





1  
My first emigration

Before I commence my army journal I will sketch a few events earlier, as the excitement of war as it came through letters from my relatives at Lewiston, Penobscot County, Maine, and papers, to Wiscasset - is Westbrook Co. Maine. Where I had made it my home since Aug. 17<sup>th</sup> 1859.

When war was declared against the rebellious states by the U.S. government I had an anxious feeling to take an active part in the strife, at least far enough to learn something of military life, for it always gave me pleasure to hear martial music and see a line of troops in motion. I had two brothers, one Sidney W. older, and one Prentiss M. Clark younger than myself who volunteered in the 1<sup>st</sup> Me. Cavalry in the summer of 1861 and as soon as I heard of that I was anxious to go to the field with them, but many of my friends advised me not to hurry.



Time dragged slowly along and many a maid was received with news of battles and hard marches, untill after Bankses retreat in West Va the summer of '62 where the 1<sup>st</sup> Me Cavalry was intirely broken to fragments by a surprise from the Rebel Cavalry. Then I told my friends the time had come for me to take a part in the strife.

I received a warrant as Orderly Sergeant of the Militia of Wascottis and Comenlens, from Major General of the First Division of Maine, James H. Butter, of Bangor with orders to organise the Company and choose officers. I at once proceeded and after that was completed, I went to enlist ing men for the army by first making out papers for myself on the 28<sup>th</sup> day of July 1862.

I did what I could recruiting for the army for about a week, and then started for Bangor to join the 18<sup>th</sup> Me Regt which was then being made up at that place.

When I arrived at camp I found a brother and a brother in law that was going in that Regt as well as nearly a score of school mates and other acquaintances. We had men on the ground from Astorock Co that were

expecting to go in a Co by themselves under Henry C. Merriam as Captain but he staid at home a little to long so that our posse was crowded out and ordered to Portland to help make up another Regt which was called the 20<sup>th</sup> Maine Vols.

I was sorely disappointed to learn my brother, and so many old schoolmates but, military laws are arbitrary and obey me must, so we marched away to the R. R. Depot and started on to Portland. When we arrived at camp Wason there was but fear of our squad yet on the ground but in 48 hours there was more than a thousand men on the ground and but few tents to accommodate them, but we was not destitute long before we were well supplied. Measles soon broke out in the Regt which began to take among our men which was the first cause of our losses. Then Recruiting officers were allowed to come into camp and take men that wished to change into old regts in the field, so that in a short time we were reduced below a thousand men.



We remained in camp doing guard duty and drilling for some time till at last I got a pass for a few days to return to Lenox to see my wife and friends before taking final leave for the seat of war. On my return to camp Burnet Major C D Gilmore at Herman Pond station and made his acquaintance and he sent his steward to the Regt by me rather than to be bothered with it while staying on the way to see friends. He was at that time Maj of our regt and ever after proved to be a whole hearted man. While at camp Mason Lieut Colonel of St Chamberlain was presented with a fine gray horse by the ladies of Brunswick. The Colonel of the 20<sup>th</sup> Me was Adelbert Ames a most fine graduate and proved that his training was not in vain. After much drilling, camp guard and cleaning we were uniformed and on the 29<sup>th</sup> day of August 62. we were mustered into the United States service for three years, unless sooner discharged by proper authority. We got our Back pay and I sent \$70. home by express

(Forward to the seat of War)

The Regt started on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of September by the morning train for Boston Wharve where we arrived about three o'clock P.M.

We marched from depot to the wharf where the transport *Henry Mack*, lay waiting for us. We went on board and soon after the 3<sup>rd</sup> Mass Regt came on board the same craft twelve hundred strong, which finished to pack the transport to its utmost capacity.

Peddlers came on board to sell goods when one of the boys of our regt. had a cigar and handed the peddler a \$5. bill, the peddler handed him the box with a few cigars in it and stepped one side in the crowd to get the change and was seen no more. In the evening we were laid off into the stream to wait untill morning before starting on our way.

September 3<sup>rd</sup> We put out to sea under sealed orders, no one on board knowing where we were to land, and no one knowing that they were ever to see home and friends again. One can but imagine their feelings as they watched the land as



it appeared to be gliding away behind, and at last disappearing behind the deep blue sea. We had a very pleasant voyage, and passed many vessels on our way. On the 5<sup>th</sup> in the P.M. we stopped in the Chesapeake bay and cast anchor to lay till morning.

Sept 6<sup>th</sup> A fine day, and we proceeded up the Potomac river which was a splendid opportunity for us to give our eyes a feast for they had got hungry for land, for we had even been out of sight of land a part of the time after leaving Boston. Many fine residences and plantations were visible upon the Maryland side of the river, but the Va side had desolate look generally. We went too near Alexandria Va in the P.M. and staid all night.

7<sup>th</sup> We left the good old Marrymack which had brot us so many miles over the deep and took small steamboats for Washington D.C. a distance of some six miles. We landed and soon were marched to the arsenal grounds and into the building and was armed and equipped for the first

time after we entered the service, I saw Jacob Mop Kenney on the street and he told me the Lieutenant boys were all well.

8<sup>th</sup> I went on guard. We lay in the city until 4 o'clock P.M. and then started across the long bridge into Va for the first time, on still on to Arlington Heights. We lay near Fort Lerage that night. Colanad Ames was disgusted with our appearance and gave us a brief speech as he halted us, saying if we could not do better than that we had better desert.

9<sup>th</sup> Near night we moved across a small creek onto a hill and went into camp for the night.

10<sup>th</sup> We cleared off our camp ground and while I was at work carelessly got hold of some poison oak which made me sick for a week. I was swollen so that I had to be excused from duty. There was quite a number of others in the same condition.

11<sup>th</sup> In the morning the orders came to get ready to move. We packed up and was waiting for the order to move. I could scarcely see out of my eyes, an account of my face being swollen so bad.



## On Arlington Heights Va

I was ordered to go and see the surgeon. I asked him if I must stay and march. He told me I could not march two miles and I must stay with the other sick that was to be left in tent. The Regt. started and joined the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade 1<sup>st</sup> Division and 5<sup>th</sup> Corps. The Regt. was fine days going to the front which was then on the Antietam Creek Md. Our sick squad staid on Arlington Heights a number of days drilling and taking care of each other. Robert Raffard was and left sick with measles and I tended him. Sient of St Louis was sent from the regt. to take our squad to the regt.

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> On the P.M. we left the heights and marched to Washington, expecting to take the train for Harpers Ferry Monday morning. I got permission from Sient Louis to go up on 7<sup>th</sup> Street to see a brother of mine, (Sidney) who was at that time at the dismounted Cavalry camp. I started up the street just at dusk and at 9 o'clock I found his tent and he was writing a letter. I saw quite a number of the Senant boys.

On Washington with friends <sup>M<sup>rs</sup></sup> Harpers Ferry  
Amongst the rest was Jim Duns sick with measles. When I left home he had not enlisted. Sidney and I started late that night to see the boys in the 18<sup>th</sup> Me which was about four miles out back of the town. We came back about an o'clock in the morning and lay down till light. 22<sup>nd</sup> Sidney came down to the depot with me. We could not get transportation that day so we went up to the dismounted camp to see some of the boys.

23<sup>rd</sup> We got aboard of the train at ten o'clock A.M. and started for Harpers Ferry. Arrived at Fredrick City at eleven o'clock at night and laid on the sidewalk until morning. Some of the 1<sup>st</sup> Me Cavalry was there on duty, not over a half mile from me but I could not permission to go to see my brother Prentiss. I staid till eight o'clock P.M. We then took the train for Harpers Ferry. Arrived at Sandy Hook at twelve o'clock at night, one mile below Harpers Ferry. 25<sup>th</sup> We marched at 9 o'clock A.M. passed Harpers Ferry and arrived at the Regt. about sunset, near Sharpsburg Md.



Sept 26<sup>th</sup> 1862 A fair day. We remained near Sharpsburg for a number of days doing picket and guard duty and drilling. President Lincoln reviewed the army while here in camp. On a few days we moved down to Antietam iron works and went into camp. Our picket duty here is on the banks of the Potomac River. We spent near a month in this camp and lost some men from fever.

Oct 29<sup>th</sup> We got orders to be ready to march at dark and we took up a line of march in the direction of Harpers Ferry. Went within two miles of the place and camped.

30<sup>th</sup> Marched in the morning to the ferry, crossed the Potomac and Shomandock rivers, then marched down around the bluff into the Scander valley and up a few miles and camped for the night. Just two months since we were mustered in Me.

Nov 1<sup>st</sup> A fair day. We marched in the morning in the direction of white plains. We lay about near the same place for some days with but little to do. Some commanding heard occasionally. A little skirmish in snickers gap a few miles away. I had a red fullerump in the chest.

We got to white plains about noon. It began to snow and we went into camp for the night. 8<sup>th</sup> Marched in the morning. There was four inches of snow on the ground. The road was very muddy. We camped three miles from Warrenton at night.

9<sup>th</sup> We marched thru New Baltimore and to within a mile of Warrenton and went into camp to stop a while.

10<sup>th</sup> Some of the 1<sup>st</sup> Me Cav boys came to see me. I saw my brother Prentice and he was well. While we was here Genl George B. McClellan took his leave of the army and I saw him as he passed.

16<sup>th</sup> We marched thru the town and on in the direction of Warrenton Junction which is 8 miles down the road. We crossed the Orange & Alexandria R.R. in the direction of Falmouth. We stayed two days near Hartwood church on account of its being very rainy and muddy. Here Joseph Brucklebank was taken sick and never done much duty afterwards. We started one morning from Hartwood and marched to Staneman Surtet. We built quarters and lay here drilling and picketing about two weeks.



## On to Fredericksburg

December 11<sup>th</sup> 1862 On the morning we were roused up and got our breakfast and got ready to march. About the time we got ready a very heavy booming of cannon was opened against Fredericksburg. We started and marched over near the place on a hill and lay there all day and the firing still kept up. At night the firing ceased and we lay down for the night in a very cold wet chance.

12<sup>th</sup> We moved down towards the Rappahannock River and lay a few hours. Soon the firing began again and we moved into the edge of the woods and camped.

13<sup>th</sup> On the morning the battle opened again and held on all day. Just before noon the musketry commenced and we were drawn up in line and awaited orders. We started about three o'clock P.M. and moved down near the river where we could see the fighting up back of the city. We soon started and crossed the river and went up back of the city and formed a line of battle behind a bank and lay there in reserve.

The fighting was within 60 rods of us. and we made ready to gain a number of times when the rebels would press our men very hard. We went in about five o'clock P.M. under a very heavy fire from cannon and small arms but was very lucky and did not suffer much in the charge. Our John Ballard of our Co was wounded in the elbow. Our Mr Key was also wounded. We relieved the troops that was in front and took our position on a small hill. The rebel Cavalry came down on us in the evening but we repulsed them and drove them back.

Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> We held our position in the front all day but no attack was made on us although the sharpshooters killed a few of our men. At twelve o'clock at night we were relieved from the front and went back into the city to rest and took up our abode in a large brick block for the night.

15<sup>th</sup> Considerable firing all along the line. We had an inspection of arms in the muddy street. On the P.M. we moved to the upper part of the city and lay down for the night.



At twelve o'clock at night we were called up and marched up onto the field and went to digging rifle pits and supposed we were going to hold them that day but at four o'clock we was ordered to fall back from the field as quiet as possible and so we did, and moved across the river. 16<sup>th</sup> and stayed a short time then marched back to our old camp at Stoneman's Switch and took a rest.

Picket duty, Camp guard, drilling inspection, fatigue and keeping fire was the order of the day for a long time.

30<sup>th</sup> We started up the river on a reconnaissance and stayed near Kelly's Ford.

31<sup>st</sup> Lay at the ford while the other two brigades was across the river.

January 1<sup>st</sup> 1863 We returned to camp painfully tired for they marched us too hard.

We were mustered for pay. We lay in camp here for a long time doing camp and picket duty and drilling. I was detached at one time to go to the woods and guard some wood that had been cut by our troops for government purposes.

There was twelve in our squad and we enjoyed ourselves hugely for all we had to do was to prevent any one taking the wood away without proper authority and do our own cooking which was not very extensive. I had a bad cold while B was out but rather he out than in camp. We were vaccinated on account of smallpox being in some parts of the army, and by some treachery the same material was used which caused many of the men to have the smallpox. My arm was swollen quite bad and many pimples came out, and B had some caught but came out soon all right.

Some of the boys of our company died with smallpox and others got well. A reconnaissance was ordered up the river and B had a bad cold and was excused by the surgeon and did not go. Thus more was afterwards called "Birdsides stuck in the mud." Our sick was left in camp and our Quartermaster Oldin Litchfield was a very schetary hard hearted fellow and came thru the streets and ordered sick men out in the rain to eat him bread



## Burnside's "Buckin' the mud"

He came to Sergt. George W. Buck of our company and ordered him out, and Buck told him that he was sick and could not go. Buck - upon Seitchfield knuckled him down and kicked him and when the regt. returned Buck was reported and reduced to the ranks without any chance for defense. Buck was a good soldier and stuck to his duty until he was in the field at Little Round Top at Gettysburg. Even at the front Buck was among the first to fall. At the first favorable opportunity his comrades stooped over him. His lifeblood was fast flowing from a fatal wound. His thin blue lips quivered in decision and muttered, they reduced me to the ranks, but I will show them that I am not afraid to die. Col. Chamberlin was sent for. That gallant officer came and knelt by his side. "I was disgraced," hoarsely whispered the dying hero. "You are now exonerated and promoted to a sergency," exclaimed Chamberlin's officer. A sweet smile played upon the man's features a look of satisfaction came to the hungry eyes and he was dead. In the national cemetery at Gettysburg

is a little man named marked George H. Buck Co. H. 20<sup>th</sup> Maine Volunteers.

The quartermaster returned to Maine at the close of the war. A few years later tales - and were flying over the state with these - had been an attempted robbery of the Stone Rock Bank at Rockland, that the burglars had been arrested, and that among them was a prominent business man of the town. As the members of an old regiment read his name, they saw it was the ex-quartermaster of Maine I have been visiting. The man tried, found guilty, and sentenced to serve a term of years in the state prison. Far better if he had filled a soldier's grave. When he was released from state prison he left for parts unknown.

In the winter we were moved out of our brigade to avoid the spread of small pox.

x April 1<sup>st</sup> 1863. J. H. Krawlen returned from the hospital.

5<sup>th</sup>. A snow storm of 4 inches.

8<sup>th</sup>. We went on picket. Some of our regt's men saw a man in the night and discharged his rifle at him and he fled.

11<sup>th</sup>. We returned to camp.

13<sup>th</sup>. I went on camp guard.



There was a force of Cavalry passed our camp in the direction of Kellys Ford. Sidney and Prentiss called to see me as they passed. 14<sup>th</sup> We have marching orders to be ready to move tomorrow morning.

15<sup>th</sup> We have no orders to strike tents yet. a rumor that the cavalry met the enemy at Marentan. It has rained hard all the morning. 16<sup>th</sup> I recd a letter from home. 17<sup>th</sup> I recd a paper from home. A rumor that our troops are at Gardonsville.

20<sup>th</sup> It rained most all day. 21<sup>st</sup> Fair and cold. Corporal Libby returned from M.C. he had 13 days furlough.

22<sup>nd</sup> I was on guard. Our Regt. changed camp ground about a mile onto smallpox hill. It commenced raining in the night.

23<sup>rd</sup> We was relieved from guard and followed the regt. to the new camp.

It rained hard most all day. Free men and I pitched our tent together.

24<sup>th</sup> Got letters from Frances and Nathaniel Coffin.

25<sup>th</sup> News that our troops were doing well at Charleston. We signed the furloughs.

26<sup>th</sup> Sunday. Fine weather. We recd a letter from home.

April 27<sup>th</sup> A part of the army moved this morning. Colonel Ames went on a Genl's staff because he could not take his regt into battle on account of spreading small-pox.

28<sup>th</sup> Cold and cloudy. The 13<sup>th</sup> N.Y. regt. started far behind from the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade.

29<sup>th</sup> We was paid off. I went on guard.

Troops were passing here all day. We can hear a cannon occasionally all day. Our

30<sup>th</sup> troops are making good progress crossing the Rappahannock. There was a row up to the switch in the evening owing to whiskey.

May 1<sup>st</sup> Fair and warm. We can hear the cannon fire in a while. some distances away both up and down the river.

Rumors that the rebels are just where we want them. I got my picture taken.

2<sup>nd</sup> The ball opened this morning another and nearer than before. It appears to be just below Fredricksburg.

3<sup>rd</sup> We have orders to march to Banks Ford as soon as possible. Marched and relieved the 13<sup>th</sup> N.Y. regt. that was guarding the telegraph line from Palmeth to the ford. There was a hard battle.



going on over the river. The 6<sup>th</sup> Corps took  
 Fredericksburg heights, and the old Washington  
 battery that was lost at the first battle of  
 Bull Run. Our folks took the 23<sup>rd</sup> Georgia  
 regiment. They were captured up the river.  
 Three Companies and the Calanah escaped  
 before they were made fast. The rebels were  
 marched passed us and complained of being  
 dreadfully hungry and opened our sugar  
 sack to them and they said they would re-  
 member us if they ever got us in a hard place.

4<sup>th</sup> Sharp firing about 7 o'clock A.M.  
 Canonading steadily thren the day.  
 The rebels came in on the heights behind  
 the 6<sup>th</sup> Corps near night and drove them  
 back to the river and cut off their commu-  
 -ation with the city which left them cut  
 off from our lines unless by crossing  
 the river without a bridge. The 6<sup>th</sup> Regt  
 were in that corps and a great many  
 of them swam the river and got out the  
 best they could. Sturges carefully reported  
 across the river.

5<sup>th</sup> Same firing in the morning.  
 The 6<sup>th</sup> Regt all right. Lost the amount  
 of a regt. lost out of the whole Corps.

Our army recrossed the river and moved  
 back to camp.

6<sup>th</sup> We started for camp about sunset  
 and we had a dark time of it. Got in  
 about eleven o'clock at night.

7<sup>th</sup> At our old camp cleaning ourselves  
 and guns. Orders to be ready to move  
 at an hours notice with three days  
 rations in our haversacks.

8<sup>th</sup> Still in camp nothing new.

9<sup>th</sup> Fair and warm. No drill.

10<sup>th</sup> Sunday. An inspection at nine  
 o'clock A.M. Divine service P.M.

Got a letter from home and from Frederick.

11<sup>th</sup> Drill two. 12<sup>th</sup> Drill three and  
 visited the 1<sup>st</sup> New York. 13<sup>th</sup> Drill.

14<sup>th</sup> Went on picket.

15<sup>th</sup> We took our turn on post. Got a letter  
 from F. 16<sup>th</sup> Stay in position.

wrote a letter to Frances and Frederick.

17<sup>th</sup> Returned to camp.

18<sup>th</sup> Our Regt. marched to the R.R.  
 station to escort the 17<sup>th</sup> N.Y. regt  
 to the cars. They belong to our brigade  
 and was going home 19<sup>th</sup> We went on a  
 review near Falmouth and camped near  
 Fredericksburg



The 2<sup>d</sup> Maine Vols start home

20<sup>th</sup> I went to the station to see the

2<sup>d</sup> Meo regt start for home.

21<sup>st</sup> Went to the old 2<sup>d</sup> Meo regt camp to see Gilman Gault. A drunk man, man was wanted to fight with me but I baffled him.

22<sup>nd</sup> Moved camp onto the picket line into the brigade for actual service.

23<sup>rd</sup> Some of the 2<sup>d</sup> Meo boys came to the regt for duty.

24<sup>th</sup> Gilman Gault to go to for duty

We had a brigade drill and parade at night

28<sup>th</sup> Started for the W. S. Guard. got there in the evening.

29<sup>th</sup> A picket was detached and I was with the rest. We can see the enemy across the river and talk with them. They mistrust an attack. Two of our men went in swimming and met two of the rebels in the middle of the river and shook hands and passed the time of day and then returned to their own shores.

The rebels say Wm. Chatham is our best man. 30<sup>th</sup> We come off picket.

31<sup>st</sup> Wrote letters home. Sunday at sea's day.

A Ellis Ford Va

June 1<sup>st</sup> 1863

I got a letter from Frances and Sophia Coffin

2<sup>nd</sup> Wrote letters to Nathaniel Coffin and his sister Sophia

4<sup>th</sup> At nine o'clock we had orders to be ready to move at a moments notice. Started for Ellis Ford at eleven o'clock and marched ten miles and camped till morning and came near the ford at noon and camped.

6<sup>th</sup> Come of guard in the morning.

Wrote to Frances and Celesta.

8<sup>th</sup> Wrote to Sidney. Still under marching orders

9<sup>th</sup> Cananading on the right and firing all day. went on picket at night the rebels drew off their pickets.

10<sup>th</sup> The rebel pickets appeared again.

We heard there was a big cavalry fight at Brandy station

11<sup>th</sup> We had a skirmish drill. I was fixing my tent. 12<sup>th</sup> Wrote a letter home.

13<sup>th</sup> Marched to Warisville in the night

14<sup>th</sup> Started at noon and passed through Elkton and Weaversville and camped for the night.



June 15<sup>th</sup> We started at noon and marched  
thru Elktown, and Weanersville and camped  
for the night.

16<sup>th</sup> We started in the morning and mar-  
ched to Neanawas Junction. When we  
halted I found myself nearly dancant  
by hard marching and the heat and was  
obliged to fall out of the ranks and throw  
away my load except gun and equipme-  
nts, blanket and canteens. Fortunately  
for me the regt filed off into the woods  
and went into the shade for the remainder  
of the day and night. Our regt went on picket  
on the east side of the R.R.

16<sup>th</sup> We was relieved by the 16<sup>th</sup> Michigan regt.  
and returned to the camp. (Col. Canty was shot.)

17<sup>th</sup> We marched from the junction to the  
bull run battle field and Shantilla and  
camped at Gumsprings. Col. Chamber-  
lin of our regt was very sick all night.

18<sup>th</sup> Said still all day the 16<sup>th</sup> Michigan  
went on picket. The cavalry had a fight  
at Ables, and the wounded passed us.

The 1<sup>st</sup> Mo. Cav. participated in the  
fight.

19<sup>th</sup> We went on picket and relieved the

16<sup>th</sup> Michigan regt. We marched at 4 o'clock.  
P.M. for Ables and arrived at sunset.

I saw Sidney and Osren Baskell and they  
said Prentiss was in the front. The Cav.  
has been fighting at Middletown and lost  
heavy. Jim Drew was wounded

20<sup>th</sup> Saturday. A rainy morning. We lay  
in camp all day. I went to see the Cav.  
hays. that regt was on picket in front.

21<sup>st</sup> Our Colonel is off duty and we dread  
to go into action without him. Colonel  
Cannes of an other regt was sent to  
command ours and the boys have great  
confidence in him and feel jeryous  
over the matter. We marched for  
Middletown and went out on the left  
of the town. I saw the 1<sup>st</sup> Mo. Cav.  
We then marched in line of battle and  
went into the woods or short distance  
when the batteries opened and we took  
the field and advanced for about a  
mile and a half, and then reloaded  
us. We had one man killed and six wounded.  
Our skirmishers took some prisoners. Scient.  
Marill of Co B recognised a reb Scient  
among so then that he had worked with on  
Penahscot river and talked with him.



26)

Leesburg &amp; Edwards ferry

22<sup>nd</sup> We fell back near the town in the A.M.  
I saw Sidney and Prentiss. In the P.M. we fell  
back to the old ground in the rear of  
Hides and camped for the night.

23<sup>rd</sup> A quiet with no hearing distance.

24<sup>th</sup> I went on guard in the morning.

the regt. went on picket at night and  
I went with them.

25<sup>th</sup> We come off picket.

26<sup>th</sup> We marched to Leesburg and across  
the Potomac at Edwards Ferry and marched  
three miles up the river and camped.

27<sup>th</sup> We lay in camp near Frederick  
City Maryland and drew clothing.

28<sup>th</sup> We had an inspection.

29<sup>th</sup> We marched thru Frederick and  
Liberty and towards Union and camped  
for the night. Charles Prentiss of Co  
H is carrying the regimental flag.  
he gets a plenty of liquor on the  
march and gets drunk and abuses the  
officers and falls out after the flag  
is taken from him. The rear guard  
tries to keep him up but finally  
has to leave him behind.

Across the Md &amp; Pa line to Hanover

27

He is reduced to the ranks and is absent  
without leave.

30<sup>th</sup> We marched thru Union then  
thru our skirmishers, crossed over  
to Union Mills and camped.

July 1<sup>st</sup> 1863. The rebels left here yesterday  
morning with considerable cavalry.

We marched this morning for Hanover  
Pennsylvania and arrived there at 4 o'clock.  
Grate enthusiasm prevailed when  
we crossed the state line. We lay at  
Hanover two hours then started for  
Gettysburg in the evening and marched  
until two o'clock at night and cam-  
ped within three miles of the town.

2<sup>nd</sup> We got up early and had an inspec-  
-tion of arms and marched about  
two miles and halted in an orchard.  
Same firing all day. I saw John  
Wescoat and Henry Wallace while laying  
here. About 4 o'clock the battle was  
raging fearfully when all at once  
the command rang out, Fall in. 20<sup>th</sup>.  
By the right flank, forward march.  
We marched like horses until  
we reached the left of our line of battle.



A little Round-top Gettysburg

On the right by file into line: rangans from Colonel Chamberlin, and the line officers and swung into line facing to the front and over little round top.

Orders were given to Lieut. Marshall commanding Co. B. to advance and deploy as skirmishers. No sooner said than done and our men Co. B. to the front and left to protect our flank and was soon out of sight in the woods.

We had not been in position more than fifteen minutes when the skirmishers on our right front was forced back into the ranks and the enemy advanced close after them. When the enemy's line was in sight they were at short range and we opened fire on them and they replied with great fury. There was a dreadful roar for a time when the rebels came round on our left so that the left of our regt. had to pass a few rods to the rear to prevent a cross fire from the enemy. There was held them with heavy loss and such odds against us that we see it would not do to try to hold them much longer.

Charge the rebel lines

Col. Chamberlin gave the order fire bayonets. Charge bayonets charge and of no went with a wild yell that surprised the enemy, they at that time being not over four rods from us. They had but little time to choose between surrender or cold steel, so the most of their front line dropped their rifles and stepped to our rear for safety. I took two prisoners from behind a rock where I had been selecting my targets for some time and others lay there lifeless. I passed them to the rear and made my way with the rest of our survivors after the retreating foe. We took two hundred prisoners in the charge. The prisoners say they had a whole brigade muscled on our left. They say that their brigade was Stone's all Georgia brigade and never was repulsed before. One of their regts was the 15<sup>th</sup> Alabama and the 4<sup>th</sup> Georgia and they fought like devils. After we had cared for wounded and buried the dead we had orders to advance and hold a hill that was still in our front and our men went with but little opposition.



We secured the position as ordered and threw our skirmishers down to the foot of the hill, but none to soon for the rebels just advancing to secure the same hill that we now had in our grasp.

But it was so dark that they could not see us and did, not mistaking us for same time. They wanted challenge us and ask what regt. and we wanted answer by telling them one that we had taken as prisoners and would get them so near, that we would make them surrendered and we would take them in. The rebels made a bling move and marched a whole company threw our line and was prisoners before they knew it.

We stand and held the position all night

The casualties of Co. H. 20<sup>th</sup> Me. Vols. July 27/63

1<sup>st</sup> Sargt. C. W. Steel. shot dead in breast.

Sargt. J. N. Scatthrap shot in hands died 14<sup>th</sup>.

Cartorah J. Mc. Silby shot in right hand.

Private Aaron Coleman in breast died inst.

Sadwin Ireland shot in neck died inst.

Frederick Sampson shot in hands died the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

G. W. Buck shot in right shoulder, died 14<sup>th</sup>.

B. H. French wounded in left leg.

amputated below the knee

B. J. Clifford wounded in the face lost an eye.

H. Chesley in neck. B. Hilt in shoulder.

Mc. Hann thumb shot off. J. West arm bruised.

E. Marisan side slight. G. F. Walker

knee bruised. Our line was drawn in

just before day and lay down on the

top of the hill without taking off

our harness, and slept a few minutes.

July 3<sup>rd</sup> In the morning one rebel was sent from the picket line loaded with combs

and he got lost looking for water and

was taken prisoner. We were moved to the

right a mile and lay in reserve behind

a stone wall ready for any emergency.

There was terrific fighting three the

day but we was not called in. The

rebels were unable to break our lines but

got their own broke.

14<sup>th</sup> But little firing three the day.

I wrote a letter to Frances.

5<sup>th</sup> We advanced in line of battle

across the field covered with dead men

and horses, up to a road but saw no

enemy. In the orchard by a house lay

piles of loaves of bread that the rebels,



had forced the men of the neighborhood to make for them, and they left in such haste that they could not take it with them. I should think that there was 500 lbs in the two piles that I see. A hurn was burned here with many bodies in it, and some round the outside. One reb officer was found closed to the hurn with his clothes all burned off, but a packet lay on his leg and in the fold was a wallet that contained a letter that showed who he was and a fine gold ring. We did not stay here long before we turned about and went back across the same field and near dark started towards Antietam creek. We marched that night in the mud and it was so dark that we could not see our horse before us and the officers had lanterns.

We got to a covered bridge about twelve o'clock at night and camped.

6<sup>th</sup> Orders was read that the rebels parsons were captured at Williams Port.

7<sup>th</sup> We marched within 5 miles of Frederick.

8<sup>th</sup> We marched early in the morning

and it rained very hard. We camped at Middleton. I wrote to Harvill.

9<sup>th</sup> We marched to near Boonsborough. Colonel Vinsant promoted to brigadier general.

Our Co with the others guarded the ordnance train over the Antietam mountain.

10<sup>th</sup> We marched across the Antietam creek and threw out skirmishers and advanced in line of battle.

With sharp picket firing, took some prisoners and got some men wounded. Our Co went on picket at night.

11<sup>th</sup> We skirmished until three o'clock, then joined the brigade and advanced in line of battle two miles and commenced skirmishing. A shower came up and we were relieved by the third corps.

We moved back a short distance and camped in line of battle. I got a letter from Harvill and Harvill informed me of Lucinda Fellows death.

13<sup>th</sup> We lay in line of battle and it is a rainy day. We struck tents and went in front of our breast works, and a detachment from our Brigade went on picket



July 14<sup>th</sup> 1863 The rebels left in the night and our army advanced in the morning to Williamsport.

15<sup>th</sup> We marched to Lucktown.

16<sup>th</sup> We marched down to the river.

17<sup>th</sup> We marched across the river and to Seawittsville and camped.

18<sup>th</sup> We marched about 7 miles into the Lander valley and camped by a brook.

19<sup>th</sup> We marched about five miles. A 2<sup>nd</sup> Co lay got wounded by another fellow handling a cavalrymans revolver carelessly. He got wounded in the ankle.

I commenced drawing rations for the Co. The boys relied on an old cresset because he refused to take the oath of allegiance to the U. S. government and took whatever provisions they could find.

20<sup>th</sup> We marched three miles and towards Upperville and camped for the night.

21<sup>st</sup> Lay in camp. 22<sup>nd</sup> marched to Rocktown.

23<sup>rd</sup> We marched into the Thompsons gap. Sharp skirmishing in the afternoon.

We took the point at dark and two companies went on picket till morning.

24<sup>th</sup> The pickets skirmished in the morning.

onto a mountain without any resistance. We then moved back about a mile and went into camp. We were short of rations and was very hungry for our supply train was not allowed near the point. so we had to forage for food but could find but little except wild blackberries and they were found in abundance.

25<sup>th</sup> We moved back out of the gap and south near the mountain.

A night camp. H. D. & S. went on picket. Some of the boys captured a beehive full of honey, and the hive was swarming in the morning.

26<sup>th</sup> We marched within three miles of Warrenton and camped.

27<sup>th</sup> We marched three Warren and three miles to the south and camped. A runner that we are to stay here two weeks.

28<sup>th</sup> Lay in camp. 29<sup>th</sup> I got a letter from Prentiss. 30<sup>th</sup> Lay in camp. 31<sup>st</sup> In camp.

Aug 1<sup>st</sup> Nothing of importance occurred for a few days but the usual routine of duty. 2<sup>nd</sup> A detail to go to Bealton station. The remainder of us staid till about



six o'clock and then marched near Faettville. 4<sup>th</sup> We established our camp. Sharp cannonading at Rappahannock Station. The rebels tried to cross the river and we drove them back taking some prisoners.

5<sup>th</sup> All quiet today.

6<sup>th</sup> We had a dress parade at night.

7<sup>th</sup> We had a drill in the A.M. and P.M.

8<sup>th</sup> We marched to Bremer's Ford.

9<sup>th</sup> Shifted camp to the river in the morning and divine service P.M.

10<sup>th</sup> We drill twice today.

11<sup>th</sup> A Co drill A.M. and Battalion drill P.M.

Wrote a letter to my brother Frederick.

12<sup>th</sup> We had a very heavy thunder shower last night.

13<sup>th</sup> Breezy in the morning and fair at night.

14<sup>th</sup> Our Regt. was paid off. I got \$12, and

B.H.C. was held for the alarm call.

The writer returned from Washington.

15<sup>th</sup> A detail for fatigue duty.

They dug rifle pits on the bank of the river. A detail from our brigade was picked up & put in camp.

Aug 16<sup>th</sup> Masardis boys visit me.

Sunday. John Wescott was at our regt. to see us. His regt. lay at Kelly's Ford at the 12<sup>th</sup> corps headquarters a meeting at five o'clock P.M.

17<sup>th</sup> We drilled twice. I wrote to Sidney.

18<sup>th</sup> Received a letter from Frances written Aug 5<sup>th</sup> and mailed the 11<sup>th</sup>. I answered the same letter.

19<sup>th</sup> A brigade drill at 3 1/2 o'clock P.M. After getting into the field and drilling a while I found myself unable to drill with comfort so I got excused and went to camp.

20<sup>th</sup> I got excused from duty by the Surgeon on the account of not being well.

21<sup>st</sup> Excused from duty, but no better. I wrote a letter to Gilman & Gould, in Jarvis Hospital, Baltimore M.D. Jefferson Smith was here to see me. He is at the 12<sup>th</sup> Corps Commissary. to help drive beef cattle. He is well and says our Portage Lake pilot is with him and is well also. A soldier was picked up in the river about 60 rods from our camp, drowned.



## Execution of 5 deserters

Probably he was in the river bathing, for the soldiers are in bathing all times of day.

22<sup>nd</sup> I am on duty again and feel well. Today is the day for us to wash and clean up for Sunday.

23<sup>rd</sup> A regimental inspection at 8 o'clock A.M. Divine service at 5 o'clock P.M.

24<sup>th</sup> Co drill at 9 o'clock A.M.

Battalion drill at 4 o'clock P.M.

25<sup>th</sup> I wrote letters to Frances and Fred and Meany Cass.

26<sup>th</sup> No drill. Orders came that every man that was not excused by the surgeon must go to see the five convicted deserters shot. The execution of the five deserters is postponed till tomorrow the 29<sup>th</sup> inst.

27<sup>th</sup> Nothing but drill for two days.

29<sup>th</sup> The whole corps assembled to witness the execution of five deserters at 4 o'clock P.M. It was a hard sight, and one that will long be remembered.

30<sup>th</sup> A regimental inspection at 8 o'clock A.M. Divine service at 5 o'clock P.M.

31<sup>st</sup> Men mustered for pay at 9 A.M.

## I got a pass to go to Washington

Sept 1<sup>st</sup> Drill twice. got a letter from <sup>Frank</sup> Ho's

2<sup>nd</sup> Drill twice and an other letter.

A detatch from our brigade for picket.

3<sup>rd</sup> Drill twice, 4<sup>th</sup> Drill twice.

5<sup>th</sup> This is washing day with us.

I sent a New York Herald to Mrs. Carpenterwait in care of Eben Trafton.

6<sup>th</sup> An inspection at 8 o'clock A.M. Divine service at 5 P.M.

7<sup>th</sup> Drill twice. I got a letter from Fredrick and Mrs. Carpenterwait

8<sup>th</sup> Co drill A.M. Brigade drill P.M.

9<sup>th</sup> Wash day. I got a fine gold ring of V.B. Fox to send home. One other just arrived from Washington

10<sup>th</sup> Co drill A.M. Brigade drill P.M.

I wrote a letter to Fredrick

11<sup>th</sup> Co drill A.M. Shifted camp about 60 rods

12<sup>th</sup> We fixed up our tents

13<sup>th</sup> We cleaned up the old camp ground.

14<sup>th</sup> Company drill twice.

15<sup>th</sup> Co drill A.M. My leave of absence came and I started for



I visit Fort Sumner and Delmon.

beeton station. I left the station on the train at dark and got to Alexandria at twelve o'clock at night. 16<sup>th</sup> I started for Washington at seven o'clock in the morning on board of the steamboat. We were 3/4 of an hour on the way to the city. I started for Fort Sumner and got there at noon. Found the boys all well, in the 1<sup>st</sup>. We heard artillery which was the 18<sup>th</sup> Maine infantry when they left the state.

17<sup>th</sup> I had a good time at the fort. I wrote a letter to Frances and sent the ring I brought to her.

18<sup>th</sup> We went down to Washington. It rained all of the forenoon.

We went into the capitol and into the Smithsonian institute. Had a good time. Got back to camp near sunset. I saw Dr. Elkins that used to practice at Ashland. I got a fiddle string for a Frenchman and the plaid all of the evening and we had a good time.

Return to the front

Oct 19<sup>th</sup> I started for the front. My regt. left Beverly Yard while I was away so I took the cars to Culpepper, and found the regt. two miles south west of the town.

20<sup>th</sup> I fixed up my tent. We had an inspection at 9 o'clock A.M. Divine service at three P.M.

21<sup>st</sup> Sidney was here to see me and staid all day. We got our pictures taken together. He told me that Prentiss was dismounted and is at Culpepper.

22<sup>nd</sup> Prentiss went to his regt. with a squad and called to see me. He is well. We have eight days rations on hand for a man. We signed the pay rolls in the evening. I got two letters from home and answered them.

23<sup>rd</sup> Our Regt. came in from picket and we were paid off. Our boys went back on picket at night. The cavalry had a fight in front yesterday. A rumor that Rosecrans is having hard fighting on the Cumberland.



- 24<sup>th</sup> I saw two of my old schoolmates in the afternoon. Haskell and Shepley belonging to the 1<sup>st</sup> Me Cavalry. Sidney and Prentiss called to see me in the evening, as their regt. was going back to Culpepper. I also see Ellis Fraser for the first time since I got to Va. He is well.
- 25<sup>th</sup> Nothing of importance today.
- 26<sup>th</sup> All quiet along the Rappahannock.
- 27<sup>th</sup> Sunday. An inspection at ten A.M. Shining services P.M.
- 28<sup>th</sup> We had a review at eleven o'clock A.M.
- 29<sup>th</sup> All quiet along the line.
- 30<sup>th</sup> Had a Brigade drill.
- Oct 1<sup>st</sup> All quiet today.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> It commenced raining in the morning. Clear at night.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> A recruiting officer was here getting men to go into the 6<sup>th</sup> Maine Battery.
- 4<sup>th</sup> A recruiting officer from the 6<sup>th</sup> Me battery here recruiting. I got a letter from home and returned ans.
- 5<sup>th</sup> Still trying to get men into the battery.

- 6<sup>th</sup> A detail for picket duty at two o'clock P.M.
- 7<sup>th</sup> Showery in the afternoon.
- 8<sup>th</sup> Showery in the morning but cleared off at noon.
- 9<sup>th</sup> A detail from the brigade for picket.
- 10<sup>th</sup> We struck tents and went out in front about four miles and returned at night.
- 11<sup>th</sup> I had orders in the late evening to draw rations for a long march. We had been on the tramp and I was very tired but still must not fail to supply the hungry. We broke camp and evacuated Culpepper and marched across the Rappahannock and to our old camp ground at Beaverly Ford. I wrote a letter home.
- 12<sup>th</sup> We crossed the river and drove the rebels to Brandy Station and camped on a horseback for the night.
- 13<sup>th</sup> We started at three o'clock in the morning and recrossed to near cattle station. Blew up the RR bridge when we left the river.



Oct 14<sup>th</sup> The ball opened in the direction of Manassas gap.

We fell back to broad run stream and halted to get dinner. We had just got done when we were ordered to put on the fires, then we started and had not been gone more than five minutes when the ball opened and the rebels shelled the ground where we eat our dinner.

We then fell back to Manassas junction and the firing still continued. We stood there until about sunset, and then double-quick back to where the firing commenced, about four miles.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> division of our 5<sup>th</sup> Corps and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps done the fighting that afternoon. They charged on the rebel battery taking five guns out of six, and about 300 prisoners. We did not lose but few men.

As General Griffin rode along I heard him say, men for God sake, was there no way that you could not have taken that other gun.

About 9 o'clock in the evening we commenced to fall back and stopped on Bull run heights to see the 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry. They had been from their brigade some days and was supposed prisoners, but came out all right, 15<sup>th</sup> We fell back to Fairfax.

It commenced raining and it was bad camping out. I got up at eleven o'clock at night and drew rations for the company.

16<sup>th</sup> We lay in all day, and started back to Sentermill in the evening. It rained very hard all the time we were marching.

17<sup>th</sup> We lay in camp all day.

18<sup>th</sup> We marched from Sentermill back to near Fairfax and had orders to build good quarters for us and probably stay some time.

19<sup>th</sup> Early in the morning the bugle sounded strike tents and we started to march at sunrise and went in the direction of Sentermill, passed over the heights and marched to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Bull run field and camped over night.



Oct 20<sup>th</sup> New Baltimore.

We marched at three o'clock in the morning and halted near New Baltimore and camped.

21<sup>st</sup> We lay still all day. The 1<sup>st</sup> Mo Cavalry passed in the evening. I saw Prentiss. Sidney is away to Washington Lane. Prentiss gave me a letter he had from our brother Storer in California.

22<sup>nd</sup> We moved camp about 40 rods.

23<sup>rd</sup> I wrote a letter to Storer in California. We moved camp about a mile.

24<sup>th</sup> A rainy day and we lay in. Marched in the evening to Auburn about 4 miles.

25<sup>th</sup> We moved camp about 40 rods and pitched tents.

26<sup>th</sup> Lay in camp all day.

27<sup>th</sup> We heard some cannonading in the direction of Rappahannock station, and in the direction of Alexandria. We drilled P.M.

28<sup>th</sup> A squad drill A.M. and P.M.

A letter from Storer in California

Two mile station. A sprained foot.

29<sup>th</sup> Struck tents early in the morning and marched to what is called the two mile station on the Warrenton R.R. I made special requisition for some fresh pork with a hatchet, the same being a Va ranger. It proved hard for me to overtake him. I got one cliff over his ears and he gave up. I soon put an end to him and we had some fresh pork for supper.

The pig was divided into as many parts as there was comrades participating in the race.

30<sup>th</sup> We lay still all day.

31<sup>st</sup> We were mustered for pay. I saw Sid. Nov 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday. Divine services P.M. Inspection A.M. Planned my foot and leg while drawing rations P.M.

2<sup>nd</sup> We moved camp about 5 rods.

3<sup>rd</sup> We moved camp about eight rods back for a better piece of ground. The Genl is full of notions.

A great deal of hard feelings towards them by lower officers and men.



Nov 4<sup>th</sup> We lay in camp. Nothing near

5<sup>th</sup> All quiet for two days

7<sup>th</sup> At 4 o'clock in the morning  
the bugle sounded for reveille.

Orders came to move at 10 o'clock.  
I having a lame foot could not  
march in the ranks so I stum-  
bled along as well as I could.

I came to Bealton Station and  
heard cannonading in the directi-  
on of Kelley's ford. The troops  
were all ahead of me so I pushed  
on as fast as I could. Soon the  
halt opened at the Rappahannock  
Station. In a short time I could  
hear the musketry. That morning  
a detail was on picket from  
our brigade, so they moved out  
in front of the line of battle  
as skirmishers. I expected our  
regt. was in the fight, but none  
was in except the skirmishers.

Two of my company was wounded.  
Joseph Winslow slight and a third  
with the Co. Seth Mc Guire  
in the leg breaking a bone.

I made out to get as far as our  
division hospital at dark and  
camped there until morning.

8<sup>th</sup> In the morning I was informed  
that my regt. was ordered to Kelley's  
ford so I followed the teams and  
found the regt. at night on the south  
side of the Rapp. river about two  
miles from the ford. I saw a squad  
of about 300 rebel prisoners

9<sup>th</sup> We lay still all the forenoon. Our  
division general was riding  
passed when some man mistook  
him for the division or brigade  
quartermaster and shouted out  
(because we were all short of bread)  
Hard tack. The cry was passed  
from mouth to mouth for some  
distance. Orders came from the  
general to fall under heavy marching  
orders, and less than half an hour  
all able bodied men were having  
what was ever after called the  
Hard tack drill. We drew rations  
and packed up and moved back  
across the river in the evening



Nov 10<sup>th</sup> We moved back a mile into the meads and pitched tents to do guard duty in rear of the teams. A detail was made for picket. Some say we shall stay some time but I consider it uncertain.

11<sup>th</sup> I commenced to fix a good tent and more details to strengthen the picket line which took my tent mate

12<sup>th</sup> No news of importance.

13<sup>th</sup> All quiet. Our pickets were relieved.

14<sup>th</sup> We had a review at 1 o'clock P.M.

It rained all night.

15<sup>th</sup> Raining in the morning. Fair P.M. Canonading in the morning. Orders to be ready to move at a moments notice.

16<sup>th</sup> A fair morning, no more yet.

17<sup>th</sup> I went on picket at ten o'clock.

18<sup>th</sup> Still on picket. No news.

19<sup>th</sup> We heard the bugle blowing strike tents early in the morning. We had orders and withdrew the pickets and followed the troops across the river. We camped about two miles on the south side of the Rappahannock.

Very still all day.

21<sup>st</sup> It commenced raining in the morning.

Signed pay rolls P.M.

22<sup>nd</sup> We were paid off.

23<sup>rd</sup> A drill.

24<sup>th</sup> It rained in the morning. We started to march and only went about a mile and returned to camp.

25<sup>th</sup> We lay in camp all day.

26<sup>th</sup> We marched at six o'clock in the morning. I was detailed for picket. We moved across the Rappahannock river and near Chancellerswill and camped till morning. I was on picket that night.

27<sup>th</sup> We marched at sunrise in an easterly direction on a plank road, three or four miles and then turned to the right. Our teams were attacked by the rebel cavalry. Their men skirmishing in front all the afternoon. I saw Prentiss and was with him all the evening.

28<sup>th</sup> We marched to the right and opened communication with the second corps.



Nov 29<sup>th</sup> Our brigade started to the front before daylight to relieve a brigade of the second corps from picket. It was very muddy, and we did not get our posts until after sunrise. There was heavy picket firing while we was taking our posts. One man in Co. C. was wounded in the arm. Some picket firing all day. The rebel breastworks are all in sight about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile from ours. The rebel flags are flying all in sight.

30<sup>th</sup> Our batteries opened in the morning but did not get much reply from the rebels. Some shelling from both sides in the afternoon. But few killed or wounded. The rebel army is intrenched on the opposite side of river from the union army and appear to be so strong that it seems to be useless to send firemen to drive them from their works, so Genl. Meade gives orders to prepare to fall back to the Rappahannock river.

Dec 1<sup>st</sup> But little firing throu the day.

We had orders to be in readiness to march at any moment. We were to be withdrawn sometime that night.

2<sup>nd</sup> We were withdrawn from the picket line at three o'clock in the morning and covered the retreat. We marched across the rapid and camped near Brandy station at night.

We had no trouble throu the day.

3<sup>rd</sup> We marched to the Rappahannock station and camped in the woods near by.

4<sup>th</sup> We relieved the third division of the first corps and took our place on the bank of the river close to a little rebel fort that we took from them a short time before. Our duty was to guard the R.R. Bridge.

5<sup>th</sup> I bought a tent and moved it on to my ground.

6<sup>th</sup> We buried a man that belonged to Co. H. His name was Otes Ireland from Presque Isle Maine.

7<sup>th</sup> We are all very busy building our quarters.



Dec 8<sup>th</sup> Nothing of importance.

9<sup>th</sup> I take a turn on camp guard.

10<sup>th</sup> I am on the sick list. A bad cold.

10<sup>th</sup> I am better this morning.

It is raining this afternoon.

12<sup>th</sup> We are at work fixing up our quarters, and cleaning up about the fort.

13<sup>th</sup> Sunday. A company inspected at 9 o'clock A.M. Dinner served at 3 P.M.

14<sup>th</sup> I am detailed for picket this morning.

15<sup>th</sup> I returned to camp. Sidney was here this afternoon. He was at camp for a while and was across the rapids. He is just returning to his reg<sup>t</sup> which is at Healdton station and is well.

16<sup>th</sup> A detail of over a hundred men from our reg<sup>t</sup> to build cadray near Healdton, and I was one of the squad.

17<sup>th</sup> It is raining hard this morning. The fatigue squad does not report today.

An officer was drowned.

Dec 18<sup>th</sup> It is still raining. We fell in to go on the rail road building cadray, but it is too wet. One of the 8<sup>th</sup> P. A. cavalry officers was drowned near here today. He was going to the station to take the car far home having a furlow in his pocket. His horse had to ford a small creek that was flooded by the recent rains so that the bank was under water, and the horse missed the track and when he came to the bank of the little break which was some two or three feet above the bed, fell and pitched the man over his head and tramped him under water until he was dead.

19<sup>th</sup> We went to finish our detail and got done before night.

20<sup>th</sup> An inspection in the morning.

Hiram Baker was here from the 7<sup>th</sup> Maine reg<sup>t</sup>. A man was drowned clearing away drift stuff from the rail road bridge.

21<sup>st</sup> The sky indicates a snow storm.



56 Maine Ladies visiting. Murder in a quarrel.

Dec 22<sup>nd</sup>. I was detached for picket and started at ten o'clock A.M.

23<sup>rd</sup>. Still on picket, no news.

24<sup>th</sup>. We returned from picket.

Some Maine ladies here to see their friends. One of these ladies is the wife of our quartermaster, Edwin Hitchfield of Rockland, Maine.

25<sup>th</sup>. Christmas day. I got a pass for Freeman Knowlen and myself and went to visit the 1<sup>st</sup>. Mo. Cavalry. We saw all of the boys and they were well. They had just got back from a scout of four days.

They went through the blue ridge, and to Surry, and burned four barns, the property assisting in the rebel cause, and rebel property to the amount of \$200,000. J. Coakley from Hamilton Mo, was shot in a quarrel by our Sargt. of a Pennsylvania regt. Whiskey was the cause of the trouble.

26<sup>th</sup>. Nothing new of importance.

27<sup>th</sup>. I expected Sidney and Ben's today but it commenced raining at nine o'clock and they did not come.

Jonathan Ireland from Maine

57

Dec 28<sup>th</sup>. All quiet along the line today.

29<sup>th</sup>. I was detached and went on rail road guard. It rained in the night.

30<sup>th</sup>. All quiet on the sappahanoock.

31<sup>st</sup>. We were relieved and returned and returned to camp. It rained all day. Jonathan Ireland came after his brothers body that was buried here last month.



At Rappahannock Station Va.

January 1<sup>st</sup> 1864

This fair sunshiny morning commences the new year. I wish it a happy new year to all my friends and relatives. I also wish it a successful new year to the union army and navy. I wish a happy new year to all who is true to the union cause and those who have good true friends in the army or navy, and hope this present year will bring them home to their friends and firesides.

We are now in winter quarters in a peaceable place for the purpose of guarding the government property and doing guard duty in the rear.

Soon a detail was made to go to our own state of Maine to recruit for our reg't. and I was detailed for one on special duty which of course was agreeable to a soldier that had been absent from home and friends for

On a detail to Maine  
sixteen months lying out on the cold ground, and enduring the hardships and dangers that we did.

On one morning bright and early we went aboard of the cars, with light hearts and steamed off for Alexandria where we arrived in due time and took the steamboat to Washington where we soon arrived. Capt. J. F. Lewis was in charge of our squad together with Capt. Clark. Transportation was soon procured and our train's passage on the train for Baltimore, then through the principal cities of Philadelphia, New York, Boston, Portland, and to Augusta Me., where we were to receive orders and scatter out on our special duty of recruiting.

We staid at Augusta two nights and then Albert Roberts, and myself was assigned to our post at Lewiston where we found friends and relatives.

We went by way of Brunswick, and while waiting for the Lewiston train, I see an old friend and neighbor R. J. Knowlton step up to the ticket office



when I lay my hand on his shoulder and told him to halt. He was very much surprised to see me appear so unexpectedly when he supposed I was in Virginia. In stead of taking a picket for Bangor, he took one for Lewiston and went with me to see some of our old neighbors. My wife and his sister was in the cotton mills at the afore said city and we found them in the Foster mill and had a pleasant time at our meeting. A number of our neighbors girls was also at this mill. and we met them in the evening at their boarding house and had a good sashable chat. The next day Mrs Knowlton departed for home at Measardis in Aroostook Co. I had to look up a private boarding house for myself and wife for the corporation boarding house only took ladies to board so we boarded at Mrs Reass on Pine street. For a few days as I was sitting in the recruiting office I saw John Weagat an acquaintance going up the street towards

the Lewiston Hotel and went out and followed him up and found him which added me, more to our list of acquaintances in town and made it more pleasant for us all. I found my wifes mother over the river in dammill under the doctors care. I spent many weeks of pleasant comfort, but the time passed swiftly.

When pay day came I went to Augusta to get my pay but my descriptive list not being in the paymasters office I had to go to Portland to get my pay.

I got a furlow to go to Lewiston to visit my mother and father for a week and my wife and Benjamin as pleasant a week as possible for any one to enjoy. When we returned to Lewiston Mariah, and Sarah Drew, went with us for the purpose of working in the cotton mill.

After a short time I got a furlow to visit a sister in Dixfield, and my wife, his sister, and Elden and Gray went together and got to Dixfield late in the evening.



We had a pleasant visit, but it was somewhat interrupted by Celesta being taken sick. I called a doctor and he pronounced the disease the scarlet fever, but it proved to be the measles. She was quite sick for a day or two. My latest time being up, and my wife expecting to have the measles too, we were obliged to return to Lewisiston. We were obliged to lean Celesta behind for she was not well enough to travel. She was on the gaining hand when we left her. When I got to Lewisiston I rec'd orders to report to camp at Portland. I left my wife at Mess Bosses private boarding house for she had never had the measles and I knew in all reason she would be taken in a short time. I told her to write to me and I would try and get in pass to come back to take care of her. I reported at the provost marshal at Portland and then at camp Mason then to await further orders.

I soon got a letter that my wife was sick with the measles and I put in for a furlow to go to see her and got it after a hard trial. I returned to Lewisiston and found her quite sick. Her sister had returned and was able to care for her. I staid with her as long as I could and she was getting quite smart. A member of the girls in the mill of our acquaintance had the same disease. At last I was obliged to return to camp, so I reported to camp Mason.

We lay in camp here for about ten days and then were ordered to the front as Genl Grant had taken command of the entire U S forces and was bound to have every available man on duty. We proceeded direct to Washington, thence to Bell plains landing Va. We went ashore and a detail was soon made from our provisional brigade to go aboard of a gunboat. About 20 men were sent on board and I with the rest.



I see my old tentmate, <sup>Freeman #4 Koyanlen</sup> at Bell plains landing in a tent wounded severely in the foot. The army had been having hard fighting all along threw the wilderness and the wounded and prisoners were coming back in great numbers. That evening was very dark and our little gunboat did not put out until next morning. The sailors was very kind to us land lubbers and gave up their bunks to us and I had a splendid night's sleep that night. At day light in the morning our boat pulled down the Potomac some 8 miles and stopped at a signal station and got orders then moved up the river about two miles and put us ashore with orders to camp and guard a telegraph cable that lay across the river. We lay on the Va side and was liable to an attack at any time. Gunboats lay in the river to cooperate with us if needed.

On the Potomac guarding telegraph cable  
We had a merry easy time at this camp, for we had no stringent orders from a west point graduate and we enjoyed ourselves hugely if men could possibly in the army.

We had some new recruits, who had not as yet done picket duty in the dark, and whose imagination run high in regard to the enemy's stealthy movement upon our line.

A number of times the camp was aroused by the report of a musket fired by some of our pickets who imagined the enemy was creeping upon them in the dark. After the guard would fall in and march out in a hasty and uninvestigated tramble, by ranting a stray pig which was compelled to bark by night to procure food enough to live upon threw the heart of the day, while sleeping in the shade.

One morning just at day break an alarm was given and I reported and asked the cause of the alarm, and was informed that a party of men was seen



## Cable guard

up the river some two hundred yards, and commenced firing whereupon our picket had returned the fire, and our cavalry picket further out had fired at them and they had returned the fire. I could see the men at a distance, but could not believe judging from their movement that they were our enemy, so I got a small stick and hoisted a white handkerchief in the air and proceeded to advance towards them. They soon discovered me and proceeded the same as I had, and we soon came together. On inquiry I found that the men alluded to belonged to a gunboat that lay off in the river, to assist us in case of an attack, and they had come ashore to kill some beef and had fired the first shot at a fat steer. They gave some of the beef and I returned to camp well paid for my trouble. When we got short of meat we could get a plenty by strolling from camp a hundred yards or so.

## On a scout

One day we decided to go on a reconnaissance a couple of miles back from the river to see what we could discover. We at last came thru a piece of woods in sight of a fine farmhouse and determined to see if there was any men about it. We displayed as scouts and moved around the edge of the woods and then advanced on the buildings. In due time no men discovered and a man rushed from the house, evidently to reach the woods undiscovered, but our dogs being between him and the woods, he saw them and stopped and appeared altogether unconscious. We went up to the house in company with him and had quite a long talk with him. We had orders to arrest all suspicious persons and turn them over to the gunboats, but while talking with him, it was discovered that he belonged to the masonic order, and our commanding sergeant. Stoner of Co F was also a mason, and let him go free by good promises. His name was Grimes, and owned that he had arms in the house.



## At Fredericksburg.

After about ten days stay in this camp we were relieved and ordered to report to the peninsular marshal at Bell Plains landing. So we did and recd orders from him to report to the peninsular marshal at Fredericksburg and so we did and was quartered in an old hotel in that old historical city where we had fought in 1862. Here we lay about a week doing fatigue duty for the hospitals and whatever the peninsular marshal found to be done. Many of our sick and wounded were here and we assisted in aiding to their comfort, or at least allaying their suffering. I see some of my old regt and some of the 1<sup>st</sup> Me heavy artillery. I heard that my brother Fredrick was wounded, yet I could not find him.

I was detailed with twelve men to go over the river to Palmyra to unload wounded from the ambulances to the cars, enroute to Washington.

We started at twelve o'clock at night and finished the job about nine in the morning.

## Handling wounded men

Amongst the wounded I found one W. H. Bessy of my old Co H. 20 Me Vols with his right arm amputated above the elbow. He appeared very low and I did not expect to see him alive again. Just after the war closed I found him settled at Ashland, Meas took Co Maine. While we were here I visited the heights back of the city, where the rebels camped in the fall of 1862.



## Evacuation of Fredrickshurg 1864

May 28<sup>th</sup> This town was evacuated in the forenoon. The sick and wounded was taken on board of transports, and the able bodied men marched to Port Royal, having a hard days march and arriving at dark. No signs of the enemy as we expected.

29<sup>th</sup> A fair day. Each corps men were formed into a squad by themselves. Seargt Staver and a few others were detached to go to the wharf and unlading transports. Albert Roberts and I was detached with many others to guard trains across the country to the army.

30<sup>th</sup> A fair day. We started with the train at five o'clock A.M. A hard march. We camped at Newtown and I went on picket with 23 men which I had command of on the march. Three negroes came into our line in the night to ascertain if they would be allowed to run away with us. and returned for their flocks but did not get in in time to leave with us in the morning.

## Guarding trains to the front

This is near where Genl Dalgreen was killed last winter on Kilpatrick's road to Richmond.

31<sup>st</sup> A fair day. We started at six o'clock A.M. We camped 3 miles south of Comfort and 4 miles south of the Matapony river.

June 1<sup>st</sup> A fair day. We started at six o'clock in the morning. Crossed our rear picket line at ten o'clock A.M. Heard cannonading since yesterday morning. Saw a lot of prisoners and wounded going to the white house. We arrived at army headquarters at sunset. Sharp firing in the evening.

2<sup>d</sup> A fair day. We went to corps headquarters early in the morning. Got to our regt at 10 o'clock A.M. They lay in breast works and the pickets are firing. The line fell back at three o'clock P.M. about 80 rods to get a better position. A heavy shower while we were marching, and the rebels got on our right flank and fired into us but did not hurt us much.



Wm. Gerish leg amputated

Our Regt. had four men wounded.  
Falling back caused a sharp engage-  
ment and it lasted till after dark.

The rebels attacked the 4<sup>th</sup> corps which  
was on our right, and the rebels lost  
very heavy and had to fall back.

3<sup>rd</sup> A lovely day. Sharp skirmish-  
ing in the morning. We passed  
a line of battle and built breastworks.  
Wm. Gerish wounded in both legs.

breaking one and causing amputation.  
Wm. Gilmore wounded in the left elbow.

Both of these men belong to Co. H.

Sergt. Fred. Mann of Co. A. was  
killed by an exploded shell.

It mangled his leg close to his body.  
Albert Roberts was wounded slight  
in the cheek with a buckshot. It went  
into his mouth and came out through  
his cheek, but did not hit his teeth.

23 wounded and one killed in our  
regt. today

4<sup>th</sup> A fair day. Skirmishing all  
day. Three wounded in our regt.  
Heavy fighting on the left in the evening.  
We drove the enemy to their old position.

Fighting and marching

5<sup>th</sup> A fair morning. Raining at night.

We started to march but the order was  
countermanded and moved back.

I was detailed and went on picket.

Heavy picket firing. Another  
fight on the left in the evening.

6<sup>th</sup> Dull day in the morning.

The enemy tried to drive us out  
of our breastworks by advancing  
in a squad on one of the outposts.

They got within four rods of the  
post but could not stand the pressure  
and had to fall back in confusion.

They lost one man killed, shot  
in the head. He lived three hours  
and died. He belonged to the 12<sup>th</sup> Co.  
regt. They did not try it again.

On the P.M. another rebel was wounded  
and went off groaning. We were  
relieved at sunset and joined the regt.

7<sup>th</sup> Heavy firing all night.

We struck tents at one o'clock in  
the morning and started to march to  
the left. marched till six o'clock A.M.  
and halted. We drew shoes and rations.



Gains Mills, Bottoms Bridge & Cal's Harbor

We lay near Gains Mills until near night, then marched about three miles in the direction of Bottoms Bridge and camped for the night. The rebels threw some shells across the river but did no damage. One was a 64 lb shell.

8<sup>th</sup> A fair day. A detail of 100 men from our reg<sup>t</sup> were on picket. Our men and the rebels were about eight rods apart and both sides agreed not to fire on each other. The reg<sup>t</sup> that was in our front a year ago at W S Ford, is in our front today, and is the 4<sup>th</sup> Va Cavalry. The rebels throw a shell now and then and some of them came near brigade headquarters. Gen Grant is probably preparing to seize Richmond and the inhabitants say that it is more sure.

Soon after came the battle of Cal's Harbor the date of which I have lost together with all dates until the 14<sup>th</sup> inst on the south of James River.

City Point Va: Col Chamberlain wounded 5  
-died

Days and nights rolled by with their usual hardships and privations, but without many casualties in our reg<sup>t</sup> until after we crossed the James River, near City Point Va.

June 17<sup>th</sup> We moved up from near the James river and camped within three miles of Petersburg.

18<sup>th</sup> We advanced towards the town while there was very hard fighting in front. We halted in a field where the dead men lay scattered thick all over the ground, at the rate of one to each square rod. The union men and confederates, mixed all together, where they had charged alternately determined to hold the little marks that the rebels had thrown up for protection. Our Col. J S Chamberlain was wounded with a minnie ball threw the hips while commanding the 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade in the 12<sup>th</sup> Division of the 5<sup>th</sup> Corps. It was reported that the wound would prove fatal.



Cat Chamberlain was promoted to brigadier general by Gen Grant upon the field. In the afternoon we adjoined threw a piece of mounds and built breastworks.

19<sup>th</sup> A fair day. We lay in the same place picket firing and shelling all day. The 16<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 31<sup>st</sup>, 32<sup>nd</sup> Maine infantry, and the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Maine batteries, were within half a mile of each other. The 1<sup>st</sup> Me Heavy Artillery is within a mile of us.

A detail of 125 men went and picket at dark from our regt.

20<sup>th</sup> A fair day. Sargt. Storer was wounded in the leg. Our pickets came in at dark and no movement about a half a mile and stopped till morning. Shelling continually but little damage done.

21<sup>st</sup> A fair day. We moved to the left of the line and threw up breastworks. I saw some of the 1<sup>st</sup> Me Cavalry and they told me the regt was on a raid and had been gone ten days. They told me that Perentis was taken prisoner.

June 22<sup>d</sup> A fair day. We lay in breastworks all day. Heavy fighting on the left of the line. It is reported that our side lost four pieces of artillery and recaptured two. Heavy firing in the evening. We expect an attack in front. Capt. Keen, of Co. F, acting Major was killed. One man of Co. B. was shot dead in the head. One man of Co. I was wounded in the leg causing amputation. Picket firing all of the time.

23<sup>rd</sup> An order came for the formation of a battalion of sharpshooters to be selected from the different regts in the corps, and I signed to go into it.

24<sup>th</sup> A fair day. Heavy cannonading all along the line. Our line was shelled briskly here for some time but our battery played on them so that they had to drop up. One of our color guard was killed by a piece of a shell that struck him in his head and killed him instantly. He belonged to Co. B. Sargt. Harten came to the Co today.



June 25<sup>th</sup> A fair day. We are still in the breast works. Get no news.

26<sup>th</sup> All quiet along the line. A detail went on picket at night. Heavy firing on the right in the evening.

27<sup>th</sup> A fair and hot day. One sagget of co F was shot in the head and died in a few minutes. A shaver at night. We returned from picket.

28<sup>th</sup> A cool and fair day. Some cannonading on the right of the line.

All quiet in front of us. A calm night.

29<sup>th</sup> A fair but cool day. Cloudy P.M.

All quiet.

30<sup>th</sup> A calm cloudy windy day.

We was mustered for pay. We have been in the U.S. service 22 months.

July 1<sup>st</sup> We still lay in our marks doing camp guard, picket, fatigue, in posts, digging wells for water, &c. &c.

Capt. Spauld encouraged me at first to go into the sharpshooting battalion but after considering the matter concluded that he could not spare me so he tried to discourage me and got up

a stiff upper lip as he was capable of doing without any cause, so I gave it up, as it was to be a temporary affair and one more liable to return to the regt. at any time. Under these circumstances I gave it up. A mortar shell was thrown from the rebel batteries dropping on a man's shoulder (as he sat in his works with five or six of his comrades, eating his dinner) and killed him instantly.

He fell down over the hole that the shell made in the ground, then the shell exploded and tore him to fragments. I see him after they had gathered up the pieces and placed them on a stretcher for burial. His arms, legs and head was all that was found of him.

18<sup>th</sup> A fair day. A quiet along the line.

18 It commenced early in the morning to rain and continued all day.

20<sup>th</sup> Cleared of about eight o'clock A.M.

We moved out on to the front line of battle at five o'clock in the evening.

21<sup>st</sup> A fair day and quite calm. Firing in front of the 9<sup>th</sup> Corps.



July Genl Grant and Mead

Genl Mead came into the fort near by us to view the rebel marks.

22<sup>nd</sup> A fair day but cool. The first heavy artillery was an artillery within sixty rods of us. I went to their right.

Genl Mead & Grant came to the fort to view the enemy's marks.

Quite heavy musketry in sight on the right, at five o'clock but I don't think either side came out of the marks.

23<sup>rd</sup> The regt was detached to mark on a fort. A few shells were thrown at us but did no damage.

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday. Sidney and Tim Drew came to the regt to see me and stand to dinner. I went to the heavy artillery with them in the P.M. I came back in the evening. It commenced to rain and kept it up with heavy wind all night.

25<sup>th</sup> It stopped raining at seven o'clock in the morning.

26<sup>th</sup> A fair day. All quiet along the line.

27<sup>th</sup> A shell is occasionally thrown at our marking parties

July, Wounded in the face

Orders in the evening to move our tents ten rods to the right.

28<sup>th</sup> We moved our tents to the right and the left wing came in on our left. Soon after we got our tents pitched a rebel gun sent a shot close to my tent, cutting off a large stake that was stuck in the ground and threw a piece of it into my face cutting the skin on my jaw which made a scar for some time. Capt Sand moved standing within a foot of the stake at the time, and had just asked me about the number of rounds of ammunition to each man in the company. When the shot passed he went for his bandage and a double quick without asking any more questions. I then went back about 40 rods to the brigade hospital to have my wound dressed and when I returned, (in an hour) the boys had dug the missile out of the ground and found it to be a shot of twelve lbs weight.



July, Mine exploded

On the afternoon another shot came threw an other tent on the opposite side of the Co street and passed under my bunk not lodging in the ground. My being out of the tent at the time saved me at least a pair of legs.

July 29<sup>th</sup> We built our horn scrap.

The order was in the evening to finish them threw the night for the whole line will open at 4 o'clock in the morning.

30<sup>th</sup> We were all ranted up and ready for action at day light.

Soon after light we see a rebel fort about 1/2 mile to our right. It shot about 75 feet into the air.

This was done by undermining their fort and charging the mine with powder. At that time our batteries opened all along the line.

Small arms were used where the rebels were near enough, but the rebels held their fire for better times. At last our troops advanced in front of the crater and

July, Rebel Charge

charged on the enemy and drove them from the old ruins. Men were found hurled alive in the earth, half buried, mangled and hurt in all ways.

About mid-day the rebels charged in two lines across the field from the City to regain their last position and our side did but little to prevent them. Our troops that were now holding the old crater was negro troops from the 9<sup>th</sup> Corps and were ordered by their officers (which was drunk) not to cap their guns, and in this condition the rebel force came sweeping over the field carrying everything before them without resistance. The leading officers of the 9<sup>th</sup> Corps were all repasted in to the heart and I believe they must have been as they would have fallen up the advantage and closed the war in two months. But no, this was the many. A battle was lost, thousands of lives sacrificed and millions of money wasted for our government. by, treachery, prejudice, and whiskey. A rebel came in from their lines which was pressed in to the S.C. served from Florida.



## A flag of truce

July 31<sup>st</sup>. A fair morning.

All quiet in front of us. A little picket firing in the ninth corps.

The rebels are on their part in front of us repairing the damaged works by our artillery in yesterday's engagement. This afternoon our folks sent in a flag of truce to take of our wounded and hurry our desert between our lines, and the rebels went to headquarters to see if the privilege should be granted.

While they were gone our folks were permitted carry our wounded matter but would not let them be helped off. The flag is in sight of us and it looks as though they were hurrying the desert as loading the wounded but we can't tell.

Aug 1<sup>st</sup>. Our reg<sup>t</sup> went on picket last evening. All quiet on the line in our front. The flag of truce was granted and our killed and wounded were carried for. The pay rolls came and we signed them.

2<sup>nd</sup>. We were paid for pay and months \$74.

## Rebels deserting

There was some picket firing last night on account of some deserters coming into our lines. The rebels fired at them when they were coming in. 3<sup>rd</sup>. Our folks mistook that the rebels are undermining one of our forts, and are countermining to find them. They found them in one fort, and moved the artillery and so they could not do any damage. More firing on the line in the night. Deserters coming in. 4<sup>th</sup>. A fair day. I went to the 1<sup>st</sup> Mc Donnell which lay near Prince George court house. 3 1/2 miles from us. Sidney and Jim Crew came back with me.

5<sup>th</sup>. The rebel battery on our left has opened today for the first time since the day I was wounded. But little firing on the line in the forenoon.

At 5 o'clock P.M. the rebels sprung their mine they had under our fort but did no damage. As soon as the explosion took place they charged, and our line raked them from the marks prepared for the occasion. They lost heavy and fell back.



A Florida Coma<sup>script</sup>

An old rebel was between the lines when the ball apined, and lay down for safety until the din was over.

Then he came in and gave himself up. he was beat into the army about three weeks ago from the ~~west~~ east of Florida where he had been hiding for two years. He says the 8<sup>th</sup> Florida lay in front of us. He is bound north. 6<sup>th</sup> All quiet along the line. Chas Haskid from the 1<sup>st</sup> Mo Heavy Artillery and Geo Capers from the 8<sup>th</sup> Mo was here yesterday to see me.

7<sup>th</sup> An inspection at 9 o'clock A.M.

All quiet along the line.

8<sup>th</sup> I went on camp guard at dark.

We were roused up by picket firing in front, caused by deserters coming in, in the night and their own pickets firing at them.

News came that our folks had taken a part at the entrance of Mobile bay.

9<sup>th</sup> Two shells were fired from the rebel fort on our left, and one just in range of the guard house.

Spanner & Walker returns from hospital 87

One struck before it got to our breastworks, and flew up and burst but no damage. The other one was ranged higher, and went harmlessly over us to the rear. We heard a great explosion in the direction of city point, and the news came that one of our ammunition boats was blown up killing quite a number of men. The cause not known. I was relieved from guard.

10<sup>th</sup> Occasionally a shell from a gun in the 9<sup>th</sup> corps, is sent across and one is sent back in exchange. A few big guns were fired on our left in the night.

11<sup>th</sup> Our pickets talk with the rebels considerable. Shelling at five o'clock. P.M. but no harm done.

12<sup>th</sup> But few shells fired today.

13<sup>th</sup> Spanner and Walker returned from the hospital. Spanner has been gone most a year. Walker is a recruit and was wounded at Laurel Hill. A few shells was exchanged in the evening.

14<sup>th</sup> Fair in the morning. Orders come in the afternoon to be in readiness to march.



Aug

I was detached and went on picket in the evening. Two rebel deserters came into our line just as we went on picket. We had a heavy shower in the evening. 15<sup>th</sup> Leavesy in the morning. Our division was relieved by some of the 9th corps. Troops moved in after sunrise and took our place all in sight of the rebel forts. The rebels got up on their marks and shouted to us. Where are you going. Hadn't you better charge before you go. and, well wouldn't like to have a drink with you before you leave. So but all in good humor.

We went back to division headquarters and went into camp. We had a heavy rain in the afternoon and evening. This is the first time we have been relieved from the front line since the 29<sup>th</sup> of July.

16<sup>th</sup> In the evening an order came for all of the men but the old and new guards, to be ready in light marching order to go as no supposed an fatigue.

In the rear awaiting orders

We started started with arms and equipments and canteens and went to corps headquarters and stayed there about half an hour, and then marched back to camp. Before we got turned in the order came to be in readiness to march at three o'clock in the morning.

17<sup>th</sup> Three o'clock came and we were turned and we got our breakfast and packed up our knapsacks and then we lay down, went to sleep and slept till after daylight. 18<sup>th</sup> We got up but saw no signs of moving. The order came to have a monthly inspection, which we had at ten o'clock A.M.

In the evening we went on a patrol and returned without doing anything. Before we lay down at night we were ordered to be in readiness to move in the morning.

19<sup>th</sup> We started in the morning to the left and marched about three miles before we saw the enemy and then we drove them a mile across the



90 Across the Wildan R. R.

railroad, took possession a tale the road up. The enemy tried three times to break our line but did not gain any ground. The second division left their marks once when the rebels came onto them and we moved double quick up to support them but did not have to go in. A very heavy shower in the evening. Our regt. lost no men today. 20<sup>th</sup> Bakers cavalry passed us and went to the left. The rebels did not try us very hard today, for we have good marks built.

Aug

21<sup>st</sup> At 8 o'clock in the morning the rebels advanced and drove in our skirmishers near our marks and then formed a line and advanced on us. We did not see them when they formed, but did not have to wait long before they advanced in line of battle partly in the rear of the fourth division which formed a sort of a flank by itself, immediately in front of our brigade, about two hundred yards.

We smashed a Rebel brigade

91

The Rebels did not notice our brigade, but thought they were around our express left wing and was looking at the troops that they felt sure of capturing. When they got just right our brigade opened with artillery and small arms raking their line tremendously. They now saw their mistake but too late to back out, so they had to surrender and throw down their arms. There was a whole brigade and but few of them got away.

There was fire and a lot of captures taken. The number of prisoners was heavy but we did not learn how many.

It was a South Carolina brigade. The Genl aware he would not surrender to any d-d Yankee, so he was wounded and laid on a stretcher quite dead. They lost heavy in killed and wounded.

22<sup>nd</sup> Our picket line advanced into their old position but did not find any force. We found a few stragglers.



On our left flank

Aug 23<sup>d</sup> Heavy cannonading on  
our right. It is reported we have  
gained ground in front of Petersburg.  
In the afternoon one of the 100<sup>th</sup> Me. Cav.  
was here, and he said that regt. was  
about 1/2 mile down the R.R. & started  
to see them and when I got there they had  
gone in the direction of Reams station  
about three miles. We are expecting  
an attack on our left. The 1<sup>st</sup> Division  
of the second Corps has joined the  
cavalry.

Aug 24<sup>th</sup> At the yellow house.

A little canyading at a long disten-  
-ce on the right early in the morning.  
Our Canelry had quite a smart fight  
on our left yesterday. Capt Sargent  
of bakers canelry was killed. He was  
formerly Lieut. Colonel of the 2<sup>d</sup> Mass  
infantry.

25<sup>th</sup> I went on picket at seven o'clock  
One of Sen Wassens aids mounted across  
the picket line with some orders to  
to see how things looked and run  
onto a rebel picket post on the sand  
and the rebels fired a number of shots

at them but did no damage. Although  
the rebels were coming but soon learned what  
was up. A heavy shower in the evening.  
Heavy firing commenced on the extreme  
left of our line at or near Reems Station  
about 4 o'clock P.M. lasting until dark.

It proved to be between the 2<sup>d</sup>. corps and the  
rehs in force. It was a sharp engagement  
but as near as I can find out our folks  
<sup>stem up</sup> and <sup>up</sup> ~~badly~~ for they seemed determined  
to beat us, and charged on our bayo three  
times behind breastworks. In the night  
the 2<sup>d</sup>. corps fell back, as they had occupied  
the ground as long as was required.

We purchased a mital spot from the Petersburg  
folk when we took this railroad, and  
they will try hard to get it again.

26<sup>th</sup> One man thought he saw something  
in the night and fired.

We moved to the extreme left of the brig

24<sup>th</sup> A merry heavy mist. Clear'd off  
towards the day.

28<sup>th</sup> " Nothing of importance to say.

29<sup>th</sup> We are still fortifying on this side.

One year more par Nemels Sam.

30<sup>th</sup> The mustes rather was most and the day.



## Fixing up quarters

Aug 31<sup>st</sup> We were mustered today.  
Orders to move at 4 o'clock P.M.

September 1<sup>st</sup> 1864. Marching orders  
continued. We lay out streets and

changed our tents. I was called back  
to fix up the majors quarters. Picket  
firing commenced on our left and we were  
under marching orders in fifteen minu-  
tes. Eight rebel cavalry were captured  
and the firing ceased. I was called  
back to finish my job.

2<sup>nd</sup> I went on picket in the morning.  
The cavalry made a reconnaissance  
and in front of us, driving rebels  
three miles, and into their marks  
and returned without any loss.  
Sidney came out to the picket line  
to see me. I went back to his report  
with him to see the boys.

3<sup>rd</sup> We were relieved in the morning and  
returned to camp.

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday. Divine service.

at four o'clock P.M. by rev Charles  
H. Stevens, one of the Christian Comm-  
issioners. a very smart man.

The Grant R.R. finished to the Yellow House 95

Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> I was detailed for fatigues duty

6<sup>th</sup> We had a shower in the morning.

Cold all day. It commenced to rain  
at 5 o'clock P.M. I dug a spring P.M.

7<sup>th</sup> A little quiet today.

8<sup>th</sup> Fair and cold A.M. Cloudy  
and looks like rain P.M.

9<sup>th</sup> A fair day. I went on guard  
at six o'clock A.M.

10<sup>th</sup> A bright light in the direction  
of Petersburg at twelve o'clock  
last night which lasted three  
hours. I was relieved from guard  
at six o'clock A.M.

11<sup>th</sup> A fair forenoon. Dress  
parade at five o'clock P.M.

A shower at dress parade time.

The Rail Road is completed from  
city point to the yellow house  
about 100 rods from here.

The engine ran up here for the  
first time today.

12<sup>th</sup> A fair day but cold and windy.  
I went on picket in the morning. The news  
came that battle was taken with  
twenty five thousand prisoners.



96 In the Division Hospital

September 13<sup>th</sup> 1864

Cold and windy. No was relieved from picket in the morning.

14<sup>th</sup> I do not feel very well, have a sore throat and my neck is lame

15<sup>th</sup> I put my name on the sick report, and the surgeon says I had better go back to the division hospital tomorrow morning.

Cavalry and infantry went out in front in a reconnaissance and came back in three hours without losing much. We expect an attack on our left and are all ready.

I feel rather unwell today.

16 I am no better this morning.

I took an ambulance and went to the hospital, got there at one o'clock P.M.

17<sup>th</sup> I am no better. No news of importance today.

18<sup>th</sup> I don't feel so well A.M. A little better P.M.

19<sup>th</sup> I feel better this morning

Loss of beef cattle. By rebels

97

Sidney came to see me at the hospital. He is well. Says he isn't half a mile from here. Says he will come again tomorrow. News that the rebels has captured two thousand five hundred head of beef cattle belonging to an army and were huddled near the black water river.

20<sup>th</sup> I feel quite well and go to the table to breakfast. Sidney and Tim Lane came to see me in the evening. I went to the cavalry with them and had a good time. They have orders to march.

21<sup>st</sup> I feel still better. I went to the cavalry and they have not moved yet, the order was countermanded. I staid until 4 o'clock P.M. Coming back I saw Charles Seard one of the servants says that I have not seen in the army before, he belongs in the 5<sup>th</sup> N. H. Regt. Heavy cannonading a great all along in front of Petersburg this morning, and was kept up two or three hours and then ceased.



I returned to my regt.

News last night that Gen Sheridan had given the rebels in the upper Potomac an awful whipping.

I think I shall go to the regt tomorrow so I will close this.

Sept 22<sup>d</sup>. A rainy morning. After sick call I went to the first Mrs Canelry and staid until one o'clock P.M. Then I got ready and went to join my regt. Arrived at three o'clock and found them just where I left them a week ago. One Benjamin Seaborn came to me to know if Nathan Winslow of Ashland was in this regt. I found out that this man was a cousin of Artemas & Nathaniel Coffin. He is in Co G. 9<sup>th</sup> N. H. Vols and looks like Nathaniel Coffin.

23<sup>d</sup>. No news of importance.

We had a good brigade drill.

24<sup>th</sup>. Went on picket at seven o'clock A.M. The pioneers was chopping trees and hurt one of our regt's men by a limb striking him. One of the 16<sup>th</sup> Michigan regt got his leg broken in the same way. This is pay day.

Recruits came to the 20<sup>th</sup>.

25<sup>th</sup>. There was 80 men came to our regt. Very good looking recruits.

26<sup>th</sup>. The recruits staid in three Cos B, C, and K. A calm night.

27<sup>th</sup>. We were relieved at 9 o'clock A.M. The recruits drills today.

This day is long to be remembered.

28<sup>th</sup>. 26 months ago I enlisted,

Heavy cannonading and some musketry on the right in the evening.

29<sup>th</sup>. Orders came in the night to be ready to move at three o'clock in the morning, with four days rations in the haversacks. Day came and no move still in camp. Canelry is moving to the left, the 1<sup>st</sup> Maine in the column. I saw Sidney, he is all right. At about three o'clock firing commenced on our left and continued until darkness put a stop to it.

30<sup>th</sup>. We were ordered to be in readiness to move at a moment's notice and started about eight o'clock A.M. We moved slowly out to the picket line, and the four right companies of our regt was ordered and as skirmishers. Co's, E, B, H. and D.



We moved thru the woods about a mile before I saw a rebel. We were near a house which stood about ten rods from the edge of the woods where we were. A rebel cavalryman came to the well near the house, dismounted and drew a bucket of water and drank from it. A dozen of our men see him but he did not see any of us.

Our officers said it must be our own man. My tent mate and I leveled our rifles on him and snapped and both our pieces missed fire.

He heard the caps and left. I then went in front of the line and into the field watching up over the hill and saw him sitting on his horse facing me with his carbine at his side but lucky for me he did not see me. Not being sure of my rifle's obedience I thought I would not let him get the drop on me so I stepped back into the woods and told the boys what he was. In moving about we made some noise and he stepped out.

We then moved into the field and up to the house but did not find any rebels.

We then moved across the field and threw an other piece of woods and to the edge of an other field, where we found their infantry picket line in the field near a house, in rifle pits with breast marks behind them and a post which commanded the field.

We then got ready to charge. Their marks and the word came, to forward the line across the field and drive in their pickets. The order came ringing out in loud tones, Attention, Battalion, Forward, Double-quick. March. and on moment about twenty rods when it was discovered that the old 20<sup>th</sup> was in the field alone without support on the left. and Hold. Day dawn, until the line connects on the left. Sip, sip, his, spat, bang. came the lead, in the dust an enemy side for a few moments, then the word came Attention, Forward, Double quick. March. and off we went again with the enemy going in their lead and iron as fast as ever they new how.



We drove in their pickets, then charged  
 their main line taking some prisoners  
 two cannons, two caissons and driving  
 the rest pell mell across the field and  
 threw a pile of mounds and among and  
 of eight. We then stopped and formed  
 our line and the 9<sup>th</sup> corps formed in  
 front of us and we were relieved.  
 We lay still a few hours, then the rebels  
 came down on the 9<sup>th</sup> corps and drove  
 them pell mell back across the field.  
 Our division was put into the field  
 on the right of the 9<sup>th</sup> corps to  
 protect their flank. A heavy sunset  
 the 9<sup>th</sup> had fell back so that the rebels  
 came down through the woods on to us.  
 They came to the edge of the woods and we  
 were lying in the field a long fine road  
 from them but they being below us  
 they fired over us most of the time.  
 They were unable to drive us but the  
 were frozen down and could not move.  
 We lay here and fought as hard as ever any  
 one could and saw all any one could see.  
 The rebels did not leave morning in this place

One of our company had a ball and threw  
 his cap but did not strike his head.  
 After dark Gen. Griffin lead a battery  
 in and planted it in our ranks and  
 ran test the rebels and of the mounds in a hurry.  
 I never fired so much ammunition in  
 one place as I did here. The rebels left  
 and we were relieved and went back  
 about half a mile and rested our  
 arms that night. We had four wounded  
 today while charging the rebel works.  
 First Sargent James A. Haston wounded  
 severe in right thigh with a canister  
 shot breaking his leg. Robert Rappert  
 severe in right ankle. J. E. Farbell  
 in left shoulder slight. O. E. Walker  
 in thigh.

Saturday Oct 1<sup>st</sup> A stormy day.

Same fighting with the 9<sup>th</sup> corps but  
 did not amount to much. We had a  
 detail and picked today. G. W. Fain  
 was wounded in the face severe. We lay  
 in these works over night.  
 I am now acting First Sargent of  
 Co H 20<sup>th</sup> Me Regt.



October 1<sup>st</sup> 1864 In line

We have advanced our main line a few miles in this battle which is called, Poplar Grove Church, or Pebles Farm. After this battle was over an old man came in to our lines and asked for a body guard to accompany him to his home within our lines to get some valuables which he had left. The officer in command requested him to take the oath of Allegiance before he would allow him a guard. He took the oath and departed with the guard for his premises where he entered a barn, took up a plank in the floor, and took out of the ground, quite a pile of gold coin, and was allowed to go north for safety.

2<sup>nd</sup> We left the marks in the morning and went out to the front expecting to have a fight, but only had a little skirmishing and a few shells exchanged. Gen Meade rode along by the left of our reg<sup>t</sup> where Gen<sup>l</sup>

Gen Meade narrow escape - Griffin was, and was talking with him, when a shell came over, and passed so near Meade's leg as to scrap the blacking off his haddleg. Lucky for him as well as the rest of us. We went to mark and built breastworks <sup>Sarg<sup>t</sup> Harton died at City point of mangel.</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> We moved at noon about half a mile to the right 4<sup>th</sup> We lay out streets and pitched our tents in order. We commenced building breastworks 5<sup>th</sup> We still remain in the same camp. Good news from Gen<sup>l</sup> Butler 6<sup>th</sup> In the evening I went about half a mile to see the 1<sup>st</sup> Mo Heavy Artillery. I saw Lieut H. C. Sawyer of Decatur also Charles Haskel. They moved while I was there. 7<sup>th</sup> Clothing came to the reg<sup>t</sup> and was issued. Sidney came to see me, and staid to supper. 8<sup>th</sup> We have orders to be in readiness to move at a moments. The third division on our right is advancing to get a good position, and our ~~division~~



A man executed for desertion  
picket line has to advance on the right  
to connect with them. A little skirmishing  
in front but find no force.  
Sidney came to the regt with Lieut  
Jackson, a half brother to Wm N.  
Jackson Co B, who was wounded  
and died near this place. Maj Spear  
started on a leave of absence of  
20 days.

9<sup>th</sup> Sunday. No more yet. No news.

10<sup>th</sup> All quiet along the line. Sargt  
H C Wyman was discharged today (11<sup>th</sup>)  
his term of service having expired.

11<sup>th</sup> Good news from Gen Sheridan  
this evening. Heavy cannonading  
on the right. There is loud cheering  
in every direction.

12<sup>th</sup> Fair in the morning. No news.

13<sup>th</sup> We commenced a redoubt on this hill.

14<sup>th</sup> A man executed in the 9<sup>th</sup> corps  
for desertion. 15<sup>th</sup> No news.

16<sup>th</sup> A monthly inspection today.

17<sup>th</sup> I went to the cavalry on horseback.  
had a good time. Saw Lieut Sawyer  
and Curdall of the 18<sup>th</sup> Maine.  
I returned to camp in the evening.

Dismantling of the 1<sup>st</sup> Me Cavalry

My horse fell under me and I came  
near being hurt.

18<sup>th</sup> The whole regt is preparing parade  
ground. There is heavy firing on the  
right of the line this evening.

19<sup>th</sup> Expect a part of the 1<sup>st</sup> Me Cavalry  
will go to the dismantled camp today.

20<sup>th</sup> Cold and cloudy. No news.

21<sup>st</sup> Wm Gilmore returned from the  
general hospital this evening.

Genl Grant and Mead rode passed  
here this forenoon. One of the 1<sup>st</sup> Me  
Cavalry, Mr. Brown of Co C was here  
today. His Co will be dismantled tomorrow.

22<sup>nd</sup> All quiet on the line.

23<sup>rd</sup> Still quiet.

24<sup>th</sup> Gen. Warren passed reviewing the works.

25<sup>th</sup> We moved about 4 rods and built new.

26<sup>th</sup> The sutlers are ordered to the rear.  
The regts have loaded up and it looks like a move.

27<sup>th</sup> The orders come at three o'clock in the  
morning to be in readiness to move at a moment's  
notice. We got ready and moved at daylight.  
We moved to the left and soon began to  
hear firing in front. We still moved on  
till we came to the edge of a field where they



were skirmishing. One brigade of our division was put in front, and ours was left in reserve with a number of men were wounded. We staid near this place till morning. The second corps was still further to the left having quite a battle. They attempted to drive the enemy from their position, but could not withstand to much loss, so they retreated back at night.

28<sup>th</sup> We were called up at four o'clock in the morning and got ready to move at light. At about eight o'clock we advanced a field and deployed as skirmishers. At the same time our troops were retreating, and we were put there to relieve the pickets as they fell back. We lay in the field about two hours before the pickets fell back. The rebel cavalry came out on the extreme left of our regt. killing one and mauling one of Co. F. The old picket line fell back and then we started on the retreat. Our regt covered the rear of our whole brigade. We covered the retreat to our old works and then marched back to our old camp ground and camped.

On 1<sup>st</sup> of Hatcher's run is now over.

29<sup>th</sup> All quiet along the line. Heavy firing on the right in the evening.  
30<sup>th</sup> Quite cold and we are fixing up quarters.  
31<sup>st</sup> We were mustered for pay.

Nov 1<sup>st</sup> 1864 I am camp at Fort Conely Va Sunday. A fair day. No news of importance.

2<sup>d</sup> Cloudy in the morning. Commenced to rain at noon. Some picket firing in evening.

3<sup>d</sup> Raining in the morning cleared of A.M.

4<sup>th</sup> A fair day but cold. No news of importance.

5<sup>th</sup> We cleared up a new camp ground. Orders to move next morning.

6<sup>th</sup> Divine service at eleven o'clock A.M.

Colonel Gilmore came to the regt.

7<sup>th</sup> Raining in the morning. No news of importance.

8<sup>th</sup> " " " " We had a presidential election. Commenced at 10 o'clock A.M.

9<sup>th</sup> Showery in the A.M. We are at work getting tent stuff.

10<sup>th</sup> A fair day. We have not moved yet.

11<sup>th</sup> We moved on to the new ground.

Had a dress parade at night, the first one since we left the meldon R.R.

12<sup>th</sup> At work hard on our tents. No news.

13<sup>th</sup> A regimental inspection at 9 o'clock A.M. Divine service at two o'clock P.M.



170 Old members returned & Recruits joined

Monday Nov 14<sup>th</sup> 1864

No news of importance today.

15<sup>th</sup> We have dress parade every evening lately.

16<sup>th</sup> A fair day. Capt J. F. Sand returned to the company today. He has been to see an a sick leave, and got married.

17<sup>th</sup> It looks like a storm. Corporal F. M. Rogers is relieved from the color guard.

18<sup>th</sup> Still looks like rain. N. S. Clark promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> Sargt. of Co. H. J. M. Rogers promoted to Sargt. J. F. Westbrook and Joseph Winslow promoted to Sargt. and J. E. Tarbell promoted to Corporal. These promotions date from Nov 1<sup>st</sup>.

Over a hundred recruits came to the regt. today. Capt Marshall of Co. B. returned to the regt. has been home on a sick leave. 19<sup>th</sup> It commenced raining. Showery all day. 30 recruits was assigned to my company. mostly rugged looking men.

20<sup>th</sup> It rained quite steadily all day.

General Chamberlain came to the regt. looking quite well. An order for a review at two o'clock tomorrow P.M.

21<sup>st</sup> Rained hard all day. Capt Kidelinger returned from home.

Thanksgiving day

111

Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> 1864

Rained some A.M. Clear off P.M. cold and windy.

23<sup>rd</sup> Clear and cold, quite windy all the day.

Drill A.M. and P.M.

24<sup>th</sup> Thanksgiving day. Fair and quite warm.

The recruits drew their arms.

25<sup>th</sup> A fair day. Two drills.

26<sup>th</sup> " " " " " "

27<sup>th</sup> " " " " " " No news.

28<sup>th</sup> The 9<sup>th</sup> corps is going to march.

29<sup>th</sup> The 9<sup>th</sup> corps was relieved by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps.

30<sup>th</sup> No news of importance.

Dec 1<sup>st</sup> 1864 A fair day. No news of importance.

2<sup>nd</sup> All quiet along the line.

3<sup>rd</sup> The cavalry went down on the rebel R. R. and burned some rebel supplies,

captured some prisoners, spiked some guns, & burned a bridge, the 1<sup>st</sup> day of December.

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday. An inspection at 9 o'clock A.M.

I went to the 18<sup>th</sup> Mo regt. They are building a fort.

5<sup>th</sup> Orders that we are going to be relieved.

6<sup>th</sup> We were relieved in the morning and moved down near the Jerusalem Plank Road, and camped all night. I heard that my brother Prentiss of the 1<sup>st</sup> Mo cavalry died lately in Andersonville prison Georgia. I went to



the 1<sup>st</sup> Waino Cavalry and wrote a letter to father telling him about Prentiss. I saw Jim Allen and he was well.

7<sup>th</sup> We took up a line of march southward on the plank road, the cavalry in the advance. We marched all day and it rained quite hard. We stopped near the Nottoway river and camped for the night.

8<sup>th</sup> The plank bridges being completed we were out at two o'clock in the morning and crossed the river, as it was raining a shower, and marched to near Sussex Court House and made coffee and lunched. Started again, marched to near the Weldon R.R. and cooked coffee, then moved to the R.R. and commenced tearing it up and turning it over a a plow does a furrow. We worked half of the night and then lay down to rest, a tired set of men you may believe.

9<sup>th</sup> Fair and cold and high wind. Our regt. started up the R.R. to the North next to cover the rear of our troops as they moved down the R.R. towards North Carolina. After the troops had all moved off we followed them. We soon came to the second camp and passed them, and halted in the field.

by the teams and cooked coffee, then moved down the road  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles and camped for the night in the woods on the left of the road, some commanding in the direction of Bellfield Station in the night. Foragers found a great amount of sweet potatoes and liquor, and some got pretty tight. My tent mate hailed potatoes in whisky. This was a dreadful tedious night for the men, for the rain and cold formed a sheet upon every thing it fell upon, the trees and ground was icy early in the morning.

10<sup>th</sup> A cold stormy morning. We started on the retreat with many a man staggering from the effects of old tangle foot, and about a week or so it reported from rebel papers how many men were taken prisoners from the 5<sup>th</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps all on account of getting to much tangle foot. We reached Sussex Court House after 21 miles of very muddy, hard road, weary, tired, hungry, and lame.

11<sup>th</sup> Showery all day. Marched 6 miles. We saw the Cavalry.

12<sup>th</sup> A very cold morning. Started and marched back near our forts and camped near our old quarters.



Dec 18<sup>th</sup> 1864

- Cold and windy. No lay quiet all day.  
 I went to the 1<sup>st</sup> Mo Cavalry to see the boys.  
 14<sup>th</sup> A fair day. We moved fifty racks and pitched  
 our tents.  
 15<sup>th</sup> Orders to build winter quarters and  
 went to work A.M.  
 16<sup>th</sup> Building quarters  
 17<sup>th</sup> No news of importance.  
 18<sup>th</sup> Squall like rain. No news.  
 19<sup>th</sup> Squally.  
 20<sup>th</sup> Rained hard all night.  
 21<sup>st</sup> Rained hard this forenoon.  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Rained most all day. Cleared off cold all night.  
 23<sup>rd</sup> Fair and cold. Wm. D. Ring started home  
 on a furlow of fifteen days. Good news  
 from Gen Thomas.  
 24<sup>th</sup> I went to the 1<sup>st</sup> Mo Cav'y.  
 25<sup>th</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> 27<sup>th</sup> All quiet. Good news  
 28<sup>th</sup> Capt. Seandel and Sergt. Rogers went to  
 city point. Timbren came to see me.  
 29<sup>th</sup> Squalls like rain  
 30<sup>th</sup> Good news. I helped make out the  
 pay rolls.  
 31<sup>st</sup> Commenced raining last night and  
 continued all day. Good news from Sherman,  
 Thomas, and Butler.

No Sargents except on minute and call on  
 Brigadier Genl. Bartlett

Sunday January 1<sup>st</sup> 1865

Camp 30<sup>th</sup> Mo Vols on the peninsula - Point R.  
 A fair day. An invitation is extended  
 to the Sargts of the Brigade to make Genl.  
 Bartlett, our brigade commander a visit at  
 his headquarters between 3 & 5 o'clock P.M.  
 tomorrow

2<sup>nd</sup> We went to visit Genl. Bartlett and  
 had quite a good time. This is a new year  
 visit. I had a letter confirming the  
 death of my brother Prentiss. He died  
 at one o'clock, Sept. 7<sup>th</sup> 1864 at Anderson Sa.  
 a prisoner of war. Starved to death by the  
 enemy.

3<sup>rd</sup> No news

4<sup>th</sup> Sergt. Winslow went to City Point on a 24  
 hour pass. No news of importance.

5<sup>th</sup> No dress clothing.

6<sup>th</sup> Squally in the morning. Sergt. Winslow  
 returned at 9 o'clock in the evening.

It rained hard all day.

7<sup>th</sup> Showers hard all night. Cold P.M.

8<sup>th</sup> Cold and some rain. Had an inspection at  
 10 o'clock A.M. Service at 12 o'clock P.M.



## Death of A J York

Wm. D King returned from Maine on a furlough. We had official notice of the death of Corp<sup>t</sup> Fred T Davis of our company. He died at Annapolis Maryland while at the dinner table. The cause of his death was exposure and starvation in a rebel prison pen. He had just been paroled and sent north but was too weak to recieve.

9<sup>th</sup> We graded our Co street. It looks like a storm tonight.

10<sup>th</sup> It rained very hard all the forenoon. A squad of men was detailed to out foraging, but did not go on the account of rain. Rained until 5 o'clock P.M.

It then began to blow, and looked like clearing off.

11<sup>th</sup> Clear and windy, but rain lulled away.

12<sup>th</sup> Corp<sup>t</sup> C W Praxter returned from hospital.

13<sup>th</sup> Sarg<sup>t</sup>. A J York of my company died at the depot hospital 5<sup>th</sup> army corps. City Point Va Jan 3<sup>rd</sup> 1865.

14<sup>th</sup> A fair day. All quiet along the lines.

## Promotions

Jan 15<sup>th</sup> 1865 Lieut Wm K Bickford started home on a furlough. Corp<sup>t</sup> M W Whitten started to Maine on recruiting service. We had a general inspection at 10 o'clock A.M. Gen E C Walker returned from hospital.

16<sup>th</sup> No news of importance.

17<sup>th</sup> A fair day. Corp<sup>t</sup> G H Estabrook started home on a furlough of 20 days. Corp<sup>t</sup> Ira Ingraham is promoted to Sarg<sup>t</sup>. Pri Wm D King promoted to Corp<sup>t</sup>. Official orders has been read that Sarg<sup>t</sup> Fisher was taken by assault on the 16<sup>th</sup> inst. We have been looking for this good news for a long time.

18<sup>th</sup> We have drill twice a day, and dress parade every afternoon. The commissaries officers are all absent from my company and I am left in command.

19<sup>th</sup> Very cold and cloudy. Sarg<sup>t</sup> F. W. Rogers has started to Maine on a 20 day furlough. Messrs Clark and Vearl Smith are here to visit me today.

20<sup>th</sup> Looks like a storm. Two drills today.



Saturday Jan 21<sup>st</sup> 1865

A cold sleety storm commenced very early in the morning and continued all day steady.

22<sup>nd</sup> The storm still still rages all day

23<sup>rd</sup> The sky is still cloudy and occasionally a shower

24<sup>th</sup> Cleared off in the A.M. I just had news of the death of Uncle Stephen Fellows. He died Jan 14<sup>th</sup>. He is an old pensioner and served in the war of 1812, and was wounded in the side by a piece of shell at the battle of Sunbury Maine.

25<sup>th</sup> A fair and cold day. My company officers are still absent and I have to assume the whole responsibility.

26<sup>th</sup> A very cold time. Ira Ingrehorn's chimney fell into his tent in the evening and tore the roof of the tent off but did not happen to hurt anyone.

27<sup>th</sup> Ira Ingrehorn got his tent up again.

28<sup>th</sup> Fair and cold

29<sup>th</sup> An inspection at 10 o'clock A.M.

Jim Green came to see me. Mr. Hammon has gone to city point on a 24 hour pass.

Jan 30<sup>th</sup> 1865

Mr. Hammon returned to camp and brought a fiddle with him.

31<sup>st</sup> Fair and quite warm. The dragoon teams went out on an inspection. We had two drills today. I omitted the news papers are not allowed in the army at present, I have not seen any for some time. We had a good game of ball today

Wednesday, Feb 1<sup>st</sup> 1865. A fair day.

It is rumored that the new president of the confederacy has come into our lines and gone to Washington

2<sup>nd</sup> It is rumored that peace commissioners have gone to Washington. Capt. J. F. Bond has charge of the 1<sup>st</sup> Division picked for three days.

3<sup>rd</sup> A little stormy. Had two drills. A rumor that we are liable to march. I dress clothing for the company. Lieut. Bickford has his full length extended fifteen days.

4<sup>th</sup> It is reported that the rebels has attacked our rear picket line



4<sup>th</sup> Continued. We have orders to be in readiness to move at any moment, with 4 days rations, and 50 rounds of ammunition. I had some old camp and garrison equipment condemned. The sick was sent away and I turned in their rifles.

5<sup>th</sup> Looks like rain. We had roll call at 4 o'clock in the morning and got ready to move at 7. We marched to the yellow house and took the old Weldon R.R. and moved in the direction of Beacon station about 4 miles, then struck off to the west, until about 4 o'clock P.M., then camped on a hill some ways from Hatchers run.

Genl Warren came near being taken prisoner with his whole heady guard but met and to escape. We lay down until about 10 o'clock P.M., at which time we were roused up and started back to our right, where the 2<sup>d</sup> corps had been fighting that afternoon. Before daylight we were on Hatchers run near the 2<sup>d</sup> corps fight.

6<sup>th</sup> At daylight we took our position on the west side of the river, behind

the old rebel breastworks and built them over. A heavy rain skirmishing commenced in our front, and it kept up until the 3<sup>d</sup> Division charged on the rebels and drove them back and held the field. At 3 o'clock P.M. our division moved into the woods where they were fighting and took a position and lay a few moments while the shells were going threw the woods all around us, and we moved a little farther to the front and fired on the front line. We see the rebels moving to our left, not over two hundred yards from us immediately in our front and we fired in a few valleys which checked them. About this time our 3<sup>d</sup> division ran short of ammunition and commenced to fall back threw our line some 400 rods to our right which caused a storm of fire in the whole front line. We were on the extreme left of our front line, and when the whole right flank fell back and left our right exposed to 15 times our number it would be only madness to try to hold our position for we would all be used to some prison pen to pay the penalty



consequently each man had sense enough to take care of no 1 and retreated back to the run and stopped. I found 18 of my company and in the evening the rest of them all came in. I called it a disgraceful affair but it could not be helped by the men of the ranks. Our Colonel C. D. Gilmore had been wounded while he was a Capt. in the 2<sup>d</sup>. Mead's regt. and was still lame from the wound and could not get along fast enough to keep with the rest and the rebels came on so fast that they shot an officer that was retreating by his side when the other man fell. Col. Gilmore fell upon his face also to avoid the enemy if he could possibly. The rebel line swept along passed the two men laying on the ground when some of them caught the Col. by the coat and began to pull him about, when he groaned out, you don't use a wounded man that way do you; and an officer says to his men let him be and we will see to him. when we came back so they passed on and left him.

Col. said he never saw so few men stragling as they was there. After they had got and of the morning he got up and started for the left of their line and marked his men there the masses by the left of their line of battle and came into our camp safe but badly used up. He found the regt. the next morning and went back to camp.

After he got back to camp he found a bullet hole through his pants and lost leg. We lost in the regt. one Sargt. killed. Wounded and missing almost 30 men all together. May 6<sup>th</sup> had only 3 men wounded, and only one of them went away from the company.

7<sup>th</sup>. A stormy day. We lay in the old marks by the run. Some skirmishing.

The rebels shell us some. We hear that the commander of the army is well satisfied with the day's operation.

A good commander, easily satisfied.

8<sup>th</sup>. A fatigue squad was sent out. We lay at the mark all day. Weather not clear. Found a rebel, and I thought it of him.



Capt Sand takes command of the Regt.  
Feb 9<sup>th</sup> 1865

We still lay in the old marks at the run. We commenced a tent to stay in. Some of the things come from camp. Capt Sand came out and took command of the regt.

10<sup>th</sup> Still cold and windy. We built our tent and started in it at night.

11<sup>th</sup> A fair day. We tore down the old breastworks and packed up and moved back two miles on to the rear line and camped for the night. Orders to build comfortable quarters.

12<sup>th</sup> We began to build our quarters.

13<sup>th</sup> We worked on our tents all day.

Very cold and windy.

14<sup>th</sup> Some of the camp guard came out from the old camp that was left to guard the old camp when we left it. We got the roof on our tent.

15<sup>th</sup> Raining. Still at work on our tents. I brought Mr. Hays' revolver.

16<sup>th</sup> A rainy day. No news of importance. Spent Bickford returned from mission.

17<sup>th</sup> All quiet along the line.

18<sup>th</sup> We patrolled the streets for inspection.

Charleston surrenders

Feb 19<sup>th</sup> 1865

We had an inspection at 10 o'clock A.M.

We had a dress parade at night.

20<sup>th</sup> A little cannonading on the right of the line but does not amount to much.

21<sup>st</sup> Theodore Garish returned from the hospital. We had a brigade dress-parade. We have good news from Sherman. Charleston surrenders.

22<sup>nd</sup> We had a Co. drill. Dress parade at night. Orders to be in readiness to move at a moment's notice.

We have a meeting about 50 rods from here and some of the boys go most every night.

23<sup>rd</sup> Considerable cannonading in front of Petersburg thru the day.

We signed pay rolls.

24<sup>th</sup> We were paid for our money.

25<sup>th</sup> We had orders to be ready for review at 9 o'clock A.M. It rained some all day and we did not have a review.

26<sup>th</sup> Frederick wrote to me that he expected his discharge.

27<sup>th</sup> We got ready to be mustered for pay.

28<sup>th</sup> We were mustered for pay.



March 1<sup>st</sup> 1865

Wednesday. A wet day. No news.

2<sup>d</sup> Good news from Genl Sherman.3<sup>rd</sup> We are ordered to have three drills a day. We had a brigade dress parade.4<sup>th</sup> Stormy A.M. No news of importance.5<sup>th</sup> A fair day. Had an inspection at nine o'clock A.M.6<sup>th</sup> Fair and quite frosty. Drill and dress parade regular every day if fair. Division review P.M.7<sup>th</sup> A corps review P.M. Genl's Head and grand mas present. Genl Bartlett has got back to the brigade.8<sup>th</sup> A rainy day. No news of importance.9<sup>th</sup> Raining. No news.10<sup>th</sup> A rainy day. I got a pass and went to City Point, found a friend and went to the first No Sharpshooters and see Verel Smith.11<sup>th</sup> G. F. Walker, and I started to the front, and the car broke down but did not hurt any one. We walked four miles to the next station, and saw a guard fire at a prisoner that was trying to escape from him. The cars came and we took passage to the front.Mar 12<sup>th</sup> We had an inspection at 10 o'clock A.M. Capt. Clark came to the regt.13<sup>th</sup> A fair day. No news of importance.14<sup>th</sup> Squally. No news.15<sup>th</sup> We had a corps review. A rumor that we are going to, mass. the dress uniforms in the evening.16<sup>th</sup> We had orders for a general inspection and it turned out to be a corps review. All extra clothing is to be sent to the rear for safe keeping.17<sup>th</sup> Capt. Lund started home on a furlough. Chair was a horse race at division headquarters and J. Pollard came to see me.18<sup>th</sup> The 1<sup>st</sup> Maine Sharpshooters has come to our regt. to be consolidated with us. (the 20<sup>th</sup>) Their will be some commissioned officers mustered out of the service but we can't tell who it will be.19<sup>th</sup> No news.20<sup>th</sup> Messrs G. Rice started for home in Bangor, Maine. He has his discharge for expiration of term of service. (3 years)



March 21<sup>st</sup> / 1865

It storms and the wind blows hard.

Newel Smith stepped with me over night.

22<sup>nd</sup> Albert Roberts came from the hospital to the regt.23<sup>rd</sup> No news of importance24<sup>th</sup> Joseph Winslow's father came to see him and staid all night

25<sup>th</sup> " A fair but cold day. Bombarding began very early in the morning in front of Petersburg and continued untill daylight. The rebels made an assault on the 9<sup>th</sup> corps breaking that line and forcing our men back to the railroad, and turning our artillery upon our own men. The brigade call sounded the assembly and then at once to forward. We leaped from our heels and fell in to line and marched out, without any breakfast, and up to brigade head-quarters, and from there down the road below corps head-quarters and lay down for a while, when the firing ceased with the 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> corps. Here we took the privilege to cook coffee.

Private E. H. Peterbrough died Mar 24<sup>th</sup> of typhoid fever at emergency general hospital Washington D.C.

Then we were ordered back to the left to support the 2<sup>nd</sup> corps.

We took a position in the field in front of the marks, and lay a while, then we were ordered back to the marks.

We were double-quickened from place to place all the afternoon, and just at night we moved to the front where they were fighting quite smart.

A part of our brigade was put into the front line, but our regt. was left in reserve to support a battery.

We long their untill dark when the rebels fell back and the firing. We then fell back to the marks and marched to camp. On the field, I saw Orrin Houston one of the men of the 1<sup>st</sup> Mass heavy artillery, that was wounded by a spent shell in the side so that he spit blood. I saw a number of the same regt. that I was acquainted with.26<sup>th</sup> An occasional shot fired on the picket line in the morning.27<sup>th</sup> We are under marching orders and expect to move soon.



Mar 28<sup>th</sup> 1865

We had two drills today. Orders to be in readiness to move out on early hours in the morning.

29<sup>th</sup> We broke camp before light and got ready, and marched at 7 o'clock and went to the left on the same road we took a short time ago. We went but a short distance when the skirmishing began. We went out on the flank to hold the road when the 1<sup>st</sup> brigade charged across the field and drove the rebels back by killing quite a number killed and wounded. We went in support of the 1<sup>st</sup> brigade and the rebels shelled us some, but did not hurt any of the 20<sup>th</sup> Regt. We stayed in the woods till after dark and then advanced and built marks in the night although it rained very hard.

30<sup>th</sup> We lay down to rest on the ground in the middle of the night and this morning we found ourselves as wet as drowned rats. but up we went and made the best of it. The rebels pickets are in sight on a hill by the road.

Our picket line advanced P.M. and the rebels fell back with but little resistance. Our line advanced to the hill and went to throwing up marks when the rebels advanced upon us in line of battle, and drove our pickets back on the marks. Griffins battery was planted in our regt. and when their line came in sight the battery and rifles all opened at once, and they thought best to fall back. Lieut. Walker was the only man struck in our regt. and he was struck in the face slightly. There was sharp skirmishing all the P.M. but did not advance again. Clear weather P.M. but rained in the night.

31<sup>st</sup> A rainy morning. We were relieved in the morning and marched to the left a mile. A short noon we stopped in a field and began to cook our coffee. When the skirmishing began, we fell in and double-quickened down into the woods to support the 3<sup>rd</sup> division. We formed a line of battle on a hill and the 3<sup>rd</sup> division fell back through our line and went to the rear.



The rebels fell and our men closed up and as soon as our stragglers got safe threw our line and out of the many commenced firing and you may imagine a perfect sheet of flames all along the crest of the hill.

As the rebels came up a rebel leveled an arm fellow that seemed to be trying to pick a particular man from our line. I heard the same time my rifle cracked a ball struck my ear and head, marking me like a wild pig and stripping the scalp off the back of my head two inches long. I heard that time I thought of taking a leave of absence for a short time and so I did. Edman Marison went back with me to a place of safety to see how bad I was hurt, and took back some papers that was in my pocket which belonged with the company. I gave him my belt as a keepsake and in a few days he was shot dead in action receiving two bullets, one passing through the belt and buckle that I gave him. I went back to the division hospital.

While I was having my wound dressed the surgeons lay a man on the table and took his leg off above the ankle joint. April 1<sup>st</sup> We left the hospital early and traveled to the R.R. Station. I found Johnathan Pollard on the train wounded in the thigh. We arrived at City Point about noon.

Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> The wounded are coming in very fast, as well as prisoners. It is reported that the south side R.R. is actually taken. Heavy firing in the night.

3<sup>rd</sup> We stayed at city point all day. We went on board the transport, Connecticut, P.M.

4<sup>th</sup> We started from city point at day light, passed fortress Monroe at eleven o'clock A.M. Quite rough and to sea. Got into the Potomac river about sunset and sailed all night.

5<sup>th</sup> We arrived at Washington at 3 o'clock in the morning, and was conveyed to the Lincoln general hospital. A number of the 20<sup>th</sup> days are here. Foul of Co H. is here and well. Richmond was taken by Genl Weitzel Apr 3<sup>rd</sup> 1865.

April 6<sup>th</sup> I heard ten patients were transported to Philadelphia. This is my birthday. One year ago I reported from Lewis to Port Thomas.

7<sup>th</sup> News that Sheridan and the 6<sup>th</sup> corps had taken part of Lees' force and the rest must surrender.



Apr 8<sup>th</sup> Reed says that Lee must surrender and the prospect is good for the war to close soon.

9<sup>th</sup> News was recd that Lee had surrendered himself and his whole army of north Va, and they are to stack their arms and be paroled and return home. Lee requests that there shall be immediate peace, without further bloodshed. Colonel Gilmore came to see me in the A.M. and I went to town to see him P.M.

10<sup>th</sup> Good news. Our force is operating at Mobile.

It is reported that Genl Johnson has surrendered to Genl Sherman.

11<sup>th</sup> The news of Johnson is not confirmed. A large squad of slightly wounded are being transferred to the Lincoln branch hospital. President Lincoln has returned from Richmond, and is going to make a speech in town this evening.

12<sup>th</sup> I went down to the navy yard, and went aboard of three monitors, the Malapoc, Sangus, Monitor. They were in the fight at Wilmington and Charleston.

13<sup>th</sup> I found an acquaintance that belongs to the 102<sup>d</sup> Pa Vols, by the name of Summire. There is an illumination in town this evening.

Apr I went down town and staid until 10 o'clock.

Saw Col Gilmore and Genl Hardee.

14<sup>th</sup> A fair day. I staid at the hospital all day and read a book that I took out of the library.

15<sup>th</sup> A rainy day. President Lincoln was shot in the head, while at Fards Theatre last evening.

Carbide guards are posted on every street corner with orders to arrest every suspicious character. A saddled horse was found early this morning very smelly. The man that committed the deed was recognised as John Wilkes Booth, and has been a fly actor in this city. At 8.30 o'clock P.M.

Mrs Lincoln accompanied by Mrs. Lincoln Miss Harris and Maj. Rathbun entered the theater, at 10.30 o'clock he was assassinated, but lived until 7.22 the next morning.

The secretary of state (Seward) was sick in his room and was assaulted about the same time by an unknown ruffian rushing by his servant claiming to have a message for him.

He succeeded in cutting the secretary severely but had to escape when assaulted by his servant.

16<sup>th</sup> Many suspicious persons have been arrested but it is uncertain as to the right one.

17<sup>th</sup> Every thing looks gloomy since the death of the president. Many stories about the affair.



Tuesday Apr 18<sup>th</sup> We went down town to see our Union test president, but there was such a throng of people that half of the them could get admittance to the white house.

19<sup>th</sup> The funeral sermon of the president was preached this P.M. but I did not feel like going. I went back in the country to take a walk. Salutes are being fired most all this P.M. I cannot get any letters from the regt.

20<sup>th</sup> A rainy morning. I went down to the capitol to see the remains of President Lincoln and he looks as natural as life.

I saw a pair of buckskin horses that I felt sure I drove in Maine in 1859.

21<sup>st</sup> No news of importance.

22<sup>nd</sup> I got 3 letters the first I have recd since I came from the regt. I heard that Frederick Douglass was an orderly at the war department.

23<sup>rd</sup> Col C D Gilman and Capt J Island came to see me. The Capt has just come from home and appears to be unwell.

24<sup>th</sup> I heard from the regt. Corp. Mason and Gilman have been shot in action.

25<sup>th</sup> An inviolent shot a cow that belonged to a man near the hospital

I went to the city, and to the patent office and got back at noon. We were transferred to the main Lincoln hospital in the P.M.

I was put in the 4<sup>th</sup> premium 37<sup>th</sup> tent.

26<sup>th</sup> I got a letter from home. The Sergeant in charge of <sup>this</sup> ward belongs to the 1<sup>st</sup> Mo Vet Corps. He studied medicine with Dr Baxter of Kendaakeag Mo, and his name is Roberts.

27<sup>th</sup> News came that Booth has been killed and hied to this city. He was caught somewhere in Maryland.

28<sup>th</sup> Booth was shot at 15 minutes passed 3 o'clock Tuesday morning the inst and died at 20 minutes passed 7 o'clock the same morning. A man by the name of Harrod was taken prisoner after Booth was shot and is now in custody in this city.

I was down town on a pass, went to the capitol, Washingtons monument and and the patent office.

29<sup>th</sup> It is ordered that the volunteers in the field and all men in hospitals not under medical treatment, are to be discharged, by an order from the war department.

30<sup>th</sup> We were mustered at 11 o'clock A.M.

Just one month since I was wounded, May 1<sup>st</sup> I W Fankle and I went down town to see Col Gilman in the evening. The committee is Auger.



