

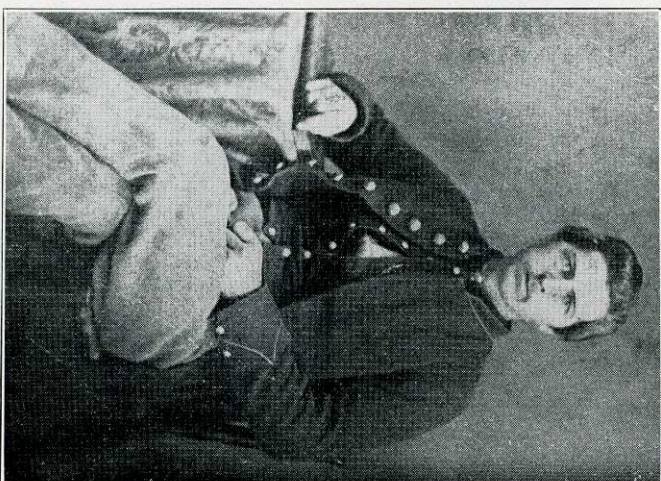
FOREWORD

Wm. H. H. Ibbetson, writer of this diary, returned to Chesterfield, Illinois, after the close of the war and married Mary Augusta Monroe.

To this union seven children were born, namely: Harry M., Anette M., Robert E., Clara Ann, Ernest A., Mabel Augusta and Wm. H. H.

He died September 5, 1883. Mary Augusta Ibbetson, his widow, lives at Carlinville, Illinois.

Dated June 5, 1930, Carlinville, Illinois.



WM. H. H. IBBETSON.

WILLIAM H. H. IBBETSON
Co. D, 122d Reg. Ill.

Alias Chesterfield.

Macoupin Co., Ills.

Purchased of Hugh Langen Aug. 23d 1863, A. D.

At Porter's Creek Station,

Hardeman Co., Tenn.

Via Overbidding L. B. Corbin,

At public sale.

Dedicated to Songs & other stuff. Also Day Book & Ledger.

Oct. 8th, 1863. Left Camp Palmer en route for Dixie. Went by rail to Alton & there went aboard the John Warner. We ran from there to Cairo & thence to Columbus. It rained continually, wetting all who could not get shelter. We expected to stay all night but at 9 o.C. were aroused up & put aboard the R. R. & sent to Trenton Tenn. it being reported that there was a force of Rebs advancing on that place. A dark & gloomy ride it was. A new Reg. expecting to be put into battle next day, going there in box cars used for taking beef cattle to Corinth, smelling anything but sweet. The night dark & rainy. Truly that was a time to try men's souls. We arrived at Trenton next morning at daylight, on the 10th Oct. all being quiet.

Oct. 10th (63). Went into quarters that evening in a large store on the West side of the square. The town very nice but shows unmistakable signs of civil war. It used to have a pop. of 1500 but now not more than 500 remain. A great many of the houses are vacant. John I. Rinkner took command. The place is very high & rolling & has been a beautiful place. Besides our Reg. is the 4th Ill. cavalry, also 7 Tenn. Our duty was light, but little drill. Guard light & plenty to eat. Nothing of interest happens. No enemy show themselves, none but guerrillas. We remain in Trenton until November 10th.

Nov. 10th. Our Reg. is divided. The right wing Co. A. F. D. I. & C. going to Humboldt 14 miles South. Humboldt is a very nice little place, numbering about 150 in pop. A large fortification was thrown up by the contrabands & we went to building barracks inside the fort, & begin to look like living again, our health being excellent.

Dec. 18th. On the 18th came orders for us to be ready at a moment's warning to march. We left on the morning train taking nothing but one blanket, leaving tents, clothing & all. It was rumored that Bragg was marching on Jackson, Tenn. with 20,000 men. All the forces on the R. R. were concentrated there in anticipation of an awful engagement. We were disembarked & camped near the Hospital. About 9 O. C. we were marched to the West part of town & placed behind some cotton bales & ordered to keep our accoutrement on. But we slept in peace.

Next morning we were ordered up bright & early & given 100 rounds of cartridge.

Dec. 19th. We afterwards unloaded & took only 40 rounds, that being quite a relief. We then took three days rations & were marched out on the northeast side of town & drawn up in line of battle in a cotton field, expecting there to make our maiden effort. As a general thing the boys were perfectly cool. Some were taken suddenly ill, but the instances were few. About 10 O. C. we heard cannonading. We were then supplied with spades & dug a ditch, expecting some of us to die in. Some said it was the last ditch but it was in truth our first & we didn't die in it. At two O. C. we were marched out some two miles where we were fired into by the enemy's pickets. No one hurt. We were then marched in line of battle across a field $\frac{1}{2}$ a m. in width, expecting every minute to be fired into again. Here we went pell mell over fences through briar patches & through bogges, in line of battle. But it was beyond my power to see the line or the battle either. After entering the woods we halted & were foolishly ordered to leave our blankets. In fact to prepare for a forced march. This happily was countermanded by Brig. Gen. Lawler, who said the enemy were retreating & there was no danger of a battle. Our *sick & give out* were soon better. Blankets were picked up & once more we went ahead, in column & at a decent gait. We marched only one mile when we camped for the night. The firing was done by the 61 Ill. & a Reb battery. The Rebs took to their heels. The firing in the forenoon was between the 61st & 39 Iowa & a Reb cavalry. The Rebs were repulsed with heavy loss. Estimated at sixty killed & 100 wounded. One killed on our side.

Dec. 20th. Next morning we were marched off bright & early in pursuit of the enemy. Now found out to be Forest. Being about 6,000 all mounted strong with 10 or 12 pieces of artillery. We marched all day. See nothing & hear plenty. Camp for the night 10 miles from Jackson. Next morning, Dec. 21st, we march ahead but see nothing. We begin to see the beauties of a soldier's life. Marching here one fellow will lay down gave out. Here you will see some fellow with more fat than his share puffing & blowing like a fat hog. Some trying the experiment of limping on both feet, caused by various blisters. Some still & silent. Thinking of home, or some one else. Others boisterous, cursing & swearing. Others enlivening up the boys with a song. In fact you can see men, in every mood imaginable & language of all sorts. We again camp without seeing anything.

Dec. 22nd. Start back. March hard all day. They find out Old Forest has fooled them only making a feint on Jackson. To make them concentrate forces there & leave the R. R. unprotected. Which succeeded better than he could hope. From Jackson he started up the road towards Columbus. Burning everything as he went & tearing up the R. R. track also. He burnt our barracks at Humboldt & destroyed & stole all our camp equipage & also our Co. flag. Which we foolishly left. They stole our flag & violin & used our flag as a dancing floor. Humiliating after promising the fair donors at home we would die beneath its folds rather than see it dishonored. Alas promises are made to be

broken. How true. He took some prisoners there. Two out of our company which were paroled.

Dec. 23d. Arrive at Jackson. Eat a little grub & go to Humboldt on the train. Camp at Humboldt on the night of the 23d thinking we were going to stay there.

Dec. 24th. But next morning we were shipped up to the Break 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. There we got off & marched to Trenton. Finding everything there all quiet. We went to the south part town on the R. R. & there camped. Various were the rumors we heard. We heard that Forest was 6 m. from us & was going to give us fits. About 9 O.C. at night we fell in silently & marched back to where the break was. Our Reg. was the only troops within 8 m. & if the rumors were true we were in a tight place. We went back on the R. R. tracks. Over trestle covered with sleet. Some had to *coon* the longest & highest trestles, which was a slow & laborious job. But after all we arrived in safety & camped for the night. It being 1 O. C. in the morning.

Dec. 25th. Christmas is here & we are in the woods. In the "southern Confederacy?" This is different from our last Christmas. Spent in collision with Roast Turkeys & Plum Puddings. Today we are out in the woods no tent nothing but Hard Crackers to eat. Gloomy it's a fact, but we made the best of & passed the day in talking over old times. Telling anecdotes. In the evening we killed some beef & therefore had beef & hard tracks for supper. Something we had been without for a week. The day was spent & various were the ways. We all joined in praying for such a state of affairs not to happen again. We would rather spend the next at home among friends & Dumptings. It would be hard to tell which we would prefer. The friends I suppose.

Dec. 26th. Raining in pefect torrents & into the bargain have to march back to Trenton. The R. R. being completed to that place & in running order. But there was not rolling stock enough to carry us. So we had to foot it & carry our things such as blankets & c. We were accompanied by some cavalry & artillery & so were safe. We arrived in Trenton about noon. The stores were open & the boys went in & helped themselves. Soon there was a strong patrol put on the streets & that stopped it at once. We camped at houses in town, & kept pretty civil generally.

Dec. 27th. All quiet. We are living fat. We forage on the citizens. Forest when he got our Commissary distributed it among the citizens thanks to his magnanimous soul & we went about & searched every house & took all of Uncle Sam's goods & *some more too*, sugar & coffee & molasses, barrels of flour, pork, fish & in fact everything. In this way we got along very well. Better than could be expected. We now thought we were good for a rest. But alas for human calculation. Always at fault.

Dec. 28th. On the evening of the 27th the Reg. was ordered out again it was said on a foraging expedition. So being very lame & foot sore I was ordered to stay & take care of the Co's things. Which I willingly did. But the Reg. did not return the next day nor the next & soon we found out they were after Forest again & that another large force had joined them, & also that they were likely to catch him. We

formed ourselves into Co. to repel any Guerillas who should attempt to come in but had nothing to do at all.

Dec. 30th. Our Reg. is still out. And are close after Old Forest. We hear nothing definite. Only they were likely to have a fight.

Jan. 2nd. We hear that Forest has been overtaken, & whipped him & that the 122nd did most of the fighting. The fight happened on the 1st of January, 1863.

Jan. 5. We now have the particulars of the fight. They came up to Forest on the 31st Dec. near Cross Roads 30 m. N. E. of Trenton. Here they laid on their arms until next morning. When the fight was opened by the artillery at 10 O. C. our force had but one battery (16 guns) & that was worthless (7th Wis.), while Forest had 15 pieces of the best artillery in the Reb service. Our batteries were soon silenced & the Brigade our Reg. was in were ordered forward. As they thought to charge the batteries. But when within 400 yds they were ordered to lie down behind a fence & open on the batteries. Here they remained in a perfect storm of shell, grape & canister for $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour. The Rebs then came up in their rear & they were ordered to "about face" & charge double quick. Which was done. Driving the Rebs helter skelter. Another fresh Brigade then came into the field captured the Artillery & cleared the field without firing a shot. Thus ended the Battle "of Cross Roads." Our loss in all was 150 wounded & 40 killed, 57 were wounded in our Reg. & 19 killed. Our com. lost two killed (Sam'l Peter & Geo. Finch) & 10 wounded. One died in Hospital in Jackson (Hagler). This was our maiden effort & did not run.

Jan. 16th. The boys again return to Trenton, in the rain. Still in a good humor. We are once more allowed to have some rest. We go into quarters in the court house some of us. Others in vacant stores, & all having good houses, & all having a good time. We have no excitement all quiet. Col. Rinaker (wounded) goes home, & so we have only one field officer in the Reg. Major Chapman being taken pris. in Humboldt. We live fine. Old Forest had the kindness to leave our commissary in the hands of citizens & we had nothing to do but go & take it. Which was made the duty of all the Soldiers.

Feb. 20th. We leave Trenton for Corinth. Rather down in the mouth. Corinth had the name of being unhealthy. Still we have to go. It commences to rain about 4 O. C. arrive in Corinth in the rain in the evening about 7 O. C. too late to go into camp. The next morning we marched up to a warehouse on the Charleston & Memphis R. R.

Feb. 21st. It still continued to rain in perfect torrents. Added to very cold weather. Made it very disagreeable. We have had times cooking. Coffee being quite a luxury.

Feb. 22nd. Our camp is laid out & a detail made to clear it off. We are moved to the guard house & stay there all night. We get our tents next day & raise them & get moved in. They are poor excuses. Being old & torn. We do the best we can & make allowance for the rest. Our Mess in particular stole one tent & drew another in way done well. We also had a box of provision sent down & rec'd the day we left Trenton. This was no small consolation. There being a large amt of

butter contained therein, & last though not least an enormous fruit cake, "*Which went*". We soon build us a wall, composed of split boards, set upright in the ground & use our tents for a roof & again we are fixed for living again. Guard duty is pretty heavy & have to go over a mile to be mounted. We also have to drill to all intent battalion & comp. It goes hard. We did very little drilling in Trenton. We are troubled considerable with camp diseases. But with all are tolerable healthy. Corinth is a business place. It shows unmistakable signs of the struggles that took place there. Trees shot off. Others filled with bullets. Houses shattered to pieces & riddled. It has been greatly improved since our troops took possession. Uncle Sam's boys will improve even if they are in Rebeldom. There was nothing of interest happened during our stay. Nothing only the dull routine of camp life. I'll therefore skip our stay there.

April 15th. We are ordered out on a march. Start early on the 15th. It was reported that we were to go out as far as Glendale. We march through Glendale to Burnsville & there camp for the night. The night was clear and we slept sound. We are 15,000 strong, 30 pieces of artillery, 5,000 cavalry, making a pretty strong army. We begin to think we are in for something. Something was going to be did. Somebody was going to be hurt.

April 16th. Start to march at 6 O. C. March to Iuka. Halt & eat dinner. March six m. farther & camp on a beautiful spring branch. The country through there is very hilly almost mountains. The scenery is grand. Wild & uncultivated, but for a farming country it is almost worthless. The soil was poor & thin, also rocky. A country for a painter or poet, but no place for a farmer. An Ills. farmer would never think of settling in such a country. It will not do to compare with any of the North Western. One county in Ills. will raise as much produce as a dozen such counties. Cotton is the staple crop, they raise some corn & wheat, but not much. Cotton was & is King. Slavery are his servants. We have confiscated all his servants & now the old fellow has to go begging. Rock are not scarce. The roads need no paving. Nature has paved them. But in her exertion has thrown up mighty hills.

April 17th. Get our breakfast early & start forward. March only a mile & a half, when we hear cannonading ahead. They fire only 10 guns when we are ordered forward. It seemed that Roddy was endeavoring to keep our forces from crossing Bear Creek. Only two miles from where we halted. But as soon as we opened on them with artillery & they *skedaddled*. The 9th Ills. mounted infantry was thrown over but too quick. One of our own shell falling short, killed one of them. This was our only casualty. We then advance to the creek & cross, on what we called a "Raccoon Bridge." This was composed of a rope stretched across the creek. We stripped off our clothes & holding on to the rope we waded the creek. The creek was very swift. It being impossible to cross with holding on to the rope. There was a fine *aspect*. 10,000 men crossing a river naked, the water as cold as ice. This had to be done & it was done. We camp on the opposite side. Are aroused early & start at $\frac{1}{2}$ past six to march East. March into

Cherokee Valley over little Bear Creek. We again come to the R. R. "March to Buzzard Roost" & the Re receive orders to about face & return. This valley is one of the most beautiful we have ever passed through. The land is richer here & more like land corn looks well, impossible to cross without holding on to the rope. There was a fine Good houses & everything denotes prosperity & wealth. But alas. War had made sad ravages. Fences are burned up. Everything is torn up. Our armies had been through there before & wherever an army goes destruction marks its path. But still this valley has the material for making a prosperous country. Yet it has to suffer the consequences of its folly.

April 18th. We return to Bear Creek & camp at our old camp. The 9th Ills. had considerable of a fight. Also one battery. We lost one gun. On acct of being out of ammunition. This was our only casualty. We gained the victory. We have to wait for our train to cross.

April 19th. Are early on the move. We marched out 1½ m. & hid ourselves in the brush, expecting the Rebs to make an attack. We laid there until noon & then moved out ½ m. farther. After staying there until 4 O. C. we marched back to our old camping ground. The intention seemed to be to coax the Rebs in and snaffle them. Thinking they did not know our force. There was a small force of cavalry sent out to engage them & then retreat & draw them in. But they declined fighting & we had our trouble for our pains. The day was wet in the morning, but cleared towards noon, nice & warm.

April 20th. Morning clear & warm. Remain in camp. Go down to the creek (¼ m.) & go in swimming. They are busy working on the Pontoon Bridge. Our wagons cannot get across & therefore we have to wait for them to cross. Try our luck fishing, catch one little chap & thats all. We expect to go out as far as Tusculmba, when we get our train across. There is no force opposing us but Col. Roddies. Not numbering more than 3,000. All cavalry. It commences to rain in the evening, making it disagreeable, very. Our feet needed some rest. They being very sore. The country is very rocky. That making it hard on our feet. We gather Pine branches for a bed. It being almost as good as a feather bed. We bark the trees for a roof & very soon have a good shelter from the rain. We are all in a good humor, never better. The ones who were down with camp diseases are well. The march & hard fare has been good medicine.

April 21st. Morning clear & warm. Go fishing again but have no luck. Don't bite worth a cent. It clouds up & rains in the afternoon. We get thoroughly soaked. Rubber blankets are in great demand "Pressing." One in our shed was pressed. The fellow to whom it belonged gave chase & succeeded in running himself down & got no blanket. He got back considerably the worse for wear. The night passed off dreary enough but one thing that cheered our hearts was we rec'd a mail, that evening late. I rec'd one from Sister Clara, Isham Peebles, & one from home. They were all well. This was good news at least. We went to bed not to sleep but to lie there & get wet & cold. The rain fell in torrents. Everything was afloat. Some are singing. Some are

swearing. Some are wishing they never "joined" others sit still & keep their own council. I was among the latter.

April 22nd. Are roused up early & get our breakfast. Receive marching orders. Draw one day's rations, & hold ourselves in readiness to go at any moment. Are reinforced by one Brigade of cavalry & one of infantry & one heavy Parrot Battery. Remain in readiness for more than three hours. It being very pleasant for us to stand in readiness. When our Superiors knew all the time we were not going to move. It was all right I suppose. But I could not see it so & others were in the same fix. We take off our accouterments & take things easy. Dry our blankets & ourselves, cook up our meat & make coffee & eat. Cook corn bread in the ashes & call it good. The fresh beef looked as if it would have taken a whole drove to have made a shadow & one brave old bull charged through our camp & was so poor bullets had no effect on him & he escaped.

April 23rd. We start early on the march East again pass over the same route again. Halt at Cherokee Station. This is a beautiful place. There is but one store & station house. But the country is the secret. The valley is very rich 5 m. in width & in a high state of cultivation. There we stopped, there was two plantations. Two large dwellings & beautiful surroundings. Everything had a show of wealth. One was the home of a Rebel, Col. Nixon. The other was his brothers. In one of his pastures our's & Roddie's cavalry had a fight. No one hurt on our side. But one wounded on theirs. Which was left in one of these houses. We marched ahead to the Tenn. River & camp. Soon our artillery open, we fall in and go double quick to support them. It turns out they are only shelling the woods to clear the picket lines. We return to our camp get supper & go down to the river (¼ m.) & take a good wash & feel better. We now have a new com'der, Cap. Dugger of Co. A., who started out with us is relieved & therefore Gen. Dodge appoints Cap. Hanna (Chief of Dodge's staff). A man of peculiar military merit. Our Reg. fall deeply in love with him on first sight, is greeted with three cheers & what is more obeyed with alacrity. He is a very fine man & one who knows what he is about. After camping the second time we have no more trouble. We are very tired our feet sore. But after all we are in good spirits. Taking all things as they come. Some of the boys are out of tobacco. They would give their boots for a chew. I suppose it would be all right. We sleep sound.

April 24th. Morning clear & pleasant. Aroused early. Get our breakfast dry our blankets, (Sleeping out of doors down here, the dew is so heavy as to almost wet a blanket through) & prepare for the march. We start at 7 O. C. enroute for Tusculmba. The county still hilly & rocky. Yet it looks fertile & wherever there is a little level spot, there you'll see a house. A log one for that's all they have down here. We arrive in Tusculmba about 3 O. C. We expected some resistance here but none was offered. Tusculmba is a beautiful town, and possesses many natural advantages. Here you see some of the most beautiful springs in any country. There is not less than 9 or ten, one comes rushing out from under a hill almost of solid rock. The stream is

about 40 yds in width & 4 feet deep. Clear & pure. The best water we have ever seen in Dixie. The other springs are smaller, but all clear & pure & cold. It was the best watered place we were in. We all took a good wash & felt better. We are all in a good humor. All but tobacco chewers & they are out of the weed & are paying \$1.50 per plug, digging to say the least but yet they pay it willingly.

April 25th. Visit today what is called the "Cave Spring." This is about 50 ft. underground. To get to it you have to climb a high hill. On the top the ground sinks down from every way & at the bottom there rushes through one of the purest & coldest streams of water I ever tasted. Its about 10 paces in width, & about 10 ft. deep. It forms the large spring below. It must be a beautiful place in the summer. Its nice any time. I could not help going in swimming, the water looked so pure. It made a fellow feel as strong as an ox.

April 26th. Still in the same camp. We know nothing about where we are going. But the general belief is that we will return to Corinth. The 7th Ill. went to Florence last night. Shelled the town a little & then came back. No enemy of any consequence being found. Day before yesterday the 7th Kansas had considerable of a little fight. They came out victorious. We may advance tomorrow but not far.

April 27th. Receive orders to march at 7 O. C. Get under way about 8 O. C. The morning is rainy & disagreeable. It turns colder & rains harder. Putting rubber blankets in great demand. We strike the R. R. about 4 O. C. & march along on the ties until we reach Town Creek. Here Roddy makes some show of fight. His artillery is posted on the opposite bank. Ours fire a few shots, but nothing is done, of any note & no one hurt. We march back $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. from the creek & camp for the night & a wretched fix we were in. Wet as drowned rats. Cold as an Esquimaux, & as hungry as a wolf. We had nothing but "hard tacks" & but very few of them. I had one & divided that with our cook. After we had eaten our *supper*, we built up big fires & dried or rather warmed our clothes. (As it was raining so we could not dry them.) We then took some "flat rails" & laid them down & put some "Sage grass" on top of them & laid down & was soon in the land of dreams. It quit raining about 11 O. C. (at night) & turned off pleasant. This was one of our worst nights.

April 28th. Are aroused early & get our breakfast. A little before "Sun up" we have quite a picket skirmish. But it amounts to nothing. We put on our cartridge boxes & continue to warm ourselves by the fire. The rebs are in full view on the other side of the creek. They are drawn up on a range of hills about $\frac{1}{4}$ mi. from the creek. Their artillery is also posted on the same hills. Our batteries wheel up & open. The rebs follow suit & quite a lively duel is kept up. We were then drawn back behind a hill where we remained about 20 minutes. In that time Col. Drish joined us & Cap. Hanna gave up com'd. We were then marched up to support the batteries. We then thought the time had come. The cannonading became more terrific, 18 of our guns were putting in their best licks. You could hear nothing but the hissing of shell & the squeal of the hotkiss shot from the old parrots. We were

marched up & ordered to lie down. Which was done. Some went to sleep. The more curious watching the fight. Your humble serv't was among the latter. Our artillery soon got the range & dismounted one of their pieces & disabled another. After this we heard no more of their guns. Some of their shell passed over our heads but none fell among us, one in the Reg't next to us (81st O. V.) had his arm shot off. This was our only mishap. The artillery continued to fire until 10 O. C. when the 7th Ill. crossed. The rebs skirmished awhile but soon run. They would once & awhile show themselves but when an old Parrot sent a shell in that direction they always concluded discretion was the better part of valor. Eight or ten Reb sharpshooter's got behind an old log house & were shooting at our skirmishers. One of the Parrots were let loose at them, but missed the house the 1st shot. The next time they drove center. You better believe they got out of there in a hurry. The house was 1700 yds. from us, pretty good shooting. We lay on the bank of the creek all day. At night all was quiet. We camped on the creek. Thus ended this little exercise. It was grand to see the shell & shot strike & plow up the ground. To see a faint blue streak of smoke, then a flash. Then a cloud of smoke & last though not least the explosion of the shell. When they burst over our heads, they did not afford so much enjoyment. But we were not scared.

April 29. Morning a little rainy. We about face & march to the rear. I suppose I'll have to explain the reason why. Col. Straight left us on the evening of the 28th on a Raid. That is to destroy things generally. He took along with him the 80th Ill. mounted infantry, 66th Ind. & part of a cavalry Reg't. Also one battery. When he got around on the other side of the Rebs he was to fire a rocket. Which thing was done. He sent three up about 1 O. C. on the 29th. This was a signal for us to turn around & retrace our steps & we were after doing that thing. Of course all know of Straight's capture. He went a "tearing" until he reached Rome, Ga., where Forest captured him. We march back through Tusculumbia & six miles on the other side. It was considerable of a march 18 m. We camped on one of our old camping grounds, near the Tenn. R. We were tired but we were going home. We had very little to eat. Two hard crackers per day & had to forage for our meat. We got into a drove of shoats & your humble serv't got one. Which served some of us, but some got none. It was a hard go. But there was no other chance. We eat our hard bread & kept up our spirits. I had to go on picket. But that was no worse than staying in camp.

April 30th. Continue to march to the rear. Arrive at Bear Creek about 4 O. C. We are foot sore & tired & yet nothing or little of nothing to eat. We get a little meal, but have nothing to cook it in. But we go to Q. Masters & get some shovels & cook on them. Some cook them on boards. Some in the ashes & other various ways. I was offered 50 cts. for my pancake or rather *shovel cake*. But did not want to sell. Many went to bed that night without having enough to eat, hard as it was. There was very little grumbling not as much as would be expected. A soldier's grit upheld them. Such scenes as this show the man. Some would lie down discouraged, would not carry any wood or

help make a bed. Others went whistling around as joyfully as if they were at home. Others in a passion cursing everything black & blue. Others walked around firmly & resolutely determined to stand whatever might come. But to sum up all, *every man was for himself*. Such places as these try men's souls. We made a comfortable bed & laid down & had a sweet sound sleep. The night was clear and beautiful.

May 1st. Morning clear & warm. We make our shovel cakes & prepare to march. Begin to move about 9 O. C. We cross on a pontoon bridge & get no wet feet. We march all day & reach Burnsville about 6 O. C. A distance of 16 m. Here we once more heard the welcome whistle of the locomotive & here also we rec'd plenty of provisions & once more felt like we were in the land of the living. We eat until we wanted no more & had some left. Went to bed & slept sound.

May 2nd. Morning clear. A rumor is afloat that we are to go on another expedition. But it is finally concluded to take none but the mounted force. So we escape. Col. Corine goes in com'd. His destination was to be Okalona. Some 70 m. South East. We commenced marching about 10 O. C. The distance to Corinth was 17 m. We marched into Corinth about 4 O. C. hungry, dirty & tired. We had had no clean clothes for 19 days & dirty was no name for us. The first thing we did was to put on some clean clothes (after washing) & then we eat one more regular supper & felt better. If we had have been sent on another spree we should have suffered & I fear we should have been very mutinous. We all felt very uneasy until we started on the Corinth road. Then we were all right. When we first went to Corinth we felt like we were all going to our grave. But now how different.

May 3d. It is useless & uninteresting to give a detailed acct of our stay in Corinth. We eat, slept & went on guard & that was all. Except drill. We continued in our old encampment until the 14th.

May 14th. We move to the South East of town to where the Ohio troop were quartered. They are moved out on the R. R. They have good houses & a nice camp. We like it very much. It's much cooler than our tents were. The water is better, & colder. We are all in good health. All I say but once & a while one gets sick. But that is a matter of course. We have regular mail & papers regular. The 81st Ohio & 9th Ills. are camped joining us, quite a town. We have a beautiful drill ground & we use it too. Drish puts us through. There's no rest for the wicked. I suppose it's healthy.

June 4th. We are once more ordered on the move. Our destination is supposed to be the Memphis & Charlestown R. R. We start about 9 O. C. Get to Shewalla about 1 O. C. The 18th Missouri is encamped there. It's one of the prettiest camps I ever saw. There is about 4 acres of land enclosed by a stockade & excellent log cabins built all around the outside. They look like living. It is raining beautifully, our luck. We always start in a storm. We march six miles farther & camped for the night. We are very tired. We had to carry all our clothing &c. You better believe our knapsacks get heavy. A great many of the boys give out & fall to the rear & many are the curses that are heaped on old Merry's back & he needs cursing a little. There is no use in marching us 16 miles with our knapsacks & nothing but a

Dutchman would think of it. But one day has passed. Let us take a sleep & get ready for another day.

June 5th. Morning clear. We start early. We are as stiff & sore as an old horse. We march 6 m. (to the Hatchie R.) & there we halt. Have to make a bridge before we can cross. We are now 7 m. from Pochahontas. Expect to reach there by night. The bridge is completed & we move ahead. Many are falling to the rear & knapsacks in large quantities lay scattered by the roadside. We reach Pocha. about 5 O. C. Some companies do not have men enough to stack arms. Co. I. is in that condition. It's a good thing that there is no enemy in these parts, for if there was half of our Reg't would be picked up. Yes half the Brigade. We anticipate a wet night. But it clears off & we sleep sound. We are to be split up & distributed. Not *individually*, but in Co's. We are to guard from here to Grand Junction. We will have a good time. I like to guard Rail Roads. Pochahontas is a nice looking place. There is about 200 inhabitants. All seesh of course. The tavern is quite a nice building. But well eat out. Here will be our Brigade Hd. Q's.

June 6th. We are put aboard the R. R. & run to Grand Junction. There we get off. We remain in Grand J. all night. This is one of the most God forsaken places I ever saw. The town is no town at all. It's but a name. There has been considerable of a fort here & is still here. There is no guns in it. There is nothing but a few cavalry here, 7th Tenn. We remain all night. Gather some dewberries. The 1st we have seen. We cook them & have a feast. We don't want to stay here & I think we will not.

June 6th. Morning clear. We are on the move early. We first march down to the depot & wait for the train. But no train comes. So we unsling our knapsacks & go it on foot. I'll explain. There is on the R. R. between here & Pocha four places to be held. 1st Salisbury. There our Reg't H'd. Q's. will be & Co's A. F. E. & I. will be the Co's to remain. This is 8 m. east of Grand Junction. (None of our Reg't is to stay here.) The next station is Curve Station. There Cos. K. & G. stay, distant from Salisbury 9 m. Next is Porter's Creek. There Co's. D. & C. remain. This is 16 m. East of Salisbury. Next Co's. B. & H. This is two miles farther & the place is called Middletown. These are our stations. We like the appearance of things very much indeed.

June 7th. Like our situation very much. We are posted on the R. R. on Porter's Creek. We are quartered in an old wood shed. The weather is warm & we just as leave be under a shed as in a house. There is 30 home guards here. They don't am't to much. They do no good whatever & their stealing gives uncle Sam a bad name. They live entirely by forage, & therefore they are much disliked. We take a good wash in the creek & put on some clean clothes & feel a great deal better. We are contented to stay here all summer at least.

June 8th. Morning rainy & cold but not very cold. It's only cool. Clears off in the afternoon & we go blackberrying & make it pay. We get all we want & that is not a few. We get a bucket full. We can get all the fresh meat we want & in fact everything. It seems like Trenton again. They report lots of Guerrillas. The home guards are

afraid to go half a mile from camp. We went out & got some bacon (100 lbs.) for the Co. We also got some chickens & milk. The folks are very kind. They are afraid to be otherwise. They were all Rebs before we came, but now all Union. Hurrah for them. But they can't save their chickens or sheep. We forage for negroes to build a stockade & cattle to do the hauling with & we get them too. We also forage all their provision. There is a mill only $\frac{3}{4}$ from here where we can grind corn & grind we do. We forage horses until we can mount about 15 men. We jump on these & scour the country for 8 or 10 miles around. In fact we are just having a staving time. As good as we want. After we get settled down we conclude to have a country ball. Consequently we go out & invite the fair ones in. Steal their chickens to make the dinner of. This may seem provoking. But it's nevertheless, true. They come out *en masse*. We have 35 women present. Some very good looking too. We construct a floor under the shed & prepare to have a big time. The ladies are not equal to our Northern ones in intelligence but as far as looks are concerned they do very well. There is one almost universal filthy habit. That is chewing dip. This is performed by taking a coarse sort of snuff daubing it on a stick & chewing the stick & almost every woman has a handspike sticking out of her mouth. But to return to our party. The ladies came in on horseback & such that were lucky enough to have a *feller* came in on the same horse. White sun bonnets seemed to be the agony & hoop are mighty scarce, few & far between, & their dresses chiefly composed of home made goods. The dancing commenced about 10 O. C. The fair ones were rather bashful at first & to say the least, awkward, but then the thing went off well. Dinner was announced and all fell too. Ladies 1st we uns next. You ought to have seen the strange looks when some one recognized an old spoon or knife or some other articles of furniture which had been cramped. Yet nothing was said & to all appearances things went off as merry as a marriage bell. But all things must end & this Ball was not an exception. They went home alone. We were afraid to go along.

June 24. The weather is very rainy. The creek is very high & the water is raising in the shed. It's now 8 in. deep & raising fast. The creek is almost a river. We have a fine time going in swimming. We can swim to our hearts content. No lack of water. I'm on guard, brought on by the corp'l getting drunk who was on guard, & thereby being *unfit for duty*. Have to post my guard in my shirttail. Pants & boots doing no earthly good. It was disagreeable to say the least.

June 26th. Morning clear & water falling. I feel more like sleeping than anything else & so after taking a swim I take a nap & feel better. I've never alluded to our cook. We have one of the best cooks ever did cook. Her name is "Ant Becky." She's an old negro woman from Ala. used to be cook in an old rich cusses house. She can cook fresh beef just right & when it comes to blackberry pies & dumplings, she's at home. We live fat to say the least. Just as well as if we were at home.

July 2nd. Go on a foraging expedition today. We go out to a man by the name of "Harris." We find him thrashing wheat. The

Home Guards go with us. Harris it seems had been & was a rank Seesh. One of the rankest. He had chased and conscripted all the Union men he could. Before our forces came the Union men had to lay out in the woods & lay out generally. The home guards now were bound to have some revenge. So the first thing that was done was to burn his machine, wheat & all, next went his house & next his brother's. It was a hard piece of business. But he deserved it. We got about 400 lbs. of bacon & three bushels of onions & three horses. We took all we wanted & promised to pay. We had no trouble with any armed folks. The women were the worse. I can scold the men, but when the women commence I'm out.

July 4th. The fourth of July again. The 87th since our independence was declared. Weuns have invited the loyal inhabitants in to have kind of a celebration. They come bright & early. About 10 O. C. we commence dancing. Keep it up until dinner. (Which was good enough to have done honor to an Ill. celebration.) After dinner we listened to a speech from Cap. L. Peebles. Which was well rec'd. After that we ended it up by dancing. It's true we did not feel that genial feeling we used to feel at home. But it was better than nothing. It showed our willingness. If we had been at home we would have done better, but then we was not & therefore chose the next best. They dispersed about 5 O. C. & all passed off quietly & harmoniously, if not joyfull. After all we did the best thing under the circumstances. If we had excluded them from our company & not allowed them to make the show of Loyalty. It would have made them worse. It did us no harm, and that was all we cared for. It's true the smiles of the fair ones had kind of an attracting influence over the single men in general & the married ones in particular. I suppose if their spouses had have been present there would have been a few curtain lectures carefully laid up for their special benefit.

July 6th. Glorious news. Vicksburg surrendered on the 4th at 10 O. C. We captured 31,000 men & 100 pieces of artillery & 11,000 stand of arms which had never been used. This is what I call a victory. One that's worth winning. Pemberton's army was the flower of the Western Army & Vicksburg a place that they thought impregnable. But alas for human calculations. The Yanks were not born to be outdone. Old Grant intended to never rest until the Miss. was clear of all obstruction & that by the help of providence & brave spirits he has done. We now hold the king of waters from source to mouth. Hurrah for Grant. If he is a Democrat. He is going to parole all the pris. This is one feature I don't like. The confed. authorities will pressed them into the service without exchanging them. When some more innocents will have to be sacrificed. I hope they will have some honor. They say many of the prisoners are joining our side of the house. That is existing. This looks well, but yet may not turn out well. You can't mix Northern & Southern men together & be in peace. There is an inborn hatred between the two that never can be crushed nor coaxed out.

July 7th. More good news. Lee's raid on a grand scale seems to be cut unceremoniously short. He crossed the Potomac & advanced as far as Gettysburg where Mead's army meets him on the 3d. They fight

all day. The Rebs have the best of the fight & our army falls back & let the Rebs hold the town. Anxious are the hours of that night, dead & dying still laying on the field & likely to remain there. The dawns. Our army is now all there. Three new army corps have come up & early the fight is continued. We gain the battle, although many fall. The Rebs are compelled to retreat & if our army could have followed up the advantage Lee's army might have been captured or annihilated. But we did not follow as a matter of course & a great victory was neutralized by an unsuccessful pursuit. Disgracing, but true. All that was needed was a spirit to dare. The hands were ready to execute. But no hand was there to direct & a golden opportunity lost. Lee lost much. But expected to lose more. Mead made a hero of himself & in fact did nothing. He was compelled to fight or die. There was no generalship shown on his part. He had but little to do with the battle. His corps commander did all, yes, all & Mead had the glory. So wags the world.

Sept. 6th. Have been in the hospital a couple of weeks. Been sick of the brain fever & sick I was but I'm now up again. I'm very weak, but am clear of disease. Our hospital is very well regulated. We are well cared for. It makes me almost homesick. Some of our boys are home on furlough. I wish I was one. Our Regt has been paid 4 months pay. It comes very handy. It has an awfully quieting effect on ones nerves to have lots of money in his pocket.

Thurs., Sept. 10th. Return to quarters today. The hospital is so full that they have no room. Besides we have good Q's. & a good cook & being better I can get along better there than at the hospital. Nothing new in camp. The boys are fat & saucy & forage more than ever. We have been getting all the peaches we could eat, just for going after them.

Sept. 13th. Sunday morning. Beautiful & bright. Some of our detachment go sparking this morning, 10 of them (It's a habit they have got into). Old Street a guerrilla who ranges around these parts took it into his head to capture them. Therefore when our boys got scattered out two in a place, he commenced his work. First he captured Pugh & Sell, Co. D. They were only 2 m. from camp. He got them also without any resistance. His next victims were 1/2 farther ahead. Here there was three, Powell Waddle, Co. C. These were gobbled in like manner. The next we two on horseback. Atterberry & one of Co. C. Atterberry was captured. The other escaped. They fired on them & the rest of our boys took the alarm and run & made their escape. So ended the drama. Old Street captured 5 men & 10 horses. Pretty good haul. He was posted. These boys were invited out there a week before hand & the trap set, I have little doubt, but it could not be proven. Anyway they got three of our boys & two of Co. C. We went out in force as soon as we heard of their danger, but was too late. He had done his work, & departed. We have been in the habit of killing all of his we captured. He may return the compliment. It will be hard if he does.

Sept. 20th. Another great battle fought. Rosecrans has been attacked by the combined forces of Bragg, Johnson & Longstreet. Rosa.

is driven back to Chattanooga with considerable loss, but yet he holds his own. This ever to be remembered battle commenced on the 19th. Rosecrans' loss was 6000 killed & 12000 wounded, 40 pieces of artillery and 4000 pris. In this fight we got worsted. If it had not been for Gen. Thomas we would have been annihilated. As it was, it was bad enough. But the Rebs cannot call it a victory. They intended to drive Rosa. back into middle Tenn. & recapture east Tenn. They lost their object & therefore we gained a victory in a defeat. Both armies were terribly cut up & will not be able to do anything for months. Stone River was terrible, but Chickamauga was more terrible. This war is nothing but one succession of terrible battles, resulting in no material advantage to either side. The Rebs concentrate & prepare & we fight them on the ground of their own choice. Why can't we strike at their weak points, does the quantity of blood make the victory great?

Sept. 28th. It is useless almost to recount the dull routine of camp life. It's the same old story. Breakfast in the morning at 6 O. C. Guard mounting at 1/2 past 7. Dinner at 1 O. C. Supper at 5. Fiddling & "stag dancing" until bed time. The only change we have is that we go swimming & fishing. Also when we get out of fresh meat we have to go foraging. We are playing soldier & having a fine time. If there was only something to do we would not get the blues. But at it is, we do get blue decidedly. We are having a country ball occasionally & generally have a pretty good time. The girls it's true have not the many winning ways the Northern Gals have. But then they do better than none. Some of the boys are pitching in steep, but I don't think any are seriously affected. None are fatally took.

Oct. 10th. The Rebs have been fooling along this road for several days. It is reported that there are 6000 of them under the com'd of Col. Lee. What Lee he is, I have not learned. Today he was advancing on Salisbury, 15 m. west of us. He was met by Col. Phillips of the 9th Ills. His force consisted of the 9th Mounted Inftry & one battery & some cavalry. In all am't to 2500. After a fight of three hours the rebs had to run. We heard the cannon plainly. There was only 7 killed & 100 wounded on our side & on the Rebs 40 killed & 200 wounded. Our artillery done the work. The 9th Ills. done most of the work. Our cavalry would not stand. It is thought it will cure them of raiding on this R. R.

Oct. 12th. The rebs are still on the R. R. They make a dash on Moscow & come near capturing a train which had on board Gen. Sherman & the 13 Regulars. The Reg. got out & repulse the Rebs with considerable loss. I guess they will not try to cut the R. R. again. They would have made quite a haul if they had captured Old Sherman. Sherman's entire corps is passing over this road. Their destination is supposed to be Chattanooga. There has already 30,000 passed over the road & more are coming. It is expected we will follow when they all get by. They are bound to hold East Tenn. Sherman is the man to send to help him. Sherman is one of the ablest men in the army. If he gets there Old Bragg will have to keep his eyes open. Old Sherman cannot lay still.

Oct. 14th. The 14th. My Birthday. I'm 23 yrs. old, getting pretty old. I'll be 25 when my term of service expires. Our paroled prisoners return today. They were exchanged on the 1st Oct. We are expecting every day to leave. We will go East. Perhaps as far as Chattanooga. It's immaterial where we go. I just as leave go to Chattanooga as any other place. We receive our mails regular. The rebs are quiet. I suppose they are making good ready. We'll catch it next.

Oct. 20th. Old Sherman has a chunk of a fight near Cherokee Station in Ala. He whips Roddy pretty bad. But he loses one of his best men, Col. Curtis of Iowa. He was shot by a sharpshooter. Sherman is bound to go to Chattanooga.

Oct. 30. Receive orders today, to prepare to march. We have to draw shelter tents. Things look like we were to go somewhere. Cap. goes to Salisbury to draw our money. We are to get \$52.00, 4 months pay, some say only two.

Oct. 31st. We today receive two months pay. Our clothing acct. is settled. I receive \$15.00 for clothing not drawn. Some don't have enough to pay their clothing bill. We will likely leave here today or tonight. We are all in a bustle packing up. The citizens are all scared to death. They expect to all be killed. We are to leave the place without a guard. Some say R. R. is to be left entirely. I don't believe it. Yet it may be true. I guess the cavalry will patrol the road. The rebs are pretty quiet. We are all ready & waiting.

Nov. 1st. We started last at 1 O. C. & a cold time of it we had too. We had to go on flat cars. The wind blew terrible cold & we had to take it. We had to wait 1 h. & $\frac{1}{2}$ at Middletown for H. & B. & to say we were cold would entirely miss the case. The water in our canteens froze hard. So you can judge how warm it was. We arrived in Corinth about 4 O. C. half froze. Here we were allowed to get off & make some coffee & get warm. Which opportunity we took advantage of. We remain there until 10 O. C. when we steam ahead. Pass Glendale about noon, it being 9 m. from Corinth we steam ahead to Iuka 28 m. from Corinth east. We arrive at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 2 O. C. We get off & lounge about an hour or two & then march out 1 m. & camp. We raise our shelter tents. They look like a dog kennel more than anything else. Without it is a hen coop. They may be a good thing but I don't like to go out of doors to dress. It's a cold operation to say the least & it would not do if there was any women around. But we are not troubled with that sort of stock. We have a fatigue detail of 120 men, for the purpose of unloading & loading trains. All is bustle & confusion. Old John I. Rinker takes command.

Nov. 2nd. Get up early & get our breakfast. Our Co. & two others are detailed on fatigue. We go up to town & do nothing, return to camp about 1 O. C. We hear various rumors, but it is generally supposed we will stay here a day or two & then go on.

Nov. 3rd. Still in our same camp. Receive some mail this morning. Have drill this morning. There is little doubt but that we will move ahead tomorrow or next day. I have to go on fatigue this afternoon. I work until 9 O. C. loading oats, that are to be reshipped to

Corinth. Our surplus baggage is also sent back. This place will be evacuated in a few days. Just as soon as we get to the Tenn. River. Some think we will not go through to Chattanooga, but march through to Eastport & remain there & protect the rear.

Nov. 4th. Morning rainy & very disagreeable & we have to march. Such is the rumor. We are not relieved until 10 O. C. on acct. of some wrong information. We start Eastport at 11 O. C. & go splashing through mud knee deep & very adhesive. Terribly so. We reach Eastport about 4 O. C. wet, muddy & tired & the 1st thing that is done is to detail 100 men on fatigue. Rough. But it has to be done. There is ten men killed in the army by exposure, where there is one shot in battle. What remained after the detail went to fixing up their shelter tents & trying to boil coffee. The rain ceases about 9 O. C. & it clears off. Our fatigue boys are having a serious time. They are loading wagons on the ferries & unloading them. They have to run them about 100 yds. by hand & the mud is from 6 inches to 1 ft. deep. Nice to say the least. We have been playing Paddy on the R. R. but the "Deck hand" gets us the worst. We wish we were back in Porter's Creek. Most of the troops have been ferried across & soon they will all be over.

Nov. 5th. Weather clear & rather cool. We are still in our same camp. It's not a very dry situation. We are to garrison this place for the time being. Col. Rinker is to command the Post. This place is to be a place for landing supplies. We are to move our camp nearer town & on the top of a hill & on the top of that hill we are to build a fort, & now for a description of the place. The appearance of the country is hilly in the extreme. Hills are no name for them. Mountains would sound better. The town is between two ranges of hills, in a valley. The valley running to the river. On one side the east runs Bear River or rather creek. The hills are about 200 or 300 ft. in height covered with a stunted growth of pine. These hills are very steep. The angle being about 75 degrees & the one we are to be camped on is one of the highest & we will have to carry all our water up the hill. I'm detailed on picket this morning. It's lucky I won't be on fatigue. Our camp is moved today. Our picket post is only $\frac{1}{4}$ m. from camp. Yet it will take us $1\frac{1}{2}$ h. to get there. Deliver me from such hills. I would prefer our Ills. prairies. It's a good position & think we can hold it.

Nov. 8th. I'm on picket or rather was relieved this morning. We had a good time. We stood on the banks of the Tenn. R. I wrote a letter home. Have not rec'd any from there since leaving Iuka. We have no idea when we will receive any. There is no hopes for several weeks. It will all go to Pulaski where our Brigade is stationed. I expect I better take a retrospective view of things. We were the only Reg't of our Div. (2 Div. 16th A. C.) that was left behind. Dodge's (Commanding. 2nd Div.) Head Q's is at Pulaski, Tenn. on the Nashville & Decatur Roads. We have no communication with them at all. We were left here to take care of the stores left here. We will have to go around by Paducah before we can get to our Div. Some think we will not go back to our Div. but yet we may. We are here without orders, not knowing what to do or where to go. We are to take care of the stores until further orders. I think from the appearance of things that we will not

stay long. It was thought Dodge would have to draw his supplies from here. But he don't & therefore there is no use of us staying longer.

Nov. 16th. A brigade of Eastern troops came here last night. They are the 35 N. Jersey, 17th N. York & the 178 N. Y. They were ordered to report at Eastport. Old Rinaker don't know what to do with them but has sent for instructions. They are poor excuses, awful poor, worse than nothing. They have half the men carrying big chunks of wood on their back, or standing on stumps, tied to a tree, or tied up by the thumbs. All this for little petty offences. They also kick & cuff the men around at a terrible rate. A rate that would not be tolerated in our Reg't. The men all detest their officers & would shoot them if they had a chance. If all the Army of the Potomac is like these, no wonder they have such poor success. Our Reg't could run the whole Reg't into the River. We dare not trust them on picket, for they desert by the wholesale.

Nov. 28th. We hear bully news today. Old Grant has whipped Bragg terribly. Driven him at every point. We have at last gained a decided victory. Grant captured 60 pieces of artillery & a great many prisoners. It's one of the greatest victories of the war. It has forever shut them out from Tenn. The great bone of contention. Gen. Sherman bore a conspicuous part in the battle. He's always on hand & will fight & has fighting men under him. Victory always crowns his efforts if he has $\frac{1}{2}$ a chance. Hurrah for the army of the Tenn. Our Potomac friends went down the river on the 23d & today returned accompanied by two more Reg'ts, one of which is cavalry, 2 New Jersey. They are chips from the same block. Not worth a cuss & never will be.

Nov. 30th. Weather very cold. It snows & freezes & is cold generally. The wind is very sharp in particular on the top of these hills. We have to lay close. The army of the Potomac are having a hard time, to say the least. They have nothing but shelter tents. While we have nice little shanties with fireplaces. We used all the lumber up before they come. We tore up all the houses & made quite a town on the top of this hill. We are very comfortable, but Potomac is catching it. Unlucky to the last, kicked, cuffed, slammed around on the River, & last though not least half froze. Poor fellows. I thank the Lord I never came from the East. The cavalry are not worth any more than the infantry. They went out on picket & were drove in before morning by a man & woman, both mounted on mules & not armed. This ends their duty picket.

Dec. 6th. We rec'd marching orders yesterday but did not get on board until this evening at 2 O. C. Our destination is supposed to be Columbus, Ky. The post of Eastport is to be evacuated, "Potomac" & all are going. We are put on the Sunny South & Matthe Cook. Our company go as freight in the hold of the Sunny South. This puts me in mind an Irishman who wanted to go from St. Louis to New Orleans. He went up & asked the fare to New Orleans. \$25.00 he said & it's very high it is. What would ye be after asking for 160 lbs of freight. \$1.60. Sure & I'll go as freight thin, & as freight he went. This was our condition. We went as freight. A thing I'll not do when Uncle Sam gets

through with me. We did not make any start that evening at all. We only dropped down stream a little way & anchored.

Dec. 7th. We get under way early & go as far as Hamburg & there we have to stay until we send runners to Corinth for orders. This will delay us until tomorrow. Hamburg is just no place at all. Nothing but a landing & one or two old store houses. We tie up & remain there all day & night. Our runners return about 10 O. C. with orders for us to proceed to Columbus.

Dec. 8th. We make a start about 5 O. C. & stream down the River. We pass the renowned battle ground of Shiloh about 10 O. C. Nothing remains but the desolate field or rather woods. Nothing to remind you of the struggle which took place there without it is a torn tree or half burned tents. I hope some day there will be a monument there to mark the place where heroes fell battling for freedom. You can see many graves. Some have head boards to tell who they were, others are unknown. That strange word. A hero has fallen & he is unknown. No, not unknown. He fell in a noble righteous & just cause. God knew it. Yes and that man had friends near & dear. They also knew him & loved him. The word is meaningless. Don't use it. Call him a "champion of Liberty." But we are passed the plain. The weather is cold & rainy. We are having a very disagreeable time. We run until about 6 O. C. & then have to tie up on acct of the fog. We are having a very hard time. We all have to cook on one stove, & it's almost impossible to get to cook anything. We quarrel & grumble & eat our meat raw. We think ourselves well off if we get some coffee boiled.

Dec. 9th. Still raining & of course disagreeable. We run until about 9 O. C. when we have to anchor out & wait for the Sam Goly to be hauled off from a bar. We are delayed here about 3 hr. We get under way again & make good headway until 5 O. C. when we again tie up. There is one little thing I have omitted. All the fleet is lashed together two & two, or two together. This is to keep them from rocking. Also in case of being fired on, one can haul the other out in case either gets disabled. As it is not likely both will be disabled at the same time.

Dec. 10th. Get under way at 5 O. C. We will reach Paducah today. We pass Ft. Henry at 10 O. C. It is hardly fit to be called a fort. It's a very inferior earthwork, down low on the shore & easily reduced by gun boats, as history will show. Ft. Hyman on the other side of the river is better, but don't amt' to much. We run ahead to Paducah. Arrived there about 11 O. C. A. M. & here we get off. They wanted Reg't & we had the choice of taking Paducah or going on to Columbus & we of course preferred Paducah, if for nothing else to get rid of our Potomac friends. We are sick of guarding them. It don't pay. We march out 1 m. & camp on the ground where the 101st was camped. Draw tents & pitch them. Cook our supper & roll up on the ground & sleep sound.

Dec. 11th. We were thinking of fixing up our tents but it commences to rain. We get plank enough to sleep. There was chimneys already built therefore we can have a fire. Paducah is a very nice place. One of the nicest places we have been in since we came to Dixie. There

has been about 15,000 inhabitants. The houses are in good repair & things look like America.

Dec. 12th. Weather clears off & we draw some plank to fix up our tents with. We go at with a will for the weather is getting pretty cool, with what we "got" & what drew. We make a good shanty. First we set posts at each corner & then nail plank on for sides, or rather walls & after raising the walls 4 ft. high we stretch our tents over for a roof. This makes a very comfortable house. We next build bunks at one end & have our fire in the other. We have not much room, but enough for cold weather. There is only 4 of us in a shanty. We are doing our own cooking, but are going to try & do different. We like the place very much. Its location is healthy & dry. We don't have to climb a mountain every time we want to go anywhere. It's likely we will not stay here long. Yet we may. Some think we will return to our Brigade, but I think not. The 101st has took our place.

Dec. 13th. Still in Paducah. Some are strong in the faith that we will remain here during the winter. We may & may not. Two Cos. B. & Q. go out to Mayfield 25 m. South. They went out for the purpose of catching some guerillas. They catch two or three & say are having it fierce & I expect they are. It is useless to follow up the dull routine of camp life. We have no change. All the same, I'm in poor health. Been under the weather for some time. This running about don't agree with me especially when we go on the river. I'd rather march then we can get good water & have a good clean place to sleep. We take ourselves. We are drove & now we are freight. So the world wags. Receive 15 letters this morning. Some two months old. Strictly speaking "back mail."

Dec. 22. This morning brings some of our American friends, Wm. Duckels, Tom Cundall, Hen Lee, Wm. Peebles & Carter Peebles's wife. All in a batch. They look just the same as ever a little older, not much. They report all well & quiet. They intend to stay a week or two. The weather is cold & rainy, mixed with sleet. A good day to catch quails, but not worth a cent to soldier in. We always prefer dry weather. It's pretty rough to have to winter so far North. I wish we had went to New Orleans or some other Southern town. The South is not such an awful place after all. It's a good place to soldier in. The climate is good for camping out in. It would kill off half our army if we had to winter in the North & have no better accommodations than we have here.

1864. Jan. 1st. It has snowed all night & is awful cold, Ter. 26 degrees below zero. The snow is about 8 in. deep & drifted pretty bad. Some of the 58th Ill. freeze to death on picket (2). Our Co. (D) is ordered to report at the depot (R. R.) at 7 O. C. to escort Col. Hix out to Mayfield to make a speech. (He comd's the Post of Paducah.) The old locomotive is froze & they can't go & therefore return to camp. Some of them freeze their noses, ears, & etc. It is bitterly cold. We do nothing but make fires & sit by them.

Jan. 7th. Weather very cold. Snow still falling. The R. Roads are froze up & we get no communication from or with home. The Miss. is froze to Cairo. A thing rather uncommon. We wish we had stayed

farther South. Don't like to soldier in the North. A fellow can get along when he has a good warm house, but when he has to live in tents it's decidedly cool. Scott Peebles died last night, congestion of the bowels. He was only sick a few days. Thus go the boys one by one. Scott was one of the strongest men in the Co.

Jan. 17th. The snow is going off, making it sloppy enough. It will soon dry off & then we will be all right. We have rec'd marching orders. Where we are going is a mystery. Some say to the Red River country, others Memphis. But I have reason to believe we will go no farther than Cairo for the present at least. We are to leave Co's H. K. & C. here & I believe from that & other things that we will not go far. Receive a letter today filled with bad news. Sister Virginia is dead. It's bad but God's will be done. It seems hard that I can never see her familiar face again, but so it is. She's gone, never more to return. It's hard but will have to be endured. Oh I should like to have been there. But I could have done no good.

Jan. 19th. We leave Paducah about 9 O. C. on board the Rob-Roy. We go down stream. It's cold steamboating, not more than 1/2 can get to the fire & when you are there you freeze on one side & cook the other. We arrive at Cairo at about 2 O. C. Remain on board all night.

Jan. 20th. We remain on board until 1 O. C. when we got off & go into barracks. We relieve the 58th Ills. They are awful mad about it. They liked to stay here in Cairo. Yet strange to say the folks did not. They say they were a very drunken lot of scamps. Perfect rowdies. Not fit to go amongst decent folks & that is the reason we came here. If we behave (& I think we will) we will remain here a good while all summer at least. If we stay here some of our folks will come down & some of us will get to go home.

Jan. 27th. We get paid off today. Get 4 months pay \$52.00 paid by Major Brown. We needed it no sure. We were all flat broke & in debt to the sutler. I did not owe him anything, but some of them did not have enough to pay him up. Woeful, but true. Boys will run in debt when they can get trusted, but when they cannot they get along just as well.

Jan. 30th. Day rainy & chilly. Mr. Hall & my Dad come down last night. They look fine. The same old folks. It does one good to see them. They report all well as home & all quiet. We are thankful for so much. I did not expect my Father down. That is not much. He brought me down some good medicine & now nothing is left but for me to get well. The camp diarrhea is pretty bad in camp. It's having to drink river water. If we had good water, we would like the place. But it is not.

Feb. 10th. It is useless to follow up the dull routine of life, anyhow of camp life. We eat, drink, go on guard & do other duties. The boys are going to the theater, pretty generally. I'm still attending the lectures on the prophecies of Revelation. They are very interesting. Very. There is three more. Boys all well.

(The following is taken from Book Number Two.)

Feb. 16th. Weather turned very cold last night. The wind raised about 2 O. C. & a more blustering & disagreeable day never was than it got up before morn. We try to keep warm but succeed poorly. It's a very sudden change to say the least. I'm now clerking for Cap. & will soon be stout again. It's strange but the duty is much harder than it ever was at any other place. The boys go on duty every other day. It's an easy place, but yet a hard one. We have an excellent place but the duty is very hard. That is the facts in the case. We have plenty to eat & wear. But we rather be farther South.

Feb. 29th. Weather cold. It rained all day yesterday, commenced sleeting about 4 O. C. Grew cold & froze up. We are going to have some weather. Sherman's expedition started from Meridian. The rebels don't like the way he is doing. He is within 20 m. of Montgomery. Where he is going is yet a secret. Maybe Mobile & maybe Atlanta. He has 35,000 men & 12,000 of them are cavalry besides 60 pieces of artillery. Strong force. It is thought he will join Grant's army & proceed to Atlanta. He'll turn up all right somewhere or else hurt some one. The next few weeks will be filled with stirring news. Some one will be hurt.

March 24th. Weather nice & dry. Nothing exciting. Rumor has it that we are to leave here & go to Columbus. Yet nothing definite. I guess we are stuck. We are having a hard time the boys are on guard every other night. So many are going off with prisoner, that none are hardly left to go on guard. Sherman passed through here day before yesterday en route for Washington. Rumor says we are in a fair way to see friend Forrest again. They say he is in the vicinity of Columbus. Yet he has no army of any acct. Only 6000 cavalry. There has some troops went after him & more will follow if needed. Columbus is threatened, yet that is all.

March 26th. We get marching orders at three o'clock. We get on board the Annie Byers. Reach Columbus at 3 O. C. Disembark about 10 O. C.

March 27th. We remain here all day. We today receive particulars of the fight. Forrest attacked Paducah on the 24th inst. but could not take it. We had only 500 men, three Co's of our Regt. H. C. & K. & 200 Ky. cavalry & 200 negroes. They fought until the 26, 2 O. C. When they withdrew, leaving 300 d. on the field & 800 wounded. Our loss 17 k. & 50 wounded. The gunboats made a strong resistance. The rebels were gloriously whipped. It is rumored that he is going to attack Columbus, but we will give him a warmer. That's our business. We will return tonight. If nothing is heard from the "old man."

March 28th. We are still in Columbus. The wind is so high that we cannot navigate, but will go as soon as the wind settles. Forest is still lurking in the region of Paducah. I believe he will again try to take the place. I wish they would send us there to help our boys.

March 29th. We arrived in Cairo last evening at 11 O. C. Forrest is at Mayfield 25 m. from Pad. Is waiting for his artillery to come up & then intends to resume the attack. It seems to be his intention to

cross the river into Ills. I hope he will. It would serve some of the city right.

(There is a lapse from March 29, 1864 to June 26, 1864.)

June 26th. We are under marching orders & all packed up waiting for orders to go on board the transport. We have been trying to get off for two or three days & have at last got off. We are relieved by 1000 men, 139th Ill. Supposed to be a good Regt. but wholly composed of little boys; caked breasts will be rather numerous in the north. But as they are *national guards* we should not make fun of them. They can not leave their mamas longer than 3 m. Children should be under the eye of their mother. We don't know where we are going. Time will decide where.

June 27th. We got aboard the Magenta at 7 O. C. Got under way about 9 P. M. There was a large congregation assembled on the wharf. Some good citizens, but many women of easy virtue. We leave Cairo, perhaps some of us forever. But some will soon return for good. Then won't we be joyful. We pass Columbus in the night. Pass P's No. 10 about daylight. Nothing remains to be seen of the once boasted stronghold. It stands a sad monument of Rebel success. Then prate of never subduing them. The weather is beautiful, clear & hot, but there is a good breeze stirring making it very comfortable. The scenery is too much of a sameness, nothing but sand-bars. There is quite an elevation at Ft. Pillow, but not near so high as I had imagined. It's no more than 75 ft. high & simply a claybank. There is no troops stationed there. The works are deserted & the works destroyed. I expect Old Pillows Ghosts hovers around about there. Woe be unto us, if his ghost begins to travel. It seems that we are followed by disaster since U. S. left us. We make Memphis about 6 O. C., all safe, sound & hot. Our ice gave out about 1 O. C. & we had to take river water dry so. It being a sore job. We arrive too late to get off & consequently sleep another night on the Magenta. Mosquitoes make sundry attacks on us. We cover up with rubber blankets, but soon we see our rubbers will be ruined for they make no defense against them. We have to resort to fighting, desperate fighting. Bloody & terrible encounters are fought with but little success. Their hands still play that soul stirring air which inspired them with desperation & it's no wonder for it did me too.

Morning, June 28th. The hordes have dispersed & we are all in a bustle. We get off here. Our destination is Tenn. We are to join Smith. We unload & go out 2½ m. & camp in a grove. A shady & cool place. Memphis is one of the nicest places we were ever in, that is in the South. The streets have rows of trees planted along the sides, splendid gardens & nice houses, but yet the same carelessness marks everything. Southerners are all lazy. Memphis has been an aristocratic place, but has been humbled. Terribly humbled. Woe be unto the transgressor. Hard is his path.

June 30th. We have concluded here for awhile. We muster for pay today. But probability says we won't get paid for two months more. There is a rumor that we are not going South. Also grapevine has it that Smith has met a whipped Forest, capturing 5000 prisoners, too good

to be true. There is also a rumor that Sheridan has had a fight & got himself worsted. Also that Sherman has met with a repulse. All these are rumors, are all rumors & not reliable. I hope there is no truth in them & have faith to believe it. Rec'd a letter from Cousin Luther. He's well.

LaGrange, July 4. We left Memphis last evening & here at LaGrange. There is a large force here, 20,000, pretty heavy force of cavalry too. What is the object of the expedition has not yet developed. But my opinion is we will lay around here all summer. Men cannot march. It's too hot & Forest's troops are all cavalry. I hope we will not have to march & therefore I try to make myself believe we won't. The boys tried to make the troops on R. R. believe we were 100 d. men & they succeeded very well. But when we came to an hundred day Reg't they would inquire if they "drew butter," or if their Q. M. issued eggs. Or if they asked what Reg't ours, we would tell them the same old Reg't only we had drawn new clothes & pegged shoes. The 100 d. men have to bear a great deal, poor fellows. They had not ought to have left Mammas. When we arrived at the depot we had to march $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. to camp through sand 5 in. deep. To say it was dusty would not express the matter at all. We camped in line of battle 1st but found we had camped in some Reg'ts Privy & therefore the right wing had to "pull up stakes" & march to the front of the left wing, where it was cleaner. We are camped in "Wolf River" bottom, a very shady, cool place & plenty of good water. If we were at home today we would be fixing to celebrate the 4th be going after our gal. But now, alas. It's all a dream. There is no "knick knacks," lemonade, big speeches or pretty gals. Bad, very bad. The sound that calls my attention is come & draw your "hard tack" & bacon. A welcome sound to a soldier. We have left all our clothes & such in camp at Memphis, to remain until sent for. We have our tent, rubber & haversacks & canteen, & an extra pair of socks. We are strictly "in the field," in the front in active service. Hurrah for us. This evening as I had been very civil all day & had but one fuss with our illustrious Ord I concluded to go out & shoot some squirrels against orders, as the boys had been doing it all day. Also some of the officers had been at it too, so I went out, treed Mr. Squirrel & commenced firing. Had shot twice when lo Mr. Patrol came up & arrested us & took us to the officer of the day. He formed us in line & right faced us & took us to the officer of the day. In the rear & he did not think about putting a guard in the rear. In this way we started to Reg'l Hd. Quarters. The timber was thick & the first tree we came to I went through with the movement known as a "side step to the right," which movement placed me behind the tree & there I remained until they were out of sight when I broke for camp, arriving there safe. Went after water for breakfast & then went to bed.

July 5th. Morning clear & warm. We have rumors that we are going to move today. But nothing but rumors. I don't believe them. The object of this expedition has not yet come to light. I guess no one but Gen'l S. knows anything about it. It's all for the best. I went to see my old Professor at McKendree yesterday. He is Col. of 117th Ill.

Inf. His name is Moore. He's the same rough & ready. He's a fine man. A great many of the boys are with him & like him very much. He's rather loose in discipline they say, but the boys look clean & well, all I have to say is I hope he will get through all right. We receive marching orders at 4 O. C. & march out on the Holly Springs road. We march 6 m. & camp. The whole army is in motion. The place where we are going is not yet developed. We have a very nice shower making it nice marching. We camp on Wolf River, 7 m. from LaGrange.

July 6th. We roused up at 2 O. C. Get our breakfast & prepare to march. We are in for it now. The boys are in good condition & are in as good condition for a long march as we ever were. I do not anticipate any fight will be shown. I only wish he would. We could whip him. The day is terribly hot. Sun strokes are very common, about 20 were struck down. I don't see the use in the murder of men. We march on the Ripley road. We are within 16 m. of Ripley. Oh good God, why is this war. I sometimes think it will do no good but to gratify the ambition of some Gen'l. I think war is nuisance. We camp. Water is very scarce. We get some spring water, but it's very rilly. This is soldiering under difficulties. We go to bed & sleep.

July 7th. We are aroused up at 2 O. C. & start at 4. It's nice marching. It rained some in our front. We reach where it had about $1\frac{1}{2}$ 5. We put in good time. All the boys are all able to march. They are spunky. It's a pity to murder such good men. They die & nothing. A man that is a good soldier is all right for the walks of life. We march hard until noon. It's awful hot. It's worse than hot, it's baking hot. The rain clouds are flying around making it sweltering hot. We halt at noon & eat a little dinner & go ahead. Ripley is 5 m. where it is rumored Forest is in force. I don't believe it is so. I'll not believe he means to fight until he commences. We are very hot but not much tired. We have no load & if it was cool could march 20 m. per day. All the boys are up tonight. We camp in a bottom near a little dirty creek. Water, oh for one more good drink cold pure water. But it's very scarce. We are all willing to go back to Memphis, or anywhere else if we can get along without marching. Why are we not all mounted. What's the use of a man making a horse of himself. Why is there not some machine invented "that will fight," or why will men fight. Yes, that's the knotty point why will men fight. God only knows & this is one of his mysterious ways of performing wonders. Is it by his permission that men meet to kill? of course. His almighty could stop it if he wished to. But enough. Poor insignificant me can do nothing & I'll therefore watch and wait.

July 8. We are roused up early & get our breakfast, draw rations & prepare. We don't start until $1\frac{1}{2}$ P. 5. We march in the rear today. That's a bad state of affairs but I guess we can stand it. We halt about noon & rest. We then pull ahead & camp. We passed through the town of Ripley. It's a very nice place. It's not been torn to pieces. Sturgis retreated through there & it was said that they treated our men very well. Some of our wounded were still there. We go ahead & camp 6 m. from there, in one of the prettiest camping grounds in Dixie.

Plenty of good spring water, forage of all description. I'll have to tell a little incident that happened. One of our party went into the smoke-house & thought he had found a prize in the shape of a barrel of molasses. He said he could carry it to camp. I helped him on with it & off he went. I got a jug that would hold enough for us & caught up with him. I made him put it down & we turned the tap & lo out came, well, varnish. We were sold. We left that & got some apples & a sheep & had a good supper & went & washed & went to sleep.

July 9, Sat. We start at 4 O. C. Our Div. is in the front. It's terrible hot & we march like the dence. If we had not good roads to march on we could never have stood up to it. We are passing through some very nice country. Crops have been splendid all the way through, corn, wheat & potatoes. We are in on the potatoes. We have for supper, potatoes, onions, beef, coffee & hard tack. Sumptuous for a soldier. Our cavalry have a little fight but drive the rebs. We camp on the little Harchee, 18 m. from Ripley. We go ahead in the morning. It rains this evening makes it quite cool. We are ordered to get up at 3 O. C.

July 10th, Sunday. We were roused up & got in readiness. An order is read to the effect that those who did not have 40 rounds of ammunition were to draw them & if used up carelessly, they were to charge them at \$100 a piece. We then start at 5 O. C. We march in the rear. Go slow & get along very well. Our cavalry have a little skirmish & capture 4 pris. They could not catch any more. We march within 6 m. of Pontotoc. We can hear the rebel train whistle. If there is any fight in them we will give them a chance tomorrow. I wish we could use him up & go back. We have a fine mess of black berries. They go fine. I wash my shirt, socks & myself & feel fine. It's likely we will be roused up early in the morning.

July 11th, Monday. We are roused up at 1 O. C. get in readiness. We don't get started until 6 O. C. We are train guard today. We get along fine but we march slow in the morning & have to quick in the evening, or rather at noon. For that's our style, we go slow in the morning & when it gets hot we quick. I suppose it can't be helped. We march to Pontotoc 7 m. & there go into camp. We had just got into camp when we were ordered out on picket. We march out & only just get into camp when the cavalry get into a skirmish & fight pretty sharp, but we don't see any of them. We have a heavy shower making it quite cool. But rain don't suit soldiers that's all.

Tuesday, 12th. All quiet this morning. We get our breakfast & prepare to march, but receive orders to the effect that we will remain here all day. We need a day's rest. We stew apples, get blackberries & make ourselves as comfortable as possible. We are relieved about 2 O. C. & go to camp. Have some difficulty in getting Co. "I" out of our place in camp, but they have to vacate. We draw three days rations. Scant. It is rumored that we return tomorrow but I guess it's all a hoax. But where we are going is entirely in the dark. Old Smith knows how to keep his own secrets. It's all right too. We are all worried out. We don't get hardly any sleep. Go to bed at 9 & get up at 2 O. C. This mixed up with hard marching makes a hard dose. There is one consolation it can't last always. We are skirmishing with the enemy all the

while but not heavy. No one gets hurt. Forest has a pretty heavy force, but we can whip him if there is not some mismanagement. It has the appearance of rain, but I don't think it will rain. It has rained enough for the present. It better wait until we need it again. Providence seems to be in our favor in that respect. It has rained just ahead of us almost every day laying the dust nicely. We will give Providence its dues any way.

Wednesday, 13th. We start very early & march very fast. (It's 4 O. C. when we start.) We take the Tupelo road. The forenoon is cloudy but it does not rain. We halt at noon. Eat a snack & go ahead. We march ahead at quick time. We keep it up until 1½ p. 3, when our wagon train is attacked & we are halted & formed in line of battle. We are in line 1½ m. from Tupelo. Tupelo being 19 m. from Pontotoc. They attack our forces in the rear & try to take our supply train, but are hand-somely repulsed. There was 2 Regts. of them. The 33 Iowa & 14th Minn. were the Regts. that repulsed them. They captured one stand of colors, one Major & three men, killing 60 & wounding 150. Ours was 16 killed & 20 wounded. Our train comes up all right about 8 O. C. It's rumored that we will have a general engagement tomorrow.

Thursday, 14th. We get up early. Get our breakfast. Skirmishing commences at daylight. It's first in our rear then on our front, then on our rear again then on our left. We then are ordered to get ready to march. We march to the rear (East) & then form in line in a north-easterly direction in a corn field. We stew around considerably before getting in the right position. Finally we settle down. It's now 6 O. C. & the skirmishing has considerably subsided. At seven they come, our batteries open & firing becomes lively. We are ordered forward. We move forward to the fence & commence firing on the Reds. They charge us & are repulsed. They go back & reform & charge again. They open on us with one battery & play pretty lively. It's getting very warm. They charge again right up within 100 yds, but are repulsed with severe loss. The Battery gets good range & we have to fall back. We stay back about 5 minutes when we are again ordered up. They make another charge & we again repulse them & they withdraw. Some Reg't on our right go ahead (7 Minn.) & they retreat back. Their artillery still continues sullenly to fire but is soon withdrawn. Skirmishing continues at 10 O. C. We were in the engagement 2¼ hrs. We lost 4 in wounded, Geo. Peebles, Delany, J. C. Peebles, Corp'l Johnson. Don't know how bad yet. 10½ O. C. now & fighting continues. 11 O. C. fighting has ceased. Forest is falling back. He is whipped, terribly whipped. His loss is estimated at 400 killed & 2000 wounded. He charged our lines in all directions & were repulsed. We have gained a decisive victory. Our loss is 300 killed & wounded. I think we have done a good thing. Our Reg't the right was in the heaviest part of engagement. The shell & solid shot dropped in around us close. The corn is cut off by the shell & canister. They tear up the dirt & made it pretty scary. Our Co. does some excellent fighting & cooler & more deliberate set of men I never saw. I went over the field & dead lay thick. I did not pass over all the field & I counted 80 dead. These were in front of our Reg't. I believe we will find out that their loss will be at least 600 & 3000

wounded. We fired 60 rounds to the man. Our guns so hot that we could hardly load. The dirt in our guns gets so thick that we can hardly load. If the tallow was not on the balls we could not have fired near so much. But now it's all over. Col. Nelson, Col. Faulkner, Col. Harris are killed & it is rumored that Gen'l Forest is also killed, but I guess it's not true. There is no fighting until about 5 O. C. when skirmishing commences in our front. They drive our cavalry in & open a battery on us. Their range is excellent & the shell fly over our heads close, some strike the ground & bound over us. But no one is hurt & they cease & our batteries take no notice of them so the firing ceases. We are ordered to lay down keeping their arms by us. About 9 O. C. the fighting commences on our left. Heavy. Yell after yell. Charge after charge. It was the negro troops that they were massing upon but they stood their ground & the 3d Brig. of our Div. charged on them & the Rebs got out of there. This ended the fight & all was quiet through the rest of the night.

Friday, 15th. We lay in our place until 7 O. C. when we march out on our retrograde course. We march out on the Ripley road. We march about three m. when we hear cannonading in our rear. We are halted & formed in line. We march around about $\frac{1}{2}$ h. & hear they are repulsed. We then go ahead. We get to a little creek & cross when they again send word that the Rebs have again attacked. Our Reg't is ordered back. We march back about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. & hear it's all right. We lay on that side of the creek until the train has all passed & then march over & camp. About 5 O. C. the Rebs begin to shell us from the other side of the creek. They then charge across the creek but are repulsed with heavy loss. All is quiet the rest of the even.

Saturday, 16th. We start early or at least the army does. We are in the rear. There is some fighting but none of any consequence. We march 15 m. & camp on Big Muddy, sometimes called Black Bottom. We expected to have some trouble here but we have none. We have issued to us three $\frac{1}{2}$ crackers to last us three days & a piece of meat 1 inch sq. & this is all we have to last us back to LaGrange. There is no chance but to forage. We get some potatoes & have potatoes & coffee for supper. Sumptuous.

Sunday, 17th. We have no trouble with the enemy, they have concluded to let us alone. We start at four O. C. & march to the Tallahatchie & there camp. The town is called New Albany. The town has played out, nothing but the chimneys remaining. The sad remains of war. We have no trouble with the Rebs. They have concluded to let us alone. We are getting very short of rations. Our bread has give out also our pork. Nothing to eat, that's a bad state of affairs. We foraged some flour & had some pancakes. That with coffee made our supper. We then went & washed our dirty selves, came back cooked some mush for breakfast & went to bed, with orders to be ready at 1 O. C.

Monday, 18th. Are roused up at 1 & eat our breakfast & start at $\frac{1}{2}$ P. 3. We have to cross the Tallahatchie which takes us an hour. We then take the Salem road. Salem is 20 m. from New Albany. So they say. We march hard all day & 12 m. from Salem. How uncertain distances are. We camp on a little spring branch which is very good water. We

get no hard tack but have flour & shorts & plenty of meat & therefore we make pancakes & get along fine.

Tuesday, 19th. We get started early. We make good time for an hour or two but have to cross Coldwater & that takes up a great deal of time. We march to Salem which is 14 m. from LaGrange. We meet a supply train & again draw rations. We are all right again. I expect we will go to LaGrange tomorrow. I'm glad. I'm tired of marching this hot weather. We get our suppers and go to bed.

July 20th. We start for LaGrange at 6 O. C. They say they call it 16 m. I expect it's 20. It's very hot & dusty. We take near cuts. So through the woods & get along very well. We march pretty fast in the afternoon & get within 3 m. of LaGrange & camp. We have excellent water & plenty to eat. We go to bed & sleep sound. We will go into LaGrange tomorrow where we will take the train for Memphis.

July 21st. Thurs. We march to LaGrange & camp 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from town in the woods. It's a very pleasant place. Plenty of water & good shade. We have no idea when we will leave. We have no clean clothes & our dirty ones are worn out. We are through marching for the present, I hope. It's too hot. It's no use to kill men in such weather & it will kill men. I suppose we will remain in Memphis until we go up Red River. I wish our term was out, then they might whistle. We take a good wash, wash our shirts & clean up to the best of our advantage. We write some letters & receive our mail, which makes us feel a great deal better. We have plenty to eat. Hurrah for us.

Friday, 22nd. We sleep until sun up. Get our breakfast & lay around until noon when we get orders to march. We have to march to Memphis. Our Col. swears & cusses. But can't ride. It's no use. March is the word & march it is, being unwell I go & get on the cars & ride. The Reg't starts at $\frac{1}{2}$ P. 1 & the cars at 2 O. C. We arrive at Memphis at 7 O. C. Walk out to our camp which is 1 m. Our convalescents are in good health. We get some supper & go to bed.

Saturday, 23d. We sleep as late as we please & then get our breakfast & spend most of the day in sleep. It seems good to be in camp once more. We put on a clean shirt & wash with soap once more. We look like men, white men again. The Reg't gets up about 6 O. C. They march as far as Colierville & there took the train. They have not taken any camping ground yet. Our officers are so slow always. They never get up & take care of themselves & therefore get soaked.

Sunday, 24th. Sunday again. We are camped out in the sun. They say we will move to some better place soon. We get no mail. Everything seems to go wrong. It's rumored we are to leave soon for another campaign. But I don't believe it. They surely cannot think of marching us anymore.

July 27th. We have moved our grounds, that is we have moved our camp. We are camped where the 9th Ill. Cav. were still farther from town. It's a very pleasant place, shady & out of the dust. We will soon make a nice camp out of it. I wrote a letter to Sister C. today & have been doing Co. business all day. Turning over ordnance unserviceable & making clothing receipt rolls & c. I'm in camp under a tree.

Our H'd. Q's are in the woods. We have orders to get ready to march but have not got marching orders & may not get them.

July 29th. Friday. We still quietly laying in camp. Nothing strange happening. The 1st Div. is going out to LaGrange again whether we will follow is not yet known but it is not thought well, time will decide. We don't get any mail. What is the cause. I expect they don't write. I'm unwell & have been ever since I returned. I used up. I'll soon be all right.

Aug. 4th. We are under marching orders again. We are going in the same direction, but farther than that we know nothing. We are leaving 120 men here in the hospital. This marching is going to use up most of us. We don't get much mail. What is the matter, don't they write or don't they come. I guess they don't write. Our wagons have gone. We are going on the R. R. as far as Collierville from there we march to Holly S.

Aug. 7th. Sunday. We started from Memphis at 1/2 p. 9 O. C. Our destination was supposed to be Holly S. We make very poor time having nothing but green wood. We arrived at G. J. at 4 O. C. P. M. We go ahead to Holly S. where we get off & camp. We passed through some very nice country. Plenty of nice peaches on the side of the R. R. Ripe. Provoking. We had to go right along and leave them. We almost wished we were marching, not quite though. We see plenty of corn, cotton & wheat. The Rebs never will starve. No use of riding that "Hobby" any longer. They will lack nothing but meat & of that they have plenty with being saving. There is plenty of beef & mutton & considerable pork. Can't starve them out & will certainly have to whip them. That has not played out yet, nor do I think it will yet 1 more year & then we will see.

Aug. 8th. Monday morning. Clear & hot. But we are not going to march. That's the good of it. I don't think we are going to have to march soon. We may in the course of a month or two. Then it will be cool & we can stand it. I always hope for a good time. Always look on the bright side.

(This ends Book Number Two. The following is taken from Book Number One.)

RECAPITULATION

We have now brought things up to the present time. We have been as accurate as possible. We have noticed some of the great battles & great changes. We see our army slowly but surely advancing & seen the convulsions shaking the North & threatening to inaugurate a civil war. Then we see our armies gaining success after success. Then we see a sudden revulsion of feeling & all becomes quiet. There is no fear of any outbreak. Everybody sees the good effects of the proclamation. They are not opposed to freeing the negroes when they see it is to become popular. The leading politicians think it will not pay to oppose the measure & therefore swallow it & all become quiet. All are in favor of prosecuting the war. Recruiting is brisk and all looks encouraging. Old Reg's reenlist & are filled up, while the Rebel authorities have

to compel all theirs to remain. We fill ours up by volunteers. They have to conscript boys & old men. We have an abundance of provisions & they hardly have sufficient to keep soul & body together. We have all the clothing we want & they have not enough to keep them warm. Prices are very reasonable in the North, while in the South things are beyond all reason. They have but little ammunition while we have an abundance of everything. From these facts who will conquer. Who stands the best chance.

In the beginning of the war they had all our munitions of war. Everything had been shipped South. That traitor Floyd, and the dotard Buchanan. Give them all the capital to carry on a war with & we had to construct all. Yes, all. They were ready to strike & ready to carry on the war & it's always been a wonder to me that we did not meet with more reverses than we did, but the people rose "en masse." It required only 10 days to raise & equip Reg'ts. Some were in Washington in six days & many were there in 20 days.

The Rebs took possession of all the strong points on their frontier & prepared to carry on the war in earnest. If they had moved North in the commencement the effect would have been very disastrous. We could have never resisted them until great damage had been done. Yet they lost their opportunity. Our armies were organized & a series of bloody encounters took place. Our frontier was cleared & the scale turned. Victory crowned all our efforts & the rebellion grows smaller every day, until now its size is very diminutive.

Their Confederacy is cut into & the productive part is in our possession. There is no earthly chance for them. Only foreign help & that's very slim. I can see no chance for them but to give up. Great was their struggle for the possession of East Tenn. Bragg drew reinforcements from the east until the whole rebel army was before Chattanooga. Yet they were repulsed in two terrible conflicts & had to retire. Our army was not as strong last Spring as it will be next. Theirs was stronger last Spring than it will ever be again. Who is there that will say we can never conquer them. No one but a lunatic or fool. We are testing the experiment of a free Gov. Shall we fail. No. Europe is looking on with the keenest anxiety. They expected us to totter & fall in the commencement but were surprised at our upraising. The despots hoped to see our Gov. fall. We were drawing too many of their subjects & their subjects were beginning to be discontented. But when this war broke out they lay quiet and are watching with terrible interest the progress of this war & if we succeed in establishing our Gov., then you may look for *European struggles for liberty*. We are the hope of the world & shall we prove recreant to the trust. No. Our Gov. will be established & be ten times stronger than ever. Then let us hope & trust God is in this war & will cause the wrath of men to praise him. I don't mean that God inaugurated this war, but I mean to say he will see that it is ended on the side of the right & the terrible curse which has so long stained our otherwise free Gov. will be blotted from existence. I'm no abolitionist yet I want slavery wiped out. We have prospered since the war was carried on, on the new principle & as long

as it is we will prosper. What is the prospect of an early peace. Pretty Good. Our armies are preparing for an advance in the Spring from almost every point. Our armies will be recruited & all the old troops will reenlist as veterans. Therefore our army will be far more effective than it ever was before. What is the condition of the Confederate army. Do their subjects volunteer. No they resort to conscription. Do their old troops reenlist. No they are compelled to remain by an act of Congress. They can scarcely subsist their present army. How would they provide for one twice as large. They can't do it. They used to get large quantities of beef from Texas. Also horses & mules. But now not one, nor a lb. of beef. They used to run the blockade, now not one in twenty get through. What is the prospect of peace. Good. Flattering. A vigorous campaign this spring & they will have to give up. One more year & I believe peace will again shed its showers of happiness over this fair land of ours. I can see no other result. Nothing can possibly reverse our *run of luck*, unless it is foreign intervention, which grows more remote every day. It's true European despots would like to see us ruined. Yet they fear their own thrones. Freedom is the watchword & despotisms fear it. They dare not war upon it, for fear of the upraising of public feeling. The raising of the populace & therefore they will let us alone. The sky is clearing off. The thunders grow more distant & soon the clash of arms will cease.

This is my opinion. Poor it's true. Yet it is an opinion. I have written this carelessly (the whole book). Some things may be interesting. Others will not. The first is a diary of the principal events since leaving Camp Palmer, to the present time. In the latter part will be found the roll of the Company up to January. This is all we have pretended to do.

Respects of Wm. H. H. Ibbetson.

Excuse mistakes. For this was written under difficulties.

WHEN THIS CRUEL WAR IS OVER

I

Dearest love do you remember
When we last did meet.
How you told me that you loved me
Kneeling at my feet.

CHORUS

Weeping sad and lonely
Hopes and fears, how vain.
When this cruel war is over
Praying that we meet again.

II

Oh, how proud you stood before me
In your suit of blue
When you vowed to me and country,
Ever to be true.

CHORUS

III

When the summer breeze is sighing
Mournfully along
Or when autumn leaves are falling
Sadly breathes the song.

CHORUS

IV

Oft in dreams I see thee lying
On the Battle plain.
Lonely, wounded, even dying,
Calling, but in vain.

CHORUS

V

If amid the din of Battle,
Nobly you should fall.
Far away from those who love you
None to hear your call.

CHORUS

VI

Who would whisper words of Comfort,
Who would soothe your pain.
Ah! the many cruel fancies
Ever in your brain.

CHORUS

VII

But our Country calls you darling
Angels cheer your way.
While our nations sons are fighting
We can only pray.

CHORUS

VIII

Nobly strike for God and Liberty,
Let all nations see.
How we love the starry Banner
Emblem of the Free.

CHORUS

Weeping sad and lonely
Hopes and fears how vain.
When this cruel war is over
Praying that we meet again.

Mustering roll of Co. D. 122nd Ills. Vol. Infy. From Jan. 1863 to Jan. 1864. Noting the various events & changes which have taken place in the meantime. We will have to go back with some of our Co. to 1862, but only those who have been discharged. The reader will have to overlook a few mistakes & charge it to my ignorance.

W. H. H. Ibbetson.

RANK AND NAMES.

Cap. L. F. Peebles.....

REMARKS.

Present in Co. for duty until July 22nd when detached on court martial at Pocahtonias, Tenn., by order, Augustus Mercy, Act. Brig. Gen. Absent on furlough from Sep. 6th to Sep. 28th. Ordered back to Co. Oct. 21st. Since present for duty. Present for duty until Jan. 21st when detailed as Reg't. Q. M. Returned for duty Jan. 25th. Detailed in Trenton, Tenn. until March 12th when returned for duty. Under arrest from April 4th to May 23d for kicking Chapin, Post M. Returned to duty by release. Resigned August 24th, 1863. (Homesick.)

Lt. 2. Henry C. Gooding..... Present for duty until Oct. 24th, 1863, when absent detached in Corinth, Miss., as Judge Advocate by order G. M. Dodge, Gen. com'd'g. Returned for duty Nov. 4th, 1863. Detailed as Post Ag't, Eastport, Miss., by order Col. J. I. Rinaker, Comd'ng Post, Returned sick.

1st Sergt. John F. Roach..... Present for duty until July 23, when absent on furlough until Aug. 22nd. Since present for duty.

2nd Sergt. John C. Peebles..... Present for duty until March 7th, when detailed as ordnance Serg't, by order Col. Drish, Comd'g. Regt. Also act color Serg't.

3d Sergt. William P. Oliver..... Present for duty since enlisted.

4th Sergt. Edward G. Duckels..... Present for duty since enlisted.

5th Sergt. Sam'l Cramer..... Present for duty since enlisted.

Corpl. 1st Joseph C. Hall..... Present for duty since enlisted.

Corpl. 2. William S. Harlan..... Discharged for disability Nov. 26th, 1862, by order U. S. Grant, Maj. Gen. Comd'g Western Dpt.

RANK AND NAMES.

REMARKS.

Corpl. 3. W. H. H. Ibbetson..... Present for duty since enlisted. Also acting Color Corpl.

Corpl. 4. John J. Leach..... Present for duty since enlisted.

Corpl. 5. James L. Murphy..... Present for duty until July 18th, 1863, when discharged by order the President.

Corpl. 6. F. L. Ledbrook..... Present for duty until March 28, 1863, when detached in Pioneer corps, Corinth, Miss., by order G. M. Dodge, Comd'g. Left W. 16 A. C. Present for duty until July 20, 1863, when detached in Pioneer Corinth, Miss., by order G. M. Dodge, Gen. Comd'g.

Corpl. 7. Lucius B. Corbin..... Present for duty since enlisted. Promoted from Private Feb. 15th, by order Cap. Peebles comd'g. Co.

Private Andrews, Robert M..... Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Ashton, John..... Present for duty until July 30th, 1863, when detailed as hospital cook in Salisbury, Tenn., by order of J. I. Rinaker.

Private Atterberry, David A..... Present for duty until Sep. 13th when taken pris. by the enemy at Porter's Creek, Tenn.

Private Andrews, Robt. F..... Present for duty until Dec. 20th, 1862, when taken pris. at Humboldt, Tenn., exchanged and returned for duty Oct. 13th. Absent sick in Mound City since Nov. 1st.

Private Barber, John..... Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Brown, Charles..... Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Bell, Joseph R..... Present for duty until Dec. 31st, 1862, when taken pris. at Parker's Cross Roads. Exchanged and returned for duty, Oct. 13th, 1863.

Private Brown, M. S..... Present for duty until Dec. 20th, 1862, when taken pris. at Trenton, Tenn. Exchanged and returned for duty Oct. 13, 1863. Present for duty until Nov. 9th when detailed as clerk in Post comm. Eastport, Tenn., by order Col. J. I. Rinaker, comd'g. Post.

Drummer Beck, Oscar..... Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Crane, John S..... Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Craggs, John..... Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Coonrod, John F..... Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Corrington, J. F..... Present for duty until Feb. 4th, 1863, when detailed as Ag't Gen. office, Jackson, Tenn., by order Gen. Sillivan. Returned for duty March 12th. Present until May 8th when detached as clerk in Div. H'd Q's, by order G. M. Dodge, Gen. comd'g.

Private Cummings, Thorton..... Present until June 2nd, 1863, when died Reg'l Hospital, Corinth, Miss.

Private Cummings, Corum A. G..... Present for duty until Feb. 27th when absent without leave.

Private Cantrill, Joseph F..... Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Crays, John W..... Present for duty since enlisted.

RANK AND NAMES.

REMARKS.

Private Colman, Fitzgerald Present for duty until Dec. 20th when taken pris. at Trenton, Tenn. Exchanged and returned for duty Oct. 13th, 1863. Since present for duty.

Private Delaplain, Eugene W. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Delaplain, Jerome W. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Delaplain, John B. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Delany, William M. Present on daily duty in Regt. Hospital as nurse, until Aug. 20th, 1863, when returned to Co. for duty.

Private Dowden, Albert Absent in Hospital, Jackson, Tenn. Died March 29th, 1863.

Private Eastwood, Francis M. Present for duty until Sep. 19th, 1863, when detailed as div. ambulance driver, by order Brig. Gen. G. M. Dodge.

Private Holmes, Alfred Present for duty until Feb. 2nd, 1863, when detailed as nurse in hospital. Ordered back to Co. Nov. 14th, 1863. Since pres. for duty.

Private Howell, William S. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Harlan, Isaac W. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Harlan, Lorenzo B. Present for duty until Dec. 20, 1862, when taken pris. at Humboldt, Tenn. Exchanged and returned for duty Oct. 13th, 1863. Since detailed as Div. teamster, by order G. M. Dodge commanding. 2nd Div. 16 A. C.

Private Hagler, John F. Present for duty until Dec. 31st, 1863, when wounded at Parker's Cross Roads, in the knee, died of wounds in Jackson, Tenn. Feb. 13th, 1863.

Private Irwin, John S. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Johnson, Isaac N. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Jemison, Alexander Present for duty until July 25th, 1863, when detached in Pioneer Corps, Corinth, Miss. by order G. M. Dodge, commanding.

Private Kell, Robt. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Kincaide, Archibald Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Lee, Jesse W. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Litten, Jesse Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Lanning, Aaron Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Langan, Hugh E. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Lee, George Principal musician on Regt. staff until March 27th when transferred back to Co. in compliance to order 41 from War dept. dispensing with principal musician. Detailed as ambulance driver April 14th. Since relieved and on daily duty as musician.

Private Loveland, Timothy Detailed in Trenton, Tenn., as clerk in Provost Marshal's office until March 16th, 1863, when absent without leave, until April 1st when reported for duty. Since present.

Private Mills, John H. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private McGahey, George W. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Moffit, Andrew Sick with wounds in Jackson, Tenn., rec'd at Parker's Cross Roads Dec.

RANK AND NAMES.

REMARKS.

Private McNeil, Henry F. Present for duty until July 23d when absent on furlough until Aug. 26th when returned for duty. Since present.

Private McGahey, William Present for duty until Jan. 12th, 1863, when sick in Hospital, Trenton, Tenn. Died in Jackson, Tenn., April 16th, 1863.

Private Nevins, John Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Nevins, M. V. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Nevins, Robt. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Finch, Geo. E. Killed Parker's Cross Roads, Dec. 31st, 1862.

Private Peter, Samuel Killed Parker's Cross Roads, Dec. 31st, 1862.

Private Peter, Henry Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Pinckard, James B. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Peebles, Winfield S. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Peebles, Geo. W. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Paddock, Henry L. Present for duty until Sep. 22, when discharged for disability, by order Maj. Gen. S. A. Hurlburt.

Private Pugh, John Present for duty until Sep. 14th, 1863, when taken pris. at Porter's Creek, Tenn., by the enemy.

Private Pogmore, Robt. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Robbins, Ambrose Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Shepherdson, Geo. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Sawtell, William Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Saurins, William Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Smith, Joseph B. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Sell, Jacob Present for duty until Sep. 14th, 1863, when taken pris. at Porter's Creek, Tenn.

Private Stratton, William Present for duty until Nov. 4th, 1863, when detailed as Div. teamster, by order G. M. Dodge.

Private Slater, James H. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Shane, John W. Present for duty until Dec. 20th, 1862, when taken pris. in Trenton, Tenn. Reported as absent without leave from Oct. 18th, 1863, until Dec. 10th, when reported absent detached at Div. H'd Q'rs.

Private Thomas, A. S. Present for duty since enlisted.

Private Thomas, John N. Present for duty until Dec. 31st, 1862, when wounded at Parker's Cross Roads, by having his arm shot off. In Hospital, Jackson, Tenn., until April 6th when discharged by order U. S. Grant, Maj. Gen. commanding Western Dpt'l.

Private Vannerman, I. N. Present since enlisted.

Private Williams, James H. Present for duty until Jan. 25th, 1863, when detailed as Regt. baker. Returned for duty Dec. 22nd, 1863.

Private Winson, William Pres. for duty since enlisted.

Private Young, William A. Pres. for duty since enlisted.

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