

Volney S Harris  
8<sup>th</sup> Co. M

An unusual occurrence took place on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of November 1863 (Thanksgiving Day) the day that the army started to cross the Rapid Ann very easily in the morn the Sun the full moon + the morning stars all visible at once the only time that I ever saw the phenomenon.

V S Harris 1864

Volney S Harris  
Co "M"  
8<sup>th</sup> N.Y. Cavalry

A christmass present from my friend Joe – sent by Robert on his return from a ten day furlough home

V S H

Camp near Culpeppu Va.  
January, Friday, 1, 1864

Broke camp for the second time during the past week leaving good quarters The regiment came in from picket early this morn. Waited to draw a new horse before I could start. Encamped at night in old camping gound near Bealeton Sta. Weather fine : but very cold + windy towards night. Robert + I managed to sleep very comfortably not withstanding [next line struck out]

Saturday ,2.

Got out quite early + started on the march again at about half past 7 o clock took the road through the old village of Liberty + arrived at Warrenton about noon. Lay in an open field until nearly night + then went into camp in a pine woods weather still cold but the situation a great deal more comfortable than last night [ next line struck out]

January, Sunday, 3, 1864.

Went out on picket beyond the town this afternoon at ½ past two o'clock. Weather still cold.

Monday ,4.

Weather still cold. Began to snow this morning + continued snowing all day + night. alot relieved from picket. as we expected to be this afternoon.

January Tuesday, 5, 1864.

We were relieved from picket this afternoon. Weather sill cold as ever.

Wednesday 6.

Got up quite early this morning. as we were ordered to march. Started about half past 7 o'clock . Made a good steady march all day + reached our old camp before dark. found a number of the cabins torn down but our own was all right. Cold as ever.

January, Thursday, 7, 1864.

At work to day on the muster rolls. Nothing new going on. Weather cold + snowing

Friday ,8.

Snowed last night. Cold + clear today.

January, Saturday, 9, 1864

Wrote to Joe this morning Reed a letter from home to day weather cold + clear-

Sunday, 10.

Ordered out on Picket this morning .were in main reserve to day. Robb Abell staid in camp. weather clear + cold

January, Friday, 15, 1864.

At wor to day making a new chiminey to my cabin. have made a pretty good one of logs. weather quite mild + thawing fast.

Saturday, 16.

Am writing to day for Lieut. N. on Descriptive bills+ ordnance returns weather mild + beautiful

January, Sunday, 17, 1864.

At work writing again to day wrote a letter home to day

Monday, 18.

Nothing Unusual to day, very quiet. Weather Rainy

January, Saturday, 23, 1864.

Another beautiful day as mild as Spring

Sunday, 24.

Wrote georg a letter with a post script to father + mother. Weather fine + mild south wind prevailing

January, Monday, 25, 1864.

Another mild + Spring like day

Tuesday, 26.

Recieved a letter from Father dated 23<sup>rd</sup> weather mild as usual the Squadron came in from picket this morn.

January, Wednesday, 27, 1864.

Regimental inspection this morn by Col Chapman + I answerd fathers letter + sent a photograph of Gen'l Buford home, mild as ever

Thursday, 28.

Weather still fine

January, Friday, 29, 1864.

Recieved a letter from Joe dated 25<sup>th</sup> weather fine

Saturday, 30.

Luit. Newton who is going on furlough has offered to take some money home for me today weather sloudy + chilly

February, Thursday, 4, 1864.

Clear, cold + very windy weather

Friday, 5

Squadron went out on Picket at 1 P.M. I stayed in camp. Weather fine

February, Saturday 6, 1864.

Revelle sounded about 4 o' clock A.M. orders to be ready to move at 7. I joined the squadron on picket reserve advanced acrouss the Robinson R. driving in enemy's pickets. Found no force untill we came to the Rapedan. had a sharp fight this side of the R. and were repeled with some loss. Traymor killed out of our Co. E other killed in Reg't and

several wounded. Went back+ camped in the woods at night The squadron had to do picket at night Weather rainy + chilly

Sunday, 7.

Reg't moved out again this morn in the same place they were yesterday ; driving the enemy across the ford The fighting not so severe as yesterday, some shelling on both sides We fell back about noon. I could not find the Right + came along on my own hook. Some rain in the morn, cleared during the day. Colder. Got into camp just at dark put up tent + found things pretty near all right. Regt come in afterwards

February, Monday, 8, 1864.

Cold + Clear. Every things quiet again as though nothing had occurred. Recived a letter from Mother dated the 3<sup>rd</sup> + mailed the 5<sup>th</sup> Drew clothing 1 pr Pants Jacket 1 pr Drawers + 1pr Socks

Tuesday, 9.

A fine, clear day. The Squadron went out on picket this Picket I remained in camp. [next line struck out]

February, Wednesday, 10 1864.

Squadron came in from picket this P.M. Clear cold weather Wrote a letter to mother.

Thursday, 11.

Weather same as yesterday rather breezy

February, Friday, 12, 1864.

Weather same as yesterday although rather warmer towards night.

Saturday, 13.

A fine warm day. There was a grand review of the whole of the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Division near Culpeper today a very fine sight The Squadron went out on Picket this P.M.

February, Sunday, 14, 1864

St. Valentines day

A very windy day. The Squadron came in from Picket this P.M. Luit Newton arrived at camp this P.M. brought me a package of dried berries.

Monday, 15.

A raw cloudy day A grand Cavalry review at Stevensburg Va. I started to go but came back on account of my horse being unfit. It commenced snowing about noon + continued to snow the remainder of the day + night.

February, Tuesday, 16, 1864.

Cleared up this morn quite cold + wintry + very high wind the Squadron went on picket this P.M. Recd a letter from Father dated 13<sup>th</sup> Staid with Charly Cajean at night

Wednesday, 17.

A very windy day + extremely cold. Squadron came in from picket this P.M. Staid

February, Thursday, 18, 1864.

weather very sharp but not so much wind as yesterday

26sacks

40[J C oars]

32 Drawers

38 shirts

9 blouses

13 jackets

26 [srif]coats

7 boots

Friday, 19.

8pr shoes

Weather still cold

37 Pants

14 caps

February, Saturday, 20 1864.

A pleasanter day than yester an inspection of the camps to day by Genls Pleasanton + Merritt Col Chapman + en-

Sunday, 21.

A fine day growing warmer A subscription paper for the purpose of erecting a monument to Genl Buford was circulated today to which I have given \$1.00. The Squadron went on picket this P.M.

Wrote out special requisitions for clothing [statimany] + c

February, Monday, 22, 1864.

Washington's Birthday  
Squadron came in from picket this P.M.

Tuesday, 23.

Signed pay rolls to night Reed a letter from Father dated 18<sup>th</sup>

February, Wednesday, 24, 1864.

An Inspection + Review of the Division again to day near Culpeper Weather quite warm and spring like.

Thursday, 25.

Received 2 months pay to day Weather quite warm but a high wind prevailing Wrote a letter home. We are now paid up to Dec 31. 63.

February, Friday, 26, 1864.

Weather colder + quite windy. Squadron went on picket P.M. I am at work with muster Rolls today Received a letter from Mother Dated 21<sup>st</sup> [next line struck out]

Saturday, 27.

Squadron came in to day Finished muster rolls Infantry has gone out to day in the direction of Madison 6<sup>th</sup> Corps

February, Sunday, 28, 1864.

A very fine warm day Squadron went out to night to Madison C.H. as escort more Infantry went out to day 3<sup>rd</sup> Corps

Monday 29.

Weather still warm. The ball has just opened. about 2 P.M. heavy cannonading in the distance Squadron came back about noon Ordered out at night about 9 o'clock just beginning to rain copps took my horse + I staid in camp.

March. Tuesday 1, 1864.

A Rainy + raw morning Distant cannonading hear beginning at about 9 o'clock A.M. in the direction of Madison CH caused by Genl Custers cavalry raid in which he burned a rebel artillery camp several grist mills a bridge + other property near Charlottesville a very successful expedition

Wednesday, 2.

Cleared off in the night Sun arose warm + clear this morn the Infantry commenced to move back this morn early + have been passing nearly all day. No reliable news.

March, Thursday, 3 1864.

Weather fine. Distant cannonading in the direction of Warrenton cause not know here.

Friday, 4.

Weather fine. Squadron came back to camp this P.M. all night . The Veterans are preparing to go home on Furlough.

March, Saturday 5, 1864.

Weather rather cloudy with slight sprinkels of rian. Gave Lieut Newton \$25.00 to send home for me. No reciept given made out monthly return of clothing + c Squadron went out on picket P.M. We drew 8 Horses (heaven save the mark!) for Co. 'M' from those turned in by the Veterans A most miserable lot all of them.

Sunday, 6.

A beautiful day.

There was a great noise in the camp last night. The Veterans could not sleep + did not seem willing to allow any one else that privilege. They started on thier way home at daylight this A.M. I wrote a letter home last night + mailed it this morning. In addition to the other noises the camp was charged upon by a squaron of Cats in full concert about midnight. Squadron came in from picket the P.M.

March, Monday, 7, 1864.

on Stable Guard last night + then put on camp guard this morn. Cause short of men Recived a letter from mother dated 3<sup>rd</sup> A very fine warm day. Recieved some recruits from the rendesvous to night. 4 New ones .

Tuesday, 8.

It began to rain just after Midnight last night. but cleared off again about noon today. Came off guard at 9 a.m. the squadron out on picket at 3 p.m. Staid in as also did abell-

March, Wednesday.9. 1864.

Another beautiful day: as mild as summer: birds are quite numerous of late such as Robins Bluebirds + - Jacob Andrews came up to camp to night from the Corps Hospital near Brandy Station.

Thursday, 10.

A very rainy, stormy day. The Squadron came in from picket this P.M.

March, Friday, 11, 1864.

A Dull dark day. drew clothing this morn. drew one pr. Socks It commenced raining about noon + came up a thundershower in the afternoon + Evening Robert W gave me some stationary which he recived from home

Saturday, 12.

a very fine day. cleared off last night + sun arose most beautiful this morn Squadron went on picket 3 P.M. Abell + I did not go out I was on Coreral of [gaurd]

March, Sunday, 13, 1864.

A fine day but rather brezzy showers can be seen moving along the distant Blue Ridge. Wrote a letter to Father + Mother The Co Desk was fixed up to day.

Monday, 14.

Squadron came in from picket to day, weather fine

March, Tuesday, 15, 1864.

Weather quite raw + windy. Cold at night. Reed a letter from Father dated 11<sup>th</sup>. Have had a head - ache all day. The letter stated the about of money in back to my acct to be \$290.00

Wednesday, 16.

A cold freezing day. The Squadron went out on piket at 3 P.M. I am on guard to day.

March, Thursday, 17, 1864.

St. Patricks day. in the morning a very fine day, although rather cold. there are rumers around camp of a move of some kind. it is said that Gen'l Lee is on the way to the north: moving on our right flank



Friday, 18.

A fine clear day but a terrible wind is blowing. The woods got on fire + it ran into the cabins of Co. F which is just back of us we worked hard + got it under saving our own cabins by the means The Squadron came in from picket this P.M. Reed a letter from Mother dated 13<sup>th</sup>

March, Saturday, 19, 1864.

Were ordered to move at 4 o'clock this a.m. to go with light saddles I was excused on account of boils. They came in about noon without having seen anything suspicious

Sunday, 20.

A very fine day. Did not go out on picket. as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Indiana have taken their old place again. I wrote a letter to Mother with a Note enclosed :also a letter to Joe- Theodore Casean is down on a visit to Charl' He has got his discharge from the service on acct. of disability - weather grew quite raw + cold at night I go on Stable guard to night.

March, Monday, 21, 1864.

A rather cloudy raw morning there are new orders, to go into effect to day, about water call + most ridiculous ones they are.

I have determined to quit card playing from this date: as long as I am in the Army

Tuesday, 22.

a cold day. Abell went to the Christian Commission Rooms in Culpepper + brought a lot of reading matter to camp for distribution Snow began to fall about night very heavily

March, Wednesday, 23, 1864.

A heavy mantle of snow covers the earth this morn. The day has opened clear + pleasant. Theodore C went home this morn early Sent an old spur relic to brother Claude the snow last night was the heaviest fall of the year

Thursday, 24.

A very beautiful day: snow nearly all gone. Squadron went on picket at ½ past one o'clock P.M. I staid in + worked at Ordnance + clothing Returns. Reed orders this a.m. they then should be regular target practice hereafter between the hours of 10 a.m. + 2 p.m. on certain days; we commenced practice to day ; some fair shooting for first trial. Got some wahing done by Allen. 20cn

March, Friday, 25, 1864.

A dull cloudy day: rather cold , + looks as if it could snow. A storm of sleet + rain came up in afternoon + last till long unto the night A very bad time for the boys to be on picket

Saturday, 26.

Cleared up some this morn. rather cold+ windy. Squadron came in from picket this P.M. Target practice again to day Recieved 9 more recruits to day S H Meads Son among them.

March, Sunday, 27, 1864.

A very clear + Pleasant day. Gen'l Grant is said to have taken possession of Culpeper C H yesterday; with his staff officers : turning out our Brigade commessary for the sake of the building which he occupied It is reported that thier will be a resignation of the A P very soon William Howland started for home on a 10 day furlough

Monday, 28.

A pleasant morn. Boys are playing at ball. Recieved a letter from home to night dated 23<sup>rd</sup>

March, Tuesday, 29, 1864.

Division review at culpeper left camp at 8 o clock a.m. It began to rain as we were on our way out . It is said that Gen'l Grant recieved us : but I did not see him. Saw Gen'l meade + Merrit It is raining very hard to night

Wednesday, 30.

Still raining this morn

March, Thursday, 31 1864.

A fine day. signed pay rolls to night Abell went to the Christian Com. + got a lot more of papers . Target practice to day distance of target 300 yards.

April, Friday, 1.

A fine morn. Recieved two (2) months pay this morn. Clouded up + began raining about noon + is still raining tonight. Paid my subscription towards Gen'l Bufords monument. the Squadron went out on picket this afternoon.

April, Saturday, 2, 1864.

A very stormy morning sleet + rain have been falling all last night

Sunday, 3

Weather has cleared up some the Squaron came in from picket that P.M. Reed a letter from home dated th 29<sup>th</sup> in which Father tells me that he has been presented with a silver headed long cane by his class.

April, Monday, 4, 1864.

Stormy again to day Snowing + cold Sent home \$25.00 by adams Express through the supervision of Lt. Newton Writing a letter to Father + Mother – Recieved a not enclosed in a letter to Robedert N –

Tuesday, 5.

Another very cold + stormy day wrting all the morn for Lt. Newton

April, Wednesday, 6, 1864.

Cleared up some to day Wrote a letter to MT in answer to the not reed last Monday

Thursday, 7.

A very fine warm day [word struck out] inspection of Quarters by the brigade surgeon + two others.

April, Friday, 8, 1864.

Another very beautifull day. new pickter poles were erected out side of the camp this morn I did some washing It clouded up a little towards night. There was a prayer meeting in the woods outside of camp to night origionated by Abell, There was a considerable attendance for the short notice. Abell brought another lot of reading matter from the Chris Com.

Saturday, 9.

Woke up + found he rain falling as usual this morn. Squadron went on picket this P.M. Raining very fast.

April, Sunday, 10, 1864.

A very fine morning but came up a thunder shower in the P.M. cleared off again just before sun set Wm Howland came back in the night last night It is reported that the bridges between here and Washington are some of them down; consequently we get no mail to day

Monday, 11.

a very fine warm day The squaderon came in this afternoon.

April, Tuesday, 12, 1864.

Another very fine pleasant day Target shooting + drilling in the morn – the veterans began to come back to night-

Wednesday, 13.

A fine day again. Ordered to Saddle up this morn quite early. Whitney went hom on a 10 day furlough this morn. we are under orders to be ready to get out to night at 10 o clock with light saddles.

Thier are no entries for the 6<sup>th</sup> of April through the 13<sup>th</sup> of April.

April, Thursday, 14, 1864.

Went out last night at 10 o clock, passed through Culpeper + went out the Sherryville Pike Forded the Hazel River at early dawn, water very deep some swimming Soon after that left the Pike ; turning to the right, + scouting among the Mrs around giants castle Mt. we had no scrimmage : but took 3 prisoners and several horses got back to camp early in aternoon weather very fine Reed a letter from Joe to night dated 10<sup>th</sup> with his photo in it-

Friday, 15.

A fine afternoon Inspection (mounted) at 10 o clock A.M. Clouded up in afternoon Had dress parade the Revd Mr Ellenwood was here + made some remarks + gave a prayer had a prayre meeting in the eve Doct Ellenwood was also present at that + offered a prayer + made remark It rained a little in evening the Sutler left to day + all other Sutlers

April, Saturday, 16, 1864.

A Rainey day although not a very stormy one. Nothing new in camp

Sunday, 17.

A fine day had service about noon by Rev. Mr Ellenwood + a stranger chaplain The Squadron went on picket at 1 p.m. am writing a letter to Joe there is a story in camp that we are transerin a to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brig 3<sup>rd</sup> Div Cav. Corps.

April Monday, 18, 1864.

A very pleasant day. We have recieved orders to be ready to move at 10 A.M. to marrow Had some sport to night witnessing a "stag dance" to the music of a Violin + Fife It was first rate fun

Tuesday, 19.

Packing up this morn a very pleasant fine day I staid in camp with Charly Casean (when the right move out) to take care of the quarters until the Squadron came in from picket which was not untill nearly night . we did not go to day as it was so late when they came in we are to go in the morn- the Michigan men did not come into our quarter but took the lumber to make new ones.

April, Wednesday, 20, 1864.

Camp near Stensburg VA.

Started quite early this morn for a new camp at which we arrived a little before noon, It is a lettle over a mile from Stevensburg Wv. It is not so good or so healthy a place as the old camp. I hear that we shall not stay here long. I reed a letter from Father dated the 12<sup>th</sup> to day Abell + I are living in our little "Dog Tent" not in the quarters as they were not enough of them for all. Had dress parade to night weather a little cloudy

Thursday, 21.

It is raining a little this morn I mailed my letter to Joe to day. It cleared off very fine about noon. The Squadron went on picket this M. hear that we are to change our quarters in the morn to morrow.

April, Friday, 22, 1864.

A very beautifull day in deed. We did not mover our quarters to day. I sw the 108 NYSvols go past our camps this morn on thier way to a corps. Review thier are but very few left of the old Regt I recieved a letter from Mother to night dated 19<sup>th</sup> inside. The part of the Reft that was in camp went out on inspection Sold my had to dunham for \$2.00 to be paid on pay day

Saturday, 23.

Another very beautiful day I am writing a letter home. Mark Belson started for Baltimore this morn to be examined for the navy. The Squadron came in from picket at noon. Rec'd orders to move camp to marrow morn at 7 o'clock

April, Sunday, 24, 1864.

Moved camp this morn, we only moved about a mile, and our Co. had to build new quarters. Worked hard all day. and got up a good board shanty Weather very fine and warm. Our camp is a rather a poor place I think! the water is poor. Rained to night very hard.

Monday, 25.

Cleared up fine again this morn Received orders the P.M. to be ready to move to marrow morn at 5 o'clock we drew some new ordnance I got a new Carbine a Sling and a Cartridge box. It is rumored again in camp that the rebel forces are working thier way into the vally of the Shanandoah. Our forces are fortifying culpeper C.H. for depot of supplies.

April, Tuesday, 26, 1864.

Did not go this morn as we expected weather very fine + warm. we had a foot drill in the afternoon. I drew a sack coat + pr Drawers Sargant Whitney came back to night

Wednesday, 27.

Still very fine weather. 10 men were sent to the rear this morn Dismounted The Squadron went on picket at 1 P.M. a slight shower at night with some wind, + quite cool.

April, Thursday, 28, 1864.

Weather fine but not so warm. Received a letter from home to night dated 25<sup>th</sup> I hear that he mail hence is stopped although I do not think it is yet

Friday, 29.

Wrote a letter home this morn. Recieved a letter from M. W. The Regt moved camp to day close to Sevensburg near our old camp of last Spetember [cannot read last two words]

April, Saturday, 30, 1864.

Squadron came in from picket this noon. I wrote out the muster rolls this morn Moved over to camp in the afternoon It rained a little to wards night

May, Sunday, 1.

Cloudy + cool this morn Finished muster Rolls to day Recived Clothing to day

May, Monday, 2, 1864.

A fine morning. Had a Review of our Division to day by Gen' Wilson Comds. A fearful storm came up [sentence struck out] just be fore sunset . which raised the dust in an emmense cloud covering the country for miles around. like a regular [sirocco] It ended with a slight thunder storm.

Tuesday, 3.

a clear day but cold + windy. There are rumors of a move to morrow. Making out the monthly Return of Clothing + Co Wrote a letter to M.W. Moved at 10 o clock to night went beyond Brandy Sta. + got 200 new horses for the Brigade. Came back past our old camp + went towards Germania Ford [sentence stuck out] could not send my letter to M W Mail is stopped from going north

May, Wednesday, 4, 1864.

Weather is fine + warm roads dusty Travelled all day slowly and crossed the river of Germania ford in a pontoon in the night. we kept in up the plank road for some distance beyond the rebel works + did not stop until nearly 12 o clock at night our Cavalry ar in ahead I do not hear them far though. Saw General Grant to day going to the front

Thursday, 5.

Weather fine + warm roads very dusty we got up at daylight this morn got breakfast + packed up the fight began soon after noon to day. Heavy skirmishing all along the line night there has been heavy fighting all the P.M. with considerable loss . a detail was sent to chanullouscille to night [line illegible] we have laid still all day near Gen Meads headquarters

May, Friday, 6, 1864.

weather very fine + warm The Skirmishing was kept up all night last night Cannonading + musketry very early this morn We were got out to mave to Corps 1621s at Chancellersville Left here + took the Fredriksburg plank road where we found our regement about 2 miles out soon after we formed them we were orderd farther out on the

plank or do picket We relieved the 1<sup>st</sup> Division. The firing has ceased [cannot read word]  
noon Saw Gen Grant at army HQ this morn.

Saturday, 7.

Weather very fine + warm We were relieved last night + came back to chancellerville  
were ordered out at 3 o'clock this A.M. saddled + formed a line but did not go out until  
noon when we went out on picket again about a mile in advance of the old line. had not  
been out long when we were ordered in again+ after scouting until dark we picketed on  
the right of our old place not a great deal of fighting to day Brigade s [cannot read two  
words] colored men.

May, Sunday, 8, 1864.

Weather very warm + roads dusty moved out this morn + advanced on the road to  
Spottsylvania out house. Fighting began a little before nine a.m. very heavy for cavalry  
we are rear guard. After fighting a short time we fell slowly back to near our former  
picket place were in the rear of Genl Singstrats corps + took some prisoners from him.

Monday, 9.

weather still very fine + warm got out this morn at daylight + took the road that leads  
from Freaderriksburg to Hanover Junction Had a slight skirmish in the afternoon all the  
cavalry corps are to gether under command of Luit Sheredan. Arrived at North Anna  
River in the night when we went into camp We took a number of prisoners retook 290 of  
our infantry from the Rebs burned the station at beaver damn + 2 Trans of cars loaded  
with supplies for Lees army Passed though Charleburg this P.M.

May, Tuesday, 10, 1864.

Weather Fine + warm got out at 3 o'clock this morn + just as we have got breakfast and  
saddled up we wer eattacked by a party of Stuarts Cavalry who began shelling us before  
we went passed for them. We drw them off + crossed the ford. passeing the ruins of  
Beaver Dam Sta. Travelled steadily until about noon when we halted + got our [ammess  
+ fed our tired + hungry horses We have to forage for ourselves + horses crossed the  
South Anna this afternoon + went into camp . were sent out on picket at 11 o'clock to  
night.

Wednesday, 11.

Got out again this morn early +were attacked in the rear soon after starting. Had a sharp  
fight + recieved a sharp charge having a few wounded had a very sharp battle just beyond  
Glen Allen Post office Genl Custers brigade captured 2 guns It rained hard this P.M. we  
moved out on the pike towards Richmond at 11 o'clock to night and were within 2 miles  
of it at one time but took a road leading to the left. We crossed the chickahominy on our  
route Cd Case is amon the missing since morn.



May, Thursday, 12, 1864.

We were let onto the Rebel earthworks this morn at early dawn by a traitor guide + recieved a terrible shower of cannister + musketry killing + wounding a large number we had to fight thier infantry + artillery inside the 1<sup>st</sup> line of earthworks nearly all day Some very haeavy fighting were nearly surrounded at one time but succeded in getting out. we kept on our course passing through Mechanicsville + travelled until about midnight when we went into camp.

Friday, 13.

I was sent out in a detail at about 5a.m. to burn a bridge to keep the rebs from getting in to our rear. after which we joined our column which ws on the road a bottom bridge. arrived near ther soon after noon + camped , we crossed the [Youk] river railroad on our route we can hear cannonading in front of us which is several miles distant supposed to be Genl Smiths commander Extensice operation in foraging are going on

May, Saturday, 14, 1864.

Near harrisons landing Virginia.

Started on again this morn about 9 o clock we acted as flankers for the main column arrived at Malvern Hill about 2 P.M . ther are some of our Gun boats in sight on the James Rier they shelled us some supposing that we were rebels as we did not shoe the proper signals at first We unsaddled here + fed our sleves + horses.

Sunday, 15,

Ne Axalls Landing James River Virginia

I went out foraging with a party this morn at daylight. we got corn potatoes + c . we moved about 7 o clock down the river so that we could get forage provisions + c more easily Weather is very warm. Had a heavy thundershower in the afternoon. we drew grain + rations to day for the first time in 7 days. wrote a letter to night to Father + Mother. Papers were brought around to night with good news from Genl Grant.

May, Monday, 16, 1864.

Very fine + clear this morn, But extreamly warm. sent my letters off this morn. Heavy cannonading is heard in the direction of Richmond this morn we have had a new captian placed over us to day He formerly belonged to a Battery in the Regular Army his name is Sayles a Lt of Williston's Battery. He appears to be very strict + military.

Tuesday, 17,

we were ordered to move this morn, I got all saddled, + in line : but we were oreded to unsaddled again + go into cmap. Saddled up again at sunset + moved out we seem to be going down the river.

May, Wednesday, 18, 1864.

marched all night last night but very slowly past the time on we went of bad roads marched all day but had not go only a short distnce as we about march a few roads + then halt again went into camp at night at \_\_\_\_\_ church we crossed the Chickahominy again to day during a tremendous rain storm weather very warm + showery

Thursday, 19.

Rainy + thunderry

Got out this morn about 7 o clock + moved twards three mils tawards the pamenkey river + went into camp. but were orderd out on picket again soon after pitching our tents. The squadron went on a schout to bottoms Bridge on the Chickahmony I + Frank Wilson were left on piket + did not go out with them They came back at night + we went into camp as the main reserve.

May, Friday, 20, 1864.

Weather very fine + warm

get out this morn about 7 o clock + have been march all day in almost every direction + found ourselves at about 4 ½ miles from Bottom's Bridge when we camped about 4 o clock P.M. + had to forage for ourselves + horses-

Saturday, 21.

Weather fine + warm

Still encamped at the same place Distant guns can be heard occasionally in the direction of Richmond. We saddeld up in the morning but were ordred to unsaddled again after a time.

May, Sunday 22, 1864.

Weather very hot a slight shower P.M. Got out this morn about 2 o clock and went back on our road out here as far as the rail road + then took the road to the right heading to the White House on the Pamimkey river where some of our cavalry now lay. We got there before noon + and drew grain + 5 days rations I had a good bath in the river the other 2 Divisions are crossing the river on the R R bridge we are to cross tomarrow I hear capt Sayles Tried to use his sabre on WM Soper this morn.

Monday, 23.

Hot + Dry

Up this morn at sunrise Ordered to saddle up about 7 o clock Soon after that we crossed the Pammenky on the old R Road bridge which was patched up for the occasion we travelled steadily all day + camped about 2 miles south of the town called Ayletts We

camped in a pine woods + I was on stable guard until nearly midnight. we can hear Gen'l Grants guns to the west of us .

May 25 1864.

Saw a number of newly mounted cavalry from Dismounted Camp Veterans Also saw some of the Ingantry men that we recaptured at Beaver Dam Station who were sent off on transport from Ne axalls landing + who have been re equiped + sent out again. Saw a letterfrom mark Belson who's on board the US Str. " Wamsutta" south atlantic Blockading Squadriion off Charleston May 15

29<sup>th</sup>

Liut Newton is temporarily transferred from our Co to Co E from dat Sayles has complete command + a considerable dissatisfaction is caused there by.

[ this entry is in the entry space for the 29<sup>th</sup> of May]

June 3<sup>rd</sup> Gen [Grap] Rebb Mc [cargo] and Sam'l Little were wounded in the fight to day Mr Little was taken prisoner All out of out Co Luit Col Benjamin was wounded in the thigh + horse shot.

[this entry is in the space for May 18<sup>th</sup>]

June 13<sup>th</sup>

Philip Buckly + Andrew Kennedy of our company were badly wounded in to day's fighting ther was a cursed loss in the regiment.

[This entry was also in the space for May 18<sup>th</sup>]

June 15<sup>th</sup>

Joe Sova was sent to Gen'l Wilsons Head Quarters to night with dispatch + was told that all of our army except this Division of Cavalry + the 5<sup>th</sup> army corps had crossed the James river + that we were to cross as soon as possible.

May, Tuesday,24, 1864.

Hot + Dry again this morn

We were called up this morn at 3 o clock but did not get in the move until nearly 6 o clock – We marched all day + after passing beyond mangchick church we took its road. leading to Bowlings run. Camped about 2 miles past at night somewhere in the woods can hear skirmish fireing supposed to be Gen'l Grants fronts Direction from us is a little southwest I suppose that we are now almost in the Army of the Potomac again. Showery at night.

Wednesday, 25.

Hot + Showery

Called up this morn at about 3 ½ o clock + startd soon after 5 o clock . We went back on the road we came up last night as far as the sign post + then took the other fork leading to chesterfield statopm distance to that place 5 miles wejm we gpt tjoer we forst saw some of Grants Infantry We encamped about 2 miles west of the station where our wagon train rejoined us We got lots of letters 3 from me 2 from home dated 2nd + 9<sup>th</sup> 1 from Joe of the 10<sup>th</sup>

May, Thursday, 26, 1864.

Rainy + Thundery

we were ordered to move again this morn but did not get started until about noon We moved to the extreme right wing of our army crossing the North Anna river on a pontoon bridge We passed through the rebel earthworks which were held by some of our 6<sup>th</sup> Corps. We went some distance up the Gordonsville RR and distroyed a quite a length of it at night. After that we recrossed the river farther up, + went into camp for a few hours rest.

Friday, 27.

Hot + Dry

Got out in good season this morn We are rear gaurd. We travelled bery slowly to day. Encamped near chesterfield Stateion at night The Infantry of the 6<sup>th</sup> Corps wks were on the right wing. have changed over to the left wing of our army No fireing can be heard from Grants front + I can not find out the situation at al.

Rations are getting [cannot read word due to bleed through from the oposite side]

May, Saturday, 28, 1864.

Hot + Dry Left our camping ground at 4 o clock a.m. we are travelling back on the road we came up from the White House we travelled quite slowly again to day. Halting often + picketing we acted as flankers I saw Maj. General Burnside to day near mangchick church with a part of his Corps. We encamped at night near the village of Mangchick and had to forage for ourselves + horses.

Sunday 29.

Hot during the day. Morn cool.

we were called up at about sunrise. Did not get started until about 8 o clock . We turned to the right of our former route just after leaving Mangchick . We marched until about noon + then encamped near the Pamunky river. The whole train of the army is crossing ther They have just come down from the Rappanannock with rations. We had to go out

foraging again. the roads are very dusty the weather was quite cold last night + this morn  
I got two 5 dollar confederate notes

May, Monday, 30, 1864.

Hot and Dry

Arose about sunrise Lay around until near 2 o' clock P.M. when "boots + sadles"  
sounded + we moved out soon after . Crossed the river on a Pontoon bridge + then took  
the road to Richmond we passed the headquarters of the chief quartermaster General  
Nealls A.P. and a large porion of the wagon trains we seem to be out here to keep the  
rebel cavalry from getting at out immense wagon trains. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Ind. who are in the  
advance today skirmished some at night with Seers cavalry 2 or 3 were wounded.

Tuesday, 31.

In the vicinity of Hanover CH (hot and dry) lay still all day Part of the time in the woods  
with 2 squadrons dismounted in the rifle pits we can hear sharp fighting in front supposed  
to be our cavalry + some fighting from Grants forces on the left of us. We moved out just  
at night + went out on the road straight ahead formed some of out cavalry about 3 miles  
out who have been fighting to day. Wrote a letter home to day sent off the confed \$5 bills  
in it

June Wednesday, 1, 1864.

Near hanover C H Va little south of it

Very Hot + Dry we are near hanover CH We lay around on picket + c last night went to  
work burning the virginia central railroad early this morn some skirmishing in front of us  
an old Rochester man is living just across the R.R. from us of the name of George Cady.  
After burning the R.R. we went + joined the regiment which was laying still in a field  
staid there all day. Can hear cannonading in the direction of Richmond all day.

Thursday, 2

Very Hot + Dry) ( Rained hard at night went on picket early this morn relieved Co B and  
F Scarecly any fireing to be heard to day just before night we were sent out to there up  
breastworks while we wer at work very heavy cannonading commenced on the left which  
was kept up until late in the night we were drawn in from pickit after dark. + marched  
nearly all night . Halted somwere near Salem Church Picked up a Richmond "Enquier"  
old date.

June, Tuesday, 7, 1864.

A shower last night Hot to day There was a great deal of firing along the lines last night  
but none on us a part of the 5<sup>th</sup> army corps came donw where we are today The rebel  
batteries opened on their skirmishers who are in the woods in front of out pikets Our

Pickets were relieved by them + we went into camp Its is said that the forces opposing us are a part of Beaugards Army.

Wednesday, 8.

Hot and Dry.

in camp this morn. I did some washing Am writing a letter home. we moved camp in the afternoon. Our Squadron + one other went out on piket near bottoms bridge Threw up breastworks during the night. Our line touches the Infantry line on the right of us No firing on our line but some on the Infantry. The rebs are in plain sight of us.

June, Thursday, 9, 1864.

In camp at whitehall Virginia

Hot + Dry

We that worked on entrenhments are excused from piket duty. Finished my letter to day. Can hear distant cannonading in the direction of the James river Towards Richmond were relieved by the 1<sup>st</sup> VT late in the afternoon . and went to camp which is about 5 miles distant on the way to White House I am told that this place is call Whitehall.

Friday, 10.

Hot + Dry

Had Dismounted drill this P.M. mailed my letter to day. Maj. Pope is in command of the Regt as Col Benjamin is away.

June, Saturday, 11, 1864.

Hot + Dry

Had dismounted drill A.M. Mounted drill P.M. We here nothing new from the battle line exept that siege guns are being brought up to certain parts of the line. Can hear more or less cannonading every day. I is said that the 1<sup>st</sup> + 2 nd Cavalry Divisions are at work at Synchburg on a big raid.

Sunday, 12.

Hot + Dry

The Revd Mr. Can Ingen our chaplain jouned us today + preached a pretty good sermon this morn. We moved out just at night. The Infantry is coming along with the pontoon tram with them we crossed the Chickchominy some distance below Bottoms Bridge . we made a crossing dismounted on a fallen log bull frog fashion Our Mounted men crossed a little abouve + drove off the reb pickets.

June, Monday, 13, 1864.

A hot day for fighting

we marched nearly all last night. Robert Niver took a small squad myself among the mounted + took a by path in a scout led by a negro boy. Our horses came up after daylight + we rejoined the brigade which had moved on we ran into the rebs about 2 ½ miles from Molvern Hill + had a very hard fight all day with their infantry + calvery. we drove them in the morn + they drove us back in the afternoon Some of the 5<sup>th</sup> Corps same up at night + checked them we all fell back during the night in the direction of Harrisons landing we camped for a short rest.

Tuesday, 14.

Moved out again this morn in the direction of Harrisons landing . Arrived near ther before noon + unsaddled our horses . Just got my dinner when we were ordered to saddle up again Moved out on a gallop Some rebel cavalry followed us up this morn + have just drove in our pickets We drove them off by mounted skirmishes supported by unmounted men we were dismounted. there was but a small force of them we dew grain + rations after that + then came back on our road. + camped as at the corner of the Richmond road. I was detailed to go on picket.

June, Wednesday, 15, 1864.

hot days and cold night

Stood picket last night. were relived this morn by the 3<sup>rd</sup> Indiana. Could hear some cannonading on the river . I got a letter resterday P.M. from father dated 7<sup>th</sup> inside. Our Brigade went out on the Richmond road a short time befoe we were relieved from picket so that we who were on picket (about 20) did not go out They found the Rebs at Malvern hill + had a sharp skirmish The gunboats are some shelling to help them The remainder of the Reft came back at night 1 Killed + 1 Wounded

Thursday, 16.

Very hot to day.

Lay in camp all day. We moved out just at sunrise . Our Squadron were rear guard Welch and myself were in the extreme hear were not troubled at all. We passed through Carles City C.H. + encamped near an old Landrying on the the James river just after midnight . There is a large amount of shipping in the river here some large ironclads.

June Friday, 17, 1864.

A very hot day

We crossed the river this morn on a pontoon which was a very long one . We halted after crossing + lay around in the hot sun untill about 3 o clock , P.M. when we started on the march. Kept on until about midnight Passed through Prince George Court House +

encamped a little west of there. We seem to be approach the battle line as sharp cannonadeing can be heard in our front which is about west of us.

Saturday, 18.

A Very hot day.

We got up this morn about 4 ½ o clock. We went back in the road through the cout house + thn turned to the left taking the norfolk road went into camp about 3 miles from the C.H. We are 4 miles from the norfolk + Petersburg R.R. heavy fighting has been going on all day in the direction of Petersburg. Towards night it was perfectly awful to hear the musketry and cannonading was on stable guard at night and could hear skirmishing all the time

June, Sunday, 19, 1864.

Hot + Dusty

All quiet to day but few funs heard and those distant we changed squadrons we are now with Co D 5<sup>th</sup> squadron under command of Cap Compson . Capt Frost is assigned to our company + Capt Sayles to Col E so ther we aint battery M any longer Rec'd a letter from Mother to night, dated 12

Monday, 20.

Hot + Dusty

All quiet Wrote two letters one to "Home" 9 on to M.N also sent off a Richmond "Enquirer" to father.

June, Tuesday, 21, 1864.

Hot as ever

Nothing unusual to day except rumors of a move to marrow.

Wednesday, 22.

Hot + Dry roads awfull dusty we were called out this morn at 1\2 pas one o clock + moved out at ½ past 3 We struck the norfolk + Petersburg R.R. about 6 miles below Petersburg we crossed that afterwards struck across the Weldon R.R. had some skirmishing in our rear Passed through [Dimoidari] court house . We struck the Petersburg + [Damalle] R.R. at night + burned a large portion of a station house or two + some traines of cars camped for a short rest near the RR.

June, Thursday, 23, 1864.

Hot + Dusty We started on again very early this morn keeping along the RR most of the time + burning it all along destroyed a lot of cotton + toabacco + stations along the route we turned to wards Nottoway court house in the early part of the P.M. we were met thier



by a considerable force of rebels who got in between Gen'l Kanty + us . had some very hard fighting My old horse played out + I did not go in.

Friday, 24.

Hot + Dusty.

Clark + Carroall were wounded yesterday + Rimber + Klein missing . We moved off to the west again to day keeping along the R.R. + burning it I have to foot it today + lead my old horse. we camped just at sunset . I got Capt. Sayles hors to night as he is among the missing I had ot throw away my Over coat + other things today. We camped to night near Keysville station.

June, Saturday, 25 1864.

Went from Keysville to near the RR bridge across the Slaunton River where Kauts has been fighting all day We had a skirmish in the rear.

Sunday, 26.

went from R R bridge + travelled east all day. camped at night we were detached as [provost] guard.

June, Monday, 27, 1864.

Hot

Travelled towards Petersburg to day had a slight skirmish camped at night

Tuesday, 28.

Started out about 2 ½ oclock marching southeasterly crossed the Nottaway river in the PM had a short rest for dinner started on again + ran in to enemy near the rail road at \_\_\_\_\_ had some heavy fighting in the evening

June , Wednesay, 29, 1864.

We lay behind breastworks all night just at daylight our breastwork was charged in fron + flanked on the left A number of us we recut off + hid in the woods all day just at night out hiding place was found out + we were hunted out by an Infantry skirmish line and 37 of us captured we were taken by the Holcomb Legion a good lot of men

July Friday, 1 , 1864.

Stony creek in the RR yard about ½ of the prisnerrs were sent of this morn towards Weldon Nc I did not get off. the remanider of our squad starte just before dark for Weldon We were overhauled some by 9<sup>th</sup> + 13<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Capt McNeen of Co A was brought in alone today.

Saturday, 2.

Arrived at weldon after daylight this morn. Lay in the hot sun nearly all day. Drew a traion of corn meal + a small piece of pork Started in the afternoon for Raleigh in old passinger cars 60 in a car.

July, Sunday, 3, 1864.

Arrived at Raliegh about 2am lay there until the middle of the afternoon drew 6 hard tack and no meat started for salisbury about 4 pm in frieght cars 60 to 50 in a car.

Monday , 4.

arrived at Salisbury at early dawn were soon ater taken to the old prison for rebel desterters + suspected citizens + c Drew a raion of lout (1 pint) + a slice of boiled bacon. There are 22 enlisted men 2 captains + 1 Lieutenante of our Regement in our squad of prisoners.

July, Tuesday, 5, 1864.

Hot

Still in prison this morn Drew two days rations of flour + bacon + started off about 1 o clock P M arrived at charlotte just at night stayed in a piece of woods near the railroad all night thier are a lot of prisoners (mostly infantry) laying near us. also a large squa of Officers came along on the same train with us.

Wednesday, 6.

Hot

Lay near Charlotte all day moved out in the night to get on the cars but did not get on untill after midnight Drew 6 hard tack for two days rations.

July, Thursday, 7, 1864.

Hot

Started from Charlotte his morn after daylight arrived at Columbia S.C. at dark Cap Mc Vean Goodrich + 3 others are said to have made their escaped from Charlotte.

Friday, 8.

Hot

Got aboard the train very early this morn but did not get off until about sunrise arrived at augusta Georgia in the night stopped out in an open field near the railroad.

July, Saturday, 9 1864.

Hot Hotter Hottest

Lay at Augusta untill afternoon drew a loaf and a half of corn bread + bacon for two days rations travelled all day without getting off the weather is terrible hot.

Sunday, 10.

Awful hot Lord help us.

Travelled all night had sharp thundershower which cooled the air a little. Passed through macon just after sunrise Macon is the largest place I have seen in the south. Arrived at andersonville about noon. we wer kept standing in the sun for two or three hours several sufferd from sun stroke. we were put into prison in the afteroon Clouded up at night

July, Monday, 11, 1864.

A little cloudy this morn. This prison (or Pen) is an awful crowded place there are said to be 28000 men here. Deaths at the rate of 30 + over perday. Another squad of 700 prisoners came in to day among them A D Clark Thos Shirtcliff + Clme of Co "M" they came from Richmond via Lynchburg + Danoille Six men were hund to day by the "Regulators" they had been tried by a court and found guilty of murder + robbery in prison.

Tuesday, 12.

Another large squad of prisoners came in to day

[ There are no entries for July 17<sup>th</sup> through July 19<sup>th</sup>]

Wednesday 20

The hottest day that I ever saw very sick + weak

July, Thursday, 21, 1864.

Hot but a breeze blowing Another squad of prisoners came in to day from Atlanta among them 3 of Co. I boys who were first captured in the 29<sup>th</sup> Ills but cut out of the car between here + Augusta + have been travelling ever since. Still very weak.

[ There are not entries for July 22<sup>nd</sup> through July 25<sup>th</sup>]

[from this point forward all documentation written in the second "diferent" hand. Un known author, Possibly Charles Moody]

Tuesday, 26.

Poor Volney died about 4 ½ O clock am he died very quietly apparently without fevir.

[no entries from the 26<sup>th</sup> of July through the 9<sup>th</sup> of September , with the exception of notations of names some of which have the date that they died written in next to them]

Saturday, 10.

On the cars going from Macon to Augusta Bully celebration for my Birth day

September, Sunday, 11, 1864.

Laying on the cars in South Carolina

Monday, 12.

Arrives at Charleston S C early this morning and laid one mile out side of the city our forces were shelling nearly all day.

[ There are no entries for September 13<sup>th</sup> through October 13<sup>th</sup> ]

Friday, 14

Revcieed a parole of honor from the col of the Georgia and was afforded [can not read word { Click??} ]

[There are no entries for October 15<sup>th</sup> through the 19<sup>th</sup> of December]

[next entry written in a third hand , by eather Volney's mother of Father]

December , Tuesday, 20 1864

Rec'd this book from Charles Moody  
my dear boys diary Containing his last accounts.