Friday Morning April 12, 1861.
   On this morning was fired the first gun of the Second American Revolution.
Monday 15th.
   Fort Sumpter surrendered to the Confederate forces under General Beauregard.
May 15.
   The States Right Banner was today hoisted in St. Charles, Mo. but was
   taken down a few days later.
May 28th.
   Today I settled up with Mr. E. G. Sibley, who I was working with, for the
   purpose of going south and enlisting in the army of the South. I must here state
   that I was a strong Union man until Lincoln's call for 75,000 men, when I considered
   it time for every American to take sides in the issue and as I never was for a
   Union of States held together with bayonets I could not consistently support any
   cause but that of the South. As there were no boats running below St. Louis and no
   cars running on the Iron Mountain Railroad, I went down the river on a skiff to New
   Madrid, Mo. and from there to Randolph, Tenn. on the steamer Kentucky.

June 9, Sunday, 1861.
   Today I arrived at Randolph, Tenn. for the purpose of joining the Southern
   Army.

Monday 10th.
   Today I joined the 4th Tenn. Infantry under command of Col. R. F. Neely.
   I joined Co. E, the Harris Guards - Capt. Jas. H. Dean, 1st Lt. M. M. Merritt,

Tuesday 11th.
   The officers of the regiment are: Col. R. F. Neely; Lt. Col. O.F. Strahl;
   Major Jack Henry; Adjutant Henry Hampton; Captains - of Co. A, White; Co. B, Fentress;
   Co. C, Hammond; Co. D, Kellar; Co. E, Jas. H. Dean; Co. F, White; Co. G. Southerland; Co.
   H, Henry Hampton; Co. I, Turner; Co. K, Fowkes.

Wednesday 12th.
   Every day is devoted to drill. I was a little awkward at first but I
   learned very quickly and get along very well.

Wednesday 19th.
   Company drill is the order of the day. I get along as well now as the
   oldest members of the company.

Monday June 31st.
   Nothing doing but our regular Company drill.

Saturday July 5, 1861.
   The regiment was paid off today for the first time.

Monday 7th.
   The regiment received marching orders today. We are cooking three days
   rations.

Tuesday July 8, 1861.
   Today we are clearing off our camp ground at Fort Pillow, our present
   place for camping.

Thursday 10th.
   We are busy clearing off a drill ground. This does not please the boys
   very much.
Saturday - August 17th
We were today sworn into the service of the Southern Confederacy having been heretofore in the Tennessee State Service. In the evening we got marching orders. We went up the river to New Madrid, Mo. on a boat, where we arrived on Tuesday 19th and marched out of town about 1½ miles and camped in an old field.

Thursday 21st.
This evening we took up our line of march for Sikeston. We marched until about 11:00 P.M., marching about 17 miles.

Friday 22nd.
We are again on the march, halting about two o'clock P.M. about 2½ miles from Sikeston in a beautiful grove of timber to cook our dinner and whilst we were engaged at it a Scout came in with a report that the enemy were advancing, their van being at that moment in sight of Sikeston. We were instantly ordered to fall in, which we quickly did and doubled quicked about 1½ miles and formed in line of battle in the edge of the woods on the roadside and a couple of scouts sent out again to learn the whereabouts and force of the enemy. During all this time wagons and carriages were rushing past loaded with furniture, women and children crying and shouting made us think the enemy were surely coming. Our force in order of battle consisted of our regiment, about 750 men strong, and Capt. James McNeely's Cavalry about 250 men strong and about 200 Missourians armed with rifles and shot guns, making an effective force of about 1200 men. But Capt. McNeely's scouts returning brought the report that no enemy was near and also what caused the false report. It was this--the first scout being sent towards Bird Point in an old field on the roadside saw some of old Abe's Dutch Cavalry making a very grand display going through the cavalry drill. They made such a noise that our scout (who by the way must have been somewhat timid) thought it was a large force advancing and reported it as such. About two hours after the alarm some of James McNeely's Cavalry brought in 19 prisoners - they were the first prisoners I saw since the war began --they were a dirty ragged set of fellows. When our scout brought the report that the alarm was false we were immediately ordered forward. Again we marched about two miles through Sikeston and camped in an old field that night. About dusk in the evening it commenced raining and it rained hard all night and all the next day.

Saturday 23rd.
This morning we cooked our breakfast whilst the rain continued to fall in torrents. And in this heavy rain, with mud a foot deep, we continued our march towards Benton. We marched steadily all day, sometimes through mud and sometimes water two feet deep. About an hour before dark we arrived at Camp No. 2 at Watkins farm three miles from Benton, the County seat of Scott County, Mo. at which place Gen. Jeff Thompson with his brigade were camped. Just before dark we pitched our tents and it rained hard all night, soaking us entirely through tents, blankets and all our clothes.

Sunday, August 24, 1861.
This morning, wet and tired, I went on guard. It rained at intervals all day.

Monday 25th.
The sun came out bright and fine and the boys are busy drying up.

Tuesday 26th.
Also a very fine day but the boys are all complaining about their rations, which is at present only half our allowance but it is because transportaion is very scarce and were it not for Mr. Watkins we would have fared very badly during our stay at this place. This true Southern man had about three hundred acres of corn just in roasting ear time and he gave it all to the use of the army and many a hungry man and horse did it relieve whilst we stayed here.

Wednesday, 27th.
A fine warm day, mud disappearing very fast.
Thursday 28th.
Today we started back for Sikeston where we arrived about an hour before sunset, a march of 16 miles. We pitched our tents in an old field about half a mile from town.

Friday 29th.
A very fine day and a day of rest after our march of yesterday.

Saturday 30th.
A very fine day. I am a regimental guard today.

Tuesday September 2nd.
Today we took up our line of march for New Madrid again where we arrived about an hour after dark, a hard march of 21 miles. We camped in an old field about 1½ miles from town. This was the hardest days march I ever have done. It was a very warm day and the dust about a foot deep. A great many of the boys gave out.

Wednesday September 3rd.
We cooked two days rations and marched into town and got on the steamer H.R.W. Hill and came up the River to Hickman, Ky. where we arrived about an hour after dark.

Thursday 4th.
This morning we pitched our tents on the bank of the Father of Waters once more. About 3 P.M. one of Abraham’s gun boats came in sight. We were immediately formed in line of battle expecting troops to land but none came and after exchanging a few shots with our light artillery they turned towards Cairo again. This was the first time I ever saw a Yankee gunboat.

Friday 5th.
Today we got on the cars and came to Columbus, Ky. where we pitched our tents Sun. 7th.

Wednesday September 10, 1861.
A report came that Jeff Thompson’s Missouri Brigade was engaged with the enemy about six miles above this place on the Missouri side of the River and our regiment was immediately ordered to the scene of action but when we got there the Yankees had disappeared. The fight took place between Jeff Thompson’s Light Artillery and two of Father Abrahams gunboats but this was a very unequal fight for Jeff had only six pounders against the heavy guns of the enemy. At the same time they landed some cavalry but Jeff soon caused these fellows to turn in double quick for the boats which they all succeeded in gaining except five hindmost that were gobbled up by Jeff’s men. Our loss was four or five wounded by the bursting of a shell. We rested on our arms all night on the battlefield expecting another advance of the enemy but they did not come and on the morning of the 11th we marched one mile to the River and got on board the Steamer Admiral and returned to our camp at Columbus.

Friday Sept. 12th.
I went on guard at Gen. Folks headquarters. I remained on guard here fifteen days. I had a very easy time of it. I had only to stand sentinel four hours out of every twenty-four.

Tuesday 16th.
Our regiment was again ordered over into Missouri. I got another man to go on guard in my place so that I could go with the regiment. We crossed the River and our Colonel ordered us to march as quietly as possible as it was to be a masked movement to be executed quietly and quickly. We marched about eight miles and laid in ambush in a thicket about thirty-six hours but the enemy who was expected did not come and we marched back again, disappointed and I again went on guard at Gen. Folks headquarters.
Saturday 20th.
Our camp was moved up the River about three-fourths of a mile from the heights.

Saturday 27th.
I was relieved from guard at General Folk's headquarters.

Sunday 28th.
The weather for the last two weeks has been very fine.

Saturday, October 4th.
Our regiment was paid off up to the 17th of August.

Sunday, Oct. 5th.
The weather is clear and fine. Our Colonel is promoted to Brevet Brigadier commanding our brigade which is now in Gen. J. P. McCown's Division. Our brigade consists of three regiments of infantry, one battalion of cavalry and one battery of light artillery under Capt. Bankhead of the cavalry and our Col's. brother James.

Tuesday 8th.
Two of the enemy's gunboats came down the river today and engaged Capt. Hamilton's battery. They kept up a brisk cannonade for about two hours without doing any damage, their shots falling short as I think also did ours.

Friday, Oct. 11, 1861.
Today two gunboats are again in sight and they also have in tow the old steamer Alex Scott which boat landed some men on the Missouri side. The little gunboat went up to reconnoiter and on its return reported that the Yankees were gathering the corn in a large field on the river bank.

Saturday 12th.
It is reported today that the Yankees completely plundered the plantation of a Southern man where they landed yesterday.

Sunday 13th.
I am on regimental guard today. About an hour after dark a courier came with a report that our cavalry were engaged with the enemy about 14 miles from here and about an hour later another came who reported the enemy rapidly advancing in heavy force and Col. Fickett's regiment and 250 cavalry were sent out to reinforce our side.

Monday 14th.
It was ascertained today that the alarm of yesterday was false. No enemy is advancing and the gunboat is gone up the river with a flag of truce.

Sunday Oct. 20th.
From the 14th up to this date nothing has transpired worth noting.

Monday 21st.
Today two Irishmen came up to our guard line and when halted and asked for a pass they showed one from Cairo to Paducah signed by the Yankee Gen. Grant. They were marched back to headquarters.

Tuesday 22nd.
Two gunboats came in sight today but did not come within range of our guns. After the gunboats had gone back out of sight Gen. Pillow ordered Capt. Bankhead to load one of his small Farret guns and try its range. One shot was fired and it was loaded again and fired when it bursted, wounding three gunners, one losing an arm, the other two wounded slightly and it was a miracle that the Gen. himself escaped as he was not even eight feet from the gun when it bursted.
Friday Oct. 24th.
I tried today to get a transfer to Capt. Bankhead's Light Artillery but my Captain would not let me go.

Saturday 25th.
Our regiment was at work on the fortifications today.

Tuesday 29th.
I was on guard today.

Wednesday 30th.
This was inspection day in our brigade. It was a very fine day and the men made a very fine display and I heard our officers express great satisfaction at the conduct of the men.

Thursday Oct. 31, 1861.
Today a flag of troops came down from Cairo to make arrangements relative to an exchange of prisoners.

Saturday Nov. 2nd.
This day we went out on the first scout we were ever sent out on. We had morning drill as usual for the last few days and in the evening also our usual dress parade. Supper was over also roll call and we were about retiring for the night when our orderly came round and ordered us to fall in as quietly and quickly as possible which we did. Our Captain then asked for forty volunteers, which he quickly got, and we were marched quickly outside of our regimental guard when our Captain halted us and told us what we were going out for. He said our cavalry pickets had been driven in by the enemy and we were ordered out to find the whereabouts and force of the enemy. We then marched on about half a mile further to where our pickets then were and halted and loaded. There was a fire about three hundred yards in advance of this that the cavalry told the enemy had kindled and our Colonel then came forward and said he wanted ten men to go forward to the fire and return and report. At least half of the company instantly stepped out when ten was selected and we advanced to within about one hundred yards of the fire and Captain Dean sent forward our foremost man to reconnoitre but he went to the fire without discovering an enemy, then we again advanced about half a mile and scouts sent out in every direction as the night was an awful dark one. In this way we continued advancing with scouts thrown out nearly half way to Fort Holt when our Colonel becoming convinced that no enemy were about marched us back to camp.

Sunday, Nov. 3rd.
Today a company of the 11th Louisiana went out two miles and established a regular picket post on the road to Fort Holt. This post is to be kept up by this brigade—our brigade to keep up a post on the Blandville road—it will require one company each day to keep up this guard.

Thursday Nov. 7th.
Today was fought the bloody battle of Belmont, the first regular battle I ever saw, only having been under fire before in one or two skirmishes. About eight o'clock A.M. the cry was that the gunboats were coming. There were three of them and they and they had in convey three or four transports which landed troops on the Missouri shore about six miles above this place. The gunboats came down and engaged Captain Hamilton's heavy artillery on the Heights and Captain Stewart's light artillery, it being rifled, guns were were sent up on this side to engage the gunboats. The 11th Louisiana Battalion and my company were sent to protect Stewart's battery from an expected attack on this side. While we were laying here we had a fine view of the spirited little artillery duel that Stewart had with the three gunboats, the gunboats threw shells which bursted over
and all around us fortunately without hurting any of our company. One of the
gunboats was damaged and had to haul off and leave the fight. One of Stewart's
guns bursted, killing two of the gunners. About ten o'clock a. m. and whilst
we were lying here, heavy firing of musketry was heard on the Missouri side and
we knew at once that our brave companions on the other side were engaged with the
enemy, the roar of musketry becoming more heavy as the fight progressed. Mean-
while scouts had been sent out on this side one of whom returning about two
o'clock P. M. reported no enemy within ten miles on this side of the river and
as the gunboats had hauled off we were ordered back to camp and almost immediately
ordered over to the scene of action but we were delayed at the river and when we
got on the battlefield the Yankee vandals had fled and the battle was over and
the last stragglers were coming in from the pursuit of the discomfited legions
of Father Abraham. Our regiment was shortly after ordered back to camp. Captain
Bean stayed with a detail of 100 men from the regiment to gather in our killed
and wounded. As the 13th Arkansas Regiment camped at Camp Belmont and were first
engaged, they were almost cut to pieces. The 2nd and 12th Tennessee were also
very heavily engaged, the 2nd losing very heavily also. These regiments were
the heaviest losers in the fight and did nearly all the fighting.

Friday Nov. 8, 1861.
The reports of the battle are coming in slowly. In reporting losses, in proportion
to the number engaged the slaughter was heavy - the enemy had engaged from six
to seven thousand men - our side at no time had more than 3,500 men engaged. Our
loss in killed and wounded is 302 and 105 taken prisoners, making our total loss
407 men. The 13th Arkansas, Col. Tappan reports his loss 79 killed and wounded,
the 2nd Tenn., Col. Knox Walker reports his at 85. I have not learned exactly
the true reports of the other regiments but except the 12th and 13th Tenn. their
losses must be very slight. The object of the enemy was to make a simultaneous
attack on both sides of the river and on the river with their boats and by one
grand effort take Columbus, but from an unknown cause they failed to come to time
on this side and I think they should be very thankful for I think they would have
received a terrible whipping. At one time yesterday the enemy had possession
of nearly all the field - they charged half way through the camp of the 13th Ark-
ansas. At this time we did not have more than 800 men engaged against about four
or five thousand of the enemy but so soon as our men received reinforcements they
retook every thing that they had lost, driving the enemy back to their boats with
great slaughter - our men took one flag and about 800 stand of arms. The regi-
ments of theirs which did the best fighting was the 7th Iowa and 26th Illinois, for
they were nearly cut to pieces. The 6th Illinois also sustained a heavy loss -
our report of their loss is 1200 killed and wounded, I think it will be greater
than this. Last night when our boys got back to camp from the field of battle
they were hungry and tired, having eaten nothing since morning. We had just had
our supper and were about retiring for the night when we were ordered out on a
scout, we marched about three miles and were met by a cavalry scout who informed
us that there was no enemy within fifteen miles, then we returned to our camp.

Saturday No. 9th.
Today a flag of truce came down from the enemy and asked permission to bury their
dead, which was allowed by our General. Captain Bean promoted me to first corpora-
tal today.

Sunday 10th. I am on guard today.

Monday 11th.
There was a terrible accident happened here today, viz; the bursting of the
large gun called the Lady Polk. This was a 128 pound rifle gun, one of the best
in the Confederacy. The day of the battle at Belmont the gun had been used with
considerable effect upon the enemy on the opposite side and in the evening the
gun was left loaded, having been loaded whilst it was very hot. Today gun...
Dillon, William Sylvester - Diary: Civil War Experiences April 12, 1861 - June 25, 1865

Reproduced from the original by William Henry Dillon (original in possession of Mrs. N.E. Ward)
D I A R Y  O F
WILLIAM SYLVESTER DILLON
Covering the Period
April 12, 1861
To
June 25, 1865
Inclusive

Noting
His Experiences During The Civil War

Reproduced from the original writing word for word by William Hiram Dillon, his Grandson. The original is in possession of Mrs. N. E. Ward of Prescott, Ark., the eldest living daughter of W. S. Dillon.
Tuesday Dec. 10, 1861
We go on another scout tonight - fifteen picked men.

Wednesday 11th.
Yesterday evening we marched 17 miles and laid in ambush about 36 hours for a party of Dutch Cavalry who it was reported had passed here regularly for some time but this time they did not come and we had our march for nothing - we got back to camp about 9:00 P.M.

Thursday 12th.
Out 2nd Lt. Brown died this evening after a short illness occasioned by a cold he caught whilst scouting with us the night of the 8th. He was very much liked by all the men of the company for his gentlemanly conduct to all. The company lost a good officer and the country a brave soldier - peace to his memory.

Friday Dec. 13th.
The great floating battery arrived today from New Orleans. It mounts twenty guns of large caliber.

Saturday 14th.
The great ram, Manassas, arrived today, also another gunboat. These add greatly to the strength of the place.

Thursday 19th.
Our company is out on picket again but I am on brigade guard.

Friday 20th.
Today a deserter came to our lines reporting great excitement in the north, caused by the arrest of Mason and Slidell. They fear war with England as a consequence. We had an election in our company today to fill the place of Lt. Brown who died on the 12th. Our 2nd Sgt. James K. Murphy was elected.

Wednesday 25th.
A Christmas in camp is a different thing from a Christmas before the war - no day can change the even tenor of camp life.

Thursday 31st.
As this is the last of the month we have our regular muster.

Wednesday January 1, 1862.

Thursday 7th.
There is nothing doing in camp. We have got our winter quarters finished and we are living an idle easy life at present, all our duty being some light guard duty.

Friday Jan. 17, 1862.
Gen. McCown with our regiment and the 11th Louisiana made a reconnaissance towards Paducah in consequence of the reports of the advance of the enemy but after proceeding about seven miles we met our scouts returning with the news that there was no enemy within fifteen miles. We were ordered back to camp by Gen. Polk. This march of 14 miles was very hard as it was very muddy.

Monday 20th.
I have been somewhat unwell for the past two days. I caught a bad cold on the last scout on the 17th. The company is out on picket today.
Thursday 23rd.
At dress parade this evening we had orders read in reference to reenlisting for two years of the war. The 9th Tennessee, under Colonel Douglas, have reenlisted under this law and they present indications are that nearly all will follow their example.

Saturday Feb. 1st.
Today our regiment was paid up to Jan. 1, 1862, receiving pay for 4½ months.

Sunday 2nd.
General J. P. Fellow has withdrawn his resignation. The men are all glad to hear this for he was loved by all officers and men under him.

Monday 3rd.
It is awful around our camp because of the great amount of rain that has fallen in the last three or four days.

Wed. Feb. 5th.
I was on division guard last night, a very bad night.

Tuesday 11th. I was on division guard again last night. Tonight General Beauregard arrived here. It is reported he takes command of this post and that Gen. Polk will leave. For sometime there has been a great deal of grumbling against Polk, many pronouncing him incompetent to fill the place he holds. The men cheered and greeted Beauregard with the greatest enthusiasm and he was serenaded by several bands. All the men have unbounded confidence in the little Frenchman and nothing would please the men more than to get him for a commander.

Thursday 13th.
The weather has been fine for two or three days. Today a Sgt. Bennigan of the 2nd Tennessee, an Irish regiment, came to my cabin. He was taken prisoner by the Yankees at Belmont. He told me a great many incidents of the battles. This man, Bennigan, is a Kentuckian by birth and served through the Mexican war in the 2nd Kentucky Infantry. He is a fine soldierly looking fellow and a very intelligent man also. Belmont was his seventh battle but he said in no battle in the Mexican war was there such fighting done. He says the Illinois and Iowa troops fought very bravely and he also confirms my statement, viz: that the 13th Arkansas and the 2nd and 13th Tennessee Regiments did nearly all the fighting on our side.

He was taken by the 7th Iowa and was six days at Cairo before he was exchanged. He said he had a conversation with the Colonel of the 7th Iowa, who told him that his regiment left Cairo 1040 men strong and the next morning 273 men answered roll call, making a loss in killed, wounded and prisoners in one regiment of 167 men, so their loss must be greater than I have stated for he says this Colonel told him that seven picked regiments left Cairo also four companies of sharp-shooters to act as skirmishers and that six of these regiments participated in the fight, the seventh acting as a reserve which was not brought into action.

Saturday 15th.
Our company is out on picket today again - clear and very cold.

Tuesday 18th.
We have dress parade this evening and orders read to drill every day from nine to eleven 1 o'clock A.M.

Wednesday 19th.
This is a cold, wet and stormy day.
Saturday 22nd.
The birthday of George Washington, the first great American rebel and Jeff Davis the second is this day to be inaugurated President of the Confederate States of America.

Sunday 23rd.
There is a fleet of gunboats in sight and wild rumors afloat of an early attack upon us.

Tuesday 25th.
I was on division guard last night.

Wednesday 26th.
This afternoon we had drill and in the evening dress parade and immediately after we got orders to pack up our knapsacks and hold ourselves in readiness to march at a moments notice. It is reported that the enemy 20,000 strong are marching upon New Madrid and that we are to meet them.

Thursday 27th.
About daylight this morning we got marching orders and we immediately went to work to cook two days rations and about 9:00 A. M. we marched to the River and got on board the steamer Magnolia and run down to New Madrid, but just as our boat was rounding to, the order came to run back as far as Island No. 10, but we were landed about two miles above. I think where we landed was in the state of Kentucky but however that may be, we laid here all night. This was a clear fine day.

Friday 28th.
About 9:00 o'clock A. M. we were ordered to move our encampment down the River about 1 1/2 miles - this was a very discouraging piece of business as the boys had to carry all their camp equipage whilst several boats lay idle tied up to the shore for several days but our Col and Brig Generals were both drunk and our Lt. Col. in command did not have the authority to order a boat to our assistance. This day has done much to discourage the men.

Saturday March 1, 1862.
It is raining in torrents today and a great many of the men have no tents - nothing but a small tent fly. My mess, seven in number, has one small fly and I think this is all owing to the neglect of our officers for there are heaps of tents lying at our quartermasters department.

Monday 3rd.
We again moved our camp about three-fourths of a mile further down the River into a fine grove of timber just on the River bank where we have wood and water plenty. This is the most commodious camp ground we have ever had and as usual we had to carry everything. There is heavy camonading heard this evening in the direction of New Madrid and we have just got orders to cook two days rations and be ready to move at 3 A. M. on the morrow.

Tuesday 4th.
At half past one the drums beat the long roll and at half past two we fell in and marched to the River and went aboard the Steamer John Simonds. We arrived at New Madrid at daylight, our regiment immediately marched on shore and formed in line and our company was sent out as skirmishers as the Yankees were camped about three miles from town in the edge of a heavy grove of timber. We went to within sight of their camp and sent out a strong picket, our picket and theirs were only about five hundred yards apart and from the tops of buildings where we were, we could distinctly see their wagons moving about their camp. Our General was expecting an attack today but our pickets were not disturbed all day. I think the enemy received reinforcements this evening as I saw a considerable train of wagons arrive in their camp.
Companies A and B were sent to our relief but they were not destined to have such a quiet time of it as we did. About twelve o'clock the enemy made an attempt to cut them off but a sentinel of Co. B gave the alarm, firing and killing a Yankee. The two companies then fell back behind the breastworks. Co. E was lodged in a large house about three hundred yards from the picket line. The Yankees advanced to within fifty yards of the house and had they known that we were in it every one of us would have been captured but fortunately for us they did not know this and our artillery opening upon them checked their advance and the artillery kept up a heavy fire for about an hour. The fire of our artillery killed one man besides the one killed by our picket. Our side lost none in this midnight skirmish. Their loss in wounded is not known.

Wednesday 5th.
We are still hourly expecting an attack from the enemy who number from 15 to 20,000 whilst our entire force is less than 4,000, including artillery and everything. Today we were reinforced by two more regiments. About 5 o'clock P. M. we received orders to return to our camp at Island No. 10. We got on board the Ohio Belle and arrived back at camp about half past nine P. M., very much fatigued having lost two nights rest.

Thursday March 6, 1862.
I feel considerably better after one good nights rest and we have already received orders to cook three days rations and be ready to move at a moments notice. It is cold and stormy, the snow that fell on the 4th is not yet melted away.

Friday 7th.
This is a very fine morning and much warmer than any for this last week. I forgot to mention the almost total destruction of the fine old town of New Madrid. In building the fortifications many houses had to be taken down as they were in the way of the range of the guns and the people nearly all fled on the approach of the Yankees and I am sorry to say that our own soldiers were guilty of acts that would have disgraced Yankees themselves, such as searching for liquor in the houses deserted by the owners. Fortunately none was found. I went around some of the buildings that were torn down to look for old books as I saw some of the men have some, but nearly all the books scattered around here were medical or law books and ledger and old journals. I saw some very old ledger and account books, one I saw dated 1698 was written in French and the heading was District of New Madrid, Louisiana Territory, December 1698. Heavy firing was heard last night down the river, it is not known what is up now that the Yankees hold Columbus, Kentucky. And I think there is no Confederate forces in that state now.

Saturday 8th.
The drums beat for roll call at half past four A. M., two hours earlier than common, and we have orders to move again at daylight. We fell in and marched on board the Steamer John Simonds and ran down to Madrid where we left the right wing of our regiment, viz: - companies A, F, B, I, and C. The balance stayed on board and dropped down the river and landed on the Tennessee shore about two hours when we came up to Madrid again where we stand picket tonight, relieving the right wing after dark.

Sunday 9th.
Last night was a very disagreeable night to be on picket. In the morning our picket was advanced a little and it was a clear place. Our pickets and those of the enemy would be in musket range of each other for they are not more than from three to five hundred yards apart. The enemy now have possession of Point Pleasant ten miles below this place and have blockaded the river at that place so that our water communications are cut off. Yesterday two of our gunboats went down to engage the enemy but effected nothing. The Yankee force is reported at 5,000 Infantry, two pieces of heavy artillery and two batteries of light artillery. About 10 o'clock A.M.
wishing to further try the range of the gun ordered one of the gunners to raise it to its greatest elevation and fire it. The gunner who was an old artillerist, remonstrated as did General J. F. McCown another old artillerist of the Mexican war and he (McCown) proposed to draw the lead, but General Polk again ordered the cannonier to fire the piece and on his refusal another gunner was ordered to fire it, when it bursted killing 14 men and slightly wounding a great number. The man who fired it was nearly blown to atoms. General Polk himself was wounded, narrowly escaping with his life.

Tuesday Nov. 12, 1861.
Accounts from the Northern papers admit a loss at Belmont of 1,029 men killed and wounded, but our accounts place it at 1600 including prisoners. So that the two accounts come near enough together for me to say that I believe our account is correct.

Thursday 14th.
Our regiment moved their camp ground down the river about a half mile to where we are to build our winter quarters.

Friday 15th.
Yesterday a deserter came to our lines who reported that we would be attacked here about the 20th of this month and today another came in who confirmed the same report. Tonight the men are at work on the trenches preparing for their advance.

Saturday Nov. 16th.
Today a gun caisson belonging to Smith's battery blew up, slightly wounding two men who were seated upon it.

Tuesday 19th.
For the last three days and nights we have worked constantly in the trenches and Columbus at the present time is pronounced by military men to be a stronghold and we are waiting patiently for the advance of the Yankee.

Tuesday 26th.
Two of our gunboats arrived today from New Orleans. I think they will never be of much service as they are not built strong enough to meet those of the enemy. One of their mounts three and the other four guns of large caliber.

Wednesday 27th.
Another came up mounting two guns.

Thursday 28th.
My company is out on picket today.

Saturday December 7th.
Since the 28th of Nov. nothing has occurred to break the monotony of our camp life.

Sunday December 8, 1861.
Last night we were ordered out on another scout towards Fort Holt. It was a dreadful dark night. We marched steadily all night. We went to within three miles of Fort Holt but our guide did not know the roads well enough to hazard an attack on their pickets and we marched back disappointed, marching in the course of the night about 32 miles. We got back to camp about one hour after sun up.

Monday 9th.
Today we commenced building our winter quarters.
We got on board the Steamer John Simonds and returned to our camp at Island No.10. In the evening we had dress parade and orders read from General McCown to keep two days rations cooked and hold ourselves in readiness to move at any time at a moments notice.

Monday, March 10, 1862.
It rained very hard all night and but for my good fortune in getting a good tent yesterday we would have fared badly; as it was we got along very well.

Tuesday 11th.
Today we had battalion drill, something unusual.

Wednesday 12th.
Today we had battalion drill again.

Thursday 13th.
About ten A. M. heavy firing is heard in the direction of New Madrid. It is reported that the enemy in front of New Madrid are reinforcing. The heavy firing continued about two hours.

Friday 14th.
In the sight of yesterday at New Madrid the enemies loss is reported at 300 men killed and wounded; our loss very trifling. Only three or four wounded, none killed. Last night our forces evacuated the place.

Saturday 15th.
This morning at daylight the smoke of the enemies gunboats can be seen in the river above and they ran down a slough on the Missouri side until opposite the island and threw a few shells at the camp of the Louisiana bous on the Island but they did no damage.

Sunday 16th.
This morning there is a great deal of smoke in the river towards Cairo and shortly after the gunboats appeared in plain view again. We are all expecting an attack but they were content to throw a few shells from long tau which all fell short.

Monday 17th.
Last night was a beautiful clear moonlight night; our men took three Lincolntes in a skiff who were taking sounding on the opposite shore. This morning their gunboats are again in sight above. About 9 A. M. we were ordered to put our dinners in our haversacks and fall in, then we were marched about two miles up the river and lay all day in support of our upper battery, as one of the men taken in the skiff said they were going to attempt to take this battery today. They threw shells all day but did not attempt to land any men late in the day our batteries replied to them but I think they never hurt a man or injured a boat - in our upper battery we had a Lt. killed and nine men wounded but this was a very small loss considering the vigor of the cannonading and the time that it continued. The loss of the enemy is not known. The range of the mortars of the enemy is much greater than ours - they threw shells over six miles today - they threw them over and all around us but fortunately none of the regiment was hurt. The cannonading continued until sundown when we were marched back to camp. Just after supper we got orders to fall in and we marched six miles across the point to Tiptonville, which by the rivers is thirty miles from our camp at the Island. We were marched about one mile below Tiptonville and went aboard the Steamer Victoria and ran down the river.

Tuesday, March 18, 1862.
This morning we are back again at our old camp ground at Fort Pillow.
Wednesday 19th.
It rained very hard all night but yesterday we were very fortunate enough to get possession of some old winter quarters - consequently we fared well. About twelve o'clock we were marched to the River and again marched back to our temporary quarters and about 9 P.M. we again were marched to the River and got on the Steamer Republic and again ordered back to our quarters about three-fourths of a mile from the River. About 11 P.M. we again marched to the River and went on board the Steamer General Quitman and proceeded down the River to Memphis where we arrived the morning of

Thursday 20th.
About an hour after daylight we were marched through the city to the depot and then allowed the liberty of the city until five o'clock P.M. when we got on the cars for Corinth where we arrived the evening of.

Friday 21st.
About an hour after dark and on Saturday 22nd we pitched our tents about 1 1/2 miles from Corinth in Tishomingo County, Mississippi.

Monday 24th.
We moved our camp to the top of a little ridge and are busy today cleaning up our camp ground. Some officers whom I have been talking to say there is now at this place about seventy regiments of Confederate troops and under the command of Gen. A. S. Johnston. As we came through Memphis some of the boys took a big spree and it was well for the troops that the city was under a strict martial law and very strict martial laws enacted the sale of liquor - for in spite of all this there was a great number of drunks - I believe there were only about three cases in my company. The place where we are camped now is heavily timbered with oak and hickory with swamps around us in every direction and altogether I think this just about the poorest country I ever saw, and indeed, I am told this is the poorest part of Mississippi. The boys are now beginning to get used to moving about.

Yesterday, the 23rd of March, it snowed a little, which I thought strange to see in March in the State of Mississippi. Today it is wet, windy and cold.

Friday 28th.
For four days we have had very fine weather and have had company drill every day.

Monday 31st.
General review today by Brig. Gen. Clerk, who commands the division which we belong to at present.

Tuesday, April 1, 1862.
Company drill as usual and but for this our camp life would be very dull - as it is, it is almost insupportable.

Thursday 3rd.
Today we got marching orders which changes the monotony of our camp life and makes everything bustle and confusion. We have orders to cook three days rations and be ready to move at a moments notice - about an hour after dark we fell in and marched about five miles when we bivouacked until morning.

Friday April 4, 1862.
We continued our march again today. There appears to be a general belief amongst the men that we are going out to fight the Yanks. The roads are in a terrible bad condition. About ten A.M. we crossed the state line into the state of Tennessee, McNairy County I believe it is, also one of the poorest counties of the State. We bivouacked in the woods tonight and it rained heavily all night - we had no shelter except what nature could afford in the shape of trees - I appropriated one and stuck closely to it all night. We are now within about 4 miles of the enemy who are camped as in force at Pittsburg Landing on the Tenn. River.
Saturday 5th.
This morning at early dawn we are standing in line ready to advance and we all feel certain we will have a fight. Our forces under Braxton Bragg, W. J. Hardee and Leonidas Polk, the dashing little Beauregard and the noble A. S. Johnston, are advancing in fine spirits to meet the invader. After a night spent under a tree for protection I am standing guard tonight along with C. K. Voorhies, E. E. Harris, W. L. McGowan and John Ross. I mention the names of the guards under my command tonight as we are expecting to meet the enemy on the morrow. The brigade is camped in a hollow swarre and rest all night on their arms.

Sunday 6th.
Day had scarcely dawned when we were in line and in half an hour we were in sight of the enemy's camp where the fight commenced and heavy firing just beyond announces the position of the combatants by the firing recedes from us telling us of the irresistible charge of the gallant Harter who opened the fight at the dawning of the day. We continued our march directly forward soon coming to see in earnestness the work done by our gallant comrades - in the meantime the fighting continued in our front - the roar of cannon and the rattle of musketry was kept up incessantly. Polk's command to which my regiment is the reserve corps but all this time we kept steadily advancing slowly in this way until about 10 a.m. when the enemy made a last desperate effort to change the tide of battle and the reserve corps was ordered forward to the scene of action. We were marshed by the left flank to support a battery of ours when an incident occurred which came near ruining our regiment - as we advance to take position assigned to us we had to cross over a little knoll when coming suddenly in full view of a Louisiana Regiment who was engaged with the enemy in front. These men mistook us for enemies and fired a heavy volley into our ranks and before the officers could check them, the left wing of our regiment returned the fire, but I think this was altogether the fault of our officers in not letting the men know the movements of their friends. In this fire my company lost one man wounded, private James H. Gray, shot in the wrist and hand, Capt. Southernland of Co. G. was also killed and several others wounded - after this our regiment was ordered back and was for a moment panic stricken, but it was only for a moment, and were soon in line again and was ordered to charge and take a battery of the enemy which was doing our lines a deal of damage. This was gallantly done, but our losses were terrible. We marshed by the right flank about 1/2 mile then by the left flank double quick march and away went our gallant boys over every obstacle, driving the Yanks from their guns with a yell - some of them were even left loaded. We took six pieces of splendid artillery, two were twenty pound brass rifled guns, also three Caissons. After we charged and took this battery we were marshed by the left flank about 600 yards to support Captain Polk's artillery. This battery was creating great havoc in the ranks of the enemy. They made two desperate efforts to take it but they could not stand the double charges of grape and canister aided by our line of infantry. At this place we lay for about half an hour under the heaviest fire that I ever beheld from an enemy at least double our number. Nearly every horse in this battery was shot down and two thirds of the gunners were killed or wounded under this terrible fire. I must here note an incident of great bravery on the part of one of the artillerists. All the horses of his piece was disabled and all the men either killed or wounded and this brave soldier under one of the most terrible fires that ever any battery was under, when all but him had left their guns or were killed or wounded, he loaded and fired the gun three times with a double charge of caimister. About this time we were ordered forward. We rushed forward in front of the battery and after two or three heavy volleys the enemy fled and left us in quiet possession of this part of the field - the General in command gave our regiment great credit for the manner in which we protected this battery. I never was able to learn the name of the brave artillerist. We were then marshed to the rear and rested about an hour when we were ordered to advance and assist in another charge against some of the enemy's artillery, but when we arrived the enemy had fallen back. We were then marshed by a circuitous route around toward the Tenn. River, ever a great part of the battle field which extends over an area of nearly 6 miles one way and these the other -
We had two slightly wounded, Robert Muckle, E. M. Hatch, D. A. Williamson, Joseph Tiley, T. A. Scott, William Bohannon, E. E. Harris, James Harkins, S. F. Maxey, C. A. Scott, T. A. Huddleston and C. E. Dean. Our loss was 27 men of 68 men engaged and strange to say not an officer or non-commissioned officer received a wound.

Tuesday April 8, 1862.
This morning we are ordered to fall in without breakfast and we take up our line of march for Corinth again, which is fifteen miles distant, and the roads are in a very bad state from the recent heavy rains that have fallen, the mud in some places a foot deep. We arrived at our old camp about 9 o'clock P. M. almost worn out from hunger and fatigue. I forgot to state that our brave Major Jack Henry of Memphis was mortally wounded on the 6th.

Wednesday 9th.
Yesterday there was some heavy cavalry fighting on the battlefield of the 6th and 7th. Our cavalry took a few prisoners. The Yankees do not yet hold all their camp ground.

Thursday 10th.
I learned by the Memphis Appeal that the Yankees have taken Island No. 10. The sun is shining today, the first sunshine for several days. I was talking with Lt. Col. Strahl today; he told me the loss of the regiment was 39 killed, 180 wounded and 12 missing, making a total loss of 231.

Saturday 12th.
The enemy have advanced and taken possession of all their old camp ground. It has rained constantly for three days and nights.

Sunday 13th.
One week since we saw the sun shine all day; I am as yet unable to learn the loss of our army sustained in the late battle of Shiloh. The 13th Arkansas Regiment, under Col. Tappan, lost 100 men and if I average the loss of our army by this regiment and the 4th, our loss would be about 4000 and I think this will be near the amount.

Wednesday 16th.
There are a great many of the boys sick from exposure and fatigue of the battle and the few days succeeding. I have been unwell for the past two days. According to the papers our loss in the battle of Shiloh was 700 killed and 4,500 wounded. Northern papers admit their loss to be in killed, wounded and prisoners 20,000. We also took 110 pieces of splendid artillery.

Tuesday 22nd.
Owing to the great amount of rain that has fallen in the last two weeks the condition of our camp is very bad; there is a great many of the men sick at present. One of Co. F. died last night.

Saturday 26th.
Raining as usual for this month. The conscript law just passed by the Confederate Congress is causing some excitement and dissatisfaction amongst the men. Last evening our Lt. Col. O. F. Strahl made a speech to us giving his opinion of the object of the law and they exactly coincided with the opinion I first expressed when I heard of the passage of the act. A great many object to this law because they say it is unconstitutional. I have heard others say unconstitutional or not it is unjust and we ought not to obey it, but it is needless for men to say that, it is only ignorant, or I might say lukewarm men that view it in the light of unconstitutionality and any man that charges it as being unjust when it is constitutional must then attack the Constitution. Our regiment reorganized today for two years of the war and elected our Lt. Col. O. F. Strahl as colonel, Captain A. J. Kallar of

Monday 28th.
Today the fall of New Orleans is reported. Our regiment was paid off today and the Captains and Lieutenants of the regiment who were not reelected received their discharge.

Tuesday 29th.
Our newly elected Capt. S. F. Maclay took command of the company today.

Wednesday 30th.
Today I saw 23 prisoners that our cavalry took on the 26th at Tuscumbia, Ala.

Thursday May 1, 1862.
The weather, so long wet and dreary, is today clear and fine. We moved our camp today about three quarters of a mile on to a fine dry ridge close to the rifle pits.

Friday 2nd.
Our regiment is at work on the fortifications. The whole army is camped in line of battle along the fortifications.

Saturday 3rd.
We had a false alarm today. Our regiment was ordered to occupy their position in the pits but in about an hour were marched back to camp.

Thursday 8th.
The weather for the last week has been very fine and if there is any truth in the report the Yankee prisoner told that they were only waiting for fine weather to advance, they can come on now. I met an old friend of mine today that I had not seen for three years, an Irishman named James Corin. He belongs to the 13th Louisiana.

Friday 9th.
Our regiment is out on picket today. From where we stand picket we can very plainly hear the drums in the enemy's camp and those in our camp also.

Tuesday 13th.
The regiment stayed out on picket four days. The day we were relieved the Yankees drove in our cavalry pickets but they did not come within sight of us.

Sunday 15th.
For the past four or five days I have been very sick. I believe, however, I am mending a little. There is a greater number of our men sick than ever before.

Tuesday May 20, 1862.
The Rev. Palmer of Louisiana made a speech to our Division today on the character of the war and the Proclamation of Butler, the Beast.

Wednesday 21st.
We are out on picket again and there is some skirmishing along the lines today. We killed four of the enemy and another was taken who was badly wounded.
Thursday 22nd.
We are on picket today again and there is some light skirmishing again. In the evening we were ordered back to camp.

Saturday 24th.
On picket duty yet - our regiment lost one man in skirmishing today, private Robinson of Co. I. He was shot in the face being instantly killed. We were ordered back to camp in the evening.

Monday 26th.
Orders received today to turn in all the tents but six to a company and to destroy all our baggage except what we can conveniently carry. This looks like a move of some kind in a short time. Today there is not so much picket fighting as common.

Tuesday
Sunday 27th.
Today we were formed in line to witness the punishment of a deserter, a man Reddon, belonging to Co. B of the 24th Mississippi. He went home last October and was brought back a few days ago. He received 39 lashes, was branded on the left hip with a letter "D" and had his head shaved and was then drummed out of service.

Wednesday 28th.
Cut on picket line again - there was some heavy skirmishes today along the whole line - I saw five wounded men carried back from the 41st Georgia and two from the 9th Texas. A shell burst so near me today that it threw the leaves and dirt over me. Farther to the right there was some very heavy fighting.

Thursday 29th.
Today skirmishing again as usual. About 8:00 P.M. we were relieved by our cavalry and were marched back but not to camp, for we took up our line of march in a Southwestern direction. We continued on the march all night for about 18 miles.

Friday 30th.
We marched steadily all day - this marching goes pretty hard with me as I was in bad health for sometime before we left our old camp ground.

Saturday 31st.
We took up our line of march about 8:00 A.M. and halted about 2:00 P.M.
We are about thirty-five miles from Corinth which place has been evacuated.

Sunday June 1, 1862.
We took up our line of march about half past three A.M., halting about 2 P.M., marching about 18 miles today. We had nothing to eat but fresh beef. This evening we halted about two miles from Baldwinvile on the Mobile and Ohio R. R. in the Southwest corner of Tiskamingo County, Miss. The country around here is very fertile, much better than Corinth.

Monday 2nd.
Today we cleared off our camp ground and camped in regular order.

Wednesday 4th.
We had company drill today, something unusual to us.

Thursday 5th.
Our camp equipage is still being reduced in quantity and a company is now only allowed two tents and four flies. We have three days rations cooked ready to move again.
Friday 6th.
This morning we are standing in line ready for a move, some of the Division is already moving on and I think we will follow shortly.

Saturday 7th.
We are again on the march, we marched about eight miles and bivouacked on the bank of a beautiful creek.

Sunday 8th.
Again on the march - we bivouacked in the woods near Saltillo Station.

Monday 9th.
We rested all day at our bivouac.

Tuesday 10th.
We are again on the march - we marched 17 miles and halted about four miles from Tupelo, Miss.

Wednesday 11th.
Today we cleared off a camp ground and pitched our tents.

Thursday 12th.
Today we have two days rations in our haversacks and ready for another move. In the evening we went out on picket about two miles from camp on the bank of a beautiful creek - we were ordered out on picket with two days rations and kept out three days.

Sunday 15th.
We have had drill constantly since we have been here except Saturdays which is washing day and Sundays which is inspection and review day.

Sunday 22nd.
The Mobile papers of the 18th gives the report of the casualties of the battle of Secessionville near Charleston, S. C. - on our side the loss is 190 men, on that of the enemy 470. At the battle of Chickahominy the enemy's loss, according to their own account, is 6,000. The regiment was paid off yesterday.

Sunday June 29, 1862.
Nothing has happened the past week worth noting - nothing but the regular routine of camp life.

Tuesday July 1, 1862.
I got a pass today and went out about five miles from camp to get some chickens and vegetable. Everything is very high; bacon 50¢ per pound, lard 40¢, chickens $1.00 and geese $2.00 and everything in proportion.

Friday 4th.
Dispatches from Virginia announce a great victory over the forces of McClellan, routing his army and capturing 120 pieces of artillery about 7,000 prisoners and 20,000 stand of small arms - this is glorious news and is very encouraging to our boys.

Monday 7th.
We had a general review today by Bragg, Hardee, Polk and Cheatham - our Division is under the brave B. F. Cheatham and I believe the men are all very glad of the change.

Sunday 20th.
General review today by our Corps Commander Leonidas Polk, our Division Commander B. F. Cheatham, our Brigade Commander A. F. Stewart and Gen. Isham G. Harris of Tenn.
According to the newspapers, reports of the Yankees loss at the battles of Richmond will not be much short of 50,000. Ours will reach perhaps 20,000, but I think the true report will bring it down considerably from the above figures.

Tuesday 22nd.
We have marching orders in my Brigade and this afternoon we are busy cooking three days rations. Our destination is said to be Chattanooga in East Tennessee.

Wednesday 23rd.
Today we marched to Tupelo and took the cars on the M & O R.R. for Mobile — arrived

Thursday 24th.
About noon, we left Mobile about five P.M. on the steamer Marengo for Montgomery, the capital city of the State, situated on the Alabama River, four hundred miles above this place at which place we will again take the cars for Chattanooga.

Sunday 27th.
This is the third day on the boat and we are still slowly steaming up the Alabama River. A man can see very little traveling on this river; the banks are covered with such a thick heavy growth of trees and small bushes, but it is a beautiful stream and from all appearances the land along it must be very fertile.

Monday 28th.
This evening we arrived at Montgomery; a city of about 20,000 inhabitants and improving rapidly. I spent about four hours of the day walking through the city and about three P.M., we got on the cars, A. & G. R.R., and tonight crossed the State Line into Georgia.

Wednesday July 30, 1862.
This evening we landed at the city of Atlanta; this is a much larger city than I had thought it was, it is a city of fully 25,000 inhabitants and is increasing fast. The part of Georgia that this road runs through is very rough and poor, but well watered and healthy. There are some beautiful little towns along this road amongst which are Lagrange, Marietta and Grandville.

Thursday 31st.
We are again on our way for Chattanooga, distant about 140 miles, the country between Atlanta and Chattanooga is very rough but there are some beautiful little valleys that is very good land. We crossed the Tallapoosa five or six times, also the Corsa, which two streams form the Alabama River at their junction at the little city of Rome. We arrived at Chattanooga about 5 P.M. This is a very small town, much smaller than I had thought to find it. It is situated on the south bank of the Tennessee River, in the valley of the same name, lying between the Missionary Ridge and the famous Lookout Mountain. This town has about 4,000 inhabitants and it is the county of Hamilton. We were immediately, after leaving the cars, marched about four miles from town in a Southwesterly direction to where we are to camp.

Friday August 186.
Today we pitched our tents at the foot of Missionary Ridge; it is a very rough place for a camp but the best supplied with water of any we have ever had since we left the Mississippi River.

Saturday 2nd.
We are busy cleaning up our new camp ground.

Monday 4th.
Regimental inspection today and dress parade in the evening with orders to drill twice per day except Sundays.
Wednesday 6th.
Drill twice a day regularly except Saturdays and Sundays - our Brig. General A. P. Stewart is making himself very unpopular amongst the men of the brigade by keeping up such a heavy guard as he does - whilst other brigades camped near us only keep a police guard. Our brigade has the same police guard and in addition to it a heavy brigade guard. Our regiment at present has only 190 men for duty and this guard calls for fifty every morning. I have heard a great deal of grumbling amongst the men the last few days in regard to this.

Saturday 16th.
Nothing day after day but drill and guard and guard and drill. Today for a change a party of us set out on an excursion to Lookout Mountain, the top of which is about four and a half miles from our camp. I had heard a great deal of this famous Lookout peak. I was very anxious to see it. We climbed up the eastern end of the mountain as far as we could do so and at this point there were stairs constructed for ascending to where the route was once more passable and from this point we soon gained the Lookout peak which is a giant rock jutting far out from the eastern end of the mountain and from this peak the view is really very grand - the Tennessee River, in its winding course in the valley below looks like a creek and its course can be seen for at least fifty miles without the aid of a glass. Chattanooga Valley from three to four miles in width is spread out before the gaze like a great picture as it is drawn by the Master Artists - with the naked eye can also be seen mountains in the States of Kentucky, Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia and Tennessee; those of Virginia being farthest off, yet the plainest. I suppose I stayed fully three hours on this peak, in fact I think no man would tire of the grand view spread out before him. I have never heard the height of this mountain given but I would judge it was very near 3,000 feet above the sea and the Lookout rock of itself presents a perpendicular face of nearly 300 feet. I descended the mountain by a very difficult path on the Northeast end where the Tennessee River washes its base and the Nashville and Chattanooga Railroad barely finds room to wind its way around. I went also to see the great cave called Lookout Mountain Cave, but I could get nothing with which to make a torch and had to return disappointed somewhat. The cave is reported by some to be 43 miles in extent, by others at from 15 to 20 but as any estimate of its exact extent is only guess work this makes little difference. It is also reported by some that this cave connects with one in the State of Alabama and there is an old Indian tradition that a warrior on being pursued by his enemies sought refuge in the cave; when his enemies thinking him safe placed a guard at the mouth and after keeping the guard there for a number of days concluded that their victim had perished rather than surrender to them; but a few days after led a party of warriors of his own tribe to take revenge for this former defeat, he having escaped by going through the cave, coming out in Alabama. In the evening before returning to camp, I visited the celebrated blowing spring, the water comes out near the edge of the water of the river where the river is at about the common or average water mark - at the hole in the rock through which the water comes out, the cold air rushes out with a noise about as loud as that made by a goose - it would blow a candle out ten feet from the aperture. This spring is about 150 yards from the mouth of the cave. There is some large springs in the cave and I think that this is the outlet for all of them and the water of those springs in the cave are elevated about 100 feet above the river as the stream is very strong and runs through its subterranean passage very swiftly, I think it probably draws enough cold air with it to account for the draught of air at the spring. Our party got back to camp very tired but at the same time very well satisfied with our days excursion.

Sunday 17th.
This morning I was detailed to work at the depot in town and just as we were about returning to camp we heard that our brigade had received marching orders and just about dark our regiment marched into town and we crossed the river and marched about 1½ miles where we halted to cook rations for our march.
the old Chapel of Shiloh occupying nearly the center of the battle ground arms and accoutrements scattered all over this extent of ground and dead and wounded - some places thinly scattered, showing where the enemy were in full retreat. At other places lying almost in heaps showing where they fought with a desperate resolution, I recollect a little ravine to which they retreated for shelter from our fire when a regiment of our men got around them in the ravine and for several hundred yards the blue coats covered the ground in awful heaps, as much as half a dozen men in some places touching one another as if whole lines had sunk in death together. From the appearance of the part of the field that I have been over, their loss must have been about three to our one. After dark they retreated to the river bank under the protection of the guns of their boats. In the evening we took Gen. G. D. Frentiss and 3,500 men prisoners. Gen. A. S. Johnston on our side is reported killed. After dark about one hour we were marched back one mile to the second camp that we charged through and took up our quarters in the fine comfortable tents of our beaten enemy and we had a fine supper already on the table which they had prepared for their breakfasts, but which the gallant Harker did not let them enjoy. Their tables were loaded with nice fried ham and eggs, butter and coffee, fried potatoes, etc., a great contrast to the way we rebels lived. I think if their army was fed and clothed like ours they could not keep it in the field for six months. I rest tonight on the fine couch of a Yankee officer, but we go to bed strong in the belief of another fight on the morrow as it is reported that the enemy are receiving heavy reinforcements.

Monday 7th.

We had just finished our breakfast when we were ordered to fall in line then we were immediately ordered forward towards the enemy who were advancing, having received heavy reinforcements during the night, and were about to make an attempt to regain the ground they lost yesterday. The report of the death of the gallant A. S. Johnston is confirmed and we are today under command of Beauregard. According to the report of prisoners taken, the enemy had at least 40,000 men engaged yesterday. This is the lowest estimate I have heard of their forces, some of the prisoners put it as high as 80,000. Our forces engaged were 32,000 infantry, this with the cavalry and artillery would make our forces engaged about 35,000. We were engaged from about 9 o'clock A.M. to 3 P.M., but at no time so hotly engaged as yesterday. The enemy made several desperate attempts to regain their camps but at dark they only held their tents nearest the river and at night again fell back under cover of their gunboats. Today there was a very few prisoners taken on either side but their losses in killed and wounded was much greater than ours. The enemy have better arms than we have, most of our men are armed with the old musket but the enemy have Enfield rifles and rifled muskets, much better arms than the old musket. About 4 o'clock P.M. our regiment was marched from the field. We marched about three miles from the battle field and bivouacked for the night. It rained hard all night long but I was fortunate enough to get an old tent and a few of my comrades and myself did very well. Our boys, as they drove them so quickly from their camps, found a great many curiosities to keep for relics of the battle, such as love letters, ambrotypes and fancy letter paper, which they did not think was paper unless the Stars and Stripes occupied a prominent place upon it with great mot-toes and pictures, but this war is a rich harvest for the talented artists of Yankee Doodle Dam - it supplies them with never failing subjects to paint and portray but our boys have given them a subject on the 6th and 7th of April that they will not relish as being very rich, racy or beautiful, unless they take pride in the great pram pedes trian qualities that their youth showed on the occasion.

The loss of my regiment is very heavy, we went into the fight with less than 600 men (I believe the number to be about 565 men) and out of this number our loss is 219 killed and wounded. The loss of my company is about proportionate with the loss of the regiment - we had three men killed on the field, John Lahey, C.K. Wor- hies and A. J. Browder; six mortally wounded, W. L. McGowan, J. G. Davis, John Ross, A. B. Maxey, O. L. McFall and J. F. Smith. And we had six severely wounded, B. F. Coleman, Robert Wren, J. H. Gray, G. W. Hazelting, Wm. J. Bynum, William Neal. The last named four were discharged, their wounds needing close medical care.
Tuesday, Sept. 3rd, 1862
Today we marched 13 miles, camping at Sparta in Van Buren County, Middle Tennessee, where our officers say we will rest a short time.

Wednesday 4th/
Today we are resting at our camp near Sparta.

Friday 6th.
We rested two days but are again on the march, making about 17 miles today.

Saturday 7th.
Still on the march in a northerly direction. Today we marched 21 miles.

Sunday 8th.
Today we marched only 5 miles, having the Cumberland River to ford.

Monday 9th.
Today we marched 20 miles and are now in the State of Kentucky, six miles from the state line, at Tompkinsville, in Monroe County.

Tuesday 10th.
Today we are resting at our place of bivouac near Tompkinsville. This evening we had orders read announcing a great victory at Richmond, Kentucky by Kirby Smith.

Wednesday 11th.
Again on the march, halting about an hour before sundown, making ten miles.

Thursday 12th.
Today it rained a little, helping the condition of the roads. We marched about 17 miles today. This evening we camped at Glasgow, the county seat of Byron County. We are camped in a beautiful grove of white beech trees.

Saturday 14th.
Yesterday and today we are resting at our place of bivouac near Glasgow.

Sunday 15th.
At 3 P.M. we again take up our line of march, halting at midnight and from this to daylight were busy cooking.

Monday 16th.
Daylight finds us again on the march and not halting, until 2 P.M. of the morning of the 20th, marching 27 miles. We halted about one mile from Munfordsville, the county seat of Hart County, and it is whispered around amongst the men that we will have a fight tomorrow. This evening Bragg has demanded the surrender of the place.

Tuesday, Sept. 17th, 1862.
This morning early came the news of the surrender of the fort to our army - the prisoners numbered 4,300 men, also 7,000 stand of small arms and about thirty pieces of artillery, also an immense quantity of camp equipage, army stores, etc. This evening we are again on the march for Louisville and it is reported - we marched 8 miles from Munfordsville and bivouacked for the night and just after supper we were ordered back to Munfordsville. Just as we started back the rain began to fall in torrents and we only marched two miles when we halted and bivouacked for the night in an old field on the roadside. The rain continued to fall in torrents. The men drenched completely, blankets and all, but we laid down some rails on which we slept soundly until morning.

Wednesday 18th.
Wednesday 18th.
We again turn towards Louisville but only proceed as far as our bivouac of the previous day. We are again ordered back to Munfordsville where we arrived at sundown, marching about 10 miles a day and tonight we are busy cooking two days rations.

Thursday 19th.
We fell in at daylight and marched about a mile and lay in line of battle about three hours and were again started on the march towards Louisville. We marched 21 miles today halting about 11 P.M.

Friday 20th.
At sun up we are again on the march but our road today was so much blocked up by artillery and wagon trains and today we only marched ten miles bivouacking about one mile from Hodgenville.

Saturday 21st.
Again on the march about an hour before day, making 25 miles today.

Sunday 22nd.
We only marched 6 miles today and it is reported that we will rest here a short time.

Monday 23rd.
This morning we marched through Bardstown, Ky. and camped on the banks of a small creek four miles east of it - this is Nelson County, Kentucky.

Tuesday 24th.
Today we are resting at our camp and I think if any person in the world can enjoy a rest it is a soldier after a hard march of two or three weeks.

Wednesday 25th.
Company E is out in the country as a patrol guard today. This is to keep the men from bringing whiskey into the camp.

Thursday 26th.
We have just got orders to move and after forming our line and lying in line all day in the evening the order is countermanded and we stay at the old place tonight.

Friday 27th.
We have two days rations cooked and are ready to move at a moments notice.

Sunday Sept. 29, 1862.
Yesterday we rested at our camp - today we moved our camp ground about two miles further from Bardstown to a good spring.

Monday 30th.
Today General Bragg's proclamation to the people of the Northwest was read in our camp. I hope this will have the effect that its originator hoped it would but I fear it will never reach the ears of the people of the Northwest and if it does I fear it will effect nothing. Scarcely have we had time to shake the dust of the last march when we have orders from our Adjutant General to drill twice per day and what makes this hard is that not another brigade at this place has the same order.

Wednesday Oct. 2, 1862.
I have today read Lincoln's proclamation freeing all the slaves of the South in the first of January 1863, this I take as good news, it will unite the people of the South better than anything else could have done and I think it will also increase the strength of the Southern cause in the border states.
Thursday 3rd.
Today the brigade is ordered out on picket on the Louisville and Bardstown turnpike and we marched back to Bardstown and from there we went nine miles on the pike, making 15 miles today.

Friday 4th.
This morning about 3 A.M. we were ordered back to our division, we continued our march steadily, marching about 26 miles today.

Saturday 5th.
Again on the march and we marched steadily all day, our Division being all ahead of us - it is reported that the enemy are in close pursuit but why we are falling back I cannot tell except it to be to form a junction with the forces of Kirby Smith who is come place near Lexington.

Sunday 6th.
We marched steadily all day - reached Harrodsburg, the county seat of Mercer County, a little before dark - making 65 miles this last three days- and this evening we formed a junction with the forces of General E. K. Smith.

Monday 7th.
Last night we were busy all night cooking rations and today we are resting at our place of bivouac in a large field just at the edge of the town of Harrodsburg, Ky. There is a large spring of fine water close to us - about an hour before sunset we are again on the march and marched back to Perrysville and formed in line of battle, resting on our arms all night. I believe the enemy are advancing and that our division is assigned the duty of checking them. We arrived here from Harrodsburg about 11 P.M., a march of about ten miles. It was a very beautiful night and the road was good - some of the boys think there will be a general battle on the morrow.

Tuesday 8th of Sept. 1862.
The battle of Perrysville, This morning we were awakened by the cannonading in our front but this proved to be only skirmishing but we lay in line in our present position until about 8 A.M., when we were marched by the right flank about 2½ miles and formed in line on the crest of a hill in a small range of hills running nearly north and south. We had scarcely got in line when the enemy opened fire upon us with a heavy battery. We lay just under or inside of the range of this about an hour when we again marched by the right flank about half a mile and then by the front, coming in to the hottest of the conflict about one P.M. We continued to advance through murderour fire of both small arms and artillery and over, I suppose, some of the roughest ground that ever a battle was fought on. Discipline here was out of the question but notwithstanding the roughness of the ground the men kept a very good line and we continued our advance until we got within range when we went to work in earnest and after a couple of heavy rounds the enemy fell back. Donelson's Brigade were on our left and Maney's on our right and like us were driving the enemy back. In this way we pushed them slowly back for the whole day as did also Maney on our right and Donelson on our left, while men took a battery of six guns from the enemy. My brigade took three pieces; this I believe was all the artillery taken today. As we were advancing about 4 P.M. and after we had broken and thrown back two lines and were advancing upon their third, when our brigade having pushed ahead a little farther and faster than Donelson on our left could do, we as a natural consequence received a heavily flanking fire upon our right wing of the enemy - a great many of the regiment was killed or wounded in this fire - as we were advancing up a little hill and when we were within a few feet of the top, I received a shot in my left jaw which ranging downward passed out through my neck, making a very severe but not dangerous wound. I was knocked completely senseless. When I came to the line had fallen back to the foot of the little hill. After about an hour I raised up and with some difficulty and by resting frequently I walked from the field-even in the state I was in, it seemed to give me great pleasure to notice the great number of their killed and wounded of the enemy.
BATTLE OF FERRYVILLE, KY. continued.

The number of their killed will be at least three to our one. The battle throughout was obstinately contested but at night we held the ground that the enemy did in the morning - both sides retired some distance, however, and went to work to gather in their wounded. Just as dark, as I was making my way off, I was met by two of my company who were out on the lookout for me. They assisted me back to the surgeons and the chief surgeon of Bonelison's Brigade dressed my wound, who assured me the wound was not a dangerous one but added that it was as narrow an escape as he ever saw. My two comrades, as I was unable to speak, thought I was mortally wounded. I tried to make them think different but could not. What most surprised me was that my wound did not pain me in the least except a little stinging pain in my right shoulder. I felt paralyzed and giddy; this was about all.

Wednesday Oct. 9th.
This morning I was taken to an old building about one mile from the battlefield, called Waynes old farm house, where there was a great many wounded rebels and three or four blue bellies also. Today I learned the loss of my company in the battle of yesterdy. It was Capt. S.F. Maxey, dangerously in the back. Est Sgt. G.S. Morris, severely in the left side; Private J.J. Stewart, will lose an arm; Private Fritz Miller severely in the left hip; private W.C. Byrnes, severely in the breast; Private W.H. Statham, severely in the left leg below the knee; C.T. Trumur severely through left wrist and slightly in the head; and myself; making a total of eight who were severely wounded - slightly wounded were James Cob, who died afterwards at Louisville, Ky.; L.W. Moore, R. Ashley, John McCright, A.C. McFall, Z.H. Culin, Henry Andes, V.B. Cullem, William Browder and W.H. Hazing - making 18 wounded out of 26 men engaged.

Thursday 10th.
Yesterday evening the enemy advanced and took possession of all the hospitals, I am consequently a prisoner as well as being wounded.

Saturday 11th.
Today I walked about two miles to get a canteen of milk, as I can swallow nothing only what I can drink, and at the old house I can get nothing but tea to drink. I got so weak I thought I would try and get something better - an old man gave me a cup to drink and I filled my canteen but on returning in the evening I lost my way and wandered around until 2 F.M. that night when I came to a Yankee Hospital where I stayed until morning. When I got back I was nearly exhausted and was much worse; for some days I was much worse.

Sunday 20th.
For the last five or six days I can scarcely tell whether I improved any or not. Several young ladies of the neighborhood has been very kind to us wounded men for the past ten days. They bring me milk to drink and those that could eat they bring pther things, also bandages for our wounds which is very acceptable.

Saturday 26th.
Some of the citizens around here are coming to the hospital every day for the last few days and taking wounded home with them.

Sunday 27th.
Today Mr. Thomas Marimon, of Harrodsburg, came and took me to town and left me at his fathers house. There is also at the same house three others, Lt. Humphreys and private Brownlee of Co. B, 32nd Miss. and a young man named Crow, belonging to the 24th Miss. Crow is wounded slightly in the head and Brownlee has a severe wound in the leg. Lt. Humphreys was left sick by his regiment. The Yankees are making the Southern rights people of this section take the wounded rebels and nurse them as they have as many of their own to tend to as they can.
Friday Dec. 14, 1862.
I am still at Mr. Marimon's - I thought I would have been well long before this but a few days ago I caught a very bad cold and after that for a few days I suffered terribly much more than at any time heretofore but I am again mending slowly, thank God and a kind nurse for it. The wound is nearly healed but my jaw continues so very stiff and my throat so very sore that it is yet difficult for me to eat but at the same time I can eat much better than I could a month ago. I get the Louisville paper nearly every day and sometimes a Cincinnati paper but I cannot enjoy them. I must here say that our loss at Perryville was 298 men buried on the field, a citizen that helped to bury them told me this and the Yankees buried 954 of their own men - the wounded of each side will be about five times this number, making our 1480 men and the enemy 4770 men - I think this is about correct.

Monday 15th.
Northern papers say that Cheatham's Division is at Murfreesboro, Tenn. One week ago Morgan took a Yankee Brigade at Hartsville, Tenn. Two of the 4th Regt. died from the effects of their wounds a few days ago at this place, Byles of C.H and Snell of Co. K.

Tuesday 16th.
Northern papers received here last night bring the glorious news of the repulse of Burnside at Fredericksburg.

Saturday 20th.
Northern papers admit their loss at the late battle of Fredericksburg to have been very heavy, their loss in one Division Franklin's Grand Division is set down at 5932 - nearly six thousand in killed and wounded.

Wednesday 31st.
I am mending very slowly notwithstanding my good treatment. Mr. Marimon has treated me just the same as if I had been a son instead of a stranger - his son has two wounded men at his house also and they are treated like myself, as good as it could be done. The weather since my arrival here in October has been mild and pleasant with the exception of one or two weeks - at present it is very fine for to be near the middle of winter.

Thursday January 1, 1863.
I went to the Provost Marshall's office today and got a parole but the parole will do us no good as they will not turn us loose with them but are kept under the same guard as if we had none. I think it is only fear of a recapture by Morgan that makes them give us one at all.

Friday 2nd.
It is reported that there has been a great battle fought at Murfreesboro and our brave Cheatham is reported killed.

Monday 5th.
This morning at about 9 A.M. 110 of us that has got able to move start from this place - we went to Danville in Wagons.

Thursday 6th. Tuesday.
This morning at about 8 A.M. we start again and came to Lexington, 34 miles in wagons - this was fast driving and where the road was rough it went pretty hard on some of the boys whose wounds were not healed.

Wednesday 7th.
This evening about 3 P.M. we were put on cars for Frankfort and Louisville and arrived at Louisville about 9 P.M. Before getting on the cars they searched us taking all our pocket knives, grey blankets, letters, etc. - also the same search upon our arrival here.
Thursday, Jan. 8, 1863.
Today I spent in the dirty military prison of Louisville, Ky., and it is pretty cold - it snowed about two inches during the night.

Saturday 10th.
Today I read of the defeat of Sherman at or near Vicksburg by our men under Pemberton.

Thursday 15th.
Up to this day we have been kept at the dirty prison of Louisville. Today we were marched to the New Albany Ferry, just below the city of Paducah, crossed over to New Albany and got on the cars for Cairo where we arrived on the morning of

Saturday 17th.
When we got on the Steamer Fannie McBurnie and tonight ran down to Columbus, Ky.

Sunday 18th.
But what was our chagrin to see the boat head up stream today again. We arrived at Cairo about noon - the boat is so much crowded that in the cabins where we wounded men are we have scarcely room to lie down and it is the same on the deck of the boat. We thought yesterday we were going to go down the river to Vicksburg for exchange but the prospect today looks gloomy.

Monday 19th.
Today decided the question - we are slowly steaming up the Mississippi River.

Tuesday 22nd. Thursday.
Today we are lying at Bloody Island. We ran up to the levees at St. Louis but there was such a big crowd gathered and such strong evidence of sympathy for us in the crowd that the boat dropped down to Bloody Island and lay all night whilst the sick were sent to the hospital at St. Louis. Whilst we were lying at the levee an incident occurred that I must relate. A crowd of boys and girls had pressed forward and were throwing apples and papers over the heads of the guards when an old grey headed Irishman stepped up and threw some apples which he had over to our boys and was looking on the crowd quietly for some few minutes when he took another apple from his pocket and threw it to a rebel when an officer who had been observing him and was close by struck him in the face and with an oath ordered him off home, calling him an old grey haired traitor. He had on the uniform of a Captain or Lt. but I think this was surely one of the brave St. Louis Dutch - it showed itself in the act. If some of our boys had had guns at the time, he never would have been left to strike another old man - the crowd yelled and groaned and this champion of Abea slunk off in the crowd.

Saturday 24th.
Today we are on our way again, arriving at Alton this afternoon.

Sunday 25th.
This evening we left the steamboat and got on the cars for Chicago.

Tuesday Jan. 27, 1863.
This evening just after dark we arrived at Chicago. We spent two terrible days and nights on the cars - the car that I was on was so crowded that the men did not all have room to sit down and the weather being cold we suffered terribly. Our boat ride up the Mississippi I shall never forget - the men were crowded together and treated worse than I ever saw cattle treated in my life.

Wednesday 28th.
We were left lying in the cars all night without any fire whatever and some of the men came near freezing to death - today I was put in a hospital close to and belonging to Camp Douglas, outside the city of Chicago. I am very sick and my wound pains me a great deal, being so much exposed and being so badly treated. On our way
Monday 18th.
Today we are bivouacked beside one of the most beautiful springs I ever saw and busy cooking rations.

Tuesday 19th.
Today about 10 A.M. the regiment took up its line of march. I was detailed as wagon guard and the wagon train did not get started today.

August 20th, 1862
Today about ten o'clock our train got under way. We caught up with the regiment about 5 P.M. about twelve miles from Chattanooga. We are marching in a northerly direction through East Tennessee.

Wednesday 21st.
Today we marched about 11 miles and are camped this evening at the Blue springs near Union Baptist Church in Hamilton County, East Tennessee.

Thursday 22nd.
Resting at our camp grounds waiting for the arrival of our wagon train. This blue spring is without any exception the most beautiful spring I ever saw, the depth of it is unknown; a line with a heavy lead found no bottom at 150 feet. It is about 35 yards across or 100 in circumference, the water is so very clear that the great depth of it makes the surface appear blue as the sky - hence the name - and it is the best of freestone water. There is another spring of unknown depth about half a mile east of this which unlike this one has no outlet, consequently the water is not clear enough to creat that beautiful blue on the surface, and close by a third one which is different in regard to its depth but which is the strongest stream of water which unites its water with those of the blue spring. There is a fine grist mill a short distance below their junction. I state this to show the strength of the two springs.

Tuesday 27th.
We are yet resting at our camp ground beside the beautiful blue spring.

Wednesday 28th.
This morning we again took up our line of march, marching about 10 miles, bivouacking just inside the county line of Rhea County.

Friday 30th.
Co. E is out on picket duty guard today about three miles from our place of encampment in an eastern direction.

Saturday 31st.
About an hour before day the regiment took up its line of march, marching about 18 miles, crossing Waldens Ridge, and considering the steep ascent and descent and the roughness of the roads it was the hardest days march the regiment ever made.

Sunday Sept. 1, 1862.
We continued our march again today but only marched five miles, halting at Pikeville, this is on the headwater of the - River in the valley of the same name. About 4 P.M. we again took up our line of march, marching all night and crossing the Cumberland Mountains, making 23 miles and considering the mountainous country it was a big days march carrying, as we do knapsack, haversack, canteen and our guns and 40 rounds of ammunition.

Monday, Sept. 2, 1862.
Again on the march but today we only marched five miles, halting early to cook.
I caught a very bad cold in my head and neck and I am suffering some from it.

Saturday 31st.
I am yet lying in the Camp Douglas hospital but I think I will soon be well again.

Monday Feb. 2, 1863.
Today I left the hospital and went out to the barracks with the rest of the boys. These barracks are miserably dirty cold buildings.

Monday 9th.
This is a miserable life - dirty and on about half rations - nothing to do but lay in the bunks or stand around the stoves - a prisoners life in such a place is truly miserable.

Friday 13th.
Today we were all called out in line and searched by the Chicago City Police.

Friday 27th.
Time drags heavily along and our rations have not got any better yet. The oath of allegiance is now offered to the prisoners and I believe some few will take it. There is a great number of our men dying now of sickness - small pox, measles and pneumonia.

Sunday March 1, 1863.
The weather continues mild as it has been for several days. There is now at this place about 4,300 men in prison and up to this date there have been about 350 deaths. An eminent Catholic clergyman visited us in our prison today - he gave us a great deal of encouragement. He said to keep up our spirits, we would be exchanged in a short time.

Saturday 7th.
Yesterday and today there are distributing some clothing to the most needy. We have some very good news from Vicksburg - the Confederates have taken two of the best rams from the Federals - the Queen of the West and the Indianola. There is also some rumors of a battle but they are not confirmed. The number of cases of small pox is increasing.

Wednesday 11th.
I have been very unwell for the past three or four days but I am on the mend again. There is now about 125 cases of small pox here. Confederate money, when we first came here sold for eight cents on the dollar - it is now worth forty.

Saturday 14th.
Nothing has happened to change the dull routine of our prison life. I received a letter from Mr. Haigles from St. Charles County, Missouri. This gave me a great deal of pleasure and satisfaction. It tends to strengthen my already good opinion of this family I lived with for some time before the war, although at one time I was guilty of misjudging them owing to the misrepresentation of some persons who professed a great deal of friendship for me at the time but shortly afterwards I doubted their sincerity and this letter tends to confirm me in those doubts.

Sunday 15th.
This is a very fine day indeed - the weather has been very beautiful for some time and all the boys that are able to are out in the yard playing ball and exercising themselves in various ways - but I must say that our rations are very short all the time and what we do get is scarcely fit to eat. It is said that the small pox is on the increase.

Friday 20th.
The weather which for sometime had been very fine changed last night and we had a great snow storm and today it is cold and stormy.
Monday April 5th.
We are yet at the quarters assigned to exchanged prisoners about two miles outside of Petersburg. This evening we marched to cars and got aboard for Lynchburg - we do not go to Richmond as I had thought we would - we leave Richmond to our north - we take the Petersburg and Lynchburg R. R. and Western Virginia and East Tennessee R. R. - we arrive at Lynchburg about 7 A.M. the morning of

Tuesday 6th.
The first anniversary of the battle of Shiloh and it has been a year of hardship and suffering to me never to be forgotten and, I fear, never entirely to be recovered from - we are quartered in the Confederate hospitals at this place as they have been empty for sometime. These are the best quarters I have occupied for some time - this is a much larger town than I had thought to find it. It is a city of from 15 to 20 thousand inhabitants and is beautifully situated on the south bank of the James River, which as a beautiful stream at this place. It is 130 miles above Richmond.

Wednesday April 7, 1863.
Still traveling slowly through Western Virginia - this road, like all the railroads of the south, are in very bad running order and we consequently travel very slow. Today we ran only one hundred miles and lay up at night.

Thursday 8th.
Traveling slowly again today - we traveled about the same as yesterday and laying over for the night at the little town of Bristol, just inside the line of Tennessee. The part of Western Virginia that this road runs through is one of the poorest counties I ever saw and is also one of the roughest - nothing but hills and mountains for the last one hundred miles.

Friday 9th.
Traveling today slowly through east Tennessee - this is a much finer country than the part of Virginia that we just left - it is true that it is very hilly but then there is so many rich little valleys and it is one of the healthiest and best watered countries in the world. It is not near so poor as I heard it reported. About 9 P.M. we arrived at Knoxville, the ancient capital of the state.

Saturday 10th.
This morning I accidentally missed the train so I have to wait until tomorrow and as I had nothing else to do I concluded to take a look at the city. It is not near so large as I was led to believe it was - a citizen told me the population before the war commenced numbered about 7,000. This is very small for the third city of the great state of Tennessee, and it is improving very slowly also, and at present everything is dull as it is in all southern towns at the present time. Everything in the south is at the present time selling at fabulous prices - provisions in Virginia are higher than at this place but clothing is not quite so high. Potatoes in Virginia $12.00 per bushel, that is sweet potatoes - apples 25¢ each - very small pears 25¢ each - for a meal at any common house $1.50 - salt 50¢ per pound - flour 35¢ per pound - everything else in proportion.

Sunday 11th.
Today I am slowly traveling towards Chattanooga, distant from Knoxville 110 miles, where we arrived about half an hour after dark.

Monday 12th.
This morning I am on my way for Shelbyville, at which place I expect to find my regiment - about half an hour before sundown we arrived at Shelbyville and myself and two of the 5th Tennessee (which regiment I hear consolidated with the 4th) started for our regiment which I just learned is out on picket on the Shelbyville and Murfreesboro turnpike. Our old Col. O. F. Strehl is in command of the regiment.
Monday April 12th, 1863 - continued
I arrived at camp about 11 P. M. and I still find some old comrades to welcome back an old wounded comrade to camp. I find the men in fine health and spirits. They are camped in a beautiful place called Guys Gap, about nine miles from Shelbyville, in Bedford County, Tenn.

Tuesday April 13, 1863.
In the consolidation of the two regiments, ours form the right wing, making five companies. Company D and E are formed into one, Capt. John A. Only of Co. D, is commanding them. One of my old messmates named R. C. Ray died a short time before my arrival and a young man named Cathay was killed at the battle of Murfreesboro at which battle the company lost several wounded; and the regiment lost about 65 killed and wounded - so the regiment was not heavily engaged in this battle. The boys had a long and hard march back from Kentucky after the battle of Perryville but had spent a very easy winter in Murfreesboro and Tullahoma except for about a week of pretty hard duty about the time of the battle of Murfreesboro. There is at the present time one company in each brigade being drilled in artillery drill; in this brigade it is my company.

Sunday 18th.
Nothing is doing in our camp but the regular drill but the enemy is reported to be advancing.

Wednesday 21st.
It is now reported that the army of Vicksburg have abandoned the siege of that place and are reinforcing Rosecrans preparatory to an advance upon us, but this is only a report which needs confirmation - but our army is also receiving some reinforcements so we will be prepared for an advance.

Thursday 29th.
Twelve wagons from our brigade are out about 40 miles on a forage trip and I concluded to go along with them and see the country. We started out on the morning of the 26th and consequently we have been three days out - this is a very rich and beautiful country also I believe very healthy - we were in parts of Marshall and Maury Counties.

Friday 30th.
This evening I got back to camp very well satisfied with the trip.

Wednesday May 12, 1863.
Nothing has transpired for some time to change the regular routine of camp life. The health of the army is the best it ever was - cock fighting is now a great amusement this among the men but they have not succeeded in getting me to join them in this sport. News from Virginia again of another glorious victory over the enemy at Chancellorsville but dearly bought by the loss of the great and good Stonewall Jackson, who lost an arm and also wounded in his wrist, dying from the effects of these wounds. The country lost in Jackson one of the best and bravest of its Generals. The brave Brig. Gen. Paxton was also killed. The numerical loss of the enemy is about double ours but the loss of Jackson makes it a dear victory bought. The papers also tell us of the murder of Major Gen. Earl Van Born at a little town in North Georgia by a Dr. Peters.

Wednesday 19th.
No change in our camp - nothing but the regular drill day after day. Major Gen. R. S. Ewell succeeds Stonewall Jackson in command of the old corps - he is a brave good officer. The weather for some time has been delightful and this is the season for active work so we are expecting a move very shortly.
Saturday May 22, 1863.
This morning we had an exciting rumor that the enemy had driven in our pickets and were advancing in full force upon us and we were ordered to be ready to move at a moment's notice but the rumor was soon ascertained to be a false one and everything is again quiet.

Tuesday 25th.
Quiet an excitement occurred in our camps today caused by the arrival of the Hon. C. L. Vallandingham of Ohio by a flag of truce through our lines - the Lincoln Dynasty has banished him to the South during the war for speeches recently delivered in Ohio denunciatory of the present mode of carrying on the war - the South welcomes him just as they would welcome any other refugees from the clutches of a tyrant.

Wednesday 26th.
Today we moved our camp about one mile to be more convenient to water.

Monday 31st.
We have news of some desperate fighting at Vicksburg - the Yankees made several desperate assaults upon our works all of which were repulsed by our men with great slaughter - for several days after the dead remained unburied and, according to the accounts in the late papers, the Garrison had to burn tar and other disinfectants for the protection of the men from the stench arising from the putrid carcasses of the enemy that were lying around the ditches. If this is true this is a terrible state of things - my only fears for the ultimate success of our men at Vicksburg are that their rations will fail and they may thus be forced to yield to famine and not to the forces of Grant.

June 3, 1863.
The regiment is out on picket today; it left camp this morning about 7 A.M.

June 4th.
The whole of this brigade and also General Maneys are out on picket - our cavalry had a skirmish with the enemy but accomplished nothing. For two days we have heard some very heavy cannonading on our left but can hear nothing from that quarter now.

June 12th.
Nothing of any importance - the brigade returned from their picket duty and everything has been quiet for the last week.

June 24th.
For two weeks nothing of any interest has transpired in our immediate front or near to us. The weather is beautiful and the farmers are beginning to harvest their wheat which is a very good crop. We are all expecting to move in a short time and I think the result of the siege of Vicksburg will determine our course. If Vicksburg falls we will fall back but if the enemy are forced to raise the siege I think we will advance.

June 26th.
The brave General Forrest was wounded in an affray with one of his Lieutenants a few days ago but I am glad to be able to say it is not a dangerous wound. The country could not afford to lose the services of this gallant officer at the present time. The name of the Lt. is Gould. I was unable to learn the cause of the difficulty.

Saturday 27th.
This morning we fell in at daylight and are falling back towards Tyllahoma and the enemy are advancing, having received very heavy reinforcements.
Sunday 28th.
I learned today that the movement in our front was only a faint - the main force being thrown against Hoovers Gap driving our men from it, turning our right flank causing us to fall back. We reached Tullahoma this evening; the roads are very bad in this part of the country.

Monday 29th.
Today we lay all day in line of battle waiting the advance of the enemy and the mud is awful from the heavy rain that has fallen during the last three days. There is a general opinion of a fight in a short time.

Tuesday 30th.
The men worked all night on the fortifications and are lying in line of battle again today - also doay the 31st of June.

Thursday July 1, 1863.
Today we are on the march again. I think the force of the enemy must be very large to cause a General like Bragg to fall back without giving them battle. We marched about ten miles today in the direction of the mountains.

Friday 2nd.
We marched about 12 miles today and are now lying in line of battle to cover our retreat - I think we will continue our retreat to Chattanooga or we may perhaps make a halt at Bridgeport - event the short days marches that we have done in this retreat goes harder with me than double the distance did before I was wounded. I can never stand much marching again.

Sunday 4th.
Yesterday we marched over the Cumberland Mountains and when I struck for the nearest point of the Railroad and got on the cars at Anderson Station and arrived at Chattanooga the evening of July 4th.

July 5, 1863.
I am resting at Chattanooga waiting the arrival of the regiment.

July 7th.
The brigade arrived about 3 P.M. and marched out to the old camp ground that we occupied here last summer at the foot of Missionary Ridge.

July 9, 1863.
We have just got news of the great battle of Gettysburg fought in Adams County, Pa. in which our forces under Robert E. Lee gained another great victory - also the report of the fall of Vicksburg on the 4th of this month.

July 11th.
The fall of Vicksburg is confirmed and it causes a great depression of the spirits of the people of the Confederacy. The enemy took at least 18,000 prisoners and, I suppose, about 25 or 30,000 stand of small arms. The cause assigned for the surrender is as feared, a scarcity of rations. The news from Gettysburg is confirmed but I fear the victory is not so decisive as it was at first reported to be and we lost the gallant Brg. Gen. Banksdale of Mississippi in the fight, also two others - Garnett and Armistead.

July 16, 1863.
Since the fall of Vicksburg no new disaster has happened to us.

July 16th.
But today I have to chronicle another disaster in the surrender of Fort Hudson - Gen'l on the 9th, five days after Vicksburg. There was about 5,500 men surrendered at this place and now the Yankees hold all of the Mississippi River but it yet remains to be seen how much this opening will benefit them.
July 18, 1863
We have news today that Lee is once more back in Maryland having recrossed Pennsylvania line again. John Morgan is in the state of Ohio and is creating another big scare in the West. Today we elected Private C. T. Freeman as 3rd Lt. to fill the vacancy caused by the discharge of H. C. Lawhon. Our Brigade has been working upon the fortifications almost ever since our arrival at this place. The papers contain accounts of heavy skirmishing at Jackson, Mississippi. Grant having advanced that far after he had taken Vicksburg. Johnson is there with about 15,000 men strongly fortified awaiting the advance of the victorious legions of Grant. There is nothing doing in our front. Rosencrans has his headquarters at Winchester.

July 24, 1863.
Nothing of importance has occurred for some few days. Lee's army is again in Virginia and all is quiet there. Charleston appears now to be the only place that is not allowed a rest, as the Yankees press the siege of the place with the greatest vigor.

July 30, 1863.
The papers give us the news of the death of Major General John S. Bowen of Missouri. This is another gallant officer gone and the papers report Meade heavily reinforced advancing on Lee. Another great battle is again expected in a short time.

August 2, 1863.
There is no news of any importance in our immediate vicinity. The enemy still press the siege of Charleston with vigor but with as yet no result or hope of ultimate success. Yesterday we received the news of the death of the Hon. Wm. L. Yancey of Alabama after a short illness. In him the South loses one of her ablest and bestmen. A man who, I suppose, has done more than any other man living to bring on this great revolution, a man who had the success of the South really at heart and had done all in his power for making the South an independent nation.

Sunday, August 16th.
There appears to be a general lull in everything and every place except Charleston the siege of which place goes regularly on. On the 6th we had a congressional election in our Army - everything went off quietly.

Monday 17th.
One year ago today we started our great Kentucky campaign - a year of hard service to all our armies.

Friday 21st.
After a long quiet and indeed what appeared to be a general lull in the war we were today aroused from our quiet by the booming of cannon in the direction of Chattanooga and we got orders to cook up three days' rations and be ready to move at a moment's notice - and about 2 P.M. we fall in and marched to Chattanooga, where we are lying in line waiting for further orders.

Saturday 22nd.
We are laying in line waiting for orders, the enemy made no demonstration today. Yesterday they threw several shells into town from a battery that they had planted on the opposite side of the River killing one woman and wounding five or six men and a little girl about seven or eight years old. It is reported that our men knew nothing of the advance of the enemy until they threw a shell into town - by this as it may, our men were greatly surprised at the appearance of an enemy when one was so little expected.
Sunday August 23, 1863.
We are still resting in line, waiting for orders. Late yesterday evening our batteries exchanged a few shot with them but no damage was done on either side. They have some long range guns as they threw several shells far over where we lay in line.

Monday 24th.
This morning Wright's Brigade relieved us and we are back again at our old camp but there appears a general belief amongst the men that we will stay but a short time.

Tuesday 25th.
Nothing transpired today except the exchange of two or three shots with the enemy's battery across the River.

Wednesday 26th.
Today the Regiment went out on picket at the mouth of Chicamauga Creek with two days rations - this is about four miles above Chattanooga.

Saturday 29th.
Nothing doing at Chattanooga except the occasional discharge of a gun from the batteries of the enemy on the opposite side of the River. We are expecting another great battle in a short time.

Wednesday Sept. 2, 1863.
Yesterday the Brigade received orders to go to the foot of Lookout to guard an important point - consequently the Regiment received orders today to join the Brigade at that place and the first Tennessee of Manays Brigade relieved ours on picket. Nothing of any importance has happened for two or three days at Chattanooga.

Sunday Sept. 6, 1863.
We are on picket at the northern base of the great Lookout Mountain on the banks of the Tennessee River - the enemy have a picket on the opposite side. This evening reports of the advance of the enemy.

Monday 7th.
This morning before daylight we are formed in line of battle on the side of the mountain waiting for the advance of the enemy - our cavalry has some slight skirmishing this morning - I saw one man go back wounded, but I think if there is an enemy in our front it is only a faint movement of the enemy to cover a great move in some other quarter.

Tuesday 8th.
As I expected we marched back to our camp about one P.M., the enemy who was threatening us having fell back.

Wednesday 9th.
This morning we fell in about 8 o'clock A.M. and marched about ten or eleven miles in the direction of Lafayette, Georgia. Reports say we are going to meet the Yankees who crossed the River at or near Bridgeport, Alabama and have penetrated into north Georgia. They came down Wills Valley.

Thursday 10th.
We are bivouacked in a beautiful wood where we are resting since the night of the march.

Friday 11th.
This is a very hard march, the weather was very fine. The dust was the heaviest I ever saw but the
Monday 23rd
There appears to be a general belief that we will be exchanged in a short time. Our camp ground is now in a very bad condition - the ground is low and swampy.

Tuesday 24th.
A young man named Brown returned from the hospital says the number of cases of small pox is decreasing. He says we have heard very exaggerated stories of the extent of the ravages of the disease. He says about 100 cases were there when he left and that all could walk around and help themselves except about fifteen, also when it was at its worst about two weeks ago the deaths averaged about three per day instead of fifteen, as the Chicago Post reported. There was some more clothing distributed among the needy today and the appearance of the men has much improved during the last ten days.

Sunday 29th.
One of our doctors told me today that since our arrival here on the 27th of Jan. up to this date 654 deaths has occurred out of about 4,300 men, or a little over one seventh of all that was here. We have glorious news this evening; an officer came round and ordered us to cook up some rations and to prepare to be sent off for exchange tomorrow. We go by way of Richmond, Virginia. This will be a long trip.

Monday 30th.
The morning with four days rations in our haversacks, we marched to the cars about 9 A.M. and about 10 A.M. we got on the cars of the Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne & Chicago Railroad.

Tuesday March 31, 1863.
Today we are traveling Ohio - it is a very fine day and the boys are all in the best kind of spirits.

Wednesday April 1, 1863.
Today we are crossing the Alleghanies in my native state (Pennsylvania); it is snowing a little as we crossed by Cresson and the Tunnell and it was very cold. We stopped about an hour in Altoona and I saw two or three familiar faces but I could get no chance to speak to any of them as our guard was so strict they would not even allow us to raise the window of the cars. I passed within half a mile of the place of my birth today - one-half mile from Cresson, Penn.

Thursday 2nd.
Sometime during last night we arrived at Baltimore, Maryland, and we today about 11 A.M. we marched through the city and got on a boat for Fortress Monroe. The weather was very fine going down the bay but was somewhat cold.

Friday 3rd.
We arrived at Fortress Monroe about 10 A.M. and anchored and lay off the fort a short time when we got orders and in the afternoon started for City Point, Virginia. We arrived at this place about 4 P.M. in the afternoon and anchored.

Saturday 4th.
It was very cold and stormy last night, making me remember the day we crossed the Alleghanies. About 12 o'clock we were marched on shore and received by the Confederate Authorities so that we are once more amongst friends there were 450 men in this party - we immediately got on the cars for Petersburg, where we arrived in a few hours and were marched to the camp of direction. Petersburg is a fine old place ten miles from City Point and twenty-two from Richmond. It contained before the war about 7,000 inhabitants but at the present time it presents a sad picture of the ravages of war - everything in and around the place bears the image of the work of destruction that is visibly wherever an enemy hostile tread has come.
considering the heavy shelling we lay under all day. Our men fought under a great disadvantage all dya - some old dry fences had taken fire and the wind blew the smoke in the faces of our men completely blinding them and giving the enemy a great advantage; giving them a chance to take accurate aim whilst our boys were unable to get a view of their enemies. About one hour after dark fighting ceased and we rested on our arms on the field of battle.

Sunday Sept. 20, 1863.
Skirmishing again commenced about daybreak and about 10 A.M. the fighting became general all along the line, continuing until nearly dark; the enemy being driven in route from the field with a heavy loss in killed and wounded about 4000 prisoners. Today our men charged and took two line of rifle works that they had construct-ed during the night and morning with trees and rocks - O.F. Strah's Brigade were again held in reserve all day - consequently nothing in the front our loss is again light - only a few wounded by shells as we were all day under a heavy range of cannon shot and shell. Today our loss is not so heavy as it was yesterday as all the dry wood and fences burned up during the night and this is a clear fine day, consequently our brave boys do not fight under so great a disadvantage as they did on yesterday.
I hear also that Longstreet on our extreme left has beaten the enemy badly, driving him towards Chattanooga nearly all day yesterday. I think from what I have seen of the field of battle the loss of the enemy will be at least two to our one. Yesterday in the fighting after dark the gallant Brig. Gen. Preston Smith of our Division was killed. Our Brig. O. F. Strahl deputed himself like a gallant soldier as he is - the loss in the Brigade will be about 250 men in the two days fight. This is about the average loss of the Brigades of the Division, notwithstanding the fact that they were engaged in front and us held in reserve - this will give some idea of the heavy shelling that we lay under whilst acting in reserve - the rout of the enemy this evening is almost complete.

Monday 21st.
This morning we are again in line and moving slowly forward towards Chattanooga, where the enemy have rallied their beaten forces. I learned that yesterday we captured about thirty pieces of artillery besides retaking Capt. Barnes Battery which was lost on Saturday. The brave Texan Major Gen. Hood lost a leg and Brig. Helm and Deshler were killed and Adams slightly wounded. The enemy lost several officers also. Lt. Richmond of Polks staff was also killed. He was one of the bravest of the brave and beloved by all and believed to be a true gentleman and Christian man. We took about 25,000 stand of small arms and three trains of ordnance.

Tuesday 22nd.
Yesterday evening and last night we marched about twelve miles, halting about seven miles southeast of Chattanooga and bivouacking on the banks of the Chickamauga Creek. This morning we fell in and marched through the valley at the foot of Missionary Ridge which bounds Chattanooga valley on one side. There has been some very heavy skirmishing in front by Maney's Brigade and we are close by supporting them and expecting more heavy fighting. I learned also that Wright's Brigade is in our front with Maney's - several wounded passed to the rear from the front and our brave comrades of Maney's and Wright's Brigades are driving the enemy from Missionary Ridge, and in short time we marched to the top of the ridge and - Chattanooga, like a great picture is spread before our eyes. I learned that the enemy lost Brig. Gen. Lyth of Ohio in the battle of Chickamauga.

Wednesday 23rd.
We marched to within about three miles of town and lay in line of battle all day and night. It is believed that the enemy are evacuating the place but this evening it is reported and I have reason to believe that the report is true, that instead of evacuating the enemy are busy fortifying and have already three line of works around the town - they could be very distinctly heard cutting timber all last night.
Thursday Sept 24, 1863.
No move as yet - lying in line of battle - our skirmishers in front kept up an irregular fire all day with the enemy but this amounted to nothing and the enemy threw several shells at us doing no damage, however.

Friday 25th.
Last night there was some heavy skirmishing but our boys drove back the enemy to their works when their batteries opened upon us thinking, I suppose, that there was a general advance as the night was very dark - our batteries on the side of Lookout made a grand show when they opened upon the enemy.

Saturday 26th.
We remain yet in line at the foot of Missionary Ridge, about three miles from Chattanooga and our men have thrown up a line of rifle works all around the line, thus hemming in the enemy completely as our pickets are within musket shot of those of the enemy.

Sunday 27th.
No move yet but expecting one hourly besides having the town encircled by a line of rifle works, we have also got several batteries in position - the total loss in the battle of Chickamauga is set down at 10,000 in killed, wounded and prisoners. I think it is not quite so heavy. The enemy's loss is set down at a total of 20,000. We also captured 20 stand of colors, 20,000 stand of arms and 40 pieces of artillery and it is a splendid victory for which our men may well be proud and of which the country will reap very little advantage for, when the enemy were routed our General should have pressed him closely and taken Chattanooga instead of letting him rally and concentrate his forces and fortify strongly, thereby rendering his possession of the place secure. All the men are grumbling already notwithstanding the recent victory which they say (and I think with some reason) that it is a fruitless victory to us.

Monday 28th.
Last night there was some heavy skirmishing on our left by Longstreet's men.

Tuesday 29th.
This morning our regiment was relieved on picket by the 19th Tennessee of our brigade all that is doing now is watching one another on picket.

Wednesday 30th.
Everything is fast relapsing again into the quiet which preceded the battle of the 19th and 20th.

Tuesday Oct. 1, 1863.
October ushered herself in with rain - it rained all last night and all day today.

Friday 2nd.
Today it cleared off and is fine again and the Regiment goes out on picket.

Saturday 3rd.
We were relieved about 10 A.M. by the 19th Tennessee and marched about half a mile further to the left in line.

Sunday 4th.
Our Corps Commander, Leonidas Polk, was relieved from his command by Gen. Bragg on yesterday, much to the regret of all the men of the command for the General was much beloved by his men. The cause assigned is that he failed to attack the enemy at day break on the morning of the 20th as he was ordered to do by Gen. Bragg. Whether this is the true cause or not there is no doubt that if the attack on Sunday morning had been made at the break of day the battle would have ended in the total rout of the enemy and the capture of Chattanooga with a great part of the Yankee army,
but the attack was not made until 10 A.M., and during this time the axes of the
enemy were heard all the time and prisoners say they constructed one entire line
of works after daylight. Major General Hindman is also relieved of his command
for disobedience of orders. Our Corps is now under the command of our Div. Gen.
B.F. Cheatham.

Monday 5th.
Today our batteries opened upon the enemy and kept up an irregular fire upon the
enemy all day but I think it was merely to try the range of the guns - the enemy
answered fire without effect. I went back up on top of the ridge to view the
ammunition - I saw several shells burst in and around the Yankee forts and camps and
I think they did very little if any damage.

Tuesday 6th.
The regiment marched back to Chickamauga Creek today, distant about four miles,
returning to our place in line in the evening.

Wednesday 7th.
Today it rained all day and is also very cold - this is pretty bad as we are with-
out tents or shelter of any kind.

Friday 9th.
Yesterday everthing was quiet - today the batteries are again exchanging a few
shots - by deserters we learn that Rosecrans is receiving large reinforcements - also
Bragg is also receiving some reinforcements this last few days.

Saturday 10th.
President Davis rode around our lines today - he was greeted with a great deal of
enthusiasm - he was accompanied by a number of Generals, amongst whom I recognized
Bragg, Cheatham, Maney and our Gen. O. F. Strahl.

Wednesday Oct. 14, 1863
Nothing has transpired worth noting today - the last two days we have had a hard
time on account of the rain - and today the regiment goes out on picket.

Thursday 15th.
This morning our Regiment was relieved by the 8th Mississippi. It rained all night.
There is no news except some accounts of the operations of Wheelers Cavalry which
a few days ago took McMinnville and Shelbyville with their garrisons, destroying a
great quantity of commissary and quartermaster stores and also the bridges over
Stone and Buck Rivers.

Wednesday 21st.
Today we marched back to Chickamauga Creek, returning to our place in the line in
the evening. We were paid off for two months today.

Thursday 22nd.
Our Regiment is out on picket again today - it was a very fine day - we were re-
lieved about 12 o'clock at night by the 7th Mississippi and marched back to camp
and about 3 A.M. we fell in and marched to about 11 A.M. of today.

Friday 23rd.
I am sorry to say that seven men of the regiment deserted last night and of the
seven, three of company D and one of my old Company E. We marched on the Knoxville
& Chattanooga Railroad and it is very hard marching - rain fell all morning in
torrents and the ties are so slippery a man could hardly walk. This evening we
marched about fourmiles further, reaching Tyners Station.
Saturday 24th.
We are lying at Tyners Station today waiting for a train to take us up the road towards Knoxville. It is reported that we go to reinforce Sam Jones at London. Our Division is now under the command of Brig. Gen. Jackson and our Brigade is now under the command of Col. Walker of the 19th Tennessee Volunteers, a gentleman and a soldier, our Gen. O. F. Strahl being absent on furlough. It rained all day and was also very cold. Lt. Gen. D. H. Hill is ordered to Richmond - the men of the Corps are not sorry, for they did not have the confidence in him that they did in the gallant Harder and the soldiers of our old corps was very sorry to lose our brave and good Bishop General and they would prefer him to any Corps Commander that the President could give us - his farewell address was today given to the men in pamphlet form, although I read it some time since in the papers. In this address he speaks very feelingly to the old veterans he commanded so long and says time will justify him in the course that he pursues and all the men believe this for he was beloved by all and combined all the qualities of the soldier, the gentleman and Christian - and although the men are proud of our old division Com. E. F. Cheatham, who now commands the Corps, they would not like to lose him as their Div. Commander.

Sunday 25th.
About 2 A.M. we were roused up and marched to the railroad and got on the cars for Charleston, Tenn. distant about 42 miles, where we arrived about 2 P.M. We join the Division here. The Yankees burned the railroad bridge across the Hiwassee River at this place, consequently railroad communication with Knoxville is broken and if we go any further we will have to march. I saw 16 wounded Yankees today. They belong to Woolfords Cavalry.

Monday 26th.
This afternoon we fell in and marched across the Hiwassee River, Camping on the opposite side about half a mile from the river.

Tuesday 27th.
This morning at daylight we fell in and marched fourteen miles to Athens, the County seat of McMinn County, Tenn. on the Knoxville & Dalton Railroad. Our Brig. O.F. Strahl returned to his command today.

Wednesday 28th.
We are again on the march today- marched about 10 miles- hard marching on account of rain.

Thursday 29th.
This morning we fell in and marched six miles and rested about two hours when we again fell in and marched to Sweetwater, camping about one mile from the town. This is a rich and beautiful little valley, also very healthy.

Friday 30th.
Today we are resting at our place of bivouac near Sweetwater. John C. Brackenridge is promoted to the rank of Lt. General. This gives general satisfaction to all the soldiers as he is a great favorite of all the men. He is in command of the old Corps of Harder which D. H. Hill commanded.

Saturday 31st.
We are yet resting at our camp at Sweetwater, for the last two or three days the weather has been very fine.

Sunday, Nov. 1, 1863.
The first of November is a beautiful day. We are expecting a move in a short time. We had regimental inspection today.
Tuesday Nov. 3, 1863.
A great change and something new to us - that is drill twice a day by order of Brig. Gen. Hudwall Jackson commanding our Division. The railroad bridge at Charleston, Tenn. is completed and the cars are again running to this place. Our old Corps Com. Leonidas Polk is assigned to an important command in Mississippi.

Wednesday 4th.
This evening we have orders to be ready to move at a moments notice. Maney's and Vaughans Brigades left today.

Thursday 5th.
Today it rained slowly all day. Have orders to march tomorrow morning.

Friday No. 6, 1863.
This morning at half past four the reveille was beat and at daylight we fell in and marched to the depot and waited about two hours when we were marched back to our place of bivouac again and in the evening marched to the depot again and after waiting a short time again returned to our bivouac. As the distance from our camp to the depot was only about one mile and the roads were very muddy this was considered as some of the greatest strategy that ever the great Hudwall Jackson accomplished in his whole life and should be recorded to his credit by an impartial historian, northern or southern.

Saturday 7th.
Again at daylight we fell in and marched to the depot and run as far as Cleveland where we lay up all night.

Sunday 8th.
Today we continued on our way arriving at our place of destination about an hour before sundown and about one mile from the tunnel and about five from Chattanooga. We traveled very slow as the railroad is in a very bad condition. It is in fact almost useless and if the war lasts three years longer the railroads of the South will do them very little good as they will be almost entirely worn out. The train ran off the track coming down but as they were running very slow no damage was done. We marched off from the road about half a mile and bivouacked for the night. We go back to our old position at the foot of Missionary Ridge.

Monday 9th.
We fell in about 1 P.M. and marched to the position we are to occupy in line at the foot of Missionary Ridge about four miles from where we bivouacked last night. Our Brig. O.F. Strahl is ordered to report to Maj. Gen. A. P. Stewart - consequently our Brigade is taken from Cheatham and given to Stewarts Division. This creates a great deal of dissatisfaction amongst our boys as they do not like Stewart as well as they do Cheatham. We take the place occupied by Bushrod Johnston who is promoted to a Division and takes his Brigade with him. Breckenridge at present commands the Corps and if the boys are not satisfied with their Div. Commander they are perfectly so with their corps and Brigade Commanders.

Tuesday 10th.
We are camped about three-fourths of a mile from our old original camp ground of 1862. Dress parade this evening and orders read signed by Gen. Breckenridge.

Wednesday 11th.
Today we have received orders to build our winter quarters. Our cavalry captured 850 prisoners and 1000 mules a few days ago in east Tennessee. Our lookout peak battery occasionally throws a shell at the enemy on the opposite side of the River. Our men are digging rifle works out on our picket lines and building three strong batteries on our main line of works. This work is all done at night.
Saturday 12th.
We fell in about 9 A.M. and marched back towards Chattanooga about ten miles - it is pretty generally believed that we are marching back to meet the enemy under Crittenden who took possession of Chattanooga on or about the ninth and immediately moved on after Bragg with a large force - the force that moved down Hills Valley has also fallen back and it is believed by all that a bloody battle will be fought near this place in a short time - in the evening just before dark we moved forward about two miles and was formed in line of battle resting on our arms all night.

Sunday 13th.
We advanced about two miles towards the enemy again informed in line of battle - when my company (Co.E) and B was thrown out as skirmishers we had only to advance about 200 yards when we were ordered to halt and wait the advance of the enemy 8 almost immediately our cavalry were engaged with their advancing skirmishers but only exchanged a few shot with them falling back - when close behind their skirmishers on the brow of the hill appeared their main line of battle in beautiful array but a battery of ours just behind us quickly opened upon them and after two or three well directed shots they broke and fled and quickly in turn brought a battery to bear upon our battery when our battery was withdrawn and our entire line fell back - this maneuver convinced me that a report I heard this morning was true - that we were going to try to draw them on to some chosen ground - but the General failed in this for after following us very cautiously for about 1/2 miles they withdrew at night to the same ground that they held last night - this ended a very hard days duty.

Monday 14th/
It is reported that the enemy lost two men killed and several wounded in the skirmish of yesterday and one of our sharpshooters hit another - there were none injured on our side. Today we marched back to Lafayette again; this surprised the boys much as they all expected to be fighting today instead of marching. We hear that the enemy is also falling back.

Tuesday 15th.
Today we are resting at our bivouac near Lafayette, Ga.

Wednesday 16th.
This evening we moved our camp about two miles from the town towards Chattanooga.

Thursday 17th.
We fell in about 4 P.M. marching very slowly all day, only making five miles.

Friday 18th.
About 11 A.M. we again fell in and advanced slowly about two miles and formed in line of battle and rested on our arms about two hours when we again advanced and moved slowly forward all day, marching about five or six miles. We are again expecting a fight in a day or two.

Saturday 19th.
This morning skirmishing commenced in our front at daylight and it gradually increased in severity until about 9 A.M. when the battle became general along the entire line continuing until about an hour after dark. The result of this day's fight remaining doubtful and the battle undecided. Today we have taken about 300 prisoners; we also lost a few in the same way, how many is not yet known. The right wing of this Brigade suffered heavily but we being on the left and it not coming into action our loss was very slight considering the length of time the fight continued. Our Brigade (O.F.Strahl's) being held in reserve all day and none except the two regiments on the right got a fire of a single round at the enemy.

Lt. Weber of Co.A was killed and Prvt. Games of Co.G. I believe this was all of the killed in the Regiment. The wounded will number about 35. Co. B had one man, Prvt. Mason Shelton, wounded. Co. E had Corp. A.O. Turner slightly wounded by a cannon ball and J. M. Wierson slightly wounded as by a spent ball. This loss was very slight.
Sunday November 15, 1863.
The boys have now pretty good cabins put up for their winter quarters and the weather has been very fine for four or five days. Yesterday the regiment went out on picket and was relieved today. There seems to be a general impression amongst the men that we will not stay here long - there is at present a general reorganization in the Army of General Bragg. Our pickets and those of the enemy are very close to each other now, not more than three or four hundred yards apart. Our battery on Lookout keeps up an irregular fire every day annoying the enemy very much.

Monday 16th.
This has been another fine day - there is regular details made for work every night from the division.

Tuesday 17th.
This morning at daylight there is a very heavy cannonading on our right. It only lasted about fifteen minutes - this evening I learned the cause of the cannonade on our right this morning. It was this; a few days ago the Yankees moved down to the banks of the Tennessee River and put up winter quarters nearly at the waters edge to have water and wood convenient. Our men did not interrupt them until they had their huts built when they run a battery down to the waters edge on our side of the river and opened up a heavy and, I suppose, a very unexpected fire upon them just about roll call in the morning, causing them to abandon their new camps in double quick time with a considerable loss. Our side lost one man killed and two wounded.

Wednesday 18th.
I am on picket duty again today and we stand picket closer to the enemy than ever before - at some places we are not more than one hundred yards apart and at no place more than four hundred. We have the best established picket I ever saw. There is a regular line of rifle pits for the main picket line and every twenty paces along the line there is a vidette sent forward in advance of the line about fifty yards - the enemy has their picket established in much the same manner except that they only send forward videttes at night and at night the videttes are not more than 30 yards apart in some places, at others about 100. They have the place very strongly fortified and are still engaged building new works, they are now at work building a new fort within about 800 yards of our picket line in plain view of us but like our men, they work only at night. This is a curious picture of war as presented to our gaze on this picket line standing guard within rifle shot of each other with orders not to fire on either side without an advance (and then in camp sleeping under the range of each others cannon and in sight of each others camps from the hills) - we know not when the battle storm may break forth in all its fury. Lt.Gen.Breckenridge and Maj.Gen. Cleburne visited our picket lines today.

Thursday 19th.
We were reviewed today by Majg. Gen. A. P. Stewart. It is raining a little today, the first for twelve days.

Saturday Nov. 21, 1863.
It rained hard all night and is raining yet - our camp is completely flooded as it is very low swampy ground where we are camped.

Sunday 22nd.
There is another party on picket from the regiment today - the weather is clear and fine again and has been very good all month considering that it is November.

Monday 23rd.
Yesterday there was some very heavy cannonading on our right. The enemy threw shells entirely over Missionary Ridge but they did no damage and nobody was hurt. Our regiment was marched to the camp of Cleburne's Division and we kept their camp fire burning all night to keep up the appearance of a camp occupied.
About 12 o'clock today heavy cannoading commenced on our right again. They also threw some shells amongst us in the center and shortly after heavy picket fighting commenced on our right and was kept up until dark and, I believe, our boys held all night the same ground that they did in the morning. We were called in line about one o'clock P.M. and were kept in line at the works all day.

Tuesday 24th.
About 9 A.M. cannoading commenced from Lookout and shortly after skirmishing commenced and in a short time the fighting became very heavy around the base of Lookout and continued all day long and at night until ten o'clock. The enemy drove our men from their works on the side of Lookout and occupied them. The enemy with an overwhelming force of at least five to one had taken advantage of a dense fog in the morning and had quietly advanced their lines to within a short distance of our works and then making a quick rush surprised our men and drove them from the works and their heavy force enabled them to hold them against all the efforts of our small force to recapture them. There were only two small brigades of our men defending this place that should have been guarded by at least a division as it was the key to our position on Missionary Ridge - so as this position is now lost Bragg will be compelled to fall back from this place and in my humble opinion Bragg is greatly to blame for the loss of Lookout, that is if he wanted to hold his present position and if not he is also to blame for making any resistance whatever - after dark the sight from our camp of the battle on the side of Lookout was very grand - the quick flashes of the small arms and the brighter glare of the cannon through the intense darkness was a sight never to be forgotten. There has been nothing doing on our immediate front all day. There has been some cannoading on our extreme right but not amounting to much. The loss of Lookout right under the gaze of our men is very discouraging to them, for they had been led to believe that it was defended by a sufficient force to hold it and was almost impregnable to the enemy and had it been properly defended it would indeed have been so. Our loss in killed and wounded is not very heavy but not half that of the enemy, but we lost a number of prisoners.

Wednesday Nov. 25, 1863.
Last night it cleared off about 11 o'clock and a wind sprung up from the north and it was very cold lying in line of battle all night. Our wagons left during the night for the rear. During the night a great number of the troops also were marched back. At daylight we marched about one mile further to the right, thus entirely giving up the line of works that we held last night. I think our Division (A.P. Stewart) is to cover the retreat of Bragg for it is very evident to me that it is a retreat, but I did not see the General himself (Stewart) all day. Shortly after daylight the 31st and 33rd Regiments were thrown out as a picket, or more properly as skirmishers, with ours (the 4th and 5th) to support them. We lay in this situation about half way up the side of the ridge for about three hours when we were sent out as skirmishers but in about another hour we were called back to our former position again on the side of the ridge. The day was beautiful and from our position we had a fine view of the valley before us. We could see our line of skirmishers, which is all we had, on the ridge and the heavy columns of the enemy were in plain view advancing against us in battle array in our immediate front, at least eight or ten to one. We were kept moving from right to left nearly all day and during all this time our artillery kept up an irregular fire upon the enemy, returned in about the same manner by that of the enemy. We could also see immense columns of the enemy moving to their left and the fighting on our right was the heaviest that was done this day and about three o'clock P.M. the columns of the enemy advance upon us. Just in our front was an old field about 600 yards in width to the woods and the enemy had of course to cross this field. We had one line of works on the level ground at the foot of the ridge and just in the edge of this field and where our line of resistance should have been formed but where we had only a very small line of skirmishers to oppose the heavy columns of the enemy then about one third of the way up the ridge there
Friday 4th.  
Yesterday evening about 3 P.M. we arrived at Nashville and today we lay all day in this city.

Saturday 5th.  
Today we started about an hour before daylight for Louisville, Kentucky where we arrived on the morning of Dec. 6th.

Sunday Dec. 6, 1863.  
About 6 A.M. I am at the same old military prison at which I was kept 12 days of January 1862. About 4 P.M. we were marched to the Jeffersonville Ferry and crossed over and put on the cars for Rock Island, Ill.

Monday 7th.  
Today we passed through Indianapolis, the capitol of Indiana.

Tuesday 8th.  
Today we passed around the southern point of Lake Michigan and the cars ran very slow and we had a beautiful view of the lake.

Wednesday 9th.  
This afternoon we arrived at Rock Island, our place of destination.

Thursday 10th.  
Today we have had the laws and regulations of the prison read to us. They are very strict. The sentinel on guard are to fire on any person who will go to within forty feet of their lines without challenging him; to fire upon any crowd who will not immediately disperse and to fire into any ward where there is any great noise or disturbance or if lights are not immediately put out when the horn blows; roll call twice a day and inspection once a day.

Friday 11th.  
Another train of prisoners arrived here today- there is now about 3,000 here.

Friday 12th.  
We have liberty to write home letters not exceeding one short page in length. The weather for the last week is very cold. It has been five degrees below zero; so our guard says. We are not allowed to have any papers in here but some of the prisoners that have just come in brought some in with them. I read another proclamation of Abraham the 1st in Chicago Tribune of the 10th, offering a full pardon to all in the army under the rank of Colonel or Captain in the navy or Congressmen in civil office, who will return to their allegiance by taking the oath- and the people of the north are very jubilant over the late successes of Gen. Grant and he is lauded to the skies. Our rations here are better than they were last winter and our quarters are cleaner but not so warm. We are in large wards, 120 men to a ward and two stoves to each ward.

Saturday 19th.  
This morning the thermometer stood at eight degrees below zero. Yesterday a man named Cann died in our room. There is about an average of six from each room in the hospital. We are suffering terribly from the cold being all very poorly clad. A great many have their feet and ears frozen - some few have no blankets.

Monday 21st.  
This is a pretty hard life in weather like this clad as we are.
Friday Dec. 25, 1863.
The third Christmas of the war and two of these I have been a prisoner.—the first passed in our comfortable winter quarters at Columbus, Ky., the second at Harrodsburg, Ky., wounded and a prisoner and the third in this cold and miserable prison. I sincerely hope that the next may find me enjoying life and our poor country enjoying peace. We have nothing to read and the time drags along very wearily. Today as the day was a little more moderate I walked around the prison grounds a little. There are seventy wards each to contain one hundred and twenty men and there is now forty-five of them full, so that the number of prisoners now here is about 4,500 men— and there are some Indians kept prisoners on the opposite side of the River— we can see the barracks.

Monday 28th.
An incident occurred in our ward (No. 15) today which shows the depth of Yankee philanthropy. There are three rows of bunks in our prison building, the bottom bunk about one foot from the floor, the upper ones about seven and the middle ones about midway between, or about the height of a man's shoulder. Our orderly Sgt. received orders to move all the sick men into middle bunks on the south side of the house as the doctor said he would not climb to an upper or stoop to a lower bunk to see a sick rebel, but that all should be placed conveniently to his ear so that he could hear what the sick man had to say without the trouble of bending. This is a fair specimen of the men who are waging the greatest war of modern times to liberate the blacks and raise them to a level with the whites politically and socially.

Thursday 31st.
This is a very cold day— I am suffering more from cold than I ever suffered in all my life combined— water will freeze within five feet of our stoves in five minutes and when there is only one small stove to each sixty men there is a very poor chance to keep from freezing. This evening the cold continues to increase.

Friday Jan. 1, 1864.
Sixty-four comes in about 25 degrees below zero. It is the coldest day I have seen since I left the Alleghany Mountains.

Saturday 2nd.
It is not quite so cold as it was yesterday. I since learned that it was 31 degrees below zero yesterday— one of the guards says the thermometer was down to 27 degrees below zero this morning. It is utterly impossible for me to describe the suffering of the prisoners the last five or six days but when I say that not half of the men have any coats and only ragged jackets and thin cotton shirts, a man may imagine the sufferings of the men.

Thunder Tuesday 5th.
Yesterday there were blankets given to those whom had done and it has moderated a little though it is very cold yet. Up to this date 113 men have died at this place.

Wednesday 6th.
Q.A. Statham, of my company, died in ward 14 this morning at 2 o'clock. He had been sick about eight days. He was wounded at Perryville and was with me last winter at Camp Douglas. He was a brave good soldier, loved by all his comrades and acquaintances. He was about 22 years of age. B. M. Hatch and myself being with him all last night.

Sunday 10th.
The weather has been somewhat milder for the past two or three days so that life has not been quite so hard.
Tuesday Jan. 12, 1864.
The weather yesterday was clear and fine, being milder than any since our arrival here. The snow is thawing a little today, something unusual.

Wednesday 13th.
Today at inspection the Yankee Sgt. who calls the roll announced to us that any man who wished to take the oath and join the U.S. Navy could do so and they would be protected from any insult that their comrades might offer to them. I am sorry to add that a very large number are going to join their navy and turn traitor to us. From this ward five men stepped out today, three Irishmen, one Irishman and one Tennessean. Peter Clancy and William Flaherty of the 10th Tennessee Infantry, John Donahue of the 4th Louisiana Battalion, Charles Free of the 24th Alabama Infantry and a Tennessean named Fallet and a little Georgian named Dixon, belonging to some artillery company. Of my company, William Cullom from Ward No. 39 also went out.

Thursday 14th.
The weather continues more moderate for the last week. There is a great many more of our men joining the Navy than I would have believed would have done it.

Friday 15th.
One of our guards said the whole number who have joined their Navy is 475.

Sunday 24th.
The weather still continues very fine and for the past two weeks the men have not suffered so much as they did about the first week of the month. I was very much surprised and sorry to learn that two of my Company, who I thought were as true soldiers as any in the Confederacy, had joined the Yankee Navy - William Bohannon and Lytle Statham, whose brother William died on the 6th in Ward 14. Bohannon was one of the bravest and best soldiers in Co. E. and loved by all his comrades, besides having a brother in the Company - but this is the place to try men - base metal will show itself when tried by fire. This makes three traitors in Co. E. - William Cullom, who has two other brothers in the Company, Bohannon, who also has a brother, and Lytle Statham, who saw his brother die treated no better than he was a dog by the men he is now going to fight for. Jack Henry of Co. H. also went to the Navy, making four from the regiment.

Wednesday 27th.
Our rations now are better than they were some time ago. Yesterday another small squad of prisoners came in. They were taken in East Tennessee and belong to Longstreet’s Corps and John Morgan’s Cavalry.

Monday Feb. 1, 1864.
Today it is somewhat colder again. I am getting very tired of this life and all the men are wishing for an exchange.

Wednesday 10th.
Nothing has transpired during the past ten days to change the monotony of our prison life.

Friday 12th.
Today the oath of allegiance was offered to the prisoners and I am sorry to add that a great many will take it if they can give sufficient reasons for it. This is somewhat discouraging to a man of northern birth like myself who has no home or no property but is merely fighting for principles to see men born and raised in the south with homes and property and all that should incite men to patriotism to see those men recrueat in the hour that they are most needed by their country is, I say, somewhat discouraging to me, but the first American Revolution saw its share of Tory traitors and this one has its Union traitors also.
Tuesday 16th.
It is very cold again today, colder than it has been for a month.

Wednesday 17th.
The thermometer this morning is again below zero - one of our guards says he thinks it stood at 10 degrees this morning.

Thursday 18th.
It is very cold today but not quite so cold as yesterday by about ten degrees.

Saturday 20th.
The weather has become much more moderate since day before yesterday.

Saturday 27th.
I forgot to say that I wrote to Missouri to some of my old friends a short time ago, I wrote for some books, and a few days ago I received a copy of Shakespears works and I have something to read now, and I was very glad to hear also that my friends there are all well, also my relatives in Pennsylvania. One of my friends in Ward 16 also received a lot of books so I have plenty to read which somewhat relieves the monotony of my present life.

Monday 29th.
The weather continues very fine and our life is much better than it was during the first month of our arrival here - those who have sent up their names wishing to take the oath have not got out yet.

Saturday, March 5, 1864.
Today the weather is a little colder tan common but still not so cold as to cause us any suffering.

Tuesday 15th.
For the last ten days nothing has transpired to change our prison life in any manner. Today we organized a debating club in this ward for our own amusement and past time.

Thursday, March 17, 1864.
The weather is now very fine and has been so for sometime past - the men are trying different ways of amusement. There is a kangaroo court held in some ward nearly every day and in this ward our debating club will meet three nights of every week - Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. There is also a club formed in wards 16 and 32.

Monday 21st.
For the last two or three days the weather has been very cool, so much so that the men crowd around the stoves, again, however, they are past and the weather is moderating a little today. There is no news and everything is very dull.

Sunday 27th.
For the past four or five days the weather has been very fine and the health of the men is improving a little. There is a great many cases of small pox but not many proving fatal, not so many, I am told, as in proportion as there is among the Yankee garrison. There is at present a great many rumors afloat relative to an exchange in a short time. I place little credit in these rumors but still always hope that they may prove true and that we may be exchanged in a short time.
Saturday April 2, 1864.

April has opened with very fine weather and the boys are enjoying themselves in the best way that they can. Playing ball and jumping are the principal outdoor exercises - the indoor exercises are reading when we can get anything to read - some engage at making rings, toothpicks and wooden piggins or cups, playing chess, checkers and all the games of cards that ever Doyle mentionned but thanks to the scarcity of cards this game is somewhat limited and checkers is the most played, but chess is becoming very unpopular. The best thing we have to pass away our time is the debating clubs formed in several wards and kept up with a great deal of spirit - also the kangaroo courts are kept up in different wards and is a source of amusement to the men. Thus many ways are adopted to help change the monotony of our lives. We can get no news worth crediting but our prison is full of the wildest rumors all the time relative to actions at the seat of war and relative to an exchange. On the other side (the Iowa side) of the River there is some Minnesota Indians kept in prison now. It was reported that the Copperheads or Poci men of Iowa had threatened to liberate them and also to liberate us and last Monday the commander of the post on the Iowa side sent to Col. Johnston commanding this post for reinforcements to meet the threatened attack. Col. Johnston sent a regiment over to his assistance and Monday night the guards around us were doubled but everything passed off quietly. No attempt was made and the Yankees only suffered a big scare. There is little chance for any man to escape from here owing to the stringliness of the guard around us, but what gave the Yankee officers an idea of an attempt being made was a little hold dug under the parapet wall large enough for a man to pass through easily and this had been done from the outside of the prison.

Saturday April 16, 1864.

For two weeks nothing has transpired to change the monotony of our prison life. There is still some few reports in circulation relative to an exchange in a short time but in our situation we can get no news but all the true soldiers of the South are wishing earnestly for an exchange in a short time. The health of the men is improving a little the last ten or fifteen days, especially is this true of small pox. Pneumonia is proving fatal in more cases than small pox or any other disease. The weather is very fine but the nights are a little cold yet. Our rations are not quite what we could wish for but still no one really suffers for food and I believe we have the cleanest prison in the North.

Friday 29th.

The weather this month is like it nearly alway is in spring in these latitudes, very variable, today it is wet, yesterday it was fine but for three or four days it has been very cool. We have no news. When the weather is fine the boys enjoy themselves playing ball in the prison yard. There appears to be a general belief amongst the men that we will be exchanged before the middle of May. Yesterday I received a letter from Capt. S. F. Maxey from Dalton, Ga. No news except that the boys in the regiment were all well and wishing to see us again. The health of the men is very good now. Small pox has nearly entirely disappeared from amongst us.

Sunday May 1, 1864.

May comes in beautifully, the day is very fine. Yesterday evening I received a letter from brother John informing me of the death of Father. He died in June 1863. This forces me to an act I hoped I would never be forced to do - that is to send up my name as wishing to take the accursed oath of allegiance and to return to my home. This I do in the firm belief that my reason for doing so is perfectly justified and right - as by my fathers death Mother is left with four children under the age of fifteen years, one sixteen and one a cripple aged about thirty-seven, and in embarrassed circumstances and herself over fifty-five years of age. I need only add that I do not take this step without a severe struggle in my own mind for I am very sorry to give anyone the least pretense for saying that I deserted the cause which I believed still to be just and holy and one which I sincerely hope will prosper and which I sincerely believe will also succeed.
Monday May 2, 1864.
This morning I took the fearful step and my name stands recorded amongst many that are traitors in every sense of the word. This looked to in the right manner is no light and trivial thing. I yesterday wrote again to brother John, which I pray God may yet relieve me from this odious alternative that is now before me and which I yet shrink from with fear and dread.

Sunday 5th.
Yesterday seven more men made their escape from this place and last night the guards were doubled around the parapet and police walked through the inside all night. I hear it reported that they feared a general outbreak of the prisoners. The health of the men is now very good - the small pox has almost disappeared.

Sunday May 5, 1864.
The weather is very beautiful but the dullness of our life is almost indescribable now as the days are getting long. This morning another attempts to escape was discovered by the guard. It was an attempt to tunnel out from under the floor of Barrack No. 41, which is an outside building. They had tunneled almost to the parapet depositing the dirt under the house. I think some traitors reported them. This morning another incident happened which for pretty meanness has not been surpassed, viz: the cutting of the eagle buttons of our clothes, also cutting the tails of the coats which were first drawn. I do not know their motive for this conduct.

Monday 16th.
Today there were four men balled and chained for trying to make their escape from prison; three in Barracks No. 41 and one of No. 46.

Tuesday 17th.
The weather continues beautiful. Cheering reports continue to come to us from the front - glorious news of successes in Louisiana and Virginia, also the coast of North Carolina. At every point the Confederates have been beating back the enemy with great slaughter. The renowned conqueror of Vicksburg has been badly beaten by the Confederate forces under Lee and Beauregard and driven back with great slaughter and the loss of several Generals.

Friday 20th.
Yesterday morning at inspection a Yankee officer announced to us that there was a chance for 300 more men to join their navy and I regret to be compelled to add that they got nearly or quite nearly the required number by using the most dishonorable means that ever was used by any man or set of men belonging to any government on earth. Their officers all went amongst our men and coaxed, argued and bribed and commanded all who they could influence to desert the cause of their Country and enlist themselves in the ranks of their brutal enemies - conduct which no Patriot, Christian or Gentleman could be guilty of and conduct which no brave and generous enemy could ever bring himself to do but at the same time conduct which agrees with and which will become men fighting for the equalization of races and not for true freedom and liberty which they pretend to be doing.

Thursday June 9, 1864.
Time still drags heavily along with us in our prison. Our health is very good but it is very hard to be compelled to pass such beautiful weather cooped up as we are. Our guard is much stricter now than it was sometime ago. The guard is now doubled, this is caused by several having made their escape lately. There has also been several shot lately by one brutal cowardly guard. Last night a man named Franks in No. 12, belonging to the 5th Regt. of Ala. Cavalry in Boddy's Brigade was shot and instantly killed upon stepping to the door of the Barracks. The guard ordered him back into the house and while in the act of opening the door he received the bullet in his breast, falling dead in the house, when the cowardly miscreant said with an oath to his Corporal "I got you that time". These guards are a regiment of one hundred day men lately raised and are nearly all men or boys.
was another imperfect line of works at which place the 4th and 5th was placed and on top of the ridge behind us was the balance of the brigade placed. Thus three lines of skirmishers instead of one line of battle to resist the heavy and compact columns of the enemy and I must say if Bragg wished to hold the ridge he acted very unwise and he was covering a retreat was even worse, for it is very evident that if he wanted to hold the ridge his infantry should have been formed in solid line at the foot off the ridge, but he wanted only to cover a retreat the line should then have been formed on the top. The enemy advanced to the charge of our position with a force, as I said before, more than eight times that of ours. Our Lt. Col., a gallant officer brave even to rashness, ordered no man to fire until the enemy were within one hundred yards of us, when we poured such a heavy volley into their ranks that for a short time even the overwhelming force of the enemy were staggered and actually turned as if to flee when they were rallied by their officers and as if ashamed of faltering before a line of skirmishers they again advanced to the charge. Our boys stood their ground and not a man left his position until the enemy were within 50 yards of us, when our Lt. Col. ordered a retreat. With the enemy only a few yards in front and having on a heavy knapsack and having been doing duty for two weeks, when in reality I was not able to do it, I knew it was impossible to gain the top of the ridge, so I was taken prisoner, as was several of the company and regiment. The following were captured from the Company: J.Y. St. John, R.B. Cullum, E.B. Cullom, W.H. Stat- ham, Lytle Statton, W. Cullum, W. Echann, J.B. Beekham, B.M. Hatch, John Mc-Cricker Robert Huckle and myself. G.S. Morris was also slightly wounded in the left hip and was taken. There was also several more of the regiment taken. We were marched into Chattanooga and lodged in the railroad depot. So, I am again for the second time a prisoner. The enemy gained the whole of the ridge and have taken a great many prisoners. On our right they were twice beaten back before they took our lines and their loss is consequently very great. I learned this evening that E.Z. Harris was mortally wounded and our 2nd Sgt. E.H. Curlin killed, Also Lt. Cobb of Company H.

Thursday 26th.
There are about 2,000 men here taken yesterday on Missionary Ridge. Gen. Grant is commanding the Yanks in person. Brig. Gen. John W. Geary commanded the Division that took Lookout on the 24th.

Friday 27th.
I was today talking to a Yankee officer who admits a very heavy loss at the storming of Missionary Ridge and the taking of Lookout. He says it will amount to fully 9,000 in killed and wounded. Our whole loss will not reach so high a figure.

Saturday 28th.
There is now about 3,000 prisoners in the old car shed. It rained hard last night and we are packed up closely in the dirt. The Yankees lost one Brig. Gen. killed.

Sunday 29th.
Yesterday evening just before dark we were marched across the Tennessee River and bivouacked for the night in an old field on the river bank and about 10 A.M. today we were started for Bridgeport, Alabama. We marched about 12 miles and bivouacked in an old field on the roadside. We suffered terribly from cold and exposure the last two nights.

Monday 30th.
We marched 16 miles today arriving at Bridgeport about 4 P.M. On the night of Sunday, J.Y. St. John and N. Cullom made their escape.

Tuesday Dec. 11th 1863
River at Bridgeport.

Wed. 2nd.
This morning we marched to the cars and started for Nashville, Tennessee.
Sunday July 31, 1864.
The weather has been very warm for the last week of the month. Nothing has transpired to change the life of the prisoners. Everything presents the same appearance that it did months ago in our prison.

Saturday Aug. 13, 1864.
Nothing has transpired for sometime worth noting. Rations continues very short. There are a great many sick with scurvy now caused, of course, by our getting so much salt meat and no vegetables. Excepting scurvy the health is good. The weather continues very warm for the last two weeks. There is some talk of a speedy exchange - I feaut it is not but hope it is true. The number of deaths is about 1350 up to this time.

Thursday 25th.
Nothing has occurred of any importance since the 13th. The health of the men remains much the same. My own health has not been very good for the past four or five days. A few days ago a tooth in my lower jaw commenced acheing and made my jaw very sore and also made my ear ache and both aching together I suffered very much for two or three days but today I am much better.

Friday Sept. 2, 1864.
Nothing has occurred lately to change the monotony of our prison life. Yesterday evening I had the good fortune to read a late paper - the Chicago Times of Aug. 31st - it gave the news of the nomination by the Democratic Convention at that place of Gen. C. B. McClellan for President and Hon. G.H. Pendleton of Ohio for Vice Pres. I have some little hope of their election which I think will end the war. A great many of the men have the same hope. Still there is room for some doubt of the sincerity of honesty of the candidates. If they be elected and peace is made all will be well, if not the war I fear will last sometime longer. God grant that peace will shortly be made.

Sunday 12th.
Time still drags wearly along in our prison life, but this evening the Yankee officers read orders to us from Col. A. J. Johnson, Commander of the post, offering any rebel prisoner a chance to join their army to fight against the Indians on the western frontier and I regret to say that there is a great number of our men going to go. I firmly believe that 19 out of every 20 will go for to desert at the first opportunity and thus get out of prison. The Yankees offered for one year $100, for two years $200 and for three years $300, but I fear that many poor fellows will be induced to go who thinking to escape will fail to do so, perhaps lose their lives in the vain attempt, for if caught they will be treated as deserters.

Friday 30th.
Nothing new for sometime until day before yesterday when another man was killed by the guard. His name was Ford. He belonged to a Missouri Cavalry Regiment. Also another man wounded; suppose he will lose his arm. Yesterday our guard changed color and we are now guarded by a negro regiment from Kentucky. I think they act just as well as our former guard did. Today all the men joined the Yankee army to fight the Indians were taken out of this prison. There was between 14,000 and 15,000 in all.

Saturday Oct. 15, 1864.
Again another call for men to join the Yankee army and I regret to say that they aren't done going yet. The following men of my Regiment went: E.H. Slaughter, O.S. of Company I, Joseph Alford and Wesson of Co. C, Sam Neely of Co. K, and Dan Sullivan of Co. H. I firmly believe that the first named, E.H. Slaughter, goes out to attempt to make his escape. I hope he will succeed as I think he is a good rebel. The number gone out to this time will probably reach 1,000.
a very large number of traitors for the number of prisoners here, and still the Yankee officers say that they will have another 800 or reduce our rations yet more. The Confederate Government has, through its Commissioners, used all the means in their power to effect an honorable exchange but failed to do so and there is no doubt but Lincoln holds on to us for the diabolical purpose of starving as many as possible into the ranks of his army and in this manner deplete the ranks of the Confederate Armies and defeat them in this way.

Friday Nov. 4, 1864.

For the past ten days I have been very unwell, suffering with the neuralgia in the right side of my head. I was out at the hospital a week and returned yesterday. I am nearly well again. Nothing has transpired in our prison worth noting, except the killing of another man named McLanahan, belonging to the 9th Tennessee Cavalry whilst attempting to escape. He bribed one of the negro guards and the negro betrayed and shot him, killing him instantly. Two of my regiment, W. King of Co. A. and F. Hold of Co. H, succeeded in making their escape a few days ago and have not yet been ratten. Our rations continues very short and numbers of the prisoners continue to join the Yankee army. I have to name three more of my Regiment; John Stanley of Co. G., and Wash Johnson of the same and Jesse Boyle of Co. K. This makes nine of the Regiment: Sam Nealy and Jesse Doyle of Co. K., Dan Sullivan of Co. H., E.H. Slaughter of Co. I., L.V. Runyan, J Alford and Wessen of Co. C., and W. Johnston and John Stanley of Co. G. The health of the prisoners is good as can be expected with the treatment we receive. Many are suffering with scurvy and rheumatism.

November 25th.

Today it is just one year since I was taken prisoner at Missionary Ridge near Chattanooga and such a year of suffering I hope never again to have to bear. I have several times stated that we are on very short rations but I will not state exactly our amount of rations ever since our arrival here. When we arrived the 9th of Dec. 1863, the prison had just been completed and we were the first prisoners that ever occupied it and our rations for the winter, if not quite what we wished or had a right to expect, were still sufficient to keep us from actual suffering. During the winter we drew every day about 12 ounces of light bread or sometimes cornbread and of meat three-fourths of a pound of fresh beef, which when cooked falls off one half so that after cooking and taking out the bones we get about four or five ounces of fresh beef for a day's ration. During the winter we got our days of beef and six days of pickled pork or bacon, which when cooked made us about 7 or 8 ounces of meat per day. Every ten days we got four messes of beans (each day of these four we got about 1 pt. of beans or 1½ pts of bean soup for dinner) and two messes of Irish potatoes (which we received about the same time as the beans) and we got a pint of coffee every morning and evening and also got sugar and every man got about four tablespoons of molasses every ten days and about one-third of a pint of vinegar - so that with this amount of rations, although many large eaters did not get quite enough, there was no actual suffering. About the first of May they stopped our sugar and coffee and molasses and bacon. Instead of bacon they gave us pickled beef, which sometimes was not fit to eat and had to be thrown away, and we got no more Irish potatoes nor beans but in their place we got either coarse hominy or rice, about three messes every ten days, so that now actual suffering commenced, but still only amongst those who had no money or who had no friends in the north. For those who had no money had to live upon the rations they got and those who were fortunate enough to have money could purchase provisions from the Yankee Butler, who I am informed filled orders for bread and flour and meat to the amount of $3,000 in one week. At this time there was between 8 and 9,000 men in prison here, so that a man can form some idea of the condition of the men. Add to this that there were many who received boxes of provisions from friends, so that there was amongst the majority no actual suffering - for if men (especially rebels) has any chance to keep from starving they will surely do so. I now come to the time when actual suffering by the large majority commenced.
Sunday June 12, 1864.
The weather for several days has been very cool for the month of June. A hate paper is a great treat for us in prison at the recent time and today there was a one dated June 10th read in the Ward. It gave us the news of the nomination by Republican Convention of the renomination of A. Lincoln for President and the renegade traitor A. Johnson of Tennessee for Vice President. This ticket suits the party they represent, the first a perjured nigger emancipationist, abolition amalgamatinist and the latter a poor cowardly renegade traitor to his native state whilst engaged in one of the holiest of causes - a poor miscreant unworthy of the name of man - a fine ticket to represent a free people.

Saturday 18th.
The weather is very warm today, much warmer than for the past two weeks. Nothing new has transpired in our prison lately. There still continues nearly regularly and some attempts to escape. A few days ago eleven made the attempt and three got away safe, seven were recaptured and one was drowned in the river. The Yankees always put a ball and chain on every man that they recapture.

Saturday 25th.
Seven months today since our capture and they have been seven weary months to us, never to be forgotten, strictly guarded and half fed as we are. A few days ago our coffee and sugar was stopped and now we do not get much over half rations. The guard continues to fire into the crowds of prisoners occasionally and altogether since our arrival here there has been about 11 or 12 men killed and wounded in this way. The weather is pretty warm now and has been so for several days but not sufficiently to cause any suffering amongst us as our yard is pretty well shaded.

Tuesday July 5, 1864.
Time drags wearily along in our prison. Rations which were always short enough, having been lowered a short time ago are now very short and a great deal of murmuring and complaining is now heard amongst the men but of course this does no good. There is scarcely any talk of an exchange. I received a letter from home a few days ago, which Thank God, releases me from the necessity of taking the accursed oath of allegiance to the Yankee nigger government. Since I wrote last there has been two more rebels wounded by the brutal and cowardly guard. We have no news. The health of the men continues very good and the weather continues cool for July, with a great deal of rain for the past two weeks. The number of deaths since our arrival here is between twelve and thirteen hundred out of eight or nine thousand men.

Sunday 10th.
The weather for the past four or five days has been very warm but there has nothing transpired lately to change the monotony of our prison life.

Friday 15th.
The weather is now delightful, not near so hot as it was two or three days ago. We still keep on the even tenor of our way; our prison life is still the dull monotonous life that it was months ago. There has been several men wounded and one killed by blast in the drift that the Yankees are digging through the middle of the prison grounds. I do not know for what purpose it is being dug. There is no talk now of an exchange. The men, at least a great number of them, think we are in here for the war but I do not think so yet.

Sunday 24th.
Still in prison continuing our daily monotonous, dreary life with a very slight hope of being exchanged before winter. The health of the men is very good. One of my friends in Missouri sent me a box of rations which helps me to live considerably better as the rations we draw continue to be very short.
Friday Dec 23, 1864.

On the evening of the 21st the Provost Marshall read orders to the Orderly Sgts. to the effect that the Butler would be allowed to bring in and sell flour for four days, so yesterday, the 22nd, he hauled in flour all day, selling between 2 and 3000 dollars worth. This would seem to be a clear enough proof that we were living for sometime on half rations. Today he is selling some but not near so much as yesterday. He sells it at 4$00 per sack of 49 pounds. Outside the prison it sells for $2.50 per sack, but at this high price it is the cheapest thing that this Yankee Butler sells to us. This will help the condition of the men very much. This morning was very cold again, in fact, it has been cold for the past two weeks. Sleighing is pretty good now in the country. Lincoln has made another call for 300,000 more men. He says the half million call of last August was not yet half filled, only 240,000 men having been received on that call and he says this call is merely to fill out the former call. I think it is evidence of defeat and disaster in Georgia and Tennessee, although Administration papers claim great victories which, however, opposition papers very flatly contradict, giving us victory.

Sunday 25th.
Christmas day and the fourth one of the war and of the four three have I been a prisoner. The first Christmas of 1861 in camp at our winter quarters at Columbus, Ky., the Christmas of 1862 a prisoner at Harrodsburg, Ky., being wounded and taken at Perrysville, Ky., the Christmas of 1863 and 1864 at Rock Island, Ill., being again taken prisoner at Missionary Ridge near Chattanooga Nov. 25, 1863. This is a gloomy picture of my campaigns but I can only live on in hope of a speedy exchange or a speedy peace to again set me at liberty. The latest papers give some very bad news for the Confederates if reliable, but still reports are so conflicting that scarce if any reliance can be placed upon the reports. Lincoln had made another call for 300,000 men, which I believe augurs a defeat instead of victory.

Sunday Jan. 1, 1865.
Another year is ushered in and the war yet goes on in Dixie and our gloomy prison life remains almost unchanged. The papers for the past week continue to report the fall of Savannah. They say Sherman took the place with 850 prisoners sick and wounded. Hardee evacuating the place. It is reported so much that I fear it is really true. This is another great disaster to the Confederates, but I still hope not ruinous. The papers also continue to report the utter defeat and demoralization of the Army of General Hood in Tennessee but their reports are so very conflicting in regard to this that I do not think that our loss is half what they report even if this much. They, in the first place, report that Hood entered the State with from 35 to 40,000 men and 45 pieces of artillery and report him as leaving the State with from 25 to 30,000 men, demoralized and dispirited, with a total loss of 22,000. Their report of the loss of his artillery is even more absurd, they say they captured 62 pieces and that he succeeded in saving 25 pieces on his retreat, but it is put up like all Yankee lies so that it will not bear investigation. There is a growing coldness reported between England and the U.S. Govt. I sincerely hope it will end in war. There is a great difference between the weather today and last New Year's Day. Last New Year's day the thermometer stood in the morning at 31 degrees below zero, this morning it was not more than one degree. About the middle of December we had our coldest weather of this winter, at least so far as this time. We are again buoyed up with the hope of an increase in our rations - I sincerely hope it will shortly come to pass in a short time as there is nothing that would do the men so much good (except as always an exchange), but one will not yet believe it, in fact, we are in here so long that I fear the Spirits of some are entirely broken by such sufferings as we have endured for the past year.
Monday 2nd.
Last night two men, Duty and King, were shot dead by the guard whilst attempting to escape. They got a ladder by some means and placed it against the parapet and King had commenced to mount the ladder when the guard fired killing the foremost (King) dead upon the shot. Duty got back to his barracks and died almost immediately.

Wednesday 11th.
The weather continues very fine for this season and climate and nothing has transpired to change the dull monotony of our prison life. There are some reports in circulation relative to an exchange in a short time, also in reference to foreign recognition or intervention to take place after the 4th of March next, but for the foundation of any of these rumors I cannot say anything. Our rations continue the same.

Saturday 14th.
I received a letter today with very bad news; Williams Browder and A.O. Turner, two of the best soldiers of my old company, were killed in the late campaign of Gen. Hood. The former was a messmate and one of the best and bravest men ever in the company, strictly moral, very religious and gentlemanly in his conduct to others. His younger brother, Andrew, was killed at Shiloh. He was also a brave generous boy about 17 years old when he was killed. The letter confirms the report I heard of the death of Lt. N. L. A. Curlin, a brave, good officer, and George Robinson of Co. D., and reports the death of Capt. John Only, but I think this report is untrue. Also Wash Fowlkes of Co. K., killed at the battle of Franklin.

Sunday 15th.
Our prison is full of the wildest rumors imaginable this past few days relative to an exchange, to peace, to quarrels between the French and Yankees.

Monday 16th.
Today about 250 men were taken out of our prison and sent off on exchange. They had all belonged to the Trans-Mississippi Dept. and were captured in Arkansas. It was only a special exchange, mainly only one of my Barracks got off, J. P. Wright of the 5th Ark. Infantry, but he was at home on furlough when he was captured. Rumors of a general exchange continue.

Friday Jan. 27th, 1865.
For the past five or six days there is a great many rumors of a general exchange being agreed upon but as usual when such rumors are circulated nothing authentic can be learned. Our prison life continues the same weary monotonous life as ever and our rations continue as short as ever. The past three days has also been very cold, I believe the cold of yesterday morning was the greatest of the winter. This morning was not quite as cold but is still very cold. The sutler continues to sell vegetables to the prisoners and at the same exorbitant prices — $3.00 per bushel for Irish potatoes, $12.00 per barrel for apples, 40¢ per doz. for onions, $1.50 per bushel for turnips. In the Chicago city market potatoes sells for 80 to 90 cents, apples for 60¢ per bushel.

Saturday Feb. 4, 1865.

Everything remains unchanged in our prison - rations small as ever. The men are grumbling and suffering as usual for the last six months with no immediate hope of an exchange, in fact, the only hope is for an exchange in a short time. I just learned a full report for the prison for Jan. 1, 1865; present 6,042- joined the Yankee Army for the frontier service, 2034- joined the Yankee Navy 1,038 - released by petition on oath 170 = escaped 29 = 6,444 7,500, 665 named confinement.
Saturday Feb. 4, 1865 - continued
to other prisons 46 - released on parole 21 - total 10,990 men - nearly one-half gone and now a few days ago orders were read to us to the effect that any one who did not want to be exchanged should send out his name to the headquarters so that they could be released upon oath after an exchange is made and I regret to say a great many have sent out their names and it is safe to say that of the ten thousand that arrived here not above four thousand will go back to Dixie again. This is very discouraging. There has also since the first of January, been a great many released upon petition.

Monday 6th.
Yesterday the commander of the prison (Col. J. Hugh Johnson) was in the prison and he said an exchange of prisoners was agreed upon and some would leave here in a few days. The invalids will leave first. I am in the second squad and I hope to get off in about a week or ten days. This news has elevated the spirits of the men very much.

Friday 10th.
The clerks have been busy for some few days making out exchange rolls and I believe a general exchange is now agreed upon. Our rations remain the same - the health of the prisoners are good.

Wednesday 15th.
The first squad, that is the invalids, left today for exchange. This is good news and the men are in first rate spirits in consequence of it. As our rations continues so very short and there is so much suffering from hunger all are very anxious for a speedy exchange.

Thursday 16th.
It is believed that another squad will leave in a few days - another invalid squad - and I am fortunate enough to get on it.

Friday Feb. 17, 1865.
The weather for sometime has been very mild. Last night it snowed a little and still continues to snow this morning but it is very mild.

Saturday 18th.
Today 72 more prisoners arrived here. They were captured at different times and in different places in Tennessee and Kentucky. They gave me the sad news of the death of my Brigade Gen. O. F. Strahl. He was killed at the battle of Franklin. Also the death of Col. Walker of the 19th Tennessee Infantry. He was killed in a fight in north Georgia during the summer campaign. Our rations here continue very small but we have good hopes of getting back South in a short time. Today the Yankees called the roll of each barrack and told every man as his name was called to say exchange or no exchange and I regret to say that hundreds are going to take the oath in preference to an exchange. In Barracks 13, I believe, the number is only 3 out of 58 men, in Barracks 1 only one man - Barracks 13 ten men - Barracks 22 men - barracks 27 twenty-three men - Barracks 25 forty-two men - Barracks 6 twenty-one men - forty-five men out of ninety-five in the house. If I can I will get the number from all the barracks.

Tuesday 21st.
There is still a strong belief amongst the men that an exchange is agreed upon. Today I heard very good news; that is, that three men of my company who joined the Yankee Navy (William Bohannon, William Cullem and Lytle Statham) are now all three with Gen. Forrest's Cavalry.
Thursday Feb. 23, 1865
The Chicago papers of the 21st report the fall of Charleston, S. C. This is very bad news, if true. I hear also from a prisoner just arrived, Mr. Bolivar Backly of Obion County, Tennessee, that our regiment also lost Major Henry Hampton at Franklin,—a braver and better officer or a more accomplished gentleman was not in our Army. He states further that the regiment was cut up so badly that it was disbanded with 30 days furlough and privilege to join any branch of the service or any command when their furlough expired.

Sunday 26th.
Another squad of 500 men left yesterday and it is believed that another will leave in a day or two. The men are in very good spirits now, all hoping for a speedy exchange.

Monday 27th.
I signed the exchange roll today and it is generally believed that we leave here on Wednesday the first of March—this is glorious news. I have the prison report for the 20th of February. I know not if it is correct or not. Total number of prisoners that have arrived at this prison since Dec. 9, 1863 is 12,215. Of this number there joined the U.S. Navy 1,097—joined the Army 1,797—released upon petition upon taking the oath and Navy and Armv volunteers that were rejected by the surgeon 936—escaped 45—officers transferred to other prisons 71—exchanged 7794—unaccounted for 8—this leaves as the number present 3,601 men. The number who were unwilling to be exchanged is reported is 1,175. This will leave for exchange 4,426; of this number there has since left on Feb. 25th 500 more, which now leaves 3,926 men wishing to be exchanged.

Thursday March 2, 1865.
I still remain in the gloomy prison. It is again reported that the squad I belong to will leave today or tomorrow, so I am yet hopeful of getting away from here very soon.

Friday 3rd.
Yesterday evening we left the prison and were marched to the cars. So at last after nearly 15 months imprisonment I am again on the way to be exchanged. Today we travelled through the States of Illinois and Indiana.

Saturday 4th.
Today we travelled through Ohio and into Pennsylvania. We crossed the Alleghenies tonight.

Sunday 5th.
We arrived in Baltimore about 7 P.M. and marched to Fort McHenry and lay in the open air on the cold frozen ground without any fire being allowed us.

Monday 6th.
Today we got on board the boat to be carried to the exchange point.

Tuesday 7th.
We ran down the bay and up the James River to within eight miles of City Point, where we anchored for the night.

Wednesday 8th.
Today we ran up to Aikens Landing where we lay all day. We left Baltimore on the Ariel of New York. We got on a smaller boat at Aikens Landing.

Thursday 9th.
We were landed at Aikens Landing and Marched three miles to our lines and we are now again inside our own lines.
Friday March 10, 1865.
This morning we were marched out to Camp Lee about three miles out west of the city. Last night we occupied an old empty building on Camp Street. Having arrived at Richmond about one hour after dark - today we lay at Camp Lee and signed our pay roll for one year's pay.

Saturday 11th.
Today we received pay for one year and leave of absence for 30 days unless sooner exchanged when we are to report to our commands or to the Parole Camp at Richmond.

Sunday March 12, 1865.
Today I secured transportation for Abbeville, S. C. and hope to leave this evening or tomorrow morning. Times are very dull in this city now. Confederate money is worthless; dollars are only cents in value. Butter is $16.00 per lb, eggs $24.00 per dozen, bread about $2.00 per pound and other things in proportion. This evening I left Richmond.

Monday 13th.
Today I reached Danville, Va. The train ran off the track last night and we were late tonight arriving at this place.

Tuesday 14th.
Today we reached Greensboro, North Carolina.

Wednesday 15th.
Today we reached Saulsbury, N. C. The cars make very bad time as the railroads are in very bad condition.

Thursday 16th.
Today we reached Chester, S. C., traveling all day and only making forty miles. The people of this state and the border of the neighboring State of North Carolina are very patriotic and loyal to the C. S. I shall not forget Mr. Hutchinson and Mr. Pints of Charlotte, N.C., the last place we passed through in North Carolina, and also Mr. Walker and Lady of Chester, S. C. for their kind hospitality to me and my comrades.

Friday 17th.
As the Yankees have destroyed all communications at Chester S.C., we have to march part of the way; six of us in company started from Chester about half past eight and marched to Broad River in Union District, distant about 21 miles. We crossed the river making a days march of about 25 miles. This was pretty hard on me as I am very weak and unused to marching and quite unable for vigorous exercise.

Saturday 18th.
Today we marched to Little Tiger River and crossed it, marching 17y miles and travelling 15 by railroad.

Sunday 19th.
Today we crossed the little Anaree River and marched to the railroad at Newbury, 16 miles of a march.

Monday 20th.
Today we ran to Abbeville and in the evening marched out eight miles on the road to Washington, Georgia.

Tuesday 21st.
We marched to within 7y miles of Washington today, making 27 miles through deep mud and heavy rain.
Sunday April 18, 1865.
There is very bad news in the Yankee Journals. They report the capture of Richmond and Petersburg and also of Gen. R. E. Lee and his army of Northern Virginia. I hope, however, the latter report is somewhat prematurely given, as I think it has no foundation in fact.

Saturday 22nd.
For the past few days there have been some very important things transpired in our land. There is now no doubt of the surrender of Richmond and Petersburg and about 3 or 4,000 sick and wounded with Gen. R. E. Lee, but the most exciting report is that of the assassination of the President and Secretary of State of the U.S., Lincoln and Seward, the former was shot in the head on the 13th of April whilst seated in his box at the Washington Theatre during the play by the Actor, J.W. Booth, and he died the next morning at 4:30 A.M. Mrs. Seward was in bed sick, when the attempt was made upon his life. The assassin or assassins fought their way to his room, cut his throat and left him for dead. At the latest accounts he is living but his recovery is very doubtful. We have no news of fighting lately. The Confederates are arming and drilling the negroes as fast as possible.

Monday 24th.
Yesterday was a very exciting day in Union City. The Tennessee Tory, Col. Hawkins, came out from Hickman, Kentucky on a raid with 150 men for the purpose of capturing and killing soldiers that are at home on furlough about Union City. His men killed Hugh Gilbert and Wm. Cullom, the latter belonged to my company. They also severely wounded Gen. Evans and Ed Cullom, capturing them. The last named also belongs to my company. They also captured two others of the company, Fritz Miller and Joe Neiling, and a man named Brevard. The killing and wounding was all done after the men had surrendered. G. S. Morris, Wm. Ligon and J. W. Williamson, also of the company, made a very narrow escape. J. V. Curling, Robert Matthews, Robert Muckle and myself got the news in time to make our escape.

Tuesday 25th.
Hawkins passed on through the country to Paducah, Ky., going by way of Fulton Station. When about six miles from the latter place the rear of his column was attacked by about twenty guerillas under the McDoodles, but owing to the disparity in numbers the guerillas fell back but without suffering any loss. Hawkins had one man killed and one or two wounded.

Thursday 27th.
Today G. S. Morris, William Ligon, A. C. McFall, J. W. Williamson, Robert Muckle and myself started back to our regiment. We marched about 20 miles today. The people of Obion County in this neighborhood of Union City are very strong in Southern principles and very liberal good people. In no other section of the whole Confederacy have I seen their equal in this particular.

Friday 28th.
We marched 21 miles today.

Saturday 29.
We marched 23 miles today.

Sunday 30th.
We reached Jackson, Tenn. today and reported to Col. Newsome, who instructed us to go on to our Commands but he also told us that he had received orders to cease recruiting as an armistice had been agreed upon between Gen. J. E. Johnston and Gen. Sherman, which it was believed would end the war. I sincerely hope an honorable peace will soon be made but I fear there is no hope for it soon. Today we only marched 13 miles.
Monday May 1, 1865.
Today we marched about 28 miles.

Tuesday 2nd.
Today we marched 28 miles, passing Corinth, Miss.

Wednesday 3rd.
Today we marched 21 miles.

Thursday 4th.
Today we marched 18 miles, reaching Saltillo and stopping the night with Mr. John Cole.

Friday 5th.
We marched 9 miles to Tupelo and took the cars for West Point, Miss., where we arrived about 5 P.M. News continues very discouraging.

Saturday 6th.
There now remains no doubt about the surrender of Gen. R. E. Lee and J. E. Johnston with all their armies and their departments. It is also believed that Gen. Dick Taylor is about to, or has already surrendered this department. Thus the Yankees will have entire possession of all the country east of the Miss. River but it is believed that Jeff Davis will carry on the war west of the river for years yet. This evening we arrived at Columbus, Miss. This is a very fine town situated on the east bank of the Cahaba River in Lowndes County in eastern Miss. Gen. R. E. Lee surrendered his army April 16th and J.E. Johnston the 26th and R. Taylor also surrendered this department on the 6th of May, so that the war east of the River is now virtually over. This is a sad ending for four years of bloody war, four years of hardship and sufferin for nothing, in fact worse than nothing. The people are now in a feverish state of anxiety to know the course the North will pursue towards them. A little conciliation and justice on the part of the Yankees will save much bloodshed and a terrible guerilla war, which, if the people are treated to harshly will be carried on for years. It is to be hoped for the sake of humanity that they will be as forbearing as they were fortunate and is so their Union will be safe, perhaps even regain its old spirit of union in heart as well as Union in name, but I am very fearful for the future looks dark.

Sunday 7th.
We are waiting here at Columbus for the Yankee officers to come and give us our final parole and then all return to the peace and enjoyment of home - all those at least who have homes to go to.

Monday May 15, 1865.
Quietly awaiting for our parole. The reason why I have waited for my parole is that our final parole from service is equivalent to a discharge and it is generally believe that the war is over and that the South has submitted to the North, I wish for something to show that I have faithfully done my duty as a soldier in a cause that I believe to be a just and good one - but it has failed, miserably failed, by the bad conduct of Southern men and the bad management of the Confederate Government - had the men stood by their colors truly as men should do we would today be a few free people, but they shamefully deserted a cause they should have died for and we have had to submit to overwhelming numbers. I will only give one instance of many ---Wirt Adams Miss. Brigade numbered 3,000 men for final parole and of this number only 800 was doing duty / at the time of their surrender, the balance of 2,200 were at home or lying in the woods - much a people do not deserve their liberty and a just God did not allow them to gain it, but I am very sorry for the fate of the many who did stand true to their colors - their fate is a sad one - and the many brave martyrs who gave their lives for the cause. One hundred Yanks arrived here last night on the cars and I think we will get our parole in a day or two. About the terms of surrender or the terms the South will get, I as yet know
Monday May 15, 1865 (continued)

nothing - the people are in a feverish expectancy of what the Yankees will do since they have got the South in their hands. Some expect mild terms, others expect harsh.

Wednesday 17th.
I received my final parole today, which is to be considered as equivalent to a discharge, since the surrender of all our Armies east of the Miss. River. Our parole is dated May 15th, just four years and one day since the Regiment was organized at Germantown, Shelby County, Tenn. So now our Armies are all disbanded on this side the Miss. River and the Yankees garrison all the principal towns, a portion of the 46th of Ill. are on duty at this place (Columbus, Miss.). I am starting for Union City, Tenn. today, having transportation to Corinth, Miss.

Wednesday 24th.
We left Columbus, Miss. on the 17th and arrived at Tupelo on the 19th at 10 P.M. and started on foot for Lagrange, Tenn., a distance of 78 miles. The first half day we marched 14 miles, the second day 27½ miles, the third 27½ miles and the last day 9 miles. When we got transportation to Memphis, Tenn., where we arrived Monday evening the 22nd. Memphis is filled to overflowing with a motley population of niggers, Yankees and played-out Confederates and returned or paroled rebel soldiers. We stayed nearly all of Tuesday 23rd in town and got transportation on the steamer St. Patrick for Hickman, Ky. Today we are steaming up slowly for this place.

Saturday 27th.
We arrived at Hickman Wednesday evening about five thirty P.M. and walked about three miles and Thursday 25th we walked 12 miles to Union City, Obion County, Tenn. Thus after four years of hard service has the war ended against us, at least in this department. It is true that west of the River our forces yet hold out, but unless they get assistance of some foreign power they will be forced to soon submit. And by the bad management of our Administration and the bad conduct of the men we have to submit to the Yankee rule. At this time garrisons are being sent to all the principal Southern towns. In most cases they are negro troops and a great deal of anxiety exists in the minds of the Southern people about what terms they will receive from their Yankee masters. Doubt and gloom and a deep despair seems to have settled upon their minds. They expect a hard lot will be theirs in future and indeed I think they may well expect hard times.

Sunday June 11, 1865.
There is now no doubt remaining of the surrender of Gen. E.K. Smith with the Trans-Mississippi Department. He surrendered on the 26th of May and that is the final end of the war. Nothing more remained but to give stability to the peace of the country and from present indications I think the U.S. Government will be very lenient to the South. I think much better of the prospects of the South than I did a short time since. Slavery is finally abolished but I think that all their privileges and rights with this exception will be restored to them. If the U.S. Government treats the South with a noble magnanimity I shall glory in their prosperity, if not, I shall glory in their ruin.

Sunday June 25, 1865.
The sudden end of the war astonished the country very much after lasting for four long years of bloody fields and long hard stiges it fell through in a month - although it was two months ago the people scarcely believe it to be over and it is the topic of conversation in nearly any place. The deep anxiety which hung on the minds of the Southern people immediately after the surrender of the Confederate Armies has not been yet removed - they do not yet know the manner of the settlement of affairs, but a s the policy of Johnson is more clearly shown
the people are getting more confidence in his conservatism and expect a great deal of leniency will be shown to the men who were lately in arms. I do not sympathize with Jeff Davis as much as when I first heard of his capture, for Generals Lee and Johnston attribute our failure more to his favoritism and incompetence than anything else, also to the indecision and want of energy of our Congress.
Wednesday March 22, 1865.
This morning we marched to Washington and took the cars again.

Thursday March 23, 1865.
We rain to Social Circle and have to march again to Atlanta - we walked 19 miles this afternoon.

Friday 24th.
Today we marched 33 miles, reaching the city of Atlanta which is nearly in ruins - at least the best part of the city.

Saturday 25th.
By rail to West Point today, distant 105 miles.

Sunday 26th.
We arrived at Montgomery, Ala. this evening and stayed in the city until the evening of

Monday 27th.
We left for Selma on a boat where we arrived about 7 A.M. of

Tuesday 28th.
And took the cars for Demopolis, where arrived about noon and took the boat for the other side of the Timbigbee River and then took the cars for Meridian, where we arrived on
Wednesday 29th.
About 10 A.M. and took the cars for Okalona, where we arrived about one hour after dark.

Thursday 30th.
Today we started on foor for West Tennessee. It was a very wet day and we marched 15 miles on the cross ties of the railroad.

Friday 31st.
Today we marched about 30 miles.

Saturday April 1, 1865.
This morning we are on our weary march - still on the cross ties of the railroad. We passed Corinth about 3 miles, making 34 miles today.

Sunday 2nd.
Today we marched through McNairy County, Tenn. by the railroad, by Bethel, making 38 miles.

Monday 3rd.
Marched 30 miles passing through Jackson, Tenn.

Tuesday 4th.
Marched 32 miles today passing Trenton about 5 miles.

Wednesday 5th.
Walked to Union City today - myself, B. M. Hatch and Martin Chambers. It rained very hard nearly all day, but we walked about 30 miles - making less than 6 days march of the distance between this and Okalona, Miss. I stayed tonight with Mr. John Gullom at Union City, Tenn.

Thursday April 6th.
A very fine day. I walked out 4 miles to Mr. Mathews. This is a very fine country; healthy and very fertile. The people are very liberal and are nearly all true Southerners in sentiment.