

DIARY

Kept By Chas A Tournier while in ^{run in}
Military service of The U.S. Govern th

The Comet

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me

Carpat

Oct. 12

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Father was 17

we were ~~on~~ the road 36 hours
between Elmira and Baltimore
The train stoped at a small station
on the first day out near a hay
stack and that was my first raid
as we carried part of the hay to
the cars which made us a very
comfortable bed for the night
The next being Sunday we arrived
at Baltimore and were allowed
to go to the Hotels for our dinner
But we had to pay the bill & dined
at the Eutan House with some
of my comrades for which we paid
one dollar per head. Late in the
afternoon we boarded a steamer
on the Chesapeake Bay Bound for
Camp distribution Old point

Comfort near Fort Monroe

The night was clear and the moon was shining bright as the steamer plowed through the glistening waves I wrapped my self up in my blanket stretched out on the deck with the moon shining in my face intending to sleep But sleep did not come that night I wished my self home. Near morning I slept a little. At 6 Monday morning we reached our destination for the time being we marched on to the dock with orders to remain there which we did till 10 A.M. Then a transport came in our next orders were to board that vessel after being aboard one half hour another part of the 3^d artillery came on board

which made such a crowd
we could not find room to lie
down There was so much kicking
about the danger of a voyage in
such an overloaded boat
our Captain succeeded in having
us taken off to wait for the next
vessel we then went to Camp
Hamilton ~~that~~ being the name
of camp distribution we were
quartered in good sized tents four
soldiers occupying a tent
us boys had a lot of fun with
the darkies as there was lots of them
all sizes and shades we slept
well in our tents. the next morning
one of my comrades was very sick
He was in our tent so caused

us some anxiety as the cause
was on account of the change
of drinking water But he recov-
ered in a few days I spent a
great part of the time on the
shore of the Chesapeake bay as I was
sitting on my grassy bank at
high tide the water or waves are
rippling at my feet while in a few
hours at low tide waters edge is
nearly a mile away the land
being flat, at low tide we wade
out and pick up oysters which
we usually eat raw.

Wednesday Sept 28-1864

I awoke this morning just in
time to get my rations Had I
slept a little longer this Child
would have had no breakfast

as they do not wait breakfast
in the army as mother does at
home I drew some pork hard
tack and coffee the coffee was
black as they sweeten with brown
sugar and add sugar and water
at the same time and boil a long
while but it tastes good to a
soldier about noon to day my
convalescing tent mate was again
taken worse a detail of men
from the Hospital came with a
litter and carried him to the
Hospital I went down to the
beach this evening and found
some of the boys who thought they
were experts at boating were trying
their skill and muscle

I enjoyed the fun for some time Then took a wash in the bay and turned in as the Soldier Boys

Thursday Sept 29th

Morning dawned bright and beautiful I awoke early and found my self well and hungry as usual But found one other of my tent mates very sick. Charley White by name The first tent mate taken sick (James Sundling) is not any better The Steamer George Leary coming in as the tide was going out ran aground and was obliged to remain there several hours until the tide came in The story has been about that we are not to go to Newbern

as we expected But go to the front
in Virginia some of the boys
are nearly wild with fear least
they may stop a bullet I feel
a little uneasy my self sort of
feel as though I would like to
tread the streets of old Auburn
with the boys and girls But I went
out and had a little fun with
the darkies Then to my tent and
played whist for a while and
then goes for my blanket as we
dont go to bed. as we do not have
any but a board instead which
makes my back ache

• Friday Sept 30 - 1864

This morning is clear and bright
as usual I am well games —

Surinder came back from
the Hospital feeling quite well
Some of the boys and my self went
over to Fort Monroe to day
and found it a very large and
beautiful fort containing a
row of good sized houses quite
a little village we returned to
Camp at 6 P.M just a little late
to draw our rations But after
quite a long parley with the Dutch
Cooks we succeeded in making
them believe that we had not
already drawn our rations
we took our coffee etc. to the
tent And while drinking mine
a piece of cloth floated in my
mouth which did not help my
appetite very much

a Steamer of some kind had
a boiler explosion off of the Coast
this afternoon But they say no
lives lost Charly White was taken
to the Hospital The weather Cool
and pleasant

Saturday Oct 1st / 1864

I awoke this morning and
found the rain falling very
fast and it has rained all day
which kept us all in the tent
we played Cards and smoked
some. ate all we could find to
eat James Sundelin is now
quite well and Charly White
some better. the tide is two feet
higher than we ever saw it
before

Sunday Oct 2nd 1864

I am well. things are rather quiet
in Camp to day we expect to
embark for Newbern tomorrow
it rained all of the morning Cleared
up at noon I took a Salt water
bath as I was returning to my
tent met an other of our boys on
a stretcher enroute for the
hospital

Monday Oct 3^d 1864

as I first looked from my tent
this morning saw not the Sun
but dull leaden clouds But no
rain came Cleared off after dinner
quiet in Camp to day no more
news about us going to Newbern
I am not feeling well so
retire early

Tuesday Oct 4 - 1864

nothing new to day I awoke
this morning feeling quite sick
with a dizzy and aching head
so turn in early

Wednesday Oct 5th 1864

Kept in my tent all day went
to roll call But was too sick
to wait for the break ranks
order so was excused went to
the Doctor now I take my med-
icine and retire to my blanket
and board

Thursday Oct 6 - 1864

Still at Camp Hamilton I am not
feeling very well although some
better we cooked our own rations
to day and think our food is

a little cleaner

Friday Oct 7 - 1864

Am feeling well and like my
old self again we received marching
orders this morning and
were in readiness all day But
near night the order was Coun-
-termanded And after a smoke
all around with a few games of
Cards we retire thus ends an
other day

Saturday Oct 8 - 1864

at 1 Pm to day we received orders
to start for Roanoke Island
formed in line marched to the
dock where a large transport was
waiting one of the kind rigged with
masts and sails also steam
with screw wheel in rear

we marched on board and remained till eight in the evening expecting to start oceanward at that time. But we were informed that possibly we might not leave till morning and we did not. There was six hundred of us when we laid down to try to sleep the decks were entirely covered with men after passing a very uncomfortable night on

Sunday Oct 9 - 1864
at six a.m. we were ordered to disembark and march back to our old camp why it was so a soldier is not supposed to know. on reaching camp we

found one tent occupied by
a new lot of Soldiers.

~~As~~ we waited around our camp
fire all day cooking and eating
and expecting some tent to be
given us But night came
no tents with it so we wrapped
up in overcoats and blankets
and tried to sleep on the ground
I was so cold sleep would not
come so I arose went to a camp
fire and sat up the most of the
night looking at the fire and
thinking of the feather bed at
home

Monday Oct 10 - 1864

Every thing quiet in camp to
day The boys are all well in
our company I received a letter

from my brother Ed stating
that the folks at home were
also well. as the day here is
clear and fine and all of the
news good and I succeeded in
stealing a tent & am now
feeling quite comfortable

Tuesday Oct 11 - 1864

There is nothing to day worth
mentioning no letters no
nothing we just put in the
day that is all

Wednesday Oct 12 - 1864

To day about the same as
yesterday excepting we had a
little more to eat as there are
four of us in the tent and
some how we had five

rations some one must
have drew two But uncle Sam
Can stand it only it is very
much against orders

Thursday Oct 13 - 1864

The order to fall in Came very early
this morning we knew not what
for But after falling in line we
again marched to the dock and
found a large ocean Steamer Call
~~the~~ "Hays" Soon after getting on
board we steamed away bound
for the South we did not get out
of Chespeak ^{bay.} till darkness came over
the waters. the Steamer was so heav-
ily loaded we could not all find
room to lie down on the decks
for sleep so I guess we will not
sleep much to night

Friday Oct 4 - 1864

Last night was a sleepless night clear and star light rather cold to be in the open air. Daylight was a welcome sight this morning. There was a very heavy swell on the ocean which made our trans-^{port} as quite a stiff breeze was blowing on our side many of the boys were sea sick and some were taken so suddenly they heaved up the contents of their stomachs on deck much to the discomfort of those who were so fortunate as not to be sick. I happened to be one of the latter ones. The rolling of the ship did not affect me so badly as the

Condition

~~Sight~~ of the decks we arrived at Roanoke Island at about 4 P.M. But did not land till after dark we then marched to some new barracks which were under construction with only about half of the roofing on but that was better than the crowded deck on the rolling ocean my back ached so from sleeping on the hard boards that I ~~was~~ unable to get much sleep. But here goes for a trial at sleep.

Saturday Oct 15 - 1864
I started out of the barracks this morning at daylight the first thing I saw was a mill with the old fashioned

well sweep and an old oaken bucket I reached the well as also did many others at about the same time I drank some cold water also washed my face and was ready for breakfast we formed in line in front of the Cook house and waited our turn to draw rations I received nine hard tac a hard tac is about four inches square and three eights of one inch in thickness Three of them is suppose to be eaten at one meal for breakfast we also drew one pint of Coffee without milk I made the remark to our Captain that I could eat the

whole mine at one meal
his reply was you think more
of your damned Stomach than
you do of military I thought
he was about right for I
certainly did well after breakfast
my Chum and I started out
to look around in order to know
what the Island was like

first we found a large Govern-
ment Saw mill I was not
able to learn why they had
such a large and modern
affair on this Island There was
timber enough But I was
unable to learn what they
done with so much lumber
after leaving the mill we

noticed the coast was low
and sandy as we turned from
the saw mill we noticed a
road leading to the woodland
so we started up the road
passed through the woods came
to an open which ^{the} was large fields
of cotton we had our first
experience picking cotton and
opening the bolls we continued
on till we reached the coast
which we learned was the albe-
marl Sound But so wide that
we could not see the land on
opposite side we then returned
after having walked about six
miles at three more hard tae
answered to roll call and am
now ready to retire on the
floor

Sunday Oct 16th 1864

The Barracks were finished yesterday and we have a bunk to sleep in now but no softer than the floor was

my Chum Tom Strong and I are enjoying life pretty well now we wandered away from our quarters this afternoon came to a new building where we settled down and wrote some letters I wrote one to Ellen

Lawrence also one to home

There is a rumor about that we are to embark for Newbern tomorrow which we hope is so as we are not very much in love with Roanoke Island

Monday Oct 17 - 1864

we ~~do~~ not see any vessels at the dock or any in sight so some of us asked for passes so that we might see a little more of the Island after walking through the "woods" a few miles came across some darkies who told us there ^{is} about seven hundred of their kind lived on the Island we found them very clever and polite They seemed to think a great deal of Uncle Sam's Soldiers

we came across a cemetery containing all rebel Soldiers a very desolate place But a large number of the boys in grey were sleeping there on the whole I think this

Island is a barren unhealthy
place and I would not like
spend the rest of my life here
a sailing vessel came in sight to
day uncle Sam's gun boat lying
in the harbor sent a Canon ball
skipping over the waters just ahead
of her They took in sails and
put out the anchor our gun boat
sent out a small boat soon
the men were on board and
found the vessel was a rebel
Schooner which surrendered at
once they did not bring the crew
on shore but manned the Schooner
and sailed to some other port
we are daily looking for order
to start for Newbern N.C. as we
have none I will retire

Tuesday Oct 18 - 1864

I slept well last night guess my back is getting some used to the hard and straight board as it does not ache as much now after hard tea and coffee Tom and I decided to visit the saw mill after a carefull survey we pronounced it a first class affair like most every thing belonging to the Government The next thing to pass the time away was to ask permission go in the woods and started out for a long ramble after getting quite a long distance from camp the rain began to fall we came back as fast as possible But our clothing

and feet was wet through I feel
as though my chance might be good
for taking cold The bugle says
lights out so here goes for bunk

Wednesday Oct 19 - 1864

Last night I heard a great deal
of puffing and blowing also
whistle blowing This morning
the first thing was to visit
the dock and we found a large
ocean steamer then called the
"Masasvit" on returning to our
Barracks we found all of our
effects lying in the sand
They said we could live there
no more as the steamer had brought
in a cargo which must be
stored in our old quarters
we began to wonder where

me were going to stay to night
But we soon found out the
Masasoit was to take us to
Newbern N.C. about 4 P.M.
we were ordered on board &
was pleased as I had no use for
the Island. Soon after I came
on board some ^{one} told me there
was a case of yellow fever on
board which caused us some uneasi-
-ness after investigating the story
was proved to be false & went up
on the upper deck and found the
casing to the smoke stack was
warm and as the night was cool
by wrapping my self in my blanket
and lying against the casing I
had a good warm bed so settled

down for the night

Friday ^{Oct} ~~Aug~~ 20 - 1864

I slept all night without once
awakening soon after day light
I raised up and found we were
out of sight of land we steamed
through smooth waters and
entered the Pamlico Sound then
into the mouth of the Neuse river
after traveling about sixty miles
up the river we landed at the
dock at Newbern N.C. after
landing we were given tents
called dog tents great large enough
for two men to sleep in
But we could not stand up
in them we drew a ration of
hard tack and coffee ate and
retired

Saturday Oct 21st 1864

when I awoke this morning
the ^{tent} was sagging so low it nearly
touched my face on pushing
up on it I could hear the water
run off me crawled out and
found a clear sky the water on
the tent had accumulated from
the very heavy dew in this clim-
-ate yesterday as we marched
through the city we noticed the
stores and houses were all closed
most of the windows had tight
shutters. upon enquiring we
learned the city was full of yellow
fever the death rate was large
each day. I found quite a large
sack and blind factory

making nothing but pine coffins
employing a large number of
hands things do not look very
pleasant just now. But they
say the fever will die out soon,
as we get a little cold weather
& arose at 4. a.m. having slept
so cold was glad to sit by the
Camp fire till time to draw rations
This afternoon we amused
our selves moving our tent to
a spot that suited us better
we hear a rumor that we are
to do garrison duty at fort
Anderson across the river by the
way Newbern faces on the river
side which ^{is} about 3 miles wide
quite large Steamers run up to
the docks

Sunday Oct 22nd 1864

To day has been quite cold also high wind very unpleasant But I preferred staying in the open air to sitting on the ground under a dog tent we have kept out of the city on account of the yellow fever tomorrow we reach our destination which is Fort Anderson on the opposite side of the river we are to take the place of Battery G. of our regiment of which my brother George is a member So I expect to see him tomorrow Here goes for the blanket on the ground in the dog tent

Monday Oct 23^d 1864

Here we are at Fort Anderson came over this morning landed

at a very long dock extending
in the river about 200 feet just
as one steps from the dock on land
the Cook house is at an left to
the right is the road leading to the
entrance of the fort which covers
about two acres of land the walls
are made of earth sloping both
ways are about 10 feet high
20 feet thick at the base mounted
with 64 pound cannons inside
at one end are wooden buildings
used for the officers quarters the
two long rows of tents. Then at
the other end the powder magazine
near the entrance is an other
building used for a guard house
no grass But barren sand inside
and out side

we drew our guns and equipments But did not enter the Fort till the latter part of the day George was out in a Swamp on picket today as he came in I went out a little way and met him His first words were What did you come down here for I told him to fight See sights and to get the bounty and I handed him several things that were sent him from home on returning to the fort he and his Company pulled up their tents with orders to go in winter quarters at Newbern while our Company is to take their place in the fort So we pitched our tents wondering how long this would

be our house. we burn candles
in our tents and have to blow them
out at 9 P.M. mine is most gone
so I retire

Tuesday Oct 24-1864

Woke this morning with a
lame back' Bed to hard & guess
we pulled our tent up and built
a sort of square box about five
by nine feet 5 feet high then
put our tent on top for a roof
inside we fitted up as follows
on one side two benches one
above the other on and a little
round stove for burning wood
four of us are to live here
we also hinged a board to the
side of the building when raised

to a horizontal position can
be used for a table also for desk
I was detailed to pull the stake
oar on the punt boat This boat
is manned by 6 oarsmen and
one to steer This boat runs
between Newbern and the fort
making from one to three trips
per day mine is a very good pos-
-ition as I do not have any other
duties to do we crossed the river
twice to day and returned twice
making 12 miles of rowing all-
-together

Wednesday Oct 25-1864

at 10 A.M. we rowed across the river
Returned at 12 ate dinner went
out in the Swamp and pulled

Some dry grass which made
us a very good bed by spre-
-ading it in our bunks the
Covering with a blanket
This After noon went over
the river to get a Lieutenant
back again just in time
for Supper I am now writing
in my bunk with my tin
Cup upside down with a piece
of Candle on it for a light

Thursday Oct 27-1864

To day we done simply noth-
-ing wandered around and
ate three meals and visited

Friday Oct 28-1864

nothing worth mention
To day I still pull the stroke
oar

Saturday Oct 29-1864
two months to day since I
enlisted sort of an anniversary
day I am not sorry I enlisted
the army life suits me pretty
well. tomorrow is inspection
I do not expect to come out on
account of being detailed on
the post boat

Sunday Oct 30-1864
one the boats crew were ordered
to put on our dress uniforms
supposing that went inspection
But we were ordered down to the
dock and after about one hour
received orders to man the boat
and row across to the City returned
latter part of day then supper

now bed

Monday Oct 31-1864

we musted in for pay to day. the thoughts of money makes the boys light hearted

Tuesday Nov 1st 1864

I wrote two letters to day one to Ellen Lawrence she seems to think some day we will be married she will never see that day as I would not marry the best woman in the world just because I prefer to be single the other letter was to Mattie Corner just the jolliest little piece of goods you ever saw if those two girls should meet and compare notes I suppose

Chas a would loose them both
But they live two miles apart
and are not even acquainted
I like them both but never will
marry either wish I might step
in and see them to night

Wednesday Nov 2 - 1864

Rained all day my tent has leaked
some making it rather unplea-
-sant I went over to the City But
did not get very wet after
returning I chew a days rations
being the first full rations we
have had in three days some-
-thing wrong somewhere
Some body making money
while the Soldier goes hungry

Thursday Nov 3 - 1864

This has been another rainy day a mail came in but brought me no letter one of my tent mates Hiram Hocknell received a letter stating that his wife was receiving calls from another man He read a letter to me which he had written to her Such a letter I would not write to any woman be she ever so low

Friday Nov 4 - 1864

The rain has stopped falling and the sky is nearly clear But the wind is blowing very hard the river is so low the steamer could not reach the dock

after dinner we played Cards
till 4. P.M and as the Steamer
could not reach the dock we
the boat crew had to row out
and bring the Supplies ashore
The work made us hungry But
we had beef steak for Supper
the first I have tasted of since
we left the Entaw house at Balti-
more

Saturday Nov 5 - 1864
The water still low in the river
we again had to relieve the
steamer of her Supplies and
that is about all we have done
to day

Sunday Nov 6 - 1864
inspection for the boys none

for me The boat went over the river once a steamer brought in a mail I recieved a letter from Ellen Lawrence my friend Tom Strong was on picket last night the night was cold he had no fire so Tom came in with a chill but seems to be all right now

Monday Nov 7-1864

The boys are building new quarters which consists of a row of log houses each one about 12 feet square there is two bunks in each corner one above the other two men occupy each bunk Then there is a round stove in the middle of the building

which will make very comfortable
quarters for the winter. we went
to Fort Stevenson near there
is a bed of clay we procured a
load which will be used to fill
up the spaces between the logs in
our new quarters we reached
our dock about noon I found
my brother George waiting for
me He having come over on the
Steamer to spend the day his first
visit since he left the fort The post
boat had to go to the City after noon
but I found a man to take my
place so I could visit with George
we had a very enjoyable time
talking about home and the girls
and boys at 4 P.M. the Steamer

Eliza May came in she return-
-ed soon and my brother had
to leave me I thought he acted
rather blue

Tuesday Nov 8-1864

The boys in our tent have been
Cross and blue to day I cant
do any thing with them first
one grows then another two
of them came near fighting
But night is here and we retire

Wednesday Nov 9-1864

Boys all feeling good although
the rain has been falling all day
and there is nothing to write

Thursday Nov 10-1864

This day has been rainy we
played cards some made the

usual trip to the City for me
never miss making one trip rain
or shine

Friday Nov 11 - 1864

cloudy and cold I received a
paper from Auburn today
with the name Lania written
on the margin there is lots of
good reading in it and I think
was sent by Lania Vanalstine

Saturday Nov 12 - 1864

we had to go over to the city
about 10 a.m. as we reached
the dock the steamer was about
to go so they threw us a line
lots of fun to ride behind a
side wheel steamer such a
washing bubbling foaming time

and the bow of the boat about
two feet higher than the stern
But much easier than row-
-ing I returned to my tent
found it full of the boys having
quite an exciting game of cards
I went to the cook house drew
my supper after supper two of
the boys challenged Tom and
I to play cards just as we had
started we heard a steamer
whistling on investigation
found a steamer had run on
a stump of course there was
a job for the boat crew But
I succeeded in getting a man
to go in my place so passed
a pleasant evening

Sunday
~~Saturday~~ Nov 13 - 1864

To day is again Sunday the only difference we can see is inspection no church bells do we hear no churches can we see no Sunday in the Army we made the usual trip over to the City we done simply nothing the rest of this day.

Monday Nov 14 - 1864

The boys are pretty well along with the new log quarters But still working on them as I am a boatman do not have to help went over to Newbern Called on George at Battery & quarters found George well and in good quarters took dinner with him

returned on the Steamer at 4
P.M. Supper next bed next
time goes fast soon be home
again.

Tuesday Nov 15 - 1864

To day we decided to build a
furnace in the side of our
Shanty found some bricks and
clay and a piece of Sheet iron
for the top But the thing smoked
so we have to sit out side and
the air is pretty cool as I am
writing the smoke has cleared
away good reason for it. the
fire has gone out

Wednesday Nov 16 - 1864

we made the usual trip to the
city while over there I looked around

and found a piece of our old
Smoke Stack and brought it over
after tearing down our smoky
furnace we set up the Smoke Stack
and now have a good heater

Thursday Nov 17-1864
we put up some Shelves in our
Shanty and are very comfortable
I went over to the City this morn-
-ing returned at 1 A.M. after
dinner wrote a letter to my brother
Ed

Friday Nov 18-1864
not feeling well to day the lonesome
cricket is chirping his last I heard
a mocking bird singing on the top
of a tall tree the day has been clear
and quite warm all nature seems

Sad as the winter season is coming on I am a little out of sorts and none sick as well.

we rowed over to the city at eight a.m. to bring the doctor of the fort over we lounged around in the Sun at the dock till noon waiting for the doc Then returned ate dinner one of our men died this afternoon this make the eight one since we left Anuburn The change of water brings on disintery I have had a touch of it to day I feel like resting quietly But our Moranty is full of the boys playing cards and making lots of noise

Saturday Nov 19 - 1864
commenced raining at 8 a.m. lasted
all day we made one usual trip to
the City, was out in the rain about
four hours after returning to the
fort I decided to put some pockets
in my over coat so have spent
all the rest of the day on this job
and now have nice large pockets
on the side that will carry quite
a load

Sunday Nov 20 - 1864
Last night there was a fire over
to Newbern which ^{burned} eight large bui-
-ldings during the fire two kegs
of powder exploded causing the
loss of seven lives and the
breaking of a thousand windows

lights The rain was falling all the time and a large number of daikies were driven out in the storm by the fire

Monday Nov 21 - 1864

Rains again to day I got soaked while making the trip to the City have been obliged to wear wet clothes all day our rations have again given out all we had for supper was one hard toe and will have the same for breakfast we think the officers are selling the supplies and pocketing the money we have heard they live high and have plenty of liquor at their disposal "out of money out of grub out of spirit here goes for bed

Tuesday Nov 22 - 1864

The rain has fallen all day They say this is the rainy Season I guess they are right toward night grew colder then came snow and hail But they say snow will not last on the ground in this State near night a steamer came in with the mail. They say also provisions I received a letter from Ellen Lawrence written from Clyde where she was visiting some relatives

Wednesday Nov 23 - 1864

This morning was cold with a very high wind we went to the cook house but got no rations just a cup of Coffee if this continues there will be trouble as hungry

men get ugly, if the Steamer
brought rations last night what
have they done ^{with} ~~what~~ them
However we had to row across
the river without any breakfast
But after returning at noon we
drew rations for dinner and
supper in the afternoon Tom
and I went out in the Swamp
and gathered wood we had to
carry it about one third of a
mile but we had a good fire in
the evening and I wrote a letter
to Ellen Lawrence

Thursday Nov 24 - 1864

To day has been fair and warm
I have had nothing to do so have
enjoyed my self wandering around

the river coast the timber here is mostly pine The Soil is Sandy every where you go The houses are far apart as the plantations are large a large portion waste land such as Swamp or barren land partly covered with Scrub pines and Sassafras bushes I have already dug some of the root to Chew on
Friday Nov 25-1864

This has been an other beautiful day we were obliged to go to the city four times which means that we rowed that boat about twenty four miles my brother George came over to the fort to spend the day with me But I was only able to exchange a few words with him we had

So much business on the boat
I was unable to eat any dinner
George must have passed an
unpleasant day while sitting aro-
-und waiting for me He is still
in the same quarters situated on
the river side of Newbern
while over in the city to day I saw
some little red apples in front of
a store I thought to buy five cents
worth But learned the price was
five cents per piece and this the
fall of the year They say there are
no apple orchards in this state to
speak of

Saturday Nov 26-1864

an other sunny day all of the soldiers
in the boat were inspected which
consists

of forming all in line the clothing
guns and equipments are all exam-
-ined to see that they are in repair
and clean & being detailed on the
post boat escaped that as did the
boys who were sent down the river
to build a raft I went down to
see the raft built. Staid some three
hours in the woods and on the shore
of the river on returning to the fort
I found orders waiting for our
boat to go over to the City so jumped
on board after reaching the City we
learned our errand was ^{to} bring to the
fort an adjutant we waited till eleven
in the evening for him and to pay
us for waiting he gave us all a drink
of whiskey which kept us warm and

made our arms strong to row
the boat

Sunday Nov 27-1864

we made the usual trip & secured
a good book and have read most
of the day and have no candle
for to night so will retire early

Monday Nov 28-1864

This morning we were sent down
the river to tow that raft across the
river to a Saw mill it was a hard
job, we could pull with all our
strength and the thing would hardly
move we finally reached the mill
one of the crew and my self went
up to the city and managed to get
left so that we could go to a restu-
rant and get a good supper as we
had recieved some money from home

So the boats crew rowed home short
handed. we went over on the steamer
later the raft of logs we towed over
are to be sawed in to boards for the
flooring of our new log quarters in
the fort my chum Tom Strong has
left the boat He thinks he will try
regular duty and he is on guard to
night for the first time I have not
ben on guard or picket so far

Tuesday Nov 29 - 1864

To day is another anniversary of my
enlistment 3 months ago to day at 12³⁰
noon I put my name on the enlist-
ment roll I learned to day there is
a dutchman belonging to an other
regiment trying to get me off of
the boat so he can have my place

I would hate to loose it as I have so much liberty the boats crew have passes that will allow us to go any where day or night I am out of money so cannot buy Auntie Snows mollasses Cakes when I go over to the City Auntie Snow is as black as they make them but she know how to make good Cipe Cakes I wrote a letter to Ellen Lawrence als one to my Cousin. Edna at Brooklyn

Wednesday Nov 30 - 1864

This day has been fine and a busy day for me our boat was ordered to go down the river to Port Chase a distance of about five miles then over to the City while in the City we met a Sargent who wished to treat

So we had some ale something we
hardly ever get Then we went to the
baking the boys bought some bread
while waiting for the steamer I guess
I must have eaten half loaf the
steamer took our boat in tow we
went on board and found Mart
Balliett with a demijon of whiskey
for our Captain I judged by his act-
-ions that he must have taken quite
a large sample of it.. as he wished to
treat us we all thought best to sample
it To make the quantity good he put
some water in the jug and shook it up
But one of our boys drank so much
he wasent responsible so after reaching
the dock we had to partly carry him
to the fort he belonged in our shanty

it fell on me to put him to bed
while I was undressing him I found
every available place about his
clothing filled with candles which
he had stolen while on board of
the steamer as I dare not say any
thing about it so thinking the mat-
ter over I took up a board from the
floor scooped out a hole in the
sand and put the candles in
judging from the quantity I don't
believe we will ever have to go to
bed for the want of light the balance
of our time The boatswain told
me to get some wood and put it in
the boat he wished it for a woman
he was living with I told him if he
wished to furnish wood for such
characters he could carry it him self

He ment and reported me and I
am now ordered for duty and
expect to go on guard tomorrow

Thursday Dec 1st 1864

This is winter but the day has ben
warm enough to sit in the open air
I have not reported for duty yet But
am going to tomorrow it seems
rather strange not to go over to
the City. The change may be a good
thing as I will learn to be a Soldier
instead of a Sailor I have spent
a good part of the day cleaning my
gun and equipments as they have
ben badly neglected as I had no
use for them while on the boat

Friday Dec 2nd 1864

I have ben on guard all day and

like the change a mail came in
to day we do not get mail every day
but quite irregular Tell Lawrence
Ellens brother recieved a letter from
his father stating that he and family
contemplated moving to the far west
Elen is still visiting at Clyde But
the family have not heard from
her since she left home But I
have it seems and she reports hav-
-ing a good time with some Cousins
well I must stop writing as it is
time to go to the guard house
my next trick is in the night
we are on two hours and off
four

Saturday Dec 3rd 1864

I came off duty at 9 a.m. cleaned

my gun. Then went over to the
Butler's which is a sort of general
store kept by a man not enlisted
and who charges enormous prices
for what he sells to the soldiers
well I bought some corn meal
and Tom and I made some mush
and it really tasted like what mot-
-her used to make quite a number
of the boys received boxes from home
to day I did not happen to be one
of the lucky ones I just lounged
around this afternoon. Slept part
of the time at six bell in for roll
call thus ends another day

Sunday Dec 4th 1864

This morning at 1 a.m. they signaled
from the city for reinforcements

to go some where by water we were suddenly awakened with orders to get ready to leave the fort at a moments notice we packed our knapsacks lively and formed in line when we received 60 rounds of cartridges then broke ranks went to our quarters I layed down on my old bunk for the last time and fell asleep awoke at 7 am. one hour later we formed in line marched to the clock and on to the Steamer "Ella May" which transfered us to a large gun boat about 175 feet long by 40 wide made sharp at both ends it looked like a fast boat but has the reputation of being the slowest on record "Reno was her name" the Steamer remained still till

noon then steamed to the dock
and we landed just where we started
from went back in the fort with
orders to be ready to go again at a
moment's notice the Reno is still
at the dock we enlisted in light
artillery but they made infantry of
by giving us guns instead of canons
well I must retire don't know at
what hour we may be called out

Monday Dec 5 - 1864

we were not disturbed last night
but soon after breakfast were
ordered on the Reno again just
before we started the Ella May came
in with some mail I received three
letters and a paper also a photo of
Mattie Corner she is looking fine

the same happy face my face is
not a happy one just now as we
expect some hard and dangerous
times well we steamed down the
river to foot ~~Spur~~ ^{Spur}ola a distance of
about 7 miles what is left of the 9th
New Jersey infantry ^{came on board} ~~over~~ old gun boat
is so slow the Massasoit took us
in tow the Massasoit also has a load
of Soldiers darkness is coming on
we are still plowing through the
waters destination unknown

Thursday Dec 6 - 1864

we arrived at the mouth of the
albemarle Sound about noon
the sun has shone from a clear
sky all day we passed Roanoke
Island at about 4 P.M. and are still
plowing through the waters of

the Albemarle Sound as the darkness
is coming on

Wednesday Dec 7 - 1864

we reached a little village called
Plymouth situated on the Roanoke
river at 3³⁰ this morning the river
both ~~up~~ up and down the river
is full of gun boats it looks as though
some rebel stronghold is soon
to be attacked. well we landed and
marched up what used to be a street
There used to be buildings at about
equal distances all along But some
of them had been burned and those
that were standing showed the mar-
ks of war you could see the course
of many a canon ball which had
crashed ^{through} front and back walls and

Still kept on its course. The village
had been under fire from fleet of
gun boats at least three times first
uncle Sam drove the rebels out. Then
later the rebels captured it again
then again uncle Sam's fleet came
and took it back. I stooped down
in one of the streets and without
moving my feet gathered together
about one hundred canon balls
some no larger than a thimble and
the largest the size of your fist
there is not a fence or even a board
that you can see any where you
may go, all have been burned for
fuel. There is one church a modern
structure built of brick I went
inside of it and found some
soldiers rolling canon balls

balls down the aisles we hear rum-
-ors of marching orders we are now
living in a house with two long
porches one across the front the
other across the back in front is
a well with the old fashioned pole
and old oaken bucket there is no
signs of grass all is sand But
that is better than mud just over
the river is a large Swamp exten-
-ding for miles heavily wooded
containing numerous reptiles which
are very noisy at night. By the
way, the Rebel ram the Albemarle
is sunk a few feet from our shore
I have seen it as I peered down
through the water I remember when
at home of reading about the

Sinking of that vessel Two more
steamers arrived to day loaded
with troops guess something is
going to happen soon

Thursday December 3-1864

Last night the 3rd R.Y. boys set fire
and burned a large empty house
in fact they are all empty as to
furniture They gave us two days
rations with orders to be ready to
fall in line at short notice we may
have to leave our downey couches
before morning I saw a man go
down in a diving bell to exam-
ine the reb ram Albemarle in
view of raising it
our company joined the 27th mass
regiment for this expedition

our Captain to act as major
while our first Lieutenant Richardson
is to command our Company we
were ordered out on dress parade
this afternoon

Friday Dec 9 - 1864

we received marching orders at day
break fell in as a Battalion Commanded
by Colonel Bartholomew of the 9th
Vermont Regiment The Column
started off the boys feeling in good
spirits we marched through the
country roads and fields for a
distance of 13 miles when we came
to some rebel entrenchments guar-
-ding a bridge on the Roanoke river
we charged down a hill between
the woods The infantry first

as I was running a man behind
me stumbled and while doing so
he threw his gun ahead the first
thing I knew about it a bayonet
came poking between my side
and arm if he had thrown it a
little more to the left my right
leg would have been punctu-
-red But on looking around I
nearly doubled with laughter
to see the frantic efforts the man
made to recover his feet and right
behind us came three 12 pound
Canons Six horse drawing each
one and they at a full gallop
I backed up in some under brush
which was so thick it held me
fast while the wheels of the Canons

just grazed my chest I thought
that was pretty close work for the
eyes as the old woman said when
the wheel barrow ran over her
nose we soon reached the bridge
but the rebels were just disappea-
ring over the opposite hill we kept
on after them and succeeded in
taking four prisoners. After going
five miles further which made
18 miles, we camped for the night
in a cornfield, the corn was in
shock so we used it for our beds.
This is the first time I ever lived
out in the open air in December;
the air is not cold But I am stiff
and sore after such a long walk
Saturday Dec 10 - 1864

well I am ~~the~~ stiff and lame
to day we hadent ben asleep in
our Corn Stalks very long before the
rain began to fall; I being so
tired did not wake up till the
uncomfortable feeling of having
a wet skin caused me to start
up, But it was well on toward
morning. we formed in line at
about Sun rise eating our break-
-fast as we marched, after covering
about 8 miles we came to a small
Settlement Called "Fosters mills" and
an other bridge guarded by rebel
troops we formed in line and charged
across a corn field the rebels turned
a Cannon on us and sent a num-
-ber of shells at us but all but one

passed over our heads that one shell exploded near the rear of our line a piece of it cutting off the top of our drummer boys head he was the life of the company being a good jig dancer I saw him fall and saw that he was killed instantly our canons returned their fire but done no damage as I could see. We continued the charge through a piece of wood land, then in to a road and across a bridge, then forming in line again to charge on them we found out the rebs were out of sight, all but a small squad of Cavalry just disappearing over the hill. The rebel Lieutenant in command of the forces at the bridge came back

alone and surrendered saying
"he was tired of fighting for a
lost cause" we marched about 6
miles farther then camped for the
night put out guards and pickets
built fires. I not being detailed
slept part of the night by the fire

Sunday Dec 11 - 1864

we layed around camp till 4³⁰
which gave us quite a rest then formed
in line and marched 11 miles at
midnight we came to a halt on
a hill on the Summit was a church
surrounded by tall pine trees
in fact we were in a large pitch
pine forest we built fires made
some coffee and with it we had
some raw salt pork which we
cut in thin slice and ate it

with our hard toe

Monday Dec 12 - 1864

at 1 am after resting over now we took up line of march I was sitting by the fire jumped up to join our company but found on enquiry that they had been gone some little time I started after them following line of march finally came up with them soon after joining them we came to a stream but no bridge we ran across a mill pond jumping and running on the logs fortunately the moon was shining bright but in spite of that some of the boys got wet feet and one in front of me went in the water to his waist after crossing we came to a fort

on a rise of ground called rainbow
bluffs we could see ~~the~~ Sentinels
bayonets glistening in the moon
light as we silently marched by
we learned afterwards the garrison
of the fort were expecting reenfor-
-cements and taking ~~of~~ us for the
same gave no alarm However just
after passing the fort we met the expe-
-cted reinforcements They ~~ex~~ ^{said} think-
-ing we were rebs from the fort com-
-ming out to meet them They marched
right up to us But our commanding
officer stepped up to theirs and now
are you Colonel you are my prisoner
the reb officer surrendered his command
at once and so silently they knew
nothing of it in the fort the prisoners
numbered about 30 privates 2 officers

after passing the fort and going about
three miles we came on to a Battery of
rebel Artillery they hitched up lively
and ran away and was soon out
of sight as we had to charge across
a swamp full of fallen trees I ran out
on a tall fallen tree after running the
length of it I found the water was too
deep to jump of so had to go back
But I was not the only one for the
swamp was quite full of water But
we finally crossed and reached dry
land there being none of the enemy
in sight we camped for a short time
in a grove of evergreens The sun
came out warm I found some
long dry grass on the sunny
side of a tree and layed down

and slept about four hours
was suddenly awakened with
orders to march as there was a
large force of rebel Cavalry coming
from the direction of the fort so
the forced march commenced
and the expedition was a failure
as the gun boats could not get up
the river to assist the land forces
one of our gun boats struck a torpedo
which exploded and blew a hole in
the bottom but no lives ~~lost~~ on board
the rebels had also felled trees on the
banks of the river the tree tops extend-
ing in the river for our steamers to
run on our forced march was not
a pleasant one as every piece of straight
road we came to the rebels came
in sight and sent a six pound

Canon ball after is when that took place we all yelled right and left then all ran to the road sides as the ball sped down the road no one was hit our canon returned the compliment every time this fun was kept up while we marched 23 miles I was about played out with a gun and other traps to carry I lost my two blankets while charging through the swamp The rebel troops stopped following us so at 6 P.M. we camped having walked 34 miles since last midnight one of our men is missing I heard him say he could not go much farther he must have layed behind a tree by the road side and have ben taken prisoner we found some

Corn stalks and fence rails which made us a comfortable place for a good nights sleep but that was not for me to have as I had just about fallen asleep I heard my name called and behold this child was detailed to go on picket I crawled out and with ~~the~~ three others went down the road about one quarter of a mile there to stay all night we had been on short rations and the night was cold and we had a turkey captured on the way which we had been taking turns in carrying so we concluded to build a little fire and roast the Turkey near midnight one side was roasted Then the grand rounds came the officer of the day

on being challenged dismounted
and ineffectly jumped on our fire
and stamped it out till us at the
same time that the woods not very
far away was swarming with
rebels a woman we had met before
that well we cut off and ate the
cooked side of the Turkey and walked
around most of the time till day light
to keep warm

Tuesday Dec 13 - 1864

The camp broke up early it not
being in sight of us we did not
know of it were waiting to be
relieved but as no one came one
of ^{us} went and looked around the
bend in the road and saw our
first Lieutenant coming on a trot

me being the only man in sight
we waited for him and his first words
were Come on boys you will have
to double quick to catch up with
the main body which had been gone
some time we were so lame from
our long march and exposure and
not enough to eat it was most
impossible to run But we did our
best and after about one hour came
up with them after marching 11 miles
more which took us all day we came
to a little village situated on the
bank of the Roanoke river all there
to left of the place is a lot of brick
chimneys they were all built from
the ground on the outside But
every building had been burned
not one left nor a fence

However we got together enough wood to build a fire and drove some stakes in the ground to which we tied some blankets to shut off the wind which was blowing some and rather cold a steamer came to the dock just at dark and unloaded supplies so we drew our rations made some coffee and ate a hearty supper after which we wrapped up in blankets with feet to the fire. Slept a few hours but as the fire burned low I became so cold deemed it best to stir up the fire and sit by it till morning.

Wednesday Dec 14-1864

Today I am feeling quite well although some stiff and sore. The majority

of our company went to the doctor
all but 70 of the company were excused
and remained at James town while
the balance & being one of the latter
were ordered on board of a little gun
boat bound for up the river again
for a distance of about 6 miles ran up
to a dock on the opposite side of the
river called Cedar Landing which
was a large plantation & with some
others started for a large barn about
quarter filled with Corn stalks nice
and dry so we are in for a good nights
rest if the rebels will let us alone this
plantation is a pretty spot lying well
up from the river a large roomy
house and a great number of out
houses rows of negro quarters all
looking clean and nice surrounded

by plenty of large shade trees

Thursday Dec 15-1864

we enjoyed our selves to day roam-
-ing around looking at the negro
quarters and talking with the inmates
although this the middle of December
the day is so warm I have enjoyed
my self sitting on the river bank
in the sunshine Part of the 27th mass
went out in the Country a sort
of foraging expedition they retu-
-rned loaded with turkeys chickens
and some ducks also a large nu-
-mber of horses and mules the
fowls were soon cooked and I ate
till perfectly satisfied with corn
meal cakes and Sorghum molasses
night is again coming on I will

Soon be in the corn stalks

~~Friday~~
~~Thursday~~ Dec 16 - 1864

This day has been much the same as yesterday up to 4 P.M. when the Command seemed quite alarmed about something I never learned what but supposed the rebels were coming in large numbers as we were ordered on board the gun boat in great haste first letting the Horses and mules loose so they might run away. The boat headed down Stream soon reached James town again in the river was a sunken steamer called the Otsego which had struck a torpedo and was resting quietly on the river bottom. the upper deck above water a two masted sailing vessel

was lying alongside we ran up
to the vessel boarded it were taken
in tow by a tug bound for Plymou-
-th we thought some of us might
stop a rebel bullet on our journey
but such was not the case as we
reached our old quarters about dark
went in the same room we had
vacated and felt quite at home to
night is bright moon light though
rather cold. so we have a bright fire
in the fire place the light shining
on sixteen men as that is the num-
-ber who live in this room

Saturday Dec 17-1864

quite pleasant and warm to
day no boats came in I went to the
river noticed the rebel ram is yet

on the river bottom

Sunday Dec 18-1864

Last night at 11 P.M. we were called to arms. Supposing the rebel forces were on us as there was a loud explosion and looking out saw there was a fire on going over that way discovered a gristmill and two houses burning the cause of the explosion was a loaded shell some one had thrown in one of the burning buildings. Soon we were all back to bed and to day all that interests us ^{is} the arrival of the 12 New York Cavalry. To day is Sunday but every day is alike to the Soldier.

Monday Dec 19-1864

rations given out I have not had half enough to eat to day

Some of my room mates had a little money and bought some crackers of the Butcher and some Corn Cake of an old daikay woman they divided around each one getting but little we played cards some and so passed another day

Tuesday Dec 20 - 1864

no steamer came with supplies so we have been without rations all day we managed to get a little to eat and so sat around all day and wished that steamer would come it has been cloudy all day and is raining hard this evening although not very cold

Wednesday Dec 21 - 1864

a steamer came today which brought

the much needed supplies after having about one half enough to last for two or three days we are again filled up 26 men from our company were detailed to go back to Newbern & more to remain here at Plymouth. The rest of us to be in readiness to march at a moments notice it has rained hard all day

Thursday Dec 22nd 1864

This afternoon we received orders to march on board the steamer John Farrer a side wheel steamer painted all black and started up the river again every thing quiet no shots fired as the clouds were thick darkness came on early and it was dark. at about 9 P.M. the steamer struck

Something with a great rumbling
and shock. Tipping up so that some
of us tumbled in heaps But we soon
righted up and found the Steamer
had run on a fallen tree after gett-
ing clear we continued up Stream
till within about 5 miles of the fort
on Rainbow bluff when we met
a picket boat which is a very fast
going tug boat. They informed us
the rebels were coming in large nu-
mbers So they turned about and
went down Stream faster than we
went up.. reached James town (the
village composed of nothing but
chimneys) at 1 midnight we left
the Steamer and camped

Friday Dec 23^d 1864

Last night was the coldest we have had when on board the Steamer & was warm and comfortable. But after we landed the first thing was to build fires. the next was to sit as close to the fire as we could But not to sleep. after daylight the Steamer "Helen Getty" landed some more troops and we were told to be in readiness for an attack. Some of the boys formed a foraging party and brought in a large quantity of honey and lots of sweet potatoes which they divided among the Company.

Saturday Dec 24 - 1864

The day before Christmas no presents - its not any fun we have been in the open air since last midnight.

at 4 P.M. we recieved orders to draw
three days rations after marching
us on board of the Steamer Helen
Getty She steamed down the river
again And at 7³⁰ P.M. landed at
Plymouth once more and were soon in
our old room with a bright fire burning
in the fire place while we watched it
crackle and glow talked of Christmas
eve and the fun we used to have at
that time in old Auburn since
getting back I have ben informed that
Battery. D. of our regiment is her They
came to go with us on this last exped-
-ition But having a rough and slow
voyage did not get here in time
To night is about as cold as we have
in this State I presume Jack frost will

make $\frac{1}{4}$ in of ice and tomorrow
it will be gone and if clear will be
warm enough to sit out in the
Sun Shine

Sunday Dec 25-1864

my first Christmas day in rebeldom
the day is clear and warm our
Christmas dinner consisted of hard
tac and corned beef This afternoon
we were suddenly called to arms
and were ordered in the old entrench-
-ments surrounding the vilage it
must be they thought the rebels were
coming But we saw none. while we
were in the entrenchments I discovered
a human hand extending full length
through the soil after coming back to
quarters I have ben informed the rebels
layed them dead in rows in the

trenches and covered with about one foot of dirt so we were a line of living men kneeling on a line of dead men with a light covering of soil between. How well I remember where I was one year ago to night Lawrence White and I called on Frankie Haywood I stopped and took Anna Reynolds along and we did have a lot of fun until the late hours.

Monday Dec 26-1864

To day the sun is again out of sight the rain has been falling all day we have been sitting by the fire there has been some talk of marching orders one of my room mates (James Kearns) seem to be in great fear of being killed every time we start out in

the field The boys have had consid-
-erable fun at the poor fellows expense
to day by bringing in false reports
that we are soon to attack the big fort
at Rainbow bluff it is quite amusing
to see the poor fellow grow pale and
tremble although I feel sorry for him
for I suppose he cant help it

Tuesday Dec 27-1864

clear and quite warm again I have
ben roaming around in the sun
shine again I heard some large can-
-ous booming in the direction of Rain-
-bow Bluff I have ben up that way
three times and hope for the last time
I prefer to see some new country

Wednesday Dec 28-1864

Rain all day again one day clear
next day rain right along now

Thursday Dec 29 - 1864

The Steamer "John Farren" came in to day Brought orders for our company to remain in Plymouth indifferently I care not as we have a comfortable room well warmed have lots of fun playing cards eating and smoking although we are not eating very much today as our rations have given out again so I go to bed hungry

Friday Dec 30 - 1864

received half rations also orders to be ready to march at any moment. at noon we started on a road leading back of the village some of the forces were left at Plymouth we went about two

miles came to a fork in the road
halted put out pickets the night is
moon light and I guess we are to
stay here all night

Saturday Dec 31-1864

To day we say the old year is most
dead to day we say our time is out
next year tomorrow we say it is
out this year and we return home
last night being moon light some of us
went out a ways in the country looking
for something to eat some of the boys
found and brought in a large nu-
-mber of fowles I and some others
found several bushells of Sweet
potatoes I carried to Camp about
a half bushell of potatoes so we
had something to eat and I am
very fond of Sweet potatoes

at about 4 P.M. the troops that were
left at James Town came back by road
just as they came marching down
the road and as we heard of their
coming some of us went out to
the picket lines to meet them
there was a little and very ignorant
Irish man on the post just ahead
of us he seeing the troops coming
thought they were rebels so fired
his gun at them and ran toward
us yelling "Oh damn Gobled" "Oh damn
Gobled." But his bullet went mid
of the mark and he threw his gun
on the ground as he ran. The way
we laughed and yelled made the
woods ring on the arrival of the
troops we were ordered to fall in

and marched back to Plymouth
arriving here about dark the rain
began to fall just as we started and
is raining hard now But we are
in the old room once more with
a glowing fire. in counting the
bowls we find there is one a piece
all around in our room besides
lots of sweet potatoes and as tomorrow
is jannary 1st I guess we will
have a new year dinner

jannary 1st 1865 (Sunday)
we all wished every body a happy
new year at the first light of day
Some went out after a big Kettle
others after water while others picked
out feathers Still others cleaned
the fowls. Soon all were boiling
in the Kettle and oh that smell

for hungry men when they were
done nice and tender we had what
we called breakfast But it was rather
late. The meal consisted of chicken
and Sweet potatoes we finally got
filled up. The latter part of the day
we had a Supper of the same

Monday January 2nd 1865
nothing new to day no rain rather
cold played cards some went down
to the Butlers did not have any
money only half rations found a
chance to hook some crackers
so went to my room with about
a pound crackers broken in chic-
-ken broth, good full stomach
now for bed

Tuesday January 3rd 1865

This day has been so near like yesterday If I should try to write any thing it would be like yesterday only did not take any crackers as I had enough left over

Wednesday January 4-1865
we drilled two hours today which made us quite tired and the air being quite cold caused us to keep close to the fire

Thursday January 5-1865
we are still on half rations I am not very well just at present as I put together a Sweet potato stew it was rather watery but tasted good I probaly over ate was sick for a while and now the potatoe stew is in the back yard as I stood on the back porch and it seemed

as though I threw up more than
I had eaten

Friday January 6 - 1865

To day has been uneventfull me
put in the two hours drill and
as my stomach feels rather weak
I just loped around and slept
most of the time

Saturday January 7 - 1865

The Massasoit came in to day
with orders to take us back to
Newbern I dont know wether to
be sorry or glad. Having had good
times at old Plymouth as well as
hardships and hungry stomachs
I will remember when I first came
what good Corn cakes the old black
woman made who lived near the

lack and how I did eat of them
while my money lasted well to
make this short one started about
noon and to night we are just
getting out on the Albemarle Sound

Sunday January 5-1865
Last night was a rough one on
the water. The wind was cold and
blowing a gale the ends of the waves
dashed ~~ashed~~ up on the upper deck
making the decks where exposed to the
air icy and slippery as the steamer
pitched and plunged along no one
slept as we had to round a rocky point
on Roanoke Island in order to pass
through the straight leading to
Pamlico Sound. The Captain said he
was fearful that ^{the} steamer would be
dashed to pieces on that rocky point

the sensation was not very pleasant as we looked out in the blackness of night expecting a shock every minute if we should strike the rocks But we saw the light on the point showing us that we were far enough away to pass that rocky point I heaved a sigh and went below and found a long row of haversacks well filled with hard tack and as mine was empty I took a few out of each one and filled mine found a dark corner hung it up for tomorrow Then went and sat on a beam extending over the fire mens room and got good and warm the boat was still pitching and rolling badly But I being in the center did not feel it as much Seeing day

light coming went on deck and
found we were plowing through
the waters of Pamlico Sound just back
of Cape Hatteras we reached the mouth
of the Neuse river about 5 this morning
I went to my well filled haversack
to eat my breakfast and behold"
I was not the only thief on board
as the bag was empty well I went
begging among the boys' telling
them how some rascal had stolen
my hard tac so in that way made
out a hearty breakfast at 9 a.m.
we cast anchor what for I did not
know about noon they steamed
up and we started up the Neuse river
bound for Newbern again. the dista-
-nce is 60 miles yet to go here we are
at Foster's wharf Newbern where I

have sat many a time and swung
my feet while eating bread and
molasses we landed here at 2 a.m.
were transferred to the Steamer
(Ella May) But no steam up so
guess we will remain here the
balance of the night This Steam
boat runs between Newbern and
Fort Anderson I used to be on it
so much when I first came here
it really seems like home to be on
the Ella May once more

Monday January 9th 1865
well the Ella May brought us over
to Fort Anderson again I went
in the fort just as the Sun was
rising and me cry "home again"
I immediately went to my old Shanty

and we made ready to keep house
The day being clear and warm and
I no duty to do procured a pass
and when the Ella May returned to
Newbern I was on board Bound for
Battery G. To see George I found him
well and in the same quarters we
dined together Afterwards went
down street every thing looked
quite familiar and home like
Came over to the fort on afternoon
boat drew the Supper ration played
a few games of Cards and last of all
I write

Tuesday January 10 - 1865
quite warm this morning and the
clouds look rolling some like a
thunder shower the water being
low in the river the Steamer

(Alison) Could not reach the dock
They were obliged to get together a boats
crew to relieve her of the supplies
& being an 'old hand' was called on to
man the surf boat while we were
on the water a severe thunder storm
came upon us the waves rolled the
lightning flashed the rain came
and we got very wet on returning to
my shanty I found the roof had leaked
so there is no other way but for me to
sleep in damp blankets or sit up
most all night to dry them by the
fire and as we are not allowed lights
after 9 P.M. will be obliged to sit in
the dark. So here goes for bed

Wednesday January 11-1865
I have been here two days. Have not

ben put on duty or detailed for any thing This day is warm clear and pleasant plenty to eat mind all serene

Thursday January 12 - 1865

every thing just about the same as yesterday with the exception of being warmer just the kind of a day to sit in the shade and be comfortable

Friday January 13 - 1865

The weather same as yesterday we have a new commander of the fort who seems to be a fine fellow But he has issued orders that no one can leave the fort without permission. The boys do not like it as they have ben in the habit of wandering around every where inside of the picket lines I do not imagine such orders will last long The only excitement to has ^{day} ben as follows

The captain sent our bugler Charley Wilkins over to the city to bring over his whiskey my chum Tom Strong went along when the afternoon steamer came in. The boys were on it. The Captains whiskey was all there but not all in the keg. Wilkins was so bad off that Tom had to help ^{him} up to the fort. I dont know who is to blame But the cap seemed to blame Tom and to punish him they send him out in the swamp on picket.

Saturday January 14 - 1865
Have not been called on for duty yet tomorrow is inspection I spent my time a good share of the day cleaning my gun and equipments

wrote a letter to Mattie Corner
this is mid winter But warm
enough for summer

Sunday January 15-1865
we were inspected to day after
that I wrote a letter to Lawrence
white and by visiting around
with the boys passed away an
other day

Monday January 16-1865
well to day I am on guard for the
first time since my return from
the Plymouth expedition Have en-
-joyed it very much as the day has
ben so fine birds singing and
a warm gentle breeze rippling the
water of the river my post has ben
on the dock there are several bales
of hay there which make a

Comfortable place to sit. Some
refugees came in to day asking
the protection of Uncle Sam they are
given quarters and rations so
they do not suffer most of them
that came in to day are negroes

Tuesday January 17-1865

Last night another Squad of darkies
came in they say the country is
getting so striped of food they cant
get food to eat Last night when
the Sargent of the guard came arou-
nd to relieve us he found me
fast asleep on a bale of hay I was
somewhat startled when he woke
me for an instant I did not know
but I was gobbled (as Pat Smith said)
had I ben reported the punishment

would have been severe But the
Sargent said nothing so that was the
end of it I came off guard this morning
and was called on to help row the
Surf boat This boat is large and has
a crew of 4 oarsmen and boatswain
(the man who steers). we loaded in
about twenty negro women and
children rowed them across to the
city and was glad to land them
as the odour was not good and
their clothing looked greasy
we returned to the fort this afternoon
I went on dress parade then a
supper of soft bread and now for
bed

Wednesday January 18-1865.
To day I done my washing the first
one I have done since coming to

fort anderson a yellow girl over to
the City has always done it for me
But she changed her residence and
tried to beat me out of some of
my clothing I searched for her two
whole afternoons went through all
of the alleys and roamed around
the negro Settlement for I had
nothing else to do I made a great
many inquiries But I only knew
her as Mirandy so I would just
put my head in a doorway and
ask if they a yellow gal by the name
of Mirandy after a while I got track
of her in one of the alleys near the
river I stepped right in the room and
found her and an other ^{woman} washing.
I said well Marandy have you got

my washing done? She looked scared
and pretended not to know me I told
her if she did not produce my
clothing I would break up house
keeping for her she then searched
around put some things in a bu-
-ndle gave it to me without saying
a word I walked out with it and
found it contained all I had brought
to her So concluded to do my own
washing I went on dress parade and
heard an order read for us to practice
shooting at a target ~~tomorrow~~ with
the 64 pound canons

Thursday January 19-1865

There has been a great booming of
Canons to day The target was placed
about a half mile from us By getting
directly behind a big gun I could

Catch sight of a 64 pound ball when
about half way to the target my three
tent mates are all on guard so I have
the shanty all to my self I invited
James Nelson to come and stay with
me we have talked over old times played
cards smoked so passed the time pleas-
-antly

Friday Jan 20 - 1865

I have been on picket all day Jim
Nelson happened to be on the same post
with me which is in a large Swamp
the large trees have all been cut down
and the second growth is from six
to ten feet in height and many Sas-
-abras bushes the ground surrounding
our post is dry and hard the day
has been warm and clear But now

the clouds are gathering we have
passed a very pleasant day

Saturday January 21-1865
in the first place I must write a little
about last night's experience while on
picket. Soon after dark rain began
to fall we had a small fire of pitch
pine knots in front of our door
the shanty we were in was built
of poles upright for the sides stuffed
with grass and poles across the top
with grass thatching for a roof
we sat inside talking and were
getting pretty sleepy and the rain
was falling fast when "Crash" down
came the whole shanty burying us
under about two feet of wet grass
and poles we tried to get up through
it but could not so after a long

Struggle we managed to back out pulling our guns after us in backing out of the ruins we kicked the fire around so that with the assistance of the rain the fire was entirely out and we were in total darkness we could not see to straighten up the Shanty. So on seeing the flicker of a fire on the next post I concluded to go over there and get a flaming pine knot and by gathering some more we would have a fire. And a light as well that pine knots are as follows the fallen tree trunk rots away and wherever there has been a branch joined to the trunk the pitch has settled we just kick on the stubs they break off and fall into the rotten

mood and we have a little chunk
which makes a good fire on my
return trip with the fire brand
the light in my hand made the
darkness more intense a short
distance away and as there was
a fork in the road I had never
noticed I took the wrong road and
soon found my self in the edge of
a big woods I was some what ala-
-rmed at finding my self standing
at the edge of the woods with flaming
pine knot. So I suddenly came
to a right about face after going
till I reached the fork in the road
took the right hand road and soon
came to my partner and the fallen
Shanty. the first thing we done
was to gather some pine knots

and by Carefull work Succeeded
in making quite a glowing fire
we were just enjoying the fire
when the grand rounds came and
made us put out the fire The officer
said there was to much danger us
being a target for the rebels So
we concluded not to try to ~~re~~build
the Shanty So walked back and
forth the balance of the night
near daylight as I stood alone
for a short time some small an-
-imal ran with great force against
my legs to day I was startled was
putting it slow my gun was
instantly reversed and the bayonet
gaped in the ground several times
in quick succession and the rain

was falling all the time we had rubber blankets but they wet through after a while. So when we came off duty our clothing was pretty well soaked & I went to my quarters and changed my clothing took things pretty easy till about 2 P.M. when I was called on by our old boatswain he having gotten all over his mad, wanted me to take my old place on the Post boat. That suited me pretty well after last night's experience so I says that's a bargain and as the crew was about to start for Newbern I was soon on board. The Steamer Ella May was just leaving the dock they threw us a line and we towed across it hardly seems as though I had ever left the fort and the boat.

on our return trip the wind was howling which gave us a long pull and a strong pull my chum Tom was also detailed on the boat this time

Sunday January 22 - 1865

The new Port boat is a good one Painted all white Built long and narrow and is very speedy while inspection was going on the crew went to the boat and cleaned it nicely George came over to see me to day his battery is still at Newbern and doing nothing George is in good health and cheerfull Some of the Ella Marys machinery is broken and as Colonel Stuart was with us we had to take him over in our boat my brother George also went along after reaching the city me.

were ordered to load our boat with
Supplies for the Fort as the Steamer
was not running Reached the Fort
in time for supper and have plenty
of light as those stolen Candles I put
under the floor are not all gone yet

Monday January 23-1865

we started down the river rowing
the Port boat and towing the Surf
boat. After landing at a Saw mill
we loaded the Surf boat with pitch
pine boards the load was so heavy
the waves tipped it over and we lost
every bit of it after righting up the
old Surf boat we towed her back
to the Fort so after a hard pull ^{of} eight
miles we are again at the Fort but
the lumber is gone There is reports
that the rebels are to attack the Fort

we made two more trips with the boat this afternoon once to Fort Chase about five miles down the river Then again over to the City after a hard days work I shall sleep well to night

Tuesday January 24-1865
our boat made two trips to day to the City at 8 A.M. returned at 3 P.M. we ate our dinner sitting on the edge of the dock swinging our feet over the water we went over again at 5 P.M. had supper in the City if we do not come prepared one of us buys a couple of loaves of bread Sometimes we have molasses but never butter we spent the evening around among the restaurants and most any place

when it is warm Soldiers are not particular at 10 P.M. we returned to the Fort after writing a few lines in my book & now retire.

Wednesday January 25-1865
nothing of importance to day I have just had nothing to do not even a trip to the City the air is uncomfortably cool and a high wind

Thursday January 26-1865
made one trip to the City this a.m. after dinner some inspecting officers came on the Steamer what they inspected I do not know probably the Captains whiskey. however we had to row them down to Fort Chase about five miles then across the river to the City three more miles and the river being skinned over with ice made

pretty hard pulling and scratched our
nice new boat quite badly to night
being about as cold as we have in this
climate probably tomorrow if the sun
shines and the air is quiet we can sit
in the sun with comfort as I had
nothing on my hands they were
numb with the cold requiring a
good deal of warming and rubbing
before I could write in my book

Friday January 27-1865
we rowed the officers of the Fort over
to the City this afternoon from what
we heard them say our conclusion
was that they were in for a big time
which meant that we would have
to row them over to the fort at
midnight and a dark one too

when the officers came to the dock they were as we expected pretty full on reaching the Foot. The Doctor was just stepping on the dock when he commenced to reel had I not grabbed him he would have fallen in about six feet of water

Saturday January 28-1865

High wind to day made one trip to the City that was enough as the waves were running high and pulling against the wind was tough

Sunday January 29-1865

Nothing doing for me till latter part of the day when we made a trip to the City. Soon as we landed I started for Battery G. quarters to see my brother George found him well sitting by a little round

Stone in a Shanty about eight feet
each way ~~he~~ and three other comrades
live in it They are good house keepers
as every thing looked so clean and
neat we pulled the boat across to the
Fort when pitch darkness was on the
water But here I am all right and
about to retire

Monday January 30 - 1865
went over to the City twice went up
on Craven Street and in front of the
Prison found Aunty Snow with
a large basket full of her famous
molasses Cup Cakes I bought some and
with my rations made out a good
supper as rowing a boat so much
in the cool air makes one hungry

Tuesday January 31 - 1865

I am feeling in good spirits to day
we have moved in our new quar-
-ters the ones I described as being
built the lumber we lost when the
boat tipped over was for the flooring
But later some more boards were
brought to ^{us} by steamer our log house
consists of one room about twelve
feet square two bunks in each
corner two men in each bunk
making sixteen men in our
family we had a round stove in
the middle But we have had no use
for it as the weather has turned warm
and we are sitting in the shade
to keep cool

Wednesday Feb 14 1865

This month starts in warm as to day
is just right to be out in the open air

I have enjoyed it as we have been
roaming around in the city for
several hours besides lying in the
shade of the government Store houses
after returning to the Fort had a Supper
of soft bread fresh boiled beef and tea
Then smoke cards "Bed."

Thursday February 2nd 1865
went down on the Trent river to
Fort Gascon went in the Surf boat
had a long and hard pull the Sun
was hot and glistened on the water
just like summer now we did sweat
and what we went for I know not
But on our return to the Fort found
some more refugees waiting to go
~~over~~ to the City and as the Steamer
had gone we had to turn about and

take them over then to tip off with
when we left the city they made
us go to Fort Chase before returning
to Fort Anderson which made about
lighteen miles we pulled that big
 lumbering Surf boat and we did
not have a dry dird on

Friday February 3^d 1865
a large mail came in for us to
day I received a letter from Ellen
Lawrence also one from my brother
Ed They both write of the hard cold
winter they are having plenty of
sleighing and good skating
while I am reading about them
snow and ice we are sitting on
the ground in the shade in our
shirt sleeves

Saturday February 4th / 1865
a new Steamer called the "Elissas"
after General Grant has taken the
place of the Ella May to run be-
-tween the Fort and City. She is
very fast and pretty being all fin-
-ished off in white and gilt and
towed behind her which gave us a
wild ride as the water boiled and
foamed around us just after din-
-ner part of the forces in the Fort
started out in the Country back of
the Fort to learn how near the rebels
may be to us and also to take pris-
-oners

Sunday February 5th / 1865
The boys came in from their raid
this noon bringing with them

one rebel prisoner Poor fellow I felt
sorry for him he looked so white and
scared he knew not whether a prison
awaited him or death. the Southern
Soldiers had been taught that the
northern people were cruel and des-
perate But he found himself better
off in our prison than he was
before he was captured I shall long
remember his looks. light red hair
very white skin large freckles that
seemed to stick out

Monday Feb 6th / 1865
when we came back from the
city we brought along the Comman-
der of the Fort he was so drunk we
had to help him get to his qua-
rters I recieved a letter from Mattie
Conner She wrote very little auburn

news But stated she had taken
a Situation in a Skirt Shop

Tuesday Feb 7th 1865

the most important event to day
is the deserting of a Sergeant from
a Rhode Island regiment Stationed
in the Fort he was in the habit of
riding the Captains horse out around
the picket lines our Cap not having
much use for the horse wanted
him taken out for exercise But
this Sergeant whose name was Pickels
rode away this morning now
night is coming on he has not
returned so we conclude he has
deserted

wednesday Feb 8-1865

three of the boys are carrying large

Sticks of wood on their backs as punishment for disobeying orders we took the Commander of the Fort over to the city had several houses to wait for him so concluded to visit the negro Settlement which has been all settled since the war began The houses are built in rows forming streets but no fences each house contains but one room no rooms above the boards used for building are made as follows they cut down a pitch pine tree then cut it in logs eight feet long then with the ax and wedge split into board about $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in thickness the grain being perfectly straight but makes a very uneven surface the wind blows through the crevices

Such a house will do for a Southern home But in our northern climate the inmates would be apt to freeze in this Settlement there are hundreds of these splint houses and lots of little picaninies running around Their clothing is made of the old home spun cloth made up in its original color but usually brown and greasy with dirt the chimneys to these houses are all built from the ground all on the outside and of brick with large fire places the most of the houses in Newbern have no stoves

after leaving the colored Settlement we went to the dock the commander soon came and we returned to the Fort

Thursday Feb 9 - 1865

nothing of importance to day went
to the City but once the day has
ben clear and very pleasant

Friday Feb 10 - 1865

out of money out of postage stamps
out of writing paper we hear rum-
ors of an attack on the Fort

Saturday Feb 11 - 1865

To day same as yesterday only
the wind is blowing very hard.

Sunday Feb 12th 1865

I have ben a little under the
weather as some say at any rate
my condition is not good Have
not ben to the doctors yet

Monday Feb 13 - 1865

am feeling worse than yesterday
with whirling head Cant eat

guess I have caught Cold and am
billious as well more fun to lie
in the bunk than to write

Tuesday Feb 14 - 1865

The boys are painting the Post boat
to day I am feeling a little better
but do not have to help paint

Tom succeeded in borrowing a
very interesting book I have been
passing the time away with the
book

wednesday Feb 15 - 1865

I guess something is going to happen
as the troops are steadily coming in
and around the city we hear that
Shermans army is coming across
the country and a force of 40,000 are
to march up from Newbern the two

armies to meet at Raleigh the
Capital City perhaps we will rem-
-ain in the Fort I hope so as there is
very little danger while here the
steamer relissa went up the river
and got a large load of Confisc-
-ated baled cotton

Thursday Feb 16 - 1865

To day is pleasant and warm
the paint on the post boat being
dry we launched her to day she
looks very nice

Friday Feb 17 - 1865

my health is better I have been over
to the city looking at the cavalry
come in it is quite a sight as
there are hundreds of them it is
evident that some great movement

is to take place But as they say
a Soldier is not supposed to know
what is going to happen till it takes
place

Saturday Feb 18 - 1865

Troops still gathering the weather
fine nothing of importance aside
from that only I am feeling real well

Sunday Feb 19 - 1865

I wrote a letter to Ellen Lawrence to
day her people are still living in
anbuen the weather still beautiful

Monday Feb 20 - 1865

Tuesday " 21 - "

Wednesday " 22 - "

Thursday " 23 - "

The past few days have been all about
the same the boats crew rowing the

boat over to the City from one to
three times daily troops still gathering
at the City. for some time we have
ben bothered with short rations some
times no sugar for our rice and
Coffee then again no Coffee now
we know there is plenty of Supplies
for us all at the City we have ben
watching in every direction to find
out where the leak is and have seen
the Cooks take large pans full of
some thing from our cook house
to the officers head quarters so one
night we watched and caught Dave
Buckley one of the Cooks, hustling
up to the Fort, with a large pan and
we stoped him and found he had
about twenty pounds of our sugar

So we appointed a Committee to call
on the officers and find out what it
meant and also why we were so
often short of rations at first they
ordered us to go to our quarters
we said all right but tomorrow
when we went to the City this same
Committee would call on a higher
officer that caused them to show
the white feather so we told them to
turn out the three cooks and put in
some honest men and give us all
the rations the Government allowed
a Soldier and then would not be
any trouble so tomorrow out
goes the Cooks Dave Buckley George
Easterbrook and Joseph Hammond
Friday Feb 24 - 1865

The poor cooks went out on picket
this morning I have been on the
boat nearly all day and have had
plenty to eat am feeling well and
happy

Saturday Feb 25 - 1865

nothing new to day crew full
rations and with full stomachs
the Soldier is all right

Sunday Feb 26 - 1865

nothing new to day nice and
warm and the evening is warm
this is what I call a dull day went
over to the City only once have been
lounging around and wandering
around town and I found a dug
out, a boat made of a log. we fixed
up some paddles and started on

on a little voyage of pleasure up the river after paddling about two miles we came to a creek we turned into that and explored quite a distance and as the day was fine we enjoyed our selves very much we did not tip over The rebels did not catch or shoot us so we came to the fort ate a hearty supper And here we are

Monday Feb 27-1865

our Second Lieutenant Rockwell by name has resigned and will start for home to day he is a man totally unfit to command and had great fear of being killed and now as rumor says we are soon to be in the field and perhaps in Battle he could stand the pressure

no more we rowed him over
to the city to see him for the
last time He brought forth a bottle
of whiskey and treated the boats
crew we wished him a pleasant
voyage and returned to the Fort

Tuesday Feb 28 - 1865

we made our morning trip to the
city returned before dinner after
supper the officers of the Fort formed
a plan to go over to the City and
attend the Theatre of course the boats
crew had to take them over when
we reached the dock the officers called
out come on boys we are all
going ^{to} the Theatre They did not have
to ask us twice for we did not often
get such a chance so we all went

The play was good. The actors were few But we enjoyed it and reached the Fort so that we were in bed at midnight

Wednesday March 1st / 1865

This morning found us in the city quite early having to stay some time I went over to Battery G. to see my brother George found him well But looking quite thin He had just received a letter from his brother Eds wife they have been married but a short time and are living at his home the letter states that they are soon to keep house I thought it would not do for him to take his wife home new wives and a mother in law dont get along well together

well we returned to the Fort in
time to draw our rations for
dinner after lounging around all
the rest of the afternoon we received
a message from head quarters to
the effect that we would do the same
to night as last night go over the
river and attend the Theatre at
the expense of the Commander of the
Fort This being a member of the boats
crew is not so bad have a chance
to see or hear of most every thing
happening have some pretty hard
pulls but no picket duty and every
night in well we returned and
retired about the same time as
last night

Thursday Mch 2nd 1865

we went over to the city this morning
took Robinson over (the Commander of the
Fort) While he was there he received
marching orders I was here and there
around the city for a while Thinking
it about time for the boat to return
went to the wharf found our boat
had gone and left me so I waited
for the afternoon Steamer on reac-
-hing the Fort I ran up to my quarters
and learned that our company also
had marching orders And the boys
were all packed up They told me
I would have to hustle as we were
to go over to the City when the
Steamer returned well I did fly
around and was soon ready
we marched to the dock

were soon in the City and
marched to the Barracks just
vacated by the 15 Connecticut
Regiment and were told to be in
readiness to march at daylight

Friday Mch^{3d} 1865

we started towards Kinston at day
light tramping through the Country
roads mostly level land and through
one very large swamp the greater
part of this Swamp is unpassable
except by boats we crossed on the rail
road bridge about 9 a.m. the rain
commenced to fall and the further we
went deeper was the mud being mired
by many feet at noon as we were
passing through a large piece of pine
woods we came to a halt for rest

and dinner which was a very un-
-comfortable affair as the rain was still
falling I and some others found a
place under a fallen tree which
afforded us a little shelter while chew-
-ing on my hard tac I saw a Battery
of light Artillery coming up the road
which proved to be Bat. "G". Knowing
George was there I started on a double
quick to meet them soon I caught
sight of him the water was running
off of his cap and blanket for the
rain was coming fast there was a
grin on his face and he said I am
all right how are you I told him pretty
fair But I did not like my boarding
house the roof leaked so badly
after a little visit we parted as his

Battery was to go in advance of us
and the line of march commenced
where we were going and what would
happen before an other day we knew
not we tramped on through mud
and rain till 4³⁰ P.M. Then came
to a halt and camped for the
night soon fires were roaring
and we boiled our coffee each
man having a quart tin cup
the ration of dry coffee given to
each man we also had tin plates
which we used to fry our pork
on when not choosing to eat it
raw. these plates did not always
get washed clean as wash water
was scarce if not near a stream
So we scrubbed our plates with grass

to last till we came to a stream then
we could scour them with sand
and wash clean

Saturday Mch 4-1865

we remained in camp all day
and had very little to eat as we
were to be assigned to a brigade which
has not taken place yet and our
rations have run out and we can't
draw from the brigade supply train
on account of not belonging to any
This reminds me of one time while
on the Plymouth expedition we cam-
-ped for the night at Gamestown, we were
hungry and cold not having had much
to eat for the past twenty four hours
I dumped out the contents of my haversack
-sack which consisted of crumbs of

varies kinds of food such as corn cakes
hard tac als a small piece of raw salt
pork some pieces of leaves had gotten in
when I had slept in the corn stalks and
the whole was flavored with soot as
my tin plate not very well cleaned had
to be kept in the haversack after sorting
out the corn leaves as well as possible I
dumped it in my quart Cup put in
some water and boiled it untill the pork
was done The taste was not very good
but it filled up

Tomorrow they say we will join our
Brigade then have plenty to eat

Sunday mch 5 - 1865

To day is clear and warm we are
yet in the same Camp joined our
Brigade but had hardly any thing

to eat all day. towards night they issued rations and we satisfied our appetites and felt more like men

But it seems rather strange a soldier has to go hungry so much when the Government has provided plenty for every man. Possibly in this case the Supply train was delayed in loading at Kembern. The Supply train consists of large covered waggons drawn by four horses

our camp is in ^{quite} ~~a~~ ~~quite~~ a pleasant spot a large level field partly surrounded by woods they say it used to be a Cotton field But no signs of it now some of these plantations are without a fence and are almost covered with bushes

that have sprung up in the last four years

Monday mch 6 - 1865

Broke Camp at Sunrise. the line of march started off at an easy gait and tramped on until 3 P.M., when we came to a halt being about 10 miles from Kinston which is occupied by the rebels and how far their lines extend this way we have not yet learned guards were placed around the camp and outside of them are the picket lines this has been an ideal spring day and we are on the bank of the Neuse river the buds are swelling and the birds are singing & packed up in such haste at

Fort anderson that I left some of
my belongings a pair of boots I
brought from Auburn and I
find only one shirt and that is
on my back now and clean
as I washed it to day in the
river and sat on the bank and
watched it swinging from a
limb I new to leave it would
be to loose it I was comfortable
as my coat was on and I had
nothing to do

Tuesday mch 7-1865
just before noon to day we drew
rations again then fell in line and
Column started soon we saw
the woods in advance was burn-
-ing in order to get through

we were obliged to walk on the
rail road that was about the mar-
-most walk I ever had as the sun
was shining before we reached the
fire but the smoke became so thick
the sun was not visible This was
a pitch pine forest which burned
furiously as we went through
on double quick the trees were cras-
-hing down in some cases while
others remained standing and
burned like a candle after having
marched about 5 miles being out
of sight of the burning woods we
came to a beautiful pine woods
the trees all green and the ground
covered to a depth of about six
inches with the dry brown pine

needles (or leaves) Here we came to
a halt here we were ordered to throw
up breast works on three sides
the earth works extending about
three miles But it does not take
an army of thirty or forty thousand
very long to do this First comes the
pioneer corps which consists of men
who are used to swinging the ax
they fell the trees in all directions
leaving enough wood to hold the
tree to the stump which makes
quite a barrier against the charging
of troops Then comes the long mound
of dirt about three feet high called
breast works as we had no shovels
our tin plates were used for that
purpose while we were doing this

the shot and shell from the rebels
have been pouring in on our right
and our artillery have been return-
ing the compliment Battery G.
and I. the former of which my
brother George is a member have
been doing the shooting not very
far to our right we have been
working all day with our tin plates
and the breast works are completed
after dark the cannonading ceased
all is quiet but the bang bang on the
picket lines

Wednesday March 8 - 1865

I slept some last night on the ground
my blanket was still with me so I
had a covering this morning we
were after our rations first thing

as we had eaten every thing drawn yesterday. But we soon learned there was nothing for us as the rebels had succeed in getting between us and our supply train which was coming up on our right. Troops were soon sent out to meet the train and drive away the rebels forces near noon the fighting began on our right again and gradually came nearer to us when the first thing we knew a rebel battery commenced pouring their 12 pound balls right over our heads we rushed in behind the breast works and commenced to load and fire which was kept up all the afternoon. A shell came signaling down by my side.

when the man next to me grabbed it and threw it as far as he could over the breast works before it exploded. Had he not done it I probably would not be writing now. Soon the rebels drew nearer drove in our picket lines. Some of the boys came rushing in and clambered over the breast works breathing hard and flattened themselves on the ground beneath a tree a little to my right when bang crash came a canon ball against the tree about 15 feet from the ground and the whole tree top came toppling over just where they were lying. I could not ^{help} but yell and laugh to see those fellows.

frantic efforts to get away from
that tree The next thing was a
charge by the rebels a little to my
right where one of Battery D's 12 pound
canons was belching forth a ball
every two minutes right there was
a desperate fight for a few min-
utes which resulted in the capti-
-ring of our canon and all of the
men we saw them go and were
unable to stop them Soon after
that it being about 4 P.M. it com-
-menced to rain and as darkness
came on the the rebels withdrew
all seem as quit as last night
our supply train has not ben able
to reach us and we have not
had any thing to eat all day

Thursday Mch 9 - 1865

Last night I slept a little on the ground of Coesse and when I awoke found my self wet to the skin and cold hungry. and black and dirty Back of me I saw a camp fire there I went and staid the remainder of the night Soaked up some heat dried my clothes a little got my face smoked a little blacker finally morning came the Sun peeped through the clouds and I started over where the horses had ben feeding and found some kernels of corn in the mud or rather "the sand" I picked up my Cup about one quarter full put some water on it Set the Cup in the

fire and Pat and watched it boil
when boiled soft I ate it for my
breakfast This is the first time I ever
ate the leavings of an animal
but it tasted good there has ben
some banging around us all day
but we have not ben in it
as darkness draws on the clouds
look like rain

Friday Mch 10 - 1865

it rained almost all night last
night and I am well soaked and
feel as though had taken cold
and rather hungry as I have had
but one meal in 48 hours and that
was the boiled Corn But many of
the boys did not get as much as
that The roads cross here at one

angle of 45^{deg} and is called Wises
Forks So I suppose this will be
called the battle of Wises Forks The rain
stopped falling early this morning
our supply train reached us this
morning and we now have plenty
at about 10 a.m. the rebels commenced
at us with great fury first the attack
was the most fierce on the right for the
first two hours our Company saw
no rebels in front But the canon balls
kept coming from some battery we
could not see about noon there
was a great cry on our left. the rebels
had made a charge and nearly
reached our supply train. our
Company was then ordered to the
left on double quick time

as we ran under the low branches
of the trees my blanket caught fast
and I lost it The rebels were pour-
-ing volley after volley of bullets just
over our heads cutting the small
limbs and leaves of so they came
falling down around us some
artillery horses were shot just back
of us on a little rise of ground
we soon reach the breast works
which consisted of two small logs
one on top of the other making a
protection about 1 foot and 6 inches
in height Behind which we dropped
our guns were all loaded and as the
rebels charge we kept up a constant
fire But I guess we would have
been driven out had it not been

for a battery of 12 pound steel cannon
that came in our line and commen-
-ced pouring their shot and shell
in to the advancing rebels mowing
down both men and trees in the
nearby woods after the battle the grou-
-nd was nearly covered with men
and guns the noise of the canons close
to my right fired so fast that the six
pieces kept up a constant roar and
the smoke became so dense we could
hardly see. my left hand neighbor
forgot to take the ram rod out of his
gun so when he fired the gun bu-
-rsted about six inches down from
the top and the man went over
backwards he was not badly hurt
but kept close to the ground and
did not shoot any more

after his gun exploded so close to
my head I could hear no more
But kept on firing till I had used
up sixty rounds of cartridges. Late in
the afternoon we could not see any
dine rebels or hear any rebel guns
But the smoke was thick

we concluded they must have retr-
-lated. Some of the boys commenced
to gather up some guns that were
lying around what they ever think
they can do with them I do not
see and I dont believe they do
well soon as firing stoped I commen-
-ced to think of something to do
so we commenced to kick of some
pine knots from the fallen and
rotten tree trunks and soon had

a fire I made some coffee. Then
after eating opened my knapsack
and commenced to write a letter to
home so that my people might know
that I was still among the living.
The boys said I was black and
I could say the same of them. I
had a little hand glass which I
looked in to and saw that my
face was black enough for any
nigger well I jumped up and sta-
rted out to see what was going
on and found them laying out
the dead in long rows on their
backs with faces covered up. Our
dead were all strangers to me. There
was some injured in our company
but not one killed I have not seen

my brother George since the battle
and do not know where to look
for him

Saturday mch 11 - 1865

our Cavalry went out about two
miles and learned that the rebels
had retreated in the direction of
Raleigh and had burned the bridge
at Kinston about 5 miles ahead
of us we have also learned the
number of rebels killed to be about
two thousand while our dead nu-
-mber about five hundred. Our
loss was the largest because they
were the attacking party and were
in the open while we had breast
works. I do not feel well guess the
weather is too cold to live out doors

and sleep on the ground (Some
call this place Wises Forks while
others say it is called Wagners Forks)
a squad has been sent ahead to tear
down a portion of the rebel breast
works rebuild the burned bridge
our brigade expect to advance to -
-morrow I found Battery B... and
have seen my brother George he is
well and uninjured

Sunday mch 12 - 1865
we have just learned that part of
our army have crossed the river
at Kinston and Camped on the
outskirts my Chum Tom has gone
out foraging and while I am writing
has returned with a Sheep The boys
are having a lot of fun with a

very small mule and a very
small darkey on his back it is
evident the nig is used to riding
mules as he shows no fear at
what ever the mule tries to do

Monday Mch 13 - 1865

we are still at Maguires Forks
I heard the rebels had left Kinston and
were retreating towards Raleigh
also heard that we are to go back
to Newbern to do Patrol duty that
is to guard the City They say our army
that is this division numbers about
forty thousand

Tuesday Mch 14 - 1865

after remaining here about a week
and passing through the hardships
of battle and exposure to the elem-

- into we are again on the march
towards Kinston we came to a halt
about one mile from the City where
there used to be a bridge now burned
and under construction while I
stood looking on a young colored
fellow slipped from a timber in the
river and drowned in sight of a
thousand men and no one made an
effort to save him They concluded
not to wait for the bridge to be finis-
-hed so constructed a pontoon bridge
which is composed of a large number
of boats made of strong frames covered
with heavy canvas perfectly water
tight these boats are placed in a row
about four feet apart extending
across the river and securely ancho-
-red

then all are covered with heavy thick
planks and all is ready for the
Army to cross it is a novel sight
to see canons drawn by horses and
troops of Cavalry the large loaded
waggons and infantry passing over
on a bridge of boats after crossing
we marched through the City of Kin-
-ston not a rebel soldier was to be
seen. all had gone towards Raleigh
little good will it do them as I
understand Shermans main army
is now marching across the inte-
rior of the Country expecting to
meet our Army in the vicinity
of Raleigh which means a surre-
nder of the rebel Army of North
Carolina well after reaching a point

about one mile from the river we
halted stacked arms and are to
camp for the night

wednesday mch 15-1865

we commenced to build breast works
this morning worked all day then
for some reason unknown to me
they informed us they were no
good being made in the wrong
place The next order was to move
camp and build as many more
what this is for I do not know But
as they say (a soldier is not supposed
to know) ~~the~~

Thursday mch 16-1865

This day has ben a day of labor as
we have completed a new line of
earth works Some of the boys

got together in small numbers and by running the guard and stealing through the picket line went out in the country foraging which is against orders. The provisions they have brought in rather make me hungry. And before I sleep some of the boys will have a call from me in regard to forming a Squad to go out on a foraging expedition.

Friday Mch 17 - 1865

Well I got the boys together and we went out in the Country about five miles we passed through a swamp on what they term a corduroy road which is made as follows. They cut logs in lengths about ten feet long place them on the ground close

together until a road is made
across the soft swampy ground
it is dry But the roughest road
to ride on I ever saw
well to resume. After we had
traveled about five miles just
ahead was a large plantation some
of the ladies were at home also some
darkies I looked in the Smoke house
which was very large and well filled
with barrels of meal hanging above
was two or three hundred hams
each one of us found a grain bag
shovled in some meal then a ham
on top an old darkey stood by
we asked him for some wine
very slyly he said go out in the swamp
and at the foot of the third tree

opposite the bars in a lane leading to
the swamp. armed with shovels
and gourd (these gourd hold about
two quarts) we also had some fugs
we unearthed a Bbl of wine also one
of apple jack. ^{me} filled our receptacles
and started for camp But with the load
and five miles to walk after already
walking five (and a gun to carry)
was a problem. But as luck would
have it before we had gone a half
mile we met a man with a two
wheeled cart and mule. we just took
hold of the mules head and turned
him around loaded in our effects
Told the man no harm would come
to him and trudged along beside
the cart. on catching sight of the

picket posts we removed the load
thanked the man and journeyed
on. Some of our own company
being on the picket post we had
no trouble in passing in to camp
we treated some of the boys to wine
and apple jack they drank to much
acted badly tore down their tents
after trying to fry some bacon finally
put the fire out abused the captain
and the last I saw of one of the number
he was sleeping on the ground with
his ear in a frying pan I wont
mention any names as we are
all pretty well acquainted when
at home in Auburn and these
lines might fall in the hands of some
who would feel badly To day is
St Patricks day

and one long to be remembered
by me as I have laughed my self
most sick But the Captain seems
to blame me and the others who
brought in the liquor
the cold in my throat and bronchial
is still with me and I am afraid
drinking Swamp water will fill
us full of malarial my head whirls
at times in billious manner

Saturday March 18 - 1865

as punishment for bringing the
liquor in camp I was sent with
some others out in the woods to cut
rail road ties some of the boys
were set at digging trenches
I have enjoyed my day out very
much as the weather has been clear

and warm. When I first reached the woods the first thing I done was to Cut off a limb from a fallen tree a practical woodman stood by He laughing at my awkward attempt took the ax from my hand I did no more. But passed the ballance of the day visiting and playing cards. On returning to camp I learned our forces had marching orders for tomorrow at 6 a.m.

Sunday Mch 19-1865

we did not march at six but at 10 a.m. was the hour and the place we halted at was the newly built bridge across the Neuse river near this bridge is a row of small

log cabins formerly use by the
rebels when guarding the bridge
our company is now quartered in
those cabins. how long we are to
remain here we do not know

Monday Mch 20 - 1865

I went down to the riverside
and done my washing I met
my brother George. he is looking well
he received mothers photo in a
letter I did not get one Guess
they did not have enough to go
around

Tuesday Mch 21st / 1865

I have not bin on duty to day But
have kept inside most of the time
as the wind has ben blowing hard
I wrote a letter to Ellen Lawrence

and we cleared the inside of our log quarters

wednesday mch 22 - 1865

four of us have been on another foraging expedition we escaped the guard and picket by skulking through a ravine. The first house we visited contained very little furniture and no carpets the inmates were but two: a mother and daughter. The house stood on the edge of a swamp. These women were quite plump but very yellow for pastime they chewed snuff sticks. The stick is made of a small piece of the inner part of the bark of a tree the end is pounded to resemble a paint brush then dipped in the snuff is ready to chew

these ladies said their men folks
were pressed into the rebel ~~Service~~
Service. They claimed to own three
hundred acres of land being mostly
sand or Swamp they had never
owned any slaves they could not
read or write we saw no books or
papers while there. These people are
good honest citizens But are termed
white trash. The next thing of any
importance was crossing a stream
by jumping from one large stone
to another while doing so one of
the boys slipped in the water to his
neck. He crawled out and said come
on boys never turn ~~back~~ he squeezed
the water out the best he could
and the sun shining bright helped

to dry his clothes well we tramped
along till a plantation house and
the row of negro cabins came in
view we went to the house and
asked them if we could have what
we called a good square meal. in
reply the lady of the house said they
would make hot biscuits with
sauce also cake coffee and bacon
we went in and after waiting about
two hours took our places at the
table and ate heartily after thanking
them we departed They entertained
us but not with a very good grace
The next place was a house built
on posts. under the house was a
block of fowls we took after them
and after securing some started

for camp we had no sooner reached our quarters than we were detailed to go on picket

Thursday Nov 23^d 1865

The picket post I was on happened to be in the Swamp near the house where the mother and daughter lived (mentioned yesterday) during the night I was in the Swamp from 12 midnight till 2 A.M. The air was filled with the noise of many reptiles and insects a most lonesome and dismal place to be in at night the main post was quite a distance from me and I was glad when the time came for me to be relieved being on picket to day has been quite pleasant as Sheremans supply

train has been passing through all day the wind has blown so hard all day one could hardly keep our tent together but the air is warm

Friday Mch 24 - 1865

Last night a portion of Sherman's provision train. Camped in a large field a short distance from the bridge. They had evidently been foraging as they came through the country for they left on the ground enough to feed five hundred men one meal. There was parts of ham shoulder bacon corn meal dried peas we gathered together enough smoked meat and meal to last us two weeks all in good condition

Shirly war is a terrible thing
when an army marches through
the Country taking away and
destroying every thing in their path
our shanty is now in good order
for keeping house

Saturday Mch 25-1865

I took it in my head to day to
call on the girl living at the edge
of the Swamp So crept out threw
the ravine and was about to reach
the door when the Captain and an
other officer came in view around
a bend in the road they escorted
me through the guard lines and told
me to remain in camp But I
would not be surprised if tomo-
-row found me out there aga-
-in

I went to our Shanty and Tom
and I went to work getting supper
fried corn cakes boiled peas hard
taco molasses and tea with fried
bacon and gravy comprised the
meal

Sunday Mch 26 - 1865

on other Sunday at hand I have
to look in my book to know
what day it is as every day is so
much alike a large fire of some
kind has been burning all day
some distance to the west we have
not been able to learn what it is

Monday Mch 27 - 1865

nothing new we wander up and do-
-wn the river bank sit on the
bridge talk of home and the good
times we used to have

But we do have good times here in these log cabins not very much to do the force here is so large & have only ben on duty once since we came here

Tuesday Mch 28-1865

Things have ben so quiet here for some time one would think the war had ended But lo and behold we were routed out at 3 this morning with marching orders we fell in line and started across the bridge towards the City of Kinston we finally reached the earth works that were made on our first arrival and remained all day expecting an attack But no rebels showed up But my brother George

did and we had a pleasant day
together He is feeling quite well I
wish I might say the same of my
self my cold seems to have settled
in my throat and left side and
feel rather creepy like chills
at 4 P.M. we marched back to our
old log home again But some
body had ben there and ransacked
every thing one man had a box
containing a large collection of
souvenirs also many usefull
things he had plained to send home
the box was empty a madder man
we never saw he tried to make
the Captain responsible But it
would not work The rest of us
lost some thing but thought just

as well to keep still as soldiers dont
seem to think it a sin to steal

This reminds me of one time my
chum and I pitched our tent beside
the tent of some men belonging to
some regiment we did not know
well after putting our belongings
in our tent we went away on our
return we discovered our blankets
had been stolen. no use to look for
them But the thing to do was to get
some more so we looked in ^{the}
^{next tent} saw some blankets spread out so
the edge came close to our tent and
by going in our tent and lying close
to the side of our tent we could reach
them. in about five minutes the
blankets were carefully spread in

our tent and we were lying on
them when our next door neigh-
-bors came home their tent was full
of Cuss words we just kept still
and they did not suspect us I
suppose on account of being so
close by However they never said
any thing to us. and we kept
the Blankets (But to continue
about this day) we soon straight-
~~ened~~ and what there was left and were
keeping house just as though
nothing had happened. while we
were eating Supper a Sergeant
came in and told Tom and I
that we were detailed to go on
picket after reaching the picket post
we found it to be the same one

we had been on before. on the edge
of the Swamp and here we will stay
till tomorrow night

Wednesday mch 29 - 1865

To day has been clear and warm
so our night and day on picket has
passed off pleasantly. we were
relieved from duty at 4 P.M.

Came to my quarters not feeling
very well ate my Supper and now
the rain is pattering on my roof
and I shall soon be in bed

Thursday mch 30 - 1865

The rain fell all night and all
day as well so we have kept to
our quarters and passed the time
away by eating and playing cards
the rumor is that we are to go

to Newbern to do guard duty
Friday mch 31 - 1865

The weather has cleared up to day
a fine day to be out in the air
and I have been well entertained
Sitting on the rail of the bridge wat-
-ching the horses and mules go by
The way I understand it is as follows
There are a large number of men
not enlisted who travel ahead of
the army several thousand in num-
-ber They are called Sherman's
bummers they live on the plunder
they get But they keep in sight
of the army in the rear But some
may Sherman managed to capture
them and had the horses and mules
driven through the country roads

to Newbern they ~~to~~ commenced to pass
the point where I was about 8 a.m.
four abreast and continued till
4 P.M. no one riding on them. But
just driven like cattle.

Saturday April 1st 1865

nothing worth mentioning to day
I am not feeling well so not having
any duty to perform have kept in
my quarters

Sunday April 2nd 1865

Spring is rather backward here
But the weather could not be nicer
than now. This is my birth day
18 years old to day and am not feeling
well we heard to day that General
Lee was talking about having peace
in the Country. He must be thinking

of Surrendering as that is the only
way peace can come in our land

Monday April 3^d 1865

Have done simply nothing to day
just waiting for something to turn
up

Tuesday April 4 - 1865

The weather more than beautiful
I have been repairing my trousers
and as I have but one pair and
wanting to be out side I went
up on a hill and under a large
tree I sat me down and done the
repairing at the same time enjoying
the the fine weather

wednesday April 5 - 1865

Still at Kinston guarding the bridge
nothing new

Thursday April 6 - 1865

The weather pleasant and spring like
we are enjoying it as we have
nothing to do just passing the time
away and waiting for something to
turn up or happen

Friday April 7 - 1865

I recieved three letters to day
one from Father one from Ed
also one from Ellen Lawrence
Have spent the day answering
them for I had nothing else to do

Saturday April 8 - 1865

Sunday April 9 "

Monday " 10 "

Tuesday " 11 "

To day has ben warm and clear
I was detailed for guard duty

went on at 4 P.M. I am to be
alone on the bridge one two hours
and off four for twenty four hours

wednesday april 12 - 1865

one of my two hour spells came
at midnight as I was sitting on the
end of the bridge the thought came
to me to go under the end of the
bridge and build a little fire so I
gathered together a little wood on
the sloping bank under the bridge
and sat down and enjoyed the heat
Soon I began to feel sleepy and I
must have dropped to sleep as I came
to my senses with a start and found
the bridge on fire. of course I
did not want to call anyone so
commenced to hustle around for some-
-thing to carry water in

good luck for me I found an old
tin pan and with running back and
forth from the river to the fire
several times succeeded in putting
it out after that I was warm eno-
ugh without any fire

Tuesday April 13 - 1865

we recieved the good news today
that General Lee had surrendered
and the war is practically ended

Friday April 14 - 1865

To day has ben a beautifull day
the mocking birds are singing
every where besides many other
kinds The boys are feeling good
over a report that we are to hear
some good news at roll call
and it is about that time now

So I will quit writing

Saturday April 15 - 1865

The good news we were to hear at roll call last night must have been no news as we heard nothing about any

Sunday April 16 - 1865

This has been beautiful day I have been out in the air enjoying it at 4 P.M. was detailed to go on picket just before we started for the picket post we learned that General Johnston had surrendered and also that Jeff Davis was captured I guess the Southern Confederacy is about gone up Battery G. of which my brother is a member has gone to Raleigh

Monday April 17 - 1865

on picket till 4 P.M. have not been well
at all my throat and left bronchial
seems in a bad condition and guess
I am getting full of malaria if
not better soon will go to the doctor
I received two letters from Auburn
also heard that President Lincoln
had been assassinated

Tuesday April 18-1865

the old camp life at the Kinston bridge
is a thing of the past as we had mar-
ching orders this morning after
packing up we marched across the
bridge for the last time and were soon
in Kinston and learned that we were
bound for Newbern while waiting
for a train a lot of rebel prisoners
came in they were a shabby looking

Get some in grey and some in
citizens clothes But all quite ragged
and dirty also hungry Some of them
had hundreds of dollars of Confede-
rate money I had more hard tea
than I wanted So sold twelve for
five hundred dollars my purpose
was to send it home for a keepsake
we amused our selves by talking
to the rebel prisoners till 4 P.M. when
a train came in composed of open
cars with high slat racks we climbed
up and over the sides and were soon
under motion after riding till 11 P.M.
we arrived once more at Newbern
which looked like home to us
the top part of the depot was a half
story just one large empty room

our company were told to go up in there and rest for the night we spread our blankets on the floor and slept by twos and when all were down for the night the floor was entirely covered there being four rows of men on the floor &

Wednesday April 19-1865

Last night the rain commenced to fall soon after we were in our loft and continued all night this morning at roll call the order was read for our company to guard the city we are to clean our guns and equipments make the steel and brass shine like silver and gold also have our clothing clean and neat we marched about one mile from the station

to some quarters consisting of long rows of little buildings containing two bunks intended for the dwelling place of four soldiers ones was some out of repair and we have spent the greater part of the day fixing it up in our shanty besides my self are my chum Tom and John Smith and his partner John Sutcliffe the flies are getting quite numerous and large

Thursday April 20 - 1865

well I have just ben resting all day for I do not feel first class went down to the City it seem almost as though we had returned home we have ben around the streets of Newbern so much I returned to my shanty and have ben lying in my bunk most of

the day

Friday April 21st / 1865

I done my washing to day and hung it out back of my shanty & made a large opening in the gable end so I could lie in my bunk and watch my washing but fell asleep and when I awoke and looked out found some one had stolen my woolen shirt no use to look for it so I just heave a sigh and let it go. I was detailed to go on guard at 1 P.M. my post is at the turpentine works where they make turpentine and rosin the plant is not running but there is quite a large stock of high wine and rosin some people drink the high wine I tasted of it. That was enough for

me The day has been clear and warm
and every thing green is springing
into life

Saturday April 22nd 1865

Came of duty at 9 this morning am
not feeling very well wrote a letter
home for some money after dinner
I went over to battery. D. to see
Lieutenant Brinkerhoff - he was a
practicing physician and an
acquaintance of mine while in Auburn
So I believe it best to doctor with
him. He gave me some medicine for
my bronchial trouble also for
malaria sleeping on the ground and
drinking Swamp water is enough
to make any one sick The Swamp
water is cold looks clear but a
little on the Amber Color

But we have to drink it or go dry

Sunday April 23^d 1865

Have not been on duty to day the weather is beautiful we are lying around enjoying it only the flies are rather troublesome I was amused to day to see one of the boys taking bread with molasses on. He would hold it up till partly covered with flies when he would suddenly bite off a piece and chew bread flies and molasses and swallow it. He seemed to think it cute being a soldier learns one to eat most any thing But that diet is most too much for me

Monday April 24th 1865

I am on guard again to day

men we left Fort Anderson 70m
and I left some of our clothing there
he went over to the Fort to day He
found and brought all but a pair of
fine boots I brought from home
I am going over there soon as possible
to see if I can look them up

Tuesday April 25th 1865

Since coming back to Newbern we have
learned that the Sargent and the Capta-
-ins horse never came back The horse
was a beautiful animal and quite a
loss as the Captain brought him from
Auburn I recieved two letters one from
home also one from Mattie Conner

Wednesday April 26th 1865

This morning we that is our Company
went over to the quarters of the Second
Heavy Artillery

after joining them we were inspec-
-ted. Then went on guard
we are having quite a long spell of
fine weather

Thursday April 27-1865

Last night while on guard I had a
chance to get even with a Cornish-
-ioned officer that did not use me
very well one time while I was at
Fort Anderson well I heard and
also saw a man on horse back
coming up the street as he passed
by a light I recognised him so
when he came opposite me I halted
him also told him to dismount and
give the countersign He says come
here and get it you know who I
am But I was not supposed to know

who he was so I brought my gun
up and says dismount He climbed
down came up to me and whispered
the Countessign. But he was mad
and that is all the good it will do him
at night a guard can make every
horseman dismount ~~who~~ comes
along I dont always do it. But I
did this time just to get even with
the man

Friday April 28-1865

I am on guard again every other twenty
four hours on guard right along now
but I like it very well The leaves are
out full and the foliage is beautiful
The house we are using for a
guard house has ben a fine place
well surrounded with trees and

has an observatory with an open
top built up among the tree tops
which makes a good place to sit
when off duty and with smoking
and talking about old Auburn
we pass away some pleasant
hours

Saturday April 29 - 1865
as I have not been in very good health
and was on guard last night so
have slept most of the day. The moc-
-king birds are singing in the tree
tops also robins and other birds
which makes these sunny days
seem beautiful

Sunday April 30
we mustered for pay again today
we do that regularly but get no

money. I was on the detail for guard
it seems they had arranged for an
extra post and afterwards changed
the plan and as I happened to be on
that extra post was not wanted
so was off guard most as soon as
I went on.

Monday May 1st 1865

There is not much to write about
to day on account of not feeling
very well do not get around very
much to see what is going on I dont
believe the well water is very good
here as it tastes rather brackish
the wells are about ten feet deep and
five feet in diameter and are lined
with brick instead of stones as we
have our wells at home

The Colored people are holding a festival here to day and has ben both entertaining and amusing.

Tuesday May 2nd 1865

Came off duty this morning and have done about the same old thing just layed around all day have played cards some and fought flies one of my Comrades says he will not play cards with me again as I cheat I could not make him believe I was not a cheat because I turned jack three times in one game of Seven up But it was just chance I was just as much surprised to see the jacks come up as any of the rest

Wednesday May 3^d 1865
no duty for me today so thought
it a good time to go over to
Fort Anderson and see if I could
find my boots went down to Foster
dock the place where we used to
sit and hang our feet over the
water and eat bread and molasses
I found the same old steamer at
the dock The "Ella May" stepped on
board did not have to pay any fare
as uncle Sams boys can ride on
his boats free after we were paddling
over the same course we used
to make so much with the first
boat when we reached the dock at
the Fort there was the boat But
she is being run by an other crew

all strangers to me I went up to the entrance of the Fort walked inside every thing looked home like but not a familiar face could I see I told them what I came after They smiled a little I suppose they thought I was on a fools errand and so I was as hurt as much as I pleased no signs could I find of the boots so sadly marched back to the dock without them And they cost me ten dollars

Thursday May 4 - 1865

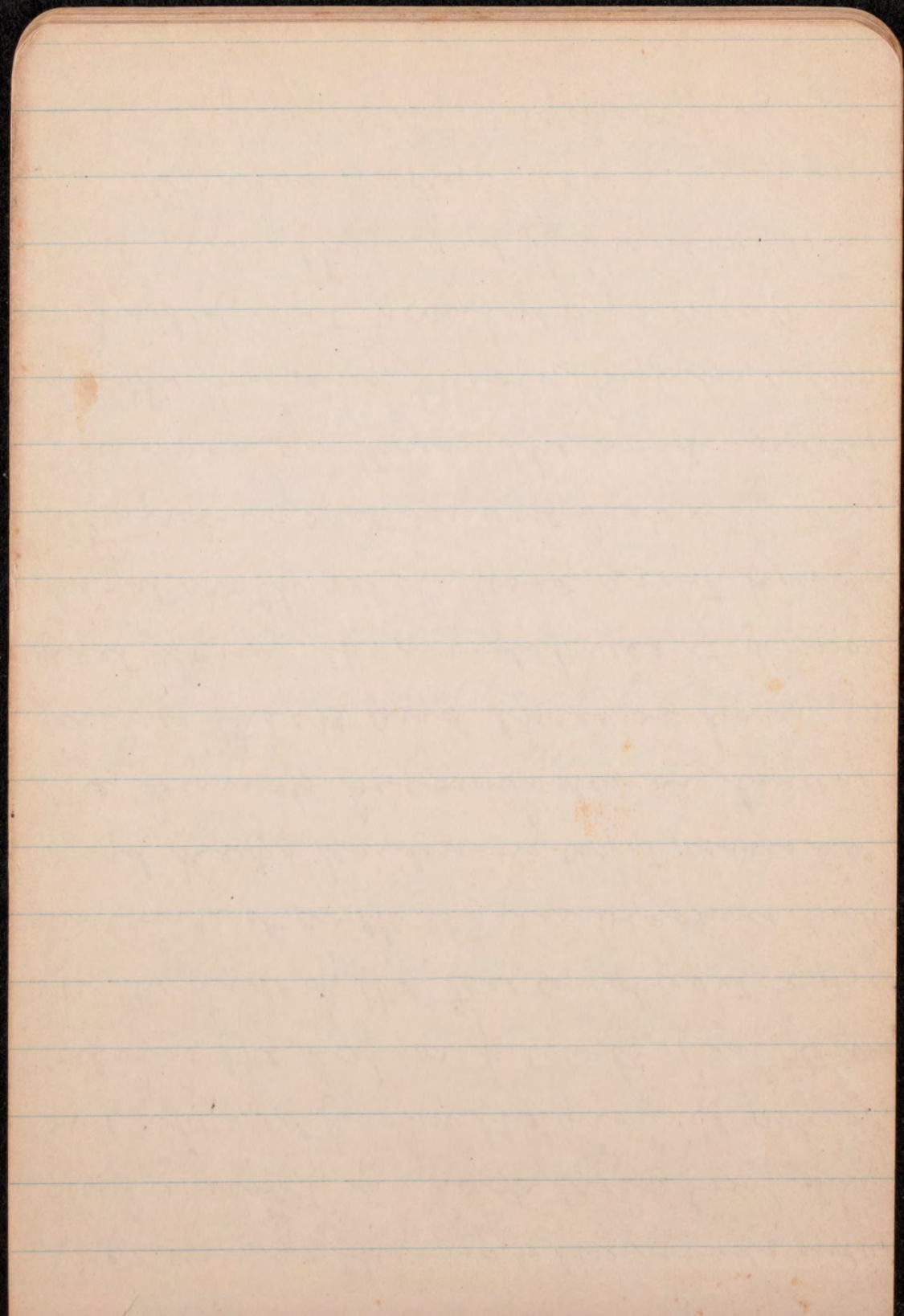
have been on guard again to day near the turpentine works This is quite an industry in this State as there are so many pitch pine forests The way they gather the pitch is as follows

the men go through the woods and chop a notch in each tree about six or eight feet from the ground which allows the sap or pitch to run down on the side of the tree and as it comes in contact with the air becomes thick and keeps hardening as it runs till the bunch becomes ten or twelve inches thick and three or four feet long. The woods present a novel sight with all of those great bunches standing out on one side of the trees.

The men go thru the wood and chop off the bunches, throw them in a two wheeled cart hauled by a mule and carry them out of the woods.

Friday May 5-1865

Came off of duty this morning



one will not be on duty so often
after this as two companies of the
Second heavy mass regiment
will assist us in guarding the
city I have taken life pretty easy
to day the air is delicious and I
do not feel very well so can lie
around with ease

Saturday May 6-1865
have taken more cold I think
and have ben in my bunk
most all day my tent mates have
played cards and had lots of fun
but I have not felt like joining
in

Sunday May 7-1865
This has ben a very hot day a mail
came in and many of the boys received
letters I received one from Ellen

Ramona. I have not seen her
brother Tell since we left Fort Monroe
I unexpectedly came across him while
there. There is a Colored Church here
and they are having revival meetings
talk about a circus why it aint
worth half the price of down South
Colored revival meeting. Some rolling
on the floor some trying to climb
up the posts under the galleries while
some are jumping up and down
like a pea on a base drum and
all are singing a hymn. Those that
are too old or too fat just keep time
by slapping their hands together or
slapping their legs with their hands
by and bye some poor colored woman
comes in and lies still on the

floor Then willing hands pick her up and deposit her outside on the grass while all of this is going on the church is surrounded with soldiers looking in the windows and waiting on the grass for another darkey to be brought out with the power as they call it

Monday May 5-1865

one of our company was burgled today his name was Henderson he died on the 7th and was laid away on the 8th I am afraid it is a case of yellow fever He was a large strong looking fellow I have been on guard again today I might get excused by going to the doctor But the duty is so light I might as well

be on guard as any where else
Some of the boys have already gone
home on account of sickness and
the Hospitals are full as hot weather
comes on

Tuesday May 9 - 1865

Wednesday " 10 "

Thursday " 11 "

Friday " 12 "

Saturday " 13 "

Sunday " 14 "

Monday " 15 "

The past 7 days have so near alike
and I have felt so poorly there has
been nothing worth mentioning.

Tuesday May 16 - 1865

we had what they call a general
inspection to day and at roll call

at the close of day we are to have a
ration of whiskey I drank mine
to day and ran to my quarters for
some water had there not ben any
there I dont believe I would have
drawn an other breath the whiskey
was so strong

wednesday May 17-1865

we are still at Newbern doing patrol
and guard duty the weather is very
hot and clear most of the time we
have now and then a very severe
thunder shower James Nelson has
gone to the hospital the Doctor says he
has some kind of fever a large number
of our men are on the Sick list I keep
around most of the time But am feeling
tough "That is badly" This part of the

state is low a large part swamp
also a great deal of flat sandy land
the summer season brings the
northerner down on his back
just as soon as he gets full enough
of malaria

Thursday May 18 - 1865

The American rebellion is at an end
soon the soldiers will all be home again
we have heard there is a colored
regiment coming here to relieve
us from our duties here in the city
and we think after they arrive we
will soon be on a transport bound
for home I have enjoyed being a
soldier while in health and have
been able to go wherever our company
has been But the last days rather

hard ones for me for I now have
chills and fever and the day of the
chill I remain quietly in my shanty

Friday May 19 - 1865

The Colored troops are here They are
all Southern born. men Born in
Slavery. and used to the climate so
they look strong and healthy and
thoroughly enjoy wearing the
uniforms and handling the guns
I suppose we will not have the freedom
to run around the city after the dark-
ies go on duty

Saturday May 20 - 1865

To day has been an ideal day and
as I heard Sam that Strawberries
were ripe Tom and I started over
towards the Trent river and we found

them in abundance. They were large and high colored. But on testing one found them no good and upon inquiry was told that they were called artificial Strawberries and are a little poisonous just pretty to look at and that is all

Sunday May 21-1865

The colored troops are in possession of the City now we have nothing to do only answer to roll call morning and night & will lie in my bunk a good share of the time unless I feel better than I now do

Monday May 22nd / 1865

To day has ben warm and some one told me the black berries are getting ripe over on the big flats near the

Grent river so I started over there
I found many of the bushes ten
feet high some of the berries were
as large as my thumb and they
were hanging on the bushes five or
six feet from the ground I found
all of the ripe ones I cared for. There has
ben some large snakes seen in the
flats among the bushes I felt a little
scarey while being there. but saw no
Snakes

Tuesday May 23^d / 1865

This morning was quiet in camp
The long rows of little square houses
with peaked canvas roofs looked
neat and clean as the soldiers
lounged around on the shady
sides smoking their pipes and

Some playing Cards other talking
about how soon the time of departure
would be at hand and they would
be shaking hands with friends
and relations while relating the sad
news of ~~Poma~~ Conrad who has been
laid away in Southern Soil
Such was the morning scene But
the afternoon was different as quite
a number of the hard drinkers mana-
-ged to get hold of a large quantity
of whiskey some where down town
and by the time they reached the upper
part of the City some were singing
others were arguing and from words
they came to blows which wound up
in a free for all fight I ran down
there to see what was going on

and before I knew it was right in
the midst of the trouble after a few
smacks and bumps was glad to get
out of the way ^{their} ~~there~~ was no arrests
no one put in the guard house in
fact no one seemed to pay any atten-
-tion to the trouble soon all got to
their quarters and every thing was
quiet

wednesday May 24 - 1865

I saw one man with his hand all
wound up with cloth this morning
upon asking him ^{what was the trouble} he said in stak-
-ling at a man in front of a tree
he had struck the tree with full force
because the man was too sly for
him his hand is badly swollen and
will be for some time well the
bugle call says "lights out."

Thursday May 25 - 1865

To day one of the boys came to me in a very mysterious and confidential manner and told me that he had forty dollars he handed me a twenty dollar green back at the same time saying this money came easy and you are welcome to half of it well says if it is all right and we dont get in any trouble I dont object So he told me he was passing a house with a porch extending nearly to the side walk when he heard some one snoring he looked at the end of the porch and on the ground was a Southerner on shaking him found he was drunk he ran his thumb and fingers in the mans vest

pocket and pulled out two twenty dollar bills at the time he could not see whether it was united States money or Confederate But when he saw by a light that the money was good he did not take it back So I accepted the twenty and tomorrow we are to go down town and see what we can buy.

Friday May 26 - 1865
well this has been a day to be remembered we had a dinner and Supper Such as a Soldier Calls a square meal and we learned of a woman who made and had for Sale good home brewed beer we called there and was well pleased with the sample so bought more it was not intoxicating

But very pleasant to drink

Saturday May 27-1865

I have yet a good balance of my twenty on hand so continue to scorn army rations quite a number of the boys are in the hospitals I call and see some of them and do errands for them occasionally

Sunday May 28-1865

The most interesting thing happening to day or rather last night was the discovery by the officers that some one had stolen their whiskey it had been going on for some time and was as follows The officers quarters is a large wall tent in the corner and close against the canvas side of the tent was the keg of whiskey some of the boys

cut a little hole in the tent then with a gimlet bored a hole and drew out what whiskey they wanted then inserted a plug. it was all done after dark so the discovery was not made till the barrel ran dry.

Monday May 29 - 1865

There has been some effort on the part of the officers to find out who the guilty culprits were who ^{had} stolen the whiskey, but to no avail

I keep around most of the time but am feeling badly

Tuesday May 30 - 1865

I have not heard from my brother George since his battery left Kinston enroute for Raleigh and probably will not see him again till we

meet in Auburn The weather
Continuous hot But we had aught to
stand it as we have nothing to do
only just lying around waiting
for orders to start for home

Wednesday May 31st 1865

one of the boys in the next tent on my
right is said to be loosing his mind
He certainly acts very strange one
thing he done was to move all his
belongings outside and made preperat-
-ions to sleep on the ground in the
open air last night the Captain made
him move inside but this morning
he moved every thing out again
Some say he is playing it so as to
get out of the Service I think it hardly
possible as we have so short a

time to stay

Thursday June 1st 1865

as I was down town saw a column
of Soldiers coming down the street
headed by a brass band as they came
along the band was first then a hearse
containing a casket back of that a
company of soldiers upon enquiry
I learned that a Lieutenant had
died and was being conveyed to
a transport as the body is to be
sent home Surely a sad sight just
as the war is drawing to a close to
hear the band playing a dirge as
the slow moving procession passes
by bearing the remains of one
who the friends expected to soon
see in life

Friday June 2nd 1865

The sooner we get away from here the better it will suit me. for a little more hot weather will bring many of the northerners bred men down with the yellow fever I remember well the closed and desolate look of the city as we marched through it last fall

Saturday June 3rd 1865

we are just lying around and wondering why they do not start us for home as the colored troops are doing all of the duty

Sunday June 4 - 1865

There are some churches here and there must be some bells but I never have heard the tone of a bell in all

the time that has passed away since
we first struck the town the only
loud noise is the whistle of the steam
boats and the boom of the canon

Monday June 5-1865

The hospitals are full all the time
Some are being laid away in the
Cemeteries where the long rows of
half circle topped white boards mark
the graves of thousands a few black
letters state the name and age also
company and regiment

Tuesday June 6-1865

Some of the convalescing ones
from the hospitals are being sent
home daily. we hear some talk
that our company will soon emb-
-ark for the north

Wednesday June 7-1865
while down on Foster's wharf I met
a soldier who had been in Anderson
-ville prison He has entertained me
for a long time relating his hard-
-ships while there. It seems strange
that a Christian Community would
allow such inhuman brutes
to have the power to inflict such
cruelties on their fellow beings
as has been permitted in the South
I have guarded the prisons belonging
to uncle Sam and I know the
Southern Soldier imprisoned there
is well clothed well fed and housed
it rather looks as though the South
take them as a class do not compare
with the north in regard to the

treatment of fellow beings
Surely such inhuman creatures
are unfit to own slaves

Thursday June 8 - 1865

This day like many others has passed
away meaning much to some but
uneventful for me as every thing
is quiet here we are killing time
waiting for orders to march to
the station and board the cars bound
for home

Friday June 9 - 1865

at roll call this morning the orderly
Sergeant said Colonel Stuart wished
to see me at his head quarters
Some of the Company thought I was
going home right away after calling
on the Colonel I found that my

Father had sent me a little money
and for safety had sent in in care
of Colonel Stuart I did not really
need the money just now as my
twenty is not gone yet.

Saturday June 10 - 1865

Sunday " 11 "

Monday " 12 "

Tuesday " 13 "

Wednesday " 14

Thursday " 15

Friday " 16

Saturday " 17

Sunday " 18

The past eight days have been so
uneventful and my health has
been so poor that I have not written
anything But we now have marching

orders which means to start on the
homeward journey. The packing and
getting ready takes but a short time
for a Soldier. As all our belongings
are kept in a knapsack. This is the
last time I will write up a day in
Newbern. For tomorrow is probably
the last time we will walk the streets
of a Southern City.

Monday June 19-1865

Every thing has passed off as usual
till 3 P.M. when orders came to form
in line loaded with all of our belongin-
-gs I had an extra bundle and not
feeling very well I hired a colored boy
to carry my luggage for which I gave
an old pair of blue army trousers
we marched to the station.

and boarded platform cars and the train was well loaded I sat on one side with my feet hanging over the side with one arm around a stake soon the train started as we crossed the Trent river bridge By the side of the road stood our old Fort anderson boatswain we yelled out our good byes and soon I had lost sight of him perhaps forever as he belongs to a regiment from Rhode Island a little after dark we seemed to be running at a terrific rate it did seem as though we would jump the tracks or go to pieces after a while the men nearest the ends of the cars put on the brakes without orders but it was well they did as the train had parted quiet

back of the engine just as we were
at the head of a grade and was not
known by the engineers till we were
on the down grade Then he dare
not slack so ran away from us
we ran nearly to our destination
before we struck the engine again
Morehead was our landing place
we unloaded and on a dock were
given three days rations Then went
on board of a large ocean transport
bound for New York City I forgot to
mention in one of my writings last
we turned in our guns That was
quite a notable day for the boys as it
meant the war was over and soon
all that lived to get there would soon
be home before the yellow fever got hold
of us

Tuesday June 20-1865

Last night I bound a row of water casks between the decks and spread down my blankets and went to sleep after sleeping a little while the noise of the engines and the motion of the vessel awoke me and on going on deck saw that we were far away from shore I stood on the forward deck and for a while watched the waves and white foam dashing away from our bow as we plowed through the water homeward bound Then took a little bit of soft bread and went back to my bed on the water casks The sun was up before I went on deck this morning for this is the day I have a chill This afternoon

while my chill was on I found a place
on the Sunnier Side of the deck and
when lying in the Sun and covered
up with my blanket the shivers kept
coming But as soon as the fever came
on the Sun was too hot and the
blanket a burden This day has come
to a close and I will feel better
tomorrow

Wednesday June 21-1865

Still in the water out of sight of land
I was on deck at daylight as I like to
see the glow in the east and finally
see the Sun come up out of the
water, "as it seems" a great part of
the day was spent sitting near the
edge of the deck watching the sea birds
and also looking at Porpoises play

as great Schools of them as large
as great fat hogs plunge out of the
water showing their full size

The hours have passed away rapidly
and the Sun is nearing the water
edge and soon nothing but the stars
can be seen. The weather on this voyage
so far has been calm and clear
not much like our voyage around
Katties when we went South when
the vessel rolled so badly that one
may overboard could sometimes touch the
water then when she rolled back I
looked over the side and found the
distance to the water twenty or thirty
feet well as the darkness is coming
over the face of the deep I will go below
and make my bed on the water casks

if no one else is ahead of me

Thursday June 22 - 1865

Last night I slept pretty well and was up at daylight and they say we will be in New York City to night. The weather continues clear and pleasant and as I am sitting on the bow of the steamer I can see the tall buildings around New York Bay which is the first thing that looks like the north as the buildings in the South are generally low many of the plantation mansions are large on the ground almost surrounded by wide porches many of them are only one and a half stories high we landed in the City of New York about dusk and were marched

to the barracks which contained long tables standing between long wooden benches we filled up the benches and before us was tin plates tin spoons and a quart tin cup the meal consisted of coffee without milk but well sweetened and beer soup a chunk of boiled beef and a chunk of baked bread But it all tasted good after our voyage we are to take the cars for Syracuse next how long to stay there I do not know

Friday June 23^d 1865

Last night we left New York and came by rail to Syracuse arrived in the latter place just after daylight and were marched to a camp on the outskirts of the city after reaching the camp

I Sat down on the grass for it was
a beautifull June morning nature
was looking her best. The Sun was
shining bright so I concluded the
best thing to do was to go to Auburn.
as they might keep us here under
guard for several weeks before dischar-
-geing us so I walked to the guard
line on the east and looked across
the fields of dandy lions and butter cups
and says to my self. not this way.
so turned straight across the camp
and found the guard line extended
through a little strip of wood land
on entering the woods found a brook
so sat under a tree enjoying the shade
seemingly. But watching the guard
when he reached the end of the beat

farthest from me I jumped across
the brook and ran through the woods
and was soon down town I went
up Rail Road St ^{East} and soon met an
incoming train I ran and grabbed
the hand rail jumped to the platform
and was soon in a seat by the side
of a large old man with a linen duster
on I had an old soft hat brought from
home which I put on and I had ripped
the red braid off my artillery jacket.
and by pulling part of the mans linen
duster over my light blue pants I was
ready for the guard as the train reached
the station it ran between two rows
of the patrol guard and some of the
boys who were waiting for the train
were captured and taken back to

Camp The guard also came through the cars looking right and left for runaway soldiers But passed me by soon the cars started and I noticed some of the guards were still on the platform After reaching the salt works I found out why The train stopped and quite a number of the boys had walked down there to catch on But the guard stepped off and took them back to camp As soon as the train had got under way I put my head out of the window and yelled good bye boys good guards and Sam Breyton one of our boys who got left yelled out There goes that damned Gummie you might know he would fool them and get home

Daves face was the picture of dispare
when the guard stepped off the cars and
took him in about one hour after
this I was walking up garden st
auburn N.Y. I meet and shook hands
with some and was told my brother
Ed was working for Hayden and Letch-
worth stopping in there took him by
surprise He quit work and started
out with me Before very long I was
at home and had a suit of Citizens
clothes on and Supper was the first
meal at home my people said how
black you are and when I walked
they said I marched. it was no doubt
towards the tan of the Southern Sun
and exposure will not leave me for
several weeks to come This evening

has been spent visiting at home for
tomorrow & start out to see the boys
and girls

Saturday June 24 - 1865

Last night I slept on feathers again
in the same room and bed I occupied
the night before leaving for the South
it really seemed nice to pull a nice
clean sheet up to my chin after
using the rough army blanket for
nearly a year. To day has been spent
by calling on some of the girls I used
to know

Sunday June 25 - 1865

have been up on the Arrasco once
more have sailed about and landed
on her shores having a very
pleasant time have commenced

doctoring with Father for Bronchial
trouble and Chills and fever

I discovered to day that the trousers
I gave to the darkey boy had in the
pockets all of the souvenirs I had
collected such as Confederate money
cotton balls and some papers which
were a hundred and fifty years old
which I found in an old ware house
at Plymouth also several other small
things collected together as mementoes

Monday June 26 - 1865

Have been to Syracuse to day
Saw some of the boys who told me
our company are to be paid off
and discharged on Thursday
having on citizens clothes no one
troubled me although I am as

much under control of Marshall
law as when wearing the uniform

Tuesday June 27-1865

have had a chill to day so have
kept at home mother has been ironing
while I have been sitting close by the
hot stove with a comfortable around
me But the hot stove and hot sun
"for it has been a hot day" could not
keep me from shivering about 4 P.M.
the fever came on Then off went
the comfortable and a fan was
preferable to a hot stove

Wednesday June 28-1865

on the lake again then down town in
the evening played a few games of
billiards with the boys Then made
a call home and now for bed

Thursday June 29 - 1865

have been in Syracuse all day
the day has been very enjoyable
as the weather is fine balmy and
fine many of the boys belonging
to our Company having succeeded
in running the guard reach home
and donned Citizens Clothes and have
been around the Streets of Syracuse
But they informed us we would
not get our pay and discharge
till Saturday so I came home and
thus ends another day

Friday June 30 - 1865

This has been one of my chilly days
I went down town and felt the
chill coming on so hired a hack to
take me home and have been here

the remainder of the day. tomorrow
being the day set for my discharge
will go to Syracuse again

Saturday July 1st 1865

I have felt pretty well to day and
have ben in Syracuse most of the
day But was again disapointed
as they have not reached our Company
yet But Monday July 3^d they say
is a shure thing

Sunday July 2nd 1865

nothing eventfull to day have ben down
street with the boys went to church
in the evening with a girl

Monday July 3^d 1865

have again ben in Syracuse all day
returned home before supper with
my pay and discharge in my pocket

And in the evening went to a party
at Mr. Swanson's Hall. It with Ellen
Lawrence had a very enjoyable time
and now as I am no longer a
Soldier in the Service of the United
States Therefore these writings

have come to an

END

