Sunday Nov. 14th 1866

The day passed as usual with all the usual of our prisoner's wallace. Great the day in reading Bayard's Life of Pest and tracts sent by the Christian Temperance. The blankets were distributed to those having none. I got me also the rest of the boys being with one meal for which we were a thousand times thankful to friends at home who gave them and the government who sent them. Report of most of our men going to be sent away from Richmond to the cold where they may freeze, but this would only please them as they would do anything to compel our government to exchange prisoners. The day was pleasant. Cool in the morning and a nice comfortable in the afternoon. As I sat by the window and looked out when the waters of the James River and saw the sun glistening on majesty as I have seen it a thousand times I thought of home, and strongest feelings arose, and the funeral of Prayer from the other room broke the silence.
Monday Nov 26th 76

The news of receiving brightened by the information that the Authorities were going to give them some money in exchange for the "greenbacks" taken from them when they came in, which they began to fear they were going to lose. They got seven Confederate dollars for one greenback and fifty dollars each month is to be the monthly amount. In consequence we had some good eats, but a few dollars don't go far, buying three dollars for a small out of butter, one dollar for six apples, or twenty crackers, or four shells, or five envelopes. Write two letters, one to Mr. Lightfoot, and one to Mr. Brunson and would have written more, but had no paper. The headquarters were disturbed. I'm getting one. The officers then certified to what they got and how much they were willing to pay the Bounties Commission when getting excor, which would amount I should think to $50.00. The weather is delightful. But the night are cold and a heavy frost marked the boards outside this morning.

Yours truly good health.
Tuesday, Nov. 3rd 1864.

The rebels report this morning heavy fighting at Chickamauga and that one force are driving the Rebels. Others are look with interest to that place and should write Grant only success in Whisky killing the Rebels all will be over. Exchange is again agitated, and the rebels say our Authorities have broken the "Cartel" and will not exchange any men prisoners, and that in retaliation they ought to feed at the least possible allowance that would sustain life, and henceforth take no more prisoners. Nearly 200 boys came up and a flag of truce boat, for the officers making remarks bulky with a good lot of clothing, edibles, and other matters.

The weather is cool, and it looks as though the winter would break again and enjoy a ramble among the desolate looking streets of Richmond, but this I cannot, and I must be content.

I am really thankful for my present position, when I reflect what I might be, and how many dangers I have gone through.
Wednesday Nov 6th 1866.
Still good news from General Grant and Gen. Hooker with the 11th and 13th Army Corps are doing wonders in their new field of labor. Every thing seems to indicate a forward movement of our lines which is devoured with joy by most of us. I felt very lonely all day and with a melancholy turn of mind not usually my fate. Had but slight morsel of bread, and having eaten my corn, with unusual relish I sat by my window and followed my mind's vagrant thoughts. But soon the concert began in the lower room and I went there to break the spell which it did wonderfully having excellent music, good jokes and plenty of mirth, so that all thought of sadness took wings and gave place to better feelings. Now I would love to be with the Company for they are left now without any officer to see to their wants.
Thursday, Nov 15 1763

Remote from the truth, good, that echoed gained advantages, that must if possible be overcome. But the siege of Charleston hangs on, and Gen. Gist moves faxes away, by the hundred of shot at her day. How we hope that that "nest-of-Rebellion" may fall along to our forces? Our troops exchange by special orders and his Esculapian brethren feel badly that they are left behind. Also Dr. Reece took his leave of Libby having gotten a beard forever, not only Libby, but this vile world of sin. We died in the evening. Both of letters came but nine yet for me. Happy yet to fresh on as they say say "fresh fish." Had game of chess with Lt. McKay and some thought a good deal and got rid of the melancholy

mood that had brood over me for many hours. Still well.
Friday, November 6th /68

Having bought a few sheets of paper and envelopes I wrote to sisters Kate, Jennie, & Mattie, also to Laura, Bill and Ady's Bryan, but having to leave the letter Open for the bearer of better tidings and our Government letters save most of their pleasure, having to be confined to strictly to generalities, and what all may know, every day seems to add some new insult to our innocents, and increases my hatred to the French. Bill杜兰 and reports our men standing and the mean low-downt of prices don't allow them to go near the river to wash for fear of them escaping. See that they are guarded by several pieces of artillery. I believe God the day of retribution is near at hand. To hear the shriek of their high estimation of humanity and their brat men who are helpless in such a manner is worse than barbarous. I hope our authorities will do all they can do in every way as soon as practical.
Saturday 7th Jan

A very heavy frost this morning and a cold day with high winds made us rather uncomfortable. Papers say Col. Irwin has been appointed Asst. Com. of Exchange of Prisoners, and as he has been here not long since, many think he will do something to get us out. A large quantity of boxes came again, also letters, but none for me. The day being so cold, the courts failed to get the fire to burn and so we had no dinner which was lamentable enough to us.

Had an exhibition in the evening, got up by the East end of the Prison, consisting for the most part of comic performances being tolerably good. Has a good thing Band, extrammoniated by the officers buying the instruments of the Rebs. News from the front scarce, and the armies seem quiet. But Kilpatrick is said to be in Petersburg. I could be one in Richmond.
Yesterday was a busy one, but—by looking around you would not judge it to be the Sabbath. You see men engaged in their daily amusements, and some go so far as spending the day in shuffling their cards for gain. This is bad, and honesty cannot follow such a course. I wrote two letters to Bros. John & Asbury, read some loud a sermon in the evening. An officer came in just at dark and tells the good news of the capture of Hoke’s and Clay’s Brigades at Kellie’s Ford, having been cut off. So we see that. The idea of it’s surrender won’t do, but—they are always to save life by making the white flag. All things indicate a forward movement of General Meade, unless President Lincoln tells him “go in” and if you succeed the glory is yours, but if you fail I’ll take the responsibility.

Sunday Nov. 8th 1868
Monday 9th November

Oh how the Rebels surprised us this morning, having to come down to the capture of two Brigades and the begin to cover their losses by reporting our losses as killed as dreadful, the Authorities at Libby also felt sick and tried to add some comfort by misusing us, and Old Land, how we foreord was allowed to remain destitute during Roll Call had a chance this morning but he only said, "Every day has his day." The News from Tennessee is good, as Grant has obtained successes that renders him secure, and will compel Bagg to pull back, as they can only must we stay here very long in the mud. Illness all day and could not relish what little corn bread we got, but I hate the idea of going to the Hospital, although they say they get better once there. But "Time at last makes all things even," and I hope the time will soon come when we may him the scale.
Tuesday November 10th 1865

All worse today and eat nothing at all, but making a bed. I slept most of the day. At 2 o'clock came for the private cars. Bill, Bill, and Bill, and Dar was assigned privilege of going out to distribute them, since they say he violated his former laws by meddling with the Armistial department, which he denied, but says they all hailled for peace and they were standing. A few news from the North, as all the States have given it, the election for the Union, New York gave a majority of 14,000 Republicans, when it went 20,000 last year for the Democrats. One office from the Senate came in saying Steele was coming on and was in the vicinity of Culpepper C.S. and that a hard fight is to be had. Naval was still here also gained a victory over Jackson, and our forces are said to be active down on the Peninsula.
Wednesday Nov. 11th 1868

One year has rolled away since I left the land of my heritage and began the life of a soldier. The months have since my capture and I look back upon all these scenes with interest. The anniversary of my departure from home has arrived and with anxiety I look forward to the day when I may again get free and be on my way homeward. The siege of a steady fall of the Confederacy has come when. Today is kept and nothing but corn bread and they bear to acknowledge that they can get more. Preaching by a chaplain Bishop out of the Episcopal Church of the City the exhibition was given by the 'Silly Priory Mission' which look well as they usually make some good hit at the low life. 

Ros. El was sick I arose of them gathering in their herds about southern church and middle brush since every day exhibits them the news hateful to tell.
Thursday Nov. 12th 1863

Affair in Libby are beginning to grow to a point— as today they have given us sweet potatoes instead of beef and but a few of them. Rumors of the Surgeon, since 80 or 90, going to be exchanged, which will leave a hole, but 16 or 20 officers more came in from Bruneides and 60 dead—get much smaller. Strange Place is Libby, and stranger yet is the animated farm he came on. He will hear "fish, fish, fresh fish, close at close at the fish in air, give in air," while he is surrounded by as many as can hear to leave the news, well do I remember the first coming of my friend. I expected a fight by mistake but nothing yet. One thing is certain Grant is safe at Chattanooga. I am getting to feel better but not entirely well and I doubt if any of us get along as well for the future as in the past; as the rains is left plenty, and the grog getting men miserable each day.
Friday Nov. 13th 1866

The corn bread boards have gone into
corn flat-cakes, and the two sweet-potatoes into one, so that our diet will be light to-day. Seven hundred of the
Prisoners are gone to Danville Va. to-day
and remain each day until the quarter
hours. The haka-say they are 950 off
and 12 or 1500 men of our here

Some two or three hundred boxes came
and as many officers receiving
were discharged. They had to be
guarded strongly to keep the thieves
from stealing the same. Read an account
of "Libby" having been given in the Phil.
Ing. by one of the Chaplains who was
here, and exchanged, being a graphic
and truthful description of the sepa-
rative Ribs. Today was fine, and insteal of the cold blast of wind that
made us walk the floor for exercise
we have the balmy days of June
and abhorrently it infuses chills
into all. But- like cages brings
in the shedding of shining be beat
the bars of our cage and signify
freedom. Still I am thankful that
I am alive and as well off as an
Saturday Nov 14th 65

All things have again grown quiet and Earl Meade is said to be waiting for the opportunity. The surgeons are getting very uneasy and fear their delay may grow into an entire disappointment. He said that the government is sending thousands of rations and clothing for the men so that it seems as if we may remain all winter. The mail came in and I had the good fortune to get one from Dr. Colby, being the first since I came here. It seemed a happy receipt as it was the only assurance I have that they at home knew of my whereabouts. The rain toward night began its fitful falling and thickening toward darkgray Dr. McKay and Senior thick plently to think about and place. But I decided about 9 o’clock, and all remained the same. The rain is of brief was removed today, but the hurric to see what a quality of corn bread we -a-
Sunday November 18th 1856.

Another day has gone with its usual amount of excitement and noise. Nothing today of a religious nature but praying meeting in the evening, which may speak the day in play "bohe" and other games of chance, to the design of the men moral. Had our usual white-stone bread, and new soup. Wrote a letter to Brother John in answer to his of yesterday. I am beginning to feel myself again as relief my eating, as the homely adage is "hunger is good sauce." A great many wives come and being usually bound with basons we have soon now to read, this hitching us tuck and "while away the lonely hours." But when I think of stay the work, here I get the comfort as so long a time would only seem to be a blank in my life. Oh had I some interesting books! Had I some scientific books or those on the language, and I could spend this time both profitably to myself and my government. I fear to send for them, for they be exchanged tomorrow.
Monday Nov 16th 1866

The time passes swiftly by and although it is not the most agreeable place to spend one's hours yet the are passing, and leaving no trace of anything we have done. News from Meade and Grant but everything is so contradictory that we can find out nothing. Many times the doctors made the butt of some joke by some one raising the shirt of their "Levees" or "Gowns" and after all the dead of night some one calls out "Fall in Doctors" fall in and when about 'tis they find they are not gone to the Land of Liberty but made the butt of some joke. Health, Good, and by eating the solid far from baked the Ashtrays is mostly well filled.
Tuesday Nov. 17th 76
A good lot of boxes came and Capt. Dunn thought he would not leave them but after consultation he let the owners keep them. The men are daily going to Louisville and through the Island coming into the houses vacated. Darling to come a day or so to dinner to dark when it was too hot to work and we had to go to making our own supper. Report of the Army fighting at Bardenstein and the Meade is driving the out-at-gains but little is heard. The weather is again delightful. The sun shines and only and the warm southern breezes fill very pleasant to the health of prisoner. But still getting down as and scarce. But the worst difference seems to be in the depreciation of the currency. Gold being worth 15 dollars of the Robs money which grew back to worth 8 or 10 dollars
Wednesday Nov. 18th, 1863.

The contention about exchanges seems to be growing warmer, the Rebels in changing our government with breaking the cartel, showing that they (the Rebels) are looser by the non-exchange principle. Oh how they agonize and advise their new not-to-take money businesses, nor be taken, but still they love life too well not to except the alternative to death. The haves yet very ravenous and advise the feasting of the lump stomachs in the bodies of the union prisoners made lump enough by their short rations.

But all this is only the foam of their wrath, soon they will be cooled off. Today was pretty in deed, and as quiet as pretty as they were not to break the pleasant feelings that only occasionally fall to our lot. I feel well and think I enjoy myself better than any time from the beginning.
Thursday November 19th, 1864

This was a fortunate day for me, as the mail came having three letters for me and a lot of paper, one from home, one from Mr. John, and the other from Chas. E. Hall, which was a letter of his big coal. I thought myself fortunate in all, but sorry to hear of the Drahthoria being over the family at home. Wrote two letters, one to "Aggie" of Salina and the other to Chas. E. Hall.

"Had an exhibition of the Library Minstrel" but did not attend. I think that the conductor was too clear for all I got.

Still happy all coming and having had additional salin through the days that got hopes from home. I also felt better in that account. The day was fine, warm and unshining in all his beauty.
Friday Nov. 20th 1865.
The Rebs reported the capture of a Penn'a Reg of cavalry this morning, and as all said then goes the 18th Reg, and once enough in the enemy in order Col. Bryan, St. Witas, and Lt. Col. Smith. Saying that the Colons, Camp, and 36 men of one Reg. was gobbled up, being surrounded by 1500 Rebs near Elkhorn in the Rapid Area. Oh how angry we felt and how appalled to think of the Colons being Oakland, but from all accounts the Reg. was not to blame its headquarters was sent out on the picket line, some four miles from the Big. We gave them a welcome home and interesting and kept them talking till 12 o'clock at night, and made their misfortune our fortune in way of hearing news.
Saturday Nov. 21st, 1785

The boys tell us of Major Dearington being dismissed the service, with little or no sympathy of the rest. Lt. Jones also. Lt. Shields for Disability. Lt. Montgomery of my company the same, leaving me the only officer in the Co. That Lt. Lillie Co. W. was shot in the fight, and Capt. King's lend, commanding the rest was wounded, and many other things interesting to us all.

The day passed pretty by looking around I see several officers of our Regt which makes me think that I am with the Regt. while the 2nd Dr. is still keep us in the shade they having over a dozen, ruined nearly all day. A view of government waggons come to the Prison, and we are to get a portion of U.S.Provisions which may aid us considerably.
Sunday Nov. 27th

The day was fine and passed off quickly and nothing to distinguish it from any day of the week. The Rebs have taken a great notion of washing and scrubbing the prison, being at it all the day on rather making the Maggie do it. The meat has played out and the men potatoes in place, but having a good quantity of cornbread we didn't feel the hunger. The doctors not gone yet, but are looking to go soon, and Dr. Kittles does feel better since our Office came in giving us so much to talk about. Having read a letter to my mother yesterday I forgot to notice it until now. Nothing of a religious nature except in Bible class and prayer meeting which I had very few improve. Health very good as.
Monday November 28th, 1860

Little passed today worthy of record, and in fact - the quietness was the most surprising. The Rebels report and contradicted the capture of Kentuckyville with 22d Lancers and the Rebabahamsville quiet, a cur. Made is nothing on his already won laurels. But - the overconfidence of the Rebels makes us think that they have met with some reverse, as this is the usual recourse, they even threatened to burn Col. Strait's store by themselves. The flax of three boats came in bearing a lot of boxes, and money. Think the Confederates determined. Did not feel very well leaving a batch of paper, colored by inactivity in spite of chance crum: feed...
Saturday, No. 24. 1765

The King's currency deficient. This May be remedied. By...
Wednesday Nov. 25th 1864
As we reached the hale came out giving us hank, advocating that we should be warned that the authorities should not allow anything to come from the north as we can now lift better than they. Adding many wise stories told by the Surgeon. 

The hands got very close and would cook their piece of beef and that would look out of the window, and all say they have surely been defeated, since this is a sure criterion. Meat is quiet but he will soon smell and give me a trial, and I have no fear at the result. 

Don't let me be reasoning the boys coming in hurry are good evidence of Confederate money, by which our boy better be, but the Rebs only goes round. Corn bread. Have a slight touch of heart burn and I have almost concluded to quit drinking coffee.
Thursday Nov. 26, 1863

The bales gave us the joyful intelligence of the defeat of Bragg's Army, as he telegraphs — The left-center of the Army gave way, saw the entire left, and I hear with amazement back to Chickamauga Creek. This makes me cause to brighter speculations of Longstreet's marching. supernatals were rapids. Only real Meade makes the big things, will result. Doubtless seems to take possession of the observer, and they know it. The war is now like a war of men, who are no longer by the continual expectations that fall away. Had a good night, hearing of the U.S. redress sent from the North. Indian Exhibition of the 'Libby' Mustlers. Being good, having some dull scenes of 'Libby,' health middling good, weather comfortable.
Friday December 27th '68

News of Genl Bragg's defeat grows into popularity while the harmes give forth a howl painful but pleasant to hear, and with additional news of Genl Meade making a forward movement from the Rakiad Arm, one side of this movement two struggle seems to brighten. And I am compelled to think that in this struggle depends the life and death of the Confederacy. The boys can't sit down, they can't get one. The letters were in distants. I got five, one from Bro. John Lee from another, one from Mullins of M., and one from Ed. Macheney. This was a happy time for me, and I gloat over my letters with the brightness of a miser for his money. Till a letter troubled with the dyspepsy, but think it only a slight attack.
Saturday Nov 28th 63,

News of Genl. Meade's advance, and also of Genl. Butler, who was just in command of the York's command at Sensco, who is said to be advancing, while the news of Genl. Grant, pushing Genl. Bragg, and threatening to drive him out of Georgia. The rumor of Genl. Irwin's success is turning out false and he says that he is able to hold Knoxville for twenty days. Military affairs have taken quite an excitement and the result of this fall campaign will no doubt change the aspect of the so-called Southern Confederacy.

Gold coming down in the North, quota at 14 1/2, this beteud good.

Wrote two letters one to Mother and one to Ed. Mechanics. A lot of prisoners, the officers came in last night, and as usual we gave him a warm reception while the men succeeded in calling back men and thousands inquired.
Sunday Nov. 29th 1864

Today was one of excitement, best is the Libby boys and the Rko, as the news was that. Butcher had made landing at Harpers Landing while the Federal guards went down early many taking umbrellas along to serve them from the rain falling just. A St. Col. came in telling us of the advance of Genl. Meade and that Lee would have to fight or fall back, while the men made for present just by calling out! "Kill but back is coming," since in hours on ends that we will come after us. All things seem in fine condition and had this rain kept away the sanctity of this day would be forgotten by the contest of armed enemies.

Write three letters to Bro John, Mr. Lightcap and Willard of Mr. Lee to have cheering up of this mail.

The weather is cold, health as good as expected. Rations the same consisting of Rb. cornmeal and A.S. hickory.
Monday, Nov. 30th 1864.
The rain ceased and all asked that Gen. Meade will give Lee a fight something devestated hoped for.
All day the cold blizzards have been blowing and the is known good for fighting.
News from Gen. Grant says, he being in pursuit of Bragg who is fleeing while Longstreet will have to give up the idea of catching Braxton. The killing still hold out, and try to keep their courage up by big talk, as a "cowardly boy whistles going through dark woods." The turn you keep prisoner gets bail, and the authorities are recommended by free eating Editors to stand us the issue.
Thanks to men who have better climate, as they know how to use us. The cold blue to make us gather around the stoves, whose brisk heat nearly seethe to warm the nearest.