Monday, Feb. 1st 1847.

Papers say Genl. Butler has informed the Rebels that if they do not conform with him, whatever change question all flags of truce will be stopped. Major Turner, Commandant of Prisoners issued an order that "no Federal prisoners shall send to the so-called United States, but one letter of only six lines on each week." Monday, Who read the so-called cowherd's letter. I had two one from Mr. B., and my mother, the letter informing me of the marriage of Miss Lizzy of R., a fact which I would have disapproved of but today fell nearly regarding the year. But I must not dwell here many changes one single year has brought besides the roll call twice, by day light and at 3 P.M. and the boys call out wherever they see a Rob. "roll call roll call. Weather sultry, warm and a slight mist falling."
Tuesday Feb. 21st 1664

Roll call began the day and had to be repeated one or twice before perfected. While the interval was filled up with copies of "to called" &c., Bukel cups was recapitulated about thirty miles from the city so that it seem almost folly to try and get away. The Lakes (Bogains) had a communication concerning Libby in which was portrayed the condition of its inhabitants being crowded in by the serre and none ever leaving, and said that all who pass its portals never return. Sad thought! Almost might the strange sentence be written above the door: "All who enter here leave hope behind." The day cool, by indication of pretty weather. That the good and mess of meat—neve—matter an growing ten...
Wednesday Jan. 8th 1864.

Weather colder and more disagreeably lead to pass through the regular stuff, driving well. After getting to be quite a bore, Ralhin playing out, getting nothing but cornbread, which by dint of mixing with tea makes me, and bun

must forms our coffee. Liber since plenty of boys remain below, but not to be rescued as the Rebs affirm their men isn't done yet the boys sent to them.

Three officers (Naval) came in and they really thought they had got into action in the way of a. cry of "fresh fish" "give him air" look out for your pockets that grabbed their ears.

Their with 150 men were captured off the Smithfield "Briggs" which was burnt by the Rebs at Smithfield
Thursday, January 17th 1864

News from the North Bay Pres. Lincoln has made another draft for five hundred thousand and will these obtained by last draft. Am glad to see this and hope that the quotas may be filled without drafting. The Confed. Congress, passed a resolution to request the U.S. Government to enter into treaties of peace with them. They treat highly of the patriotism of their troops as calling for the war, while in fact they passed a bill to hold them against all will as to matters for the war. Strange patriotism.

Weather colder, the wind being high and disagreeably cold. Great rumor of exchange. The 11th Congres having gone into secret session concerning the exchange and martial law of a flag of truce being odd.
Thursday Feb. 5th 1864
Begun calling roll by name at dayligt, and kept it up till noon, before the most of us had any breakfast. Had some "fresh fish" from "Rubble" Feb. 8, who gave a dark account of the prospects of that post. Since Genl. Peckett has attacked it 16 thousand now, it having about 3 thousand, and it will in all likelihood be overcome before it can be reinforced.

Exchange news in ascendency. Judge Oldt having been at City Point since Monday, and every little rumor is magnified in huge dimension. The day cold and disagreeable.

Had a return of refuse burnips today.
Saturday, Feb. 6th, 1864.

Had a day roll call lotteries. Capt. Johnson lost is said to be Cape last Monday and was issued lots 10th Mass. Infantry and Capt. Reed & Thirty Infantry were drawn by lot to be burnt in lots and sent to Salisbury to be burnt. Hard labor during the war in retaliation forCapt. Officers caught recruiting within the Union lines in Kentucky and were punished with ball and chain. They left for Salisbury. Retaliation is assuming a dark phase, and Capt. Officers are going to kid-in cells for like treatment of Morgan men. Exchange question grave. Judge Ould has come back and said there is no hope.
Sunday Feb. 14th 1864.

Excitement was the order of the day, as rumors of various characters ran riot through the prison of our forces advancing into the Peninsula. Soon the home guards drugged past the Libby who were housed by the Yankees. Two mountain huts were drawn by mules with two attendants filed by alarum and the shouts of "Jackson Battery." "Look out for old Beall" he said we are answer'd by one making the form of a novice with a poke. The rebels are excited and some great consternation has fallen upon them, as the alarm bell has been ringing frequently.

The committee from Congress examined the prison, paced the throng, did not hear the gas-lights, they had of the inmates, on the opinion they found of our treatment. The day was cold but fair and dry and splendid weather for active military movements.
Monday, Feb. 8th, 1864

The fright of yesterday seems by the papers to be well founded, as two columns by way of Rapid Ann. and Peninsula are making for Richmond. Our Cavalry is said to have tried to pass the Chickahominy River but did not succeed. Activity prevails all through the army and it seems the campaign is open. News of a plot to liberate a good number of prisoners. Rumor of a committee sent to Richmond to meet a similar committee from North to buy a committee of Exchange. A large boat came up on Sat. but I suppose it shall receive the fate of the former to lie in the salt marsh and rot. Some them deliver them to the owners, through false for-
Tuesday Feb. 9th 1864

The force on the Peninsula have
out the only a reconnaissance
of a few cavalry companies
and are reported to have fallen
back. Several Officers got their
Bonnes but in were mutilated
and that there is great dissenting.
and although report that the Bonnes are quiet
to be delivered yet there is little
certainty in the matter.

The Mexican affair turned
out but slight the capture
of a few men. One officer
came in last evening from
Army of Potomac. He related
something about gold being won but;
news of Col. Rossen (Rob.) capturing a
large wagon-train is of
Worth two letters yesterday one
for Ed. Temple one for
Mother. The day was very
cold but the weather day.

Near began the nice work
again and such sore are only beginning to be hard to
Wednesday, Feb. 10th /64.

Was awakened at dead of night by men pulling over me and making a terrible noise all through the night. Formed this morning, it was a stampede of the men who were trying to escape and were frightened. But to our satisfaction roll call proclaimed 199 officers absent, who had escaped by cutting or digging a hole under the wall into a yard near by a distance of twenty feet. Eleven Colonels, seven Majors, Col. Strait being gone with a large party. The Reb were surprised and hunted around till they found the hole. The red light behind had to pass the flag in roll calls. Howard essayed several acts of force in dead, and the suggestion that they try against some one else. I was sorry that I was ignorant of the occasion as Santa have cast my lot among the gagging. But the hole was kept full till dark and many of the brigades failed to get there.
Thursday Feb 11th 1864

At six o'clock P.M. only 22 officers were recaptured, one being a major. This was said to be dead; refusing to surrender, by names of Freeman and Byrkh
ford, 15th U.S. Infantry. Rumors say Straight is wounded and Arnold and will go away and run than half as our forces avanzed the Peninsula as far as Bottoms Bridge.

Several loyal officers off the Underground rail near at the Kem, come in also a payman
ner. A few infantry officers

Col. G. Bryan got his box

There seems to be the air of the Rebs is to fancy not

King. Weather Cold. Health
Friday, February 12th, 1864

They report 32 of the officers escaped to be extremly. Some say Gen. Stonewall Jackson killed. Some say Gen. Melo killed. The number having gone down the James in a boat were standing. Still the thing is very suspect and acknowledged by the Rebels to be fairly done.


The loss of lives still goes on with the same recklessness.
Saturday Feb. 13th 1864

The Officers recaptures were sent up from the Collo today to give room for others. They tell the best part of the camp. For of their few men, having got nearly to one line. Some by the last picket, while others had to give up being stirring and working. Some were hunted down by "Blood Hounds," an old method for the Chivalry to pursue the fugitives. The mail came having nine letters from two from Sister Kitty, one from Br. Ins. and Frank, one from Serg't Burns, and one from Capt. Berry. The Commanding at Fort Knox, Monroe, informed me that he could not send me the supplies sent for as the Confederate authorities would not receive them. The killing of St. Freeman and Clifford by the Pickets turned out faulty.

Health very good. Weather pleasant.
Sunday, February 14, 1864

Col. Rose 7th Pa. Vol. was recaptured, alas a capture. Rose of Straight command, being 44 in all. The day was very quiet. The men having grown more quiet than formerly and all seem to prefer solitude, and getting a book you will see many others go to some lonely corner and there spend the weary hours. Write three letters to Sister Kate, Bro. Frank, and Sept. Burns of my company, getting there to hand two of them in, who had none of their own. Now I long to be free. But the uncertainty of getting out my way soon makes the contemplation end. But the strong love of country sustains me, as I am satisfied to do anything or be anything, for my country’s good. I have a severe cold, the day tolerably pleasant, goes on with the same precipitation.
Monday Feb. 15th 1864

The wind is cold, and a mass of snow again brings to mind the fact that winter has not yet passed by. Nothing very strange, Rubblingmas has slapped all Blockade running, trying to show their people upon their own resources, and thus make them ingenuines that they may be independent. Their books seem to be moving down to the Peninsula taking early measures perhaps to prevent surprise by our forces. As his thought that Col. Straight will attempt something in this line. Rumors of going to be put on half rations, by way of retaliation. I guess his all rumor. Retaliation is talked of much, but although sweet at first, grown bitter soon and affects the retaliating more. The recaptured officers in winter 1852, being less than half—
Tuesday February 16th, 1864.

The weather getting very cold, so that comfort is out of the question, and suffering, at least, in the Island unalterable. Besides the small fires, the office kept warm by quick-stirring around the dining-room, none being by enough winded to make his mark.

News of General Screamermon being captured on a Boat on the Ohio, of General Rosea (Robb) capturing a large wagon train in Western Virginia. Reb. Congress will soon close, and the three great Bills, Armory, Tax, and Conscription, on the great theme, and being discussed in decent secrecy and treating a good deal of them while their soldiers are foolish enough to risk their lives, been conscripted for the war.
Wednesday Feb. 17th 1861

Last night the wind blew fine and cold and many of our boys suffered accordingly in the bullpen. Our rations instead of getting smaller as anticipated are getting larger, with a little cod in bags and a few hams. This said 50 officers have got off of the 709 who escaped, being more than half, but the hampers think they have gained by sett Gill Morgan for Col. Strahl.

So all right. Both are satisfied.

The day is still cold, and tonight will be the same.

The issue of food goes on as usual; the officers getting the “perishables.”

Exchange has gone down low and is hardly ever mentioning all owing but is filed that the period is far distant.
Thursday February 18th 1864

Today very cold within a few degrees of forty, with much snow. The coldest weather this winter. Maj. Gen. S. D. Canby with his two little children and Col. A. C. Barber from the 8th Corps, states that part of our Reserve 8th Corps at Geal Sherman is moving on Mobile, and that is being followed by the Rebel. Congress closes its first term today, to renew its next. Maj. Gen. James T. Grant of the Provisions for the Provisioners. Hope that some satisfaction may be had respecting the matter of issuing. Gold is still on the increase in the North, getting at 167$ per kilo, which is rather for some time. Rebels are marching away daily, God save men & America, Gordon.
Friday February 19th 1864.

The weather still very cold, the river being nearly bricked. Papers state that it was the intention of Genl. Butler to try and capture Raskold and liberate the prisoners, thus obviating the exchange. Grant is absent—moving and they indicate something grand. The issue of the Brevet continues in the old style.

Spent the time in reading Virgil, playing, and cooking and eating, get a whole loaf of bread, had a dinner of potatoes, roast and hare. Had a dreadful cold and sore throat. A telegraph announces the arrival of quite a number of our officers who escaped, into our lines. Glad to know that so many have got away. But sorry.

Read a book if time led.
Saturday, February 20th 1864
Cold weather still continues and many thank God at night. The Cold one this winter, I beleive was intended. Spencer Deaton was
sumbeted to Confederate being convienced as a spy, and was
caught recruiting in Tennessee which the Rebels aflirm to be their
territory. This is following the example that Barnard gave
them last summer, and our government cannot complain. Civil
War! Many times I find myself
brooding over its sorrow, and how
to vindicate. Could not Anderson be maintained without so much
doubt and fear? Does the benefit make
by the subduing of the rebellion
offset all the suffering? The
answer comes back. At the not to
the present generation future generation
shall reap the seed.
Sunday, February 21st 1864.

Today was not so cold, and the moderate breezes make our lonely watch, filled to overflowing, less miserable. As usual on the Sab, both the Citizens gathered in the Town at a respectful distance, crying us as Jos. Jenkins as harmless beasts caged. This is hard to endure, but the language of Shakespeare comes to mind: 

"But all these woes shall serve for sweet examples in time to come. Note that coming day may not be far distant. Work a letter to Bro. Jim of the allowed six lines. Was per-
delayed by the owner of the ex-
chance of 15,000 privates, knowing it to be false but seeming to
remind us of our situation.
Monday February 22nd 1864.

Washington's Birthday finds us safely encased in libby with bolted doors and barred windows, but little display was made at the no doubt many of our hearts dilated at the name, and hoped that soon the success that followed his arms may follow ours. But singhers the Rebs will affirm that they are fighting for freedom and Robt. E. Lee in second Father of his Country. Although they may be as deeply in error yet they lack the one great principle.

Nothing new. Day pleasant.

Rumor of Tray of Truce, let it come. Let it come.
Tuesday Feb. 23rd 1864.

Last night a large coffee ware house caught fire and burned down. The steam boiler inside exploding with terrific noise and being near, “Libby” shook the building. The issue of boys emotion began today causing great delight and satisfaction to me. The weather is growing delightful again. The balmy air, and warm Seksim fill the soul with delight. There shall hasten the movements of the Army, while slaughter shall be renewed and a shedding of blood greater than which there never has been. Feel happy and thank my God for life and a most cordial love of device.
Wednesday February 24th 1864
Continues very pleasant. All excitement in receiving boxes as the Hall below exhibits commissary room in our large Northern cities. The Rebel reports Sherman to be falling back to Vicksburg. I don't know his object. The mostly escaped officers who ran not been recaptured have got to our lines and are safe. Cornbread is again growing plenty and soon will be a burthen and go out of the windows to the animals that linger around. On to the little boys and girls of the city who often gathered around for the purpose of getting some to eat. Still spending my leisure moments on "Virgin Apathy."
Thursday February 25th 1869

Had a mail today. Got two letters from Bro. John, the last of the first. Nothing strange at home. A flag of Truce boat up again with Boxes of eatables, to the amount of 10 tons. Got northern news from the papers in the box as delivered, being a relish as reading. Reb news all the time grows worse as well as tricking, and like the continual dripping of water so continually reaching them. Had a call last night at 11 o'clock the guards reading newspaper falsely. But what a time!
Friday February 24th 1864

The papers intimate that Genl. [illegible] Capt. Sawyer and others are to be exchanged. Got news from the North. All in good heart—expecting soon to gall the Rebels. Got two letters, one from Motten, one from Sixth Frankie. Motten writes Lizzie J.

L. is not married, the notice being a rose, which new chunk met upon with as much surprise as the first. The Rebels fired the star's that leads to the first story, so that they can take them down at night showing plainly that they are afraid of us. Spent the evening with Freeman Gay during a pleasant time.

The day was pleasant and health good, and fell by well.

Studied the development of Greek. How opportune it was.
Saturday Feb. 27th 1644

We called all down about the kitchen before many had breakfast in order to have a search made for arms, and weapons of the faction. What a mass! Nearly a thousand men were there. We had to stand or sit as possible for many hours. I crouched down in a corner and my mind was away to him and wondering what my friend would think of them and saw me. The Rake madesearch taking away file, knives, saws, hatches used for making bone work and splitting wood, but found no arms I heard of. A great crowd of people came out, and I thought they are issued to be done in such a manner as to cause much dissatisfaction, being undelivered in search after money, and half the valuable fenced cattle by the guards or the authorities themselves. Each day they grew more...
Sunday Feb. 28th / 64.

Very pleasant day, getting warm and delightful. Capt. Barton is said to be exchanged but may be as others only a rumor. Maj. Wright of Va. is held as hostage for a Reb Major, who they seem to think is held in close confinement. Went to two letters one to Mother and one to L. of Lake, being done this the 16th of last letter. Frequent rumors of the Army advancing of hard fighting and a thousand enlist of exchange, being all over. Had a Miss Richardson speaking on the subject of Emancipation in the Senate Hall Washington. To uncover ed. and intelligent tone.
Monday Feb. 29th 1864.

Slow, nasty, rain fell today.

But few boxes were delivered.

But what- was- wasn't filled

with Harper's Illustrated

Magazine, making a litter

any scant, and was eagerly

devoured by all.

A petition is said to have

been sent to Genl. Winder

concerning the delivery and

flogging of our boys, and

twelve reported that there is

to be a change in the mode

operandi." Was surprised

at the basket of letters that

was handed in, being fully

unaware of how each

officer. Whereas the others

are due to each. Finished

reading myself. Books, journal,