insp I wrote a letter to my wife letter No 9 Signed the clothing lists My clothing bill $11.87

Mon., Apr. 27: Regt drill

April 28 marks the beginning of the Chancellorsville Campaign with the battle of Chancellorsville taking place May 2-5.

Tue., Apr. 28: Marched at 11 AM Moved toward the Rappahance River At dark camped made coffee then at 11 PM marched down to throw the pontoons but did not succeed in getting to the ground till daylight

Wed., Apr. 29: First shots fired from the enemy pickets at about 5 AM Succeeded in crossing about 12 Loss to us 10 or 12 The 4th Brig crossed and took near 100 prisoners The rebel pickets we killed and wounded near 30 Laid in line of battle all PM
Thur., Apr. 30: But few shots exchanged til about 5 PM then the enemy shelled some. We dug a rifle pit which afforded great protection. Our loss reported by private sources 5 or 6.

Fri., May 1: All quiet today.

Sat., May 2: Co F G & H went on picket. The enemy shelled us. Wounded 2 men. We evacuated the place and moved to the right. Recrossed the River at US Ford. 5th, 9th & 11th Corps fought today on the right.

Sun., May 3: 8 miles west of Fredericksburgh. Enemy attacked us early today. Tremendous heavy infantry fighting with artillery until 11 AM then ceased a little. PM Fought some in front. We built breastworks. Two alarms tonight.

Mon., May 4: Skirmishing all day til late then our men threw out a Brigad and drew the rebels out and greatly repulsed them. At night one alarm.

Tue., May 5: Skirmishing today. Heavy sometimes. PM Made preparations to evacuate this place at night but come a hard rain and our Brigade staid til morning.

Wed., May 6: US Army evacuated their position between Fredericksburgh & Gordonsville. Roads awful muddy. For what purpose we withdrew I know not unless on account of the recapture of Fredericksburgh by the enemy. Now camped near Falmouth.

Thur., May 7: I was on guard last night. Moved camp today further down the river. Rained tonight.


Sat., May 9: Getting the camp in order policing etc. I received a letter from my wife. Letter No 5.


Mon., May 11: I wrote a letter to my parents & brother. I was on guard today. Very hot.

Tue., May 12: Very hot.


Thur., May 14: PM Wrote a letter. It rained very hard.

Fri., May 15: We was called up at 4 AM expected to march. Did not. 10 AM. Gen inspection. I drew a cap.

Sat., May 16: PM Wrote a letter to my wife. Letter No 12.

Sun., May 17: Our Regt on picket today near Fredericksburgh on the river. The rebels on one bank and us on the other converse at times. No picket firing allowed.
Mon., May 18: AM On picket Some 5 or 6 of the rebs swam over to us We traded papers with some 2 or 3 of our fellows swam over to there pickets US pickets 7th Ind CS pickets 7 La PM Relieved retiered to the grand gar

Tue., May 19: We was relieved off of the grand reserve gar and returned to camp at noon

Wed., May 20: I was on gard today

Thur., May 21: Relieved off of gard and wrote a letter to my wife letter No 13

Fri., May 22: I was on gen police today

Sat., May 23: No entry

Sun., May 24: I wrote a letter today to my parents and wife

Mon., May 25: No entry

Tue., May 26: AM Reg't drill PM Co drill

Wed., May 27: Went on picket Reported marching orders in camp

Thur., May 28: Remained on picket on the grand reserve

Fri., May 29: Returned off of picket We expect our pay today I wrote a letter No 14

Sat., May 30: AM Grand review PM Received our pay

Sun., May 31: 9 AM Gen inspection of Army I received a letter from father & wife No 8 AM I mailed 837.00 home

Mon., June 1: I was on gard today Brigade drill today at 4 PM

Tue., June 2: Relieved off of gard at 8 AM

Wed., June 3: Sent out gards and arrested some fellows playing cards Decidedly against orders 5 PM Brig drill today I wrote No 15

Thur., June 4: Orders to march at daylight We arose at 2 AM The order was countermanded Received No 9 letter

Fri., June 5: The US Army moved down to the reported across at or near sun- set Cannonaded some We prepared to march tomorrow at 3 1/2 o'clock AM

Sat., June 6: We arose at 3 1/2 o'clock AM Was ready to march at daylight but laid in quarters all day in case we are needed to reinforce the 6th US which is across the river-or part of it across Rained PM

Sun., June 7: No one allowed to leave camp today Received 2 letters No 14

Mon., June 8: PM Received order to pack haversacks I received a letter paper-the Ind State Journal Very cool at night
Tue., June 9: Not

Wed., June 10: Wrote a letter No 16

Thur., June 11: Laying in camp ready to march at any moment

June 12 marks the beginning of the Gettysburg Campaign with the battle of Gettysburg taking place July 1-3.

Fri., June 12: Marched toward Warrenton a distance of 20 miles today. Camped on Deep Run at night. There was one man shot today by sentence of a court martial for desertion from Co F 19th Ind.


Sun., June 14: Marched on toward Catlett Station. Passed there thence to Bristow Station. Marched all night. Traveled about 20 miles. Made poor progress for fault of the Generals. I suppose got to Manassas at sunrise.

Mon., June 15: Marched from Manassas to Gainesville a distance of 7 or 8 miles. Extremely hot. Arrived at Gainesville 2 or 3 PM. Enemy reported pursuing us closely.

Tue., June 16: Laid in camp today. I wrote a letter No 17. Reported the rebels crossed the Potomac River and into Pa.

Wed., June 17: We marched from Centreville today toward Leesburg till 12M. The orders then being changed we marched in the direction of Fairfax Station or Stone Bridge. Camped about 2 miles north of Fairfax Court House.

Thur., June 18: Laid in camp today. Rained at night.

Fri., June 19: Moved camp a distance of 3 or 4 miles toward Leesburg to a creek called Goose Creek or Broad Run. Tonight a powerful rainstorm.

Sat., June 20: Arose at 3 AM. Made ready to march at daylight but did not go PM. Rained some.

Sun., June 21: Moved back to a place called Frying Pan a distance of 8 mi PM. I was detailed to help take 6 prisoners to Gen Reynolds headquarters. Had to stay and guard them all night. Rained some Birthday. Received two letters Nos 2 & 3. Wrote No 18.

Mon., June 22: I returned to camp this morning. Reported the rebels burnt the wagon train a short distance from here. W. No 18.

Tue., June 23: We went out on a scout. Discovered nothing.


Thur., June 25: Marched from Frying Pan to about 2 or 3 miles north of Poolesville Md. Crossed the Potomac at Edwards Ferry. Marched a distance of 24 mi. Rained in the afternoon.
Fri., June 26: Marched from near Poolesville to Adams Station. Very bad roads. Rained all day. We were near guards of the wagon trains at Adams Station on the B & O RR.

Sat., June 27: Marched from Adams Station to about 2 or 3 miles north of Middletown Md. Camped with the Brigade. Distance 10 or 12 miles.

Sun., June 28: Marched from near Middletown to near Frederick City. Distance 8 or 9 miles.

Mon., June 29: Marched from near Frederick City to Lewiston. We are guarding the rear battle of the Corps. The road crowded so we could only travel slow. Very muddy, rained most of time.

Tue., June 30: Marched from near Lewistown to Emmitsville (Emmitsburg) passing Catocton (Catoctin) Furnace. Mechanicsville (Mechanicsburg) came up with the wagon trains at noon at Emmitsville and camped. Mastered in today for pay. Rained nearly all day.

Wed., July 1: Marched from Emmitsville to Gettysville (Gettysburg). Our Corps had a heavy fight. Badly cut up. Gen. Reynolds killed. Took some 5 or 6 hundred prisoners. They succeeded in driving our men in the afternoon. They were drove first.

Thur., July 2: Skirmishing all along the line till PM about 1 o'clock. Then a heavy fight ensued. Both parties stand firm.

Fri., July 3: AM. Terrific artillery and musketry till about 12N when it ceased. Little PM. Terrific artillery till near nightfall. Some musketry. Our Brigade moved to the center. Appearance of heavy rain.

Sat., July 4: AM. Our Regt. & the 56th Pa. was sent over into town for what purpose I don't know. The rebels fell back last night. Purpose unknown. PM. Returned to our old position on the right behind the breastworks. I was detailed to help bury the rebel dead. Powerful rain. Sat. night.

Sun., July 5: We moved to the left or near the center. Laid by the breastworks till about 9 PM then we went on picket. Rained some. I received a letter No. 5 wrote one No. 19.

Mon., July 6: Marched today from Gettysburg to Emmitsville (Emmitsburg). Reported the rebels on the retreat. Movements making to try to prevent their crossing the Potomac River. Drizzled rain some today.

Tue., July 7: Marched from Emmitsville (sic) passed Mechanicsville (sic) then passed Catocton (sic) Furnace then turned to the right crossed Catocton (Catoctin) Mountain hence toward Middletown. Came near Bellville. Rained hard tonight.

Wed., July 8: Marched from Bellville to Middletown then filled tight thence to South Mt Pass. We passed through and took position on the right. Our cavalry fighting all day captured many things.

Thur., July 9: All quiet today till late PM. We heard firing in the direction of Hagerstown. Our troop continually moving past today. Wrote No 20.
Fri., July 10: Marched from South Mt Pass to near Funkstown. Drove the rebel pickets from Beaver Creek to Funkstown. Some cannonading at the town. Very hot. Received a letter from W No 5.

Sat., July 11: No movements here today but very distant shots heard in the direction of the old Antietam battlefield. Wrote No 21.

Sun., July 12: Marched to Funkstown. Passed through Crossed the Antietam Creek. Thence filed left up a short distance west of the town and a little unexpected found the enemy skirmishing. Skirmishing till dark. Some few shots through the night.

Mon., July 13: AM Some skirmishing. PM All quiet. By agreement not to picket fight. Report 600 prisoners taken. 2nd report 1200 North Carolinians come and gave themselves up. AM some 5 shot fired from the rebel artillery at some fellows foraging.

Tue., July 14: Marched up to near Williamsport today.


Thu., July 16: Marched to near Harpers Ferry today. Crossed the Mountain at Hamptons Pass (sic) by Burketsville. Camped at Petersville. Set in to rain last night. Wrote No 22.

Fri., July 17: 1st Corps laid in camp today. Other troops crossed the Potomac on the pontoon bridge at Burlin (Berlin).

Sat., July 18: We crossed the Potomac at Burlin on the pontoon bridge at a little after daylight then marched to Wattersville (Waterford). 8 miles. There bivouacked.

Sun., July 19: Marched from Watterfall (sic) to Church a distance of 5 or 6 miles. Bivouacked at Hamilton Va. Very hot.

Mon., July 20: Marched from Hamilton to Middleburgh. Distance the way we went about 15 miles. Waived Goose Creek and bivouacked near Middleburgh. Very hot.

Tue., July 21: Laid in camp today near Middleburgh. Some confusion around Co H on account of intoxication.

Wed., July 22: Marched from Middleburgh to near White Plains (The Plains) on the Manassas and Front Royal RR. Camped for the night. I was detailed for picket. Distance marched today 10 mi.

Thu., July 23: Marched from White Plains (sic) to Warrenton. A distance of 12 miles. The picket left of the Div moved then come in. We got off the road passed through Thoroughfare Gap then about faced. Arrived at Warrenton at 6 PM.

Fri., July 24: Moved camp a short distance. PM Gen inspection of Army. Very hot today.
Sat., July 25: Marched from Warrenton to Warrenton Junction a distance of 8 or 9 miles. Very hot. After night a powerful rainstorm.

Sun., July 26: Laid in camp today. Wrote No. 23. Received No. 7 & 2 papers.

Mon., July 27: Laid in camp today.

Tue., July 28: Laid in camp today. Rained at night.


Thur., July 30: Laid in camp.

Fri., July 31: Laid in camp.

Sat., Aug. 1: Marched from Warrenton Junction to near Beverly Ford on the Rappahannock River. I was left on picket. Went below Rappahannock Station. Laid on the reserve. Last night til sunrise.

Sun., Aug. 2: We moved down the river a distance of 1½ miles. Joined pickets with the 12th Corps. Very hot today.

Mon., Aug. 3: Remaining on picket. Various reports concerning the rebels. Reported advancing on us but I think it false. Wrote No. 25.

Tue., Aug. 4: Remaining on picket. Some cannonading in the direction of Culpeper. Our men drove them to Culpeper—so reported this evening. Heavy thundershowers passed southward.

Wed., Aug. 5: Remaining on picket. Received No. 9 and 1 from R. Sexton.

Thur., Aug. 6: Remaining on picket. (This entry is accompanied by a small hand-drawn map showing the Rappahannock River, a pontoon bridge, the O & A Railroad, and "our picket post".)

Fri., Aug. 7: Relieved off of picket. Heavy thundershower tonight.

Sat., Aug. 8: Drew our pay today. I started to my wife $9.50. PM ordered to recross the river but our relief got lost so we laid in the breastworks til sunrise. Shaving today 55.

Sun., Aug. 9: Moved across the river and camped. Very hot. PM. Received No. 10 also a handkerchief 1 from father.

Mon., Aug. 10: Wrote No. 26. Laying in camp. (This entry is accompanied by another hand-drawn map showing the O & A RR, 2 sets of breastworks, a fort the river & camp positions with notation "US fortifications on the Rappahannock River near the Rap. Station".)

Tue., Aug. 11: I was detailed for to guard the breastworks but by misunderstanding was ordered to work upon them. Then at noon was sent to camp to get our Army and 3 days' ration. Returned to the breastwork pitched tents. Heavy thundershower tonight. Received No. 11.

Thur., Aug. 13: Wrote No 27 At daylight heavy thundershower Nothing doing today

Fri., Aug. 14: PM Heavy thundershower passed southward

Sat., Aug. 15: PM Relieved off of picket Returned to camp I was detailed to go on picket at 6 AM tomorrow Shaving 25 cts

Sun., Aug. 16: Went on picket on the reserve post Heavy thundershowers passing southward and north I received a 11th

Mon., Aug. 17: Rec No 12 On picket today Shav 25 cts

Tue., Aug. 18: AM relieved off of picket

Wed., Aug. 19: Sunset we was detailed to reinforce the pickets across the river Staid over an hour or so then returned to camp and another detail was sent out in our place 18 a Co

Thur., Aug. 20: AM 2nd detail returned to camp PM I received a letter from V Broughton 28 Cornhill Boston Mass Tract Society in answer to one inquiry 3 little tracts within W No 28

Fri., Aug. 21: Detailed for picket Crossed the river On picket at the cut line of breastworks PM I received a package from Mr V Broughton 28 Cornhill Boston Mass Tract Society

Sat., Aug. 22: Remaining on picket Sent one package home Sent on for more PM Went to camp Received 1 paper 3 letters let No 10 to 13 Lecture tonight by Wm Hart of 24 Mich Vols

Sun., Aug. 23: AM Remaining on picket Preaching by one private of 24 Mich or rather recitation

Mon., Aug. 24: AM Relieved off of picket Drew a blouse Sha 15

Tue., Aug. 25: Laid in camp

Wed., Aug. 26: Loaned McCowen H Smith a blouse Detailed to help out at the Division Hospital Worked hard and til late Returned to camp at dark and received a L from PS

Thur., Aug. 27: Putting up hospital and policing ditching etc Some difficulty with the Dr on account of some of the tools being missing

Fri., Aug. 28: Working at the hospital diging sinks putting up shades etc

Sat., Aug. 29: AM Sprinkling rain PM I received a package of tracts books etc from V Broughton Tract Society Received No 16 wrote No 29 Sha5

Sun., Aug. 30: Detailed to go on garrison duty across the river Received 7

Mon., Aug. 31: Building breastworks today Wrote home Mailed a package Hart
Tue., Sept. 1: I was detailed to work on the breastworks. We built a good line of works. Officers fearful of an attack. I fear it not. Weather midling cool.


Fri., Sept. 4: Friday Sept 4.

Sat., Sept. 5: Rec No 15 with a wisp of IH (probably daughter Isabella). Hair. Detailed for garrison duty.

Sun., Sept. 6: Remaining on duty.

Mon., Sept. 7: Remaining on garrison duty. Received 2 letters from brother & wife.

Tue., Sept. 8: Wrote No 31. Relieved of garrison today. PM Rec one.

Wed., Sept. 9: No entry.

Thur., Sept. 10: Sha 10 (along with some other figures—possibly figuring back pay).

Fri., Sept. 11: Detailed for picket but changed with BG Boyce. Got on garrison.

Sat., Sept. 12: On garrd today garrison. PM Rained some. Received 3p No 15 16. Reported that the rebels have left. Reconnaissance taking place.

Sun., Sept. 13: Wrote No 32. The cavalry and some infantry followed the rebels. Some cannonading. Preparatory shots. I think. Reported that 15 to 21 Hundred gave themselves up. Reported that they used little or no resistance when our men advanced.


Tue., Sept. 15: Laid in camp. General inspection.

Wed., Sept. 16: 6 AM orders to march. We marched toward Culpeper thence to the left to near Slaughter Mountains then camped. 11PM Detailed for Brigad camp gard. Appearance of rain toward day.

Thur., Sept. 17: Laid in camp. PM the 1st Brigade received a new Brigade flag presented by the citizens of Ind and Wis Mich.

Fri., Sept. 18: Rained hard today. Some few shots herd in front today.

Sat., Sept. 19: Moved and set camp in order. Turned very cold. Wrote No 33.


19
Mon., Sept. 21: AM Co drill PM Reg't drill Dress parade PM I was detailed to help build a signal station of the mountain out of Culpeper Night drew 8 days rations

Tue., Sept. 22: Sha 15 Sent to PH Winslow NY a prize AM Co drill PM Brig'd drill

Wed., Sept. 23: AM Co drill PM Reg't drill Dress parade Shaving 20 cts

Thur., Sept. 24: Wrote 3h Marched from near Culpeper southeast a distance of 5 or 6 miles Camped in line of battle Received 4 letters No 17 18

Fri., Sept. 25: AM Co drill PM Reg't dress parade

Sat., Sept. 26: Washing today PM I was detailed to go on picket Went near Morton Ford on the Rappahannock River Could see the rebel breastworks and rebel pickets

Sun., Sept. 27: Remaining on picket After night some firing heard among the rebels Our pickets strengthened by some cavalry Verry foggy all night

Mon., Sept. 28: Remaining on picket of the reserve post as alarm sentinel Alarms but proved to be only relieved picket firing off their guns Received a package of tracts from the tract society

Tue., Sept. 29: Sha 20 Moved camp a short distance back off the picket line Rec No 19 Dusk meeting by our chaplain Some papers and testaments distributed Wrote No 35

Wed., Sept. 30: AM Co drill PM Reg't drill

Thur., Oct. 1: AM Co drill Skirmish drill PM Regimental drill and dress parade Appearance of rain Sha up to 1 $1.20 + Sha 20

Fri., Oct. 2: Rained hard today at intervals all day

Sat., Oct. 3: Sha 35 Wrote No 36

Sun., Oct. 4: Inspection of Army today Preaching today by Chap He exhaused by cause of sinking spell caused by dyspeps

Mon., Oct. 5: Great excitement about reenlisting To go in as veteran Vols The half of the Reg't I think reenlisted I cannot tell yet as there has been no official report yet

Tue., Oct. 6: Detailed for camp today Little excitement prevails about the veteran question Enlisting going on rapidly Received 2 L No 20

Wed., Oct. 7: Relieved off of guard Our Reg't went out on grand reserve picket Wrote No 37

Thur., Oct. 8: Pickets firing some today Heavy rain last night Sha up to 6th 1.95 + Sha 35
Fri., Oct. 9: Laying on grand reserve picket. At 12 PM drew 8 days rations. Preparations to march.

The movements of October 10 to 22 are known as The Bristoe Campaign.

Sat., Oct. 10: Made as though they were going to cross the Rapidan. Reconnoitered all day. After night moved back to near Pony Mountain. Stoped. Orders to march at 3 oclock AM. Orders countermanded.

Sun., Oct. 11: I was detailed for picket. Gen Buford crossed the Rapidan yesterday. This morning he began the attack. The rebels crossed the river at Raccoon Ford. Came near cutting our cavalry off then a brisk fight ensued lasting til dusk. Our forces fell back to cross the Rappahannock. 1st Corp crossed at Kelley Ford.

Mon., Oct. 12: The picket detail marched in the rear. Then at dark was thrown forward to picket on the Bealton Station. Got on the rcng road. About faced. Marched back a short distance then moved our post on to the proper road. 1 PM. We was ordered to camp.

Tue., Oct. 13: Marched from Kelleys Ford. Started 2 AM. Marched to Warren Junction. Got breakfast. Laid til 3 PM. Then marched to Bristow Station. Distance today 20 miles or nearly so. Roads crowded with wagons. artillery-troops. We camped at 9 PM.

Wed., Oct. 14: Marched at daybreak on to Centerville. Arrived at about 1 PM. Heavy firing toward Catletts Station. Continued firing til after night. Appeared from the reports of the cannon our men drove the rebels. It is reported that the rebels is moving in two columns. Wrote No 38.

Thur., Oct. 15: Laid in camp until near sunset then moved and took positions behind the breastworks. The rebels came up and opened out upon our left flank. Cannonaded til after dark. Both parties seems to hold their positions.

Fri., Oct. 16: Laid in camp. Rained hard today. PM. Building breastworks. planted artillery etc. I am very unwell today.

Sat., Oct. 17: Moved camp today up to the breastworks.

Sun., Oct. 18: Prepared to attack at daylight but did not. I being very unwell I was sent to the Division hospital.

Mon., Oct. 19: Marched from Centerville to Haymarket. Rained hard all day. PM. Some skirmishing in front. Reported that the rebels took some of our cavalry and cavalry trains. Hospital Department moved a little to the rear.

Tue., Oct. 20: Moved through Thoroughfare Gap. The rebels left.


Sat., Oct. 21: Marched from Thoroughfare Gap to Bristows Station O & A RR. Rained all day. Roads very sloppy. Distance 12 miles. Camped south of the Station about 1 mile.

Sun., Oct. 25: Laid in camp. I was detailed for camp guard.

Mon., Oct. 26: Rec'd No. 23. At 8 PM got orders to pack up and be ready to march at a moment's notice. Waited till late then laid down on our own responsibility. Whole amt 16/5/2h0. Sha 35.

Tue., Oct. 27: PM Co drill skirmish drill.


Fri., Oct. 30: Moved camp a short distance today. Arrangements made to send one Officer from each Co to recruit the Regt. Appearance of rain.


Sun., Nov. 1: Detailed for guard today around camp. PM very cool.

Mon., Nov. 2: Relieved off of guard. Very cool night. Wrote No. 41.


Wed., Nov. 4: PM Reg't drill. Dress parade etc.

Thur., Nov. 5: Wrote a letter. 2 PM. Marched from Bristow to near Catletts Station. Roads very rough. After night the rebels half tore up the railroad. Bent all the railing and ties and filled it up with brush and dirt.

Fri., Nov. 6: Rec No. 25. Laid near Catletts Station today.

Sat., Nov. 7: Marched at daylight from Catletts to Morrisville or near. Heavy firing in front. I was detailed front picket. Firing continued until nightfall.

Sun., Nov. 8: Rec 2. Marched from near Morrisville to Brandy Station crossing the Rappahannock at Kelley's Ford thence up the river. Skirmishing in front.

Mon., Nov. 9: Marched from Brandy Station to near Bealton Station crossing the river at Rappahannock Station. Started at 11 PM. Very cold tonight. Wrote No. 42.

Tue., Nov. 10: Moved camp today. Then our Regt was sent to near Bealton Station and deployed as guards along the railroad. Very cool.

Wed., Nov. 11: AM. Laid in camp. PM Co E F & G thrown out on picket. Did not get posted till about 9 PM by negligence of the General commanding.

Fri., Nov. 13: PM Relieved off of picket Went back to the reserve
Sat., Nov. 14: Went on picket At night we had a hard rain heavy thunder and lightning Got surrounded by water Had to pull up our tent and wait out to get on high ground Warm tonight Shh h0
Sun., Nov. 15: Remaining on picket Cleared up about 9 AM Wrote No h3
Mon., Nov. 16: PM Relieved Went back on the reserve I changed pants pockets 5 pr for 75
Tue., Nov. 17: I went on picket again Regt went into regular camp Drew our pay We took to men I suppose was trying to run out Took by AG Batey
Wed., Nov. 18: AM Relieved off of picket Retired to the grand reserve picket Wrote a letter enclosing $21.00
Thur., Nov. 19: Sent home by mail $21.00 Relieved off of picket Returned to camp Nov 19 1st Shh after pay day .25
Fri., Nov. 20: Preparing to build winter quarters Shh 5
Sat., Nov. 21: Rained all day
Sun., Nov. 22: Wrote No h4 Laid in camp Rec No 26
Mon., Nov. 23: Detailed for picket
Tue., Nov. 24: 3 o'clock AM pickets called in to march Rained and the orders countermanded We was sent back on picket Turned cool Shh h5
Wed., Nov. 25: Remained on picket

Movements of November 26 thru December 2 Known as the Mine Run Campaign.

Thur., Nov. 26: Called in at 4 AM Marched from Dealton to near Racoon Ford on the Rapidan River Very cool Camped to march at 3 AM
Fri., Nov. 27: Crossed the Rapidan at Mitchells Ford Marched in the direction of Fredericksburgh The rebels took some of the 5 Corps wagons At dusk we came back near the center Some skirmishing today
Sat., Nov. 28: Moved on at 3 AM on the Pike leading to Orange Court House Found the rebels strongly posted on the heights of the Some skirmishing with some artillery firing Rained some-cool
Sun., Nov. 29: Skirmishing all along the lines today Preparing for an artillery duel both parties
Mon., Nov. 30: 2 o'clock PM the left wing of our Regt was detailed to support the sharpshooters We charged up a hill to the summit or near the enemy We was compelled to fall back in the bottom Casualties 20 or 30 killed wounded and missing

23
Tue., Dec. 1: 4 PM Started to march. Went eastward thence north, thence northwest to the Rapidan River. Camped for the night on the south bank along the plank road. But little skirmishing today.


Thur., Dec. 3: Sha 50. Marched toward Kelleys Ford on the Rappahannock. Camped on Mountain Run. I was detailed for picket.

Fri., Dec. 4: Wrote No 45. Moved the picket line down the creek a short distance. The Brigade moved to near Kelleys Ford today.

Sat., Dec. 5: Rec No 29. Remaining on picket. Changed the line again today. I went to camp for grub etc. Night very cold.

Sun., Dec. 6: Remaining on picket. Very cold today.


Tue., Dec. 8: Relieved off of picket. Returned to camp. I was arrested by Capt. John A. Mook for writing an order to the Brigade Commissary for grub.


Thur., Dec. 10: Working on the garden house today.

Fri., Dec. 11: I was put on police today and released. Rained some.


Sun., Dec. 13: W No 47. Received 1 pr. boots 1 shirt 2 pr. sox from home express. Rec No 29.


Tue., Dec. 15: Regtl inspection of arm. Sha 30-35.

Wed., Dec. 16: Laid in camp today.

Thur., Dec. 17: Received letter containing the news of the birth of a second daughter by my wife.


Sat., Dec. 19: I was detailed to help build stables today for our Regtl trains. Turned very cool. Disagreeable underfoot.

Sun., Dec. 20: Wrote to my parents.

Mon., Dec. 21: I was detailed on picket.
Tue., Dec. 22: On picket along the Rappahannock River
Wed., Dec. 23: Relieved off of picket Orders to get ready to march
Thur., Dec. 24: Marched at 6:30 AM from Kelleys Ford to Culpeper a short distance south Camped in order Verry cold today
Fri., Dec. 25: Christmas I was on yard today
Sat., Dec. 26: Relieved off of yard
Sun., Dec. 27: I was detailed for picket PM Rained all night verry disagreeable today
Mon., Dec. 28: Wrote No 49 On picket Verry disagreeable rainy today
Tue., Dec. 29: Relieved off of picket Went to building winter quarters
Wed., Dec. 30: Building quarters today
Thur., Dec. 31: Mastered for pay today Rained all day Being now the close of the year I will now close my memoranda without any remarks Hoping to get home to write out a full account of these proceedings and explain some things-while others I will not Close of the year 1863

James M Hart

ADDITIONAL NOTES

In the memoranda section of the diary are a number of personal records kept during 1863.

These records include a listing of all clothing and accoutrements issued to him along with the cost of each item.

Also included is a complete record of the pay received during 1863 along with an accounting of all money sent home.

Completing the record is a listing of all loans of money and miscellaneous items made during the year and the date the item was paid for.

It is interesting to note that he sent home a total of $91.50 in 1863 and paid $29.00 in clothing bills. Since the total pay received in that year was just $156.00 it indicates just how frugal and resourceful he was.

Jerry M. Easley