

Diary
January 10, 1862,
to
September 13, 1862.

ROBERT BELL
BOOKSELLER
ALEXANDRIA
VIRGINIA

COLBY COLLEGE
LIBRARY



GIFT OF
Richard Cutts Shannon, II

Diary
of
R. B. Shannon
1st. Lieut. Co. 14, 5th Me. Vols.
January 1862.

Colby

40

S52D5-

v.1

January

Camp Franklin, Va.

10..

Rained yesterday and so today we have had to wade through mud ankle deep to pass for it. Stayed in doors nearly all the time. Sang a few hymns with J. A. R. P. like —
"A charge to keep I have".

Also tried to sing with small success that stirring piece, commencing:-

"Who are these in bright array" -
Couldst think as I did about the claims of Spiritualism and the views of "Tom Paine" - Give me Pauls view of Christ and Him crucified - Then I can be happy. Otherwise only miserable -

This evening wrote something to H. and mother. Also studied tactics somewhat.

Am thinking of home and when I probably shall visit it again.

January

Camp Franklin.

11

Much pleasanter today - No brigade drill. So we rest. I am studying Tactics somewhat and preparing myself for field work. Report says our division has been detailed for some secret expedition. That would please the boys. Why don't Sherman capture Charleston or Savannah? If he has been driven off from the main land he alone is to blame. He should have moved more rapidly.

Read Sumner's speech on the international question delivered in the Senate two days since. He claims the position taken by England in the matter as a triumph for the commercial interests of the world. The speech is dignified and lofty in tone - one of the best efforts of the distinguished Senator.

A week ago last evening attended a lecture delivered by Horace Greeley at the Smithsonian Institute, Washington. I was visiting the city on regimental business and while there stopping with Major Robin. The lecture room of the Institute is not large although so well arranged as to seat a numerous audience.

Before the lecture began I looked round in search of some one I knew. But they all wore strange faces. I thought of the Chemistry I used to study at Waterville and wondered what kind ~~kind~~ of a looking man Professor Waring was. There was a "right good" sprinkling of military gentlemen throughout the room. I was pleased to see a few ladies. It reminded me of civilized life and I felt homesick.

The wall in rear of the stage was profusely adorned with American flags of all sizes. The band of music which had been detailed from some one of the regiments encamped near by discoursed national airs and altogether the affair was quite patriotic.

Promptly at the stated hour the door opened and forth stepped the distinguished Journalist and Politician, Horace Greeley, and who should follow him but President Lincoln with several noted members of the Senate & House. This remarkable presence I regarded as a high compliment to the Speaker.

I had often heard it remarked by persons that the delivery of Mr. Greeley was so poor, his utterance so indistinct that it was only with great effort that his audience could understand.

But my experience was quite different. Not a single word escaped me. There was plainly a defect in articulation quite unpleasant, doubtless, to critics ears. But I was too intent on what the speaker said to notice much how he said it. Beside if I now recollect aright he made no gestures, although at the time I did not observe that he failed to use this necessary means to a successful diction. This is a good evidence as to the quality of his lecture in at least one respect; namely its interest.

The lecturer uttered many wholesome truths. Among others I recollect one distinctly uttered in this pointed language:-

"The last Presidential election was not, as the rebels claim, the cause of the Rebellion. It was its opportunity. It was the

Zeplha that shook the forbidden fruit
from the now no longer tenacious
boughs."

Speaking of Fremont he called
out hearty cheers for the gallant
"pathfinder". But I did not like it.
It appeared as though commendatory
of his course and hence a direct
insult to the President. The latter
preserved his usually dignified and
honest appearance. I am pleased
with him more and more. He
is the man for the times.

While at the Smithsonian
during the day I picked up a
small stick which I shall make
into a penholder. That will make
a very pretty Souvenir.

January

7

13.

Camp Franklin Pa.

The "Clipper" this morning brings us glorious news from Kentucky. Humphrey Marshall with his band have been scattered ignominiously by a small force of our troops, and that, too, without any show of fight on his part. The Expedition has already moved down the Mississippi. The Burnside expedition has got off safely. The Pensacola ran the blockade unharmed yesterday. Twenty two shots were fired at her. This was the cannonading we heard down the river.

Have been studying Battalion and Brigade drills this morning. Am in excellent health. Sent letters by the mail to mother, F.H.C. & C.H.G.

January

15th

Night before last there was a heavy fall of snow and so we did nothing yesterday but attend "Dress Parade." I have felt very dissatisfied with this kind of living and long for the old privileges and the old friends.

Am I ^a true Christian? If so would I not be more in the spirit of Christ? What are my feelings? my desires? I long for a direct service in the cause of my master. I wish that I might be a chaplain, and then I could give my whole attention to the subject "of winning souls to Christ."

10:00 P.M.

Have been out on Grand Rounds with Major Seaman and just returned. Arue rode along the

paths leading through open fields and
 quiet woods, saying nothing, hearing
 nothing but the occasional sighing of
 the wind I experienced strange emotions.
 Where ^{are} the friends in Maine? What
 are they doing?

I received a letter from
 Dr. Shailer this evening which was
 written in the same old tone of
 affection and kindness. God
 bless him and all my dear friends!
 The letter contained another from
 Col. Dummell, Vera Cruz. He tells
 an interesting experience - May it
 redound to the spiritual well being
 of his partner.

* * * *

Today I have been studying
 somewhat and commenced on
 my Scrap book.

January

Camp Franklin.

16

An officer of the guard today and have taken up my quarters here at the guard tent. My books are with me, the "Clippers", and Sumner's brief note sent through Hall of C. A. Cameron has resigned and Stanton is now Secy of War. The President certainly displays firmness. Every movement indicates him as the man for the crisis. Cameron will go to Russia as minister. That is judicious. The stand which that country has recently taken in the matter of human chattelship will make Cameron an agreeable sympathizer. They say Blair will go out, too.

P.M.

Studied tactics with Lieut. Stevens and Private W.B. Stevens. till about midnight.

January

11

17

Camp Franklin.

Did nothing today but make up sleep for last night and study tactics.

Grand Rounds about one o'clock this morning.

18.

Didn't feel well enough this morning to take breakfast.

During forenoon studied a little and read from the "clipper" an account of new federal triumphs in Kentucky.

This afternoon attended DressParade, called to see Primie who is sick, and played a few games of chess with Howe.

Letters this evening from Peter and Brother Charles.

January

19.

Sunday.

Camp Franklin,

Muddy, muddy, muddy.
 No Service either, James sick and
 confined to his tent. Wants to get
 his discharge, and think I shall try
 to get ^{it} for him.

Sent letters this morning to
 my chum E. V. H., and Dr. Shailer.

What a strange Sabbath we have
 passed! No public worship, no singing,
 no praying, no preaching, no Sabbath
 School, no vestry meeting, no Sabbath
 exercises at all.

Would that I might enjoy a
 good old Sabbath like those we
 used to have at home in Portland!

My faith looks up to Thee

Thou Lamb of Calvary

Saviour divine

January

13

20th

Brother James very sick - sat up with him last night - got him into regimental hospital today - Have done nothing myself but read and try to make up back sleep.

Report came from Alexandria that Columbus had been taken - I can hardly believe it.

* * * * *

Sent invitation to Charles to come and visit me, by this morning's mail.

Received letter from P.M.C. saying that my picture had gone down to the "Court of Israel" to speak for itself.

"The Philadelphia Press of today" - "the great double-breasted war paper" continues to come regularly every morning.

January.

22.

Officer of the guard today,
with a sick head ache to help me.
Received a letter from father and
Mr. Coffin this evening. The former
is coming out to see me.

Capt. Brown tendered his resignation today. If accepted the
company will fall under my
command.

Lollicoffer dead and his
army routed. This will read
well by the side of Marshall's
defeat and the cowardly dispersion
of his troops. This last triumph
will let our forces into East
Tennessee where there is said
to be a large body of loyalists.

January

15

24.

Was selected again to act as officer of the guard today; but I am too sick to do duty and so shall remain at my tent. Have been quite unwell for the past three or four days, in spite of the doctor's Rhubarb and Quinine. Am now going to cure myself by letting all medicines alone and eating sparingly of food.

Simms is still sick at the Hospital. The doctor does not think him very sick and tells me he will get out in a few days. I hope so truly

January

25.

Got Surgeon's certificate and leave of absence from camp to be gone five days. Walked larger part of the way into city, and had ride on an ox cart with an Irishman who upon my asking him if he knew Thomas Francis Magher replied "Och! Thomas?" "an ould acquaintance". Tried to find place to spend a few days. At last put up in hotel. Took heavy supper. Eat, during the day, apples without stint, a very sour pickle and two oranges. In evening visited market house and had some adventures.

Went to bed early and slept well.

January

Sunday

16th

Camp Franklin.

17

Strange noises during last night from my fat friend who occupied No. 15 with me. This morning while dressing noticed he wore two pairs of suspenders - one being for his drawers - a corpulent necessity.

After breakfast changed my quarters and, as I thought, for better.

But couldn't stand that. The dinner bell capped the climax. After that I packed up my traps and footed it back to camp, feeling that this side of home I know only one place that is trustworthy. Unless I except Mr. Hall of Washington. His kindness will never be forgotten by me.

January

27th

Am feeling pretty well today in body—something I have not been able to say for a long time. Still I am going to keep off duty till the five days are up for which the doctor excused me.

Orders from Washington have come requiring us to practice the Bayonet drill, and now books are distributed among the various companies and we have fairly commenced. Good say P.

Last evening received a splendid letter from Chum and a copy of his piece spoken at the Senior Exhibition entitled:—
"Sadness of enjoyment."

January

31.

19

Still muddy. And no
end to it either. My health is
slowly improving.

Now they say we are going
to advance. Well I hope we shall
do something soon.

P.M.

Charles sends me a
letter by this evening's mail, which
says that I may expect him to
pay us a visit next Monday.
Good! I am anxious to see him.

Simmie is yet in
the hospital though getting better.

February

Sunday

Camp Franklin, Va. 2.

It is now evening. The day has been quite pleasant and I have enjoyed myself well. The same old health is beginning to return to me.

Chaplain Adams loaned me Nelson on Infidelity and I have been reading it today. Its argumentation is very clear and satisfactory. He is going to let me have Horae Paulinae by Paley, too. I am especially pleased with such books.

My "Patent" scrap book enlarges perceptibly every day. Good letters received last night from Portland friends. "Zeons Advocate". This evening.

Charlie comes tomorrow. Lieut. B & I are going to receive him.

February.

21

7

Camp Franklin M.

Have been spending several days in Alexandria of late searching for brother Charles who has now arrived from Maine. C. came out to find me and we both returned to camp yesterday forenoon. We did not spend a very pleasant night together. B. acted poorly.

Today the Captain has gone to Mount Vernon and I am left in command. During this forenoon have been studying "McClellan's bayonet exercise" and like it very much.

Am also writing an article on Alexandria and its sights for the Lion's Advocate.

Am in excellent health
So are Jimmie and Charlie.

February Sunday

Camp Franklin, Va. 9

Was officer of the guard yesterday and will soon be relieved. Charlie and Lieut. Stevens came down to see me here at my tent, and we had a fine time talking. Paradio translated for me "Francais peuple!" "Peuples braves!" He is a corporal now.

Intelligence by the "clipper" that Fort Henry had been captured by the gun boats of Captain Porter, after a desperate resistance. Two Generals made prisoners with many other officers. Another Union victory. Thus we push on to triumphs that ensure final and complete success.

When will this ~~rebellion~~ rebellion be overcome? Soon I believe.

February
12

23

My birthday. So it is Pres'h
Abraham Lincoln's. Set out for
Mount Vernon with brother Charles
by the way of Alexandria and
on horseback. Magnificent day. As
we journeyed on I pointed out to C.
the various camps we had occu-
pied while in this vicinity, where
we had picketed, and the forts
we helped build. He took the Old
Mount Vernon Road, the same one
La Fayette took when he visited
there - as Mrs. Whitney told us.
Mrs. W. who lives in sight of this
hallowed spot and who knew me
at once although I had never spoken
with her before ^{last summer} ~~and~~ and then for
the first time, prepared supper for
us on our return.

We raced many times
and each time "Jeff" would lead.

In the evening we attended a Union meeting at Alexandria and enjoyed it exceedingly. They were discussing the resolutions commendatory of the course of those officers who on a previous Sabbath removed from his desk the Rev. Mr. Stewart for omitting certain portions of the service; i.e. the prayer for the President and that all "treason and rebellion might be purged from our midst." This he had been doing repeatedly Sabbath after Sabbath. Beside this public dereliction of duty he has in his private life given frequent and unmistakable testimonies of strong personal sympathies for the rebels. Many pithy sayings were uttered against the revered gentleman and his treasonable course.

While at Mount Vernon I took notes as usual. I always get some new view or fall in with some fresh item of interest every time I visit this sacred spot.

Over the iron grated entrance to the tomb there are engraved these words:-

"Within this enclosure rest the remains of Genl. Geo. Washington."

And as you look within you notice on the opposite wall engraved ~~in~~ a marble slab, these noble and lofty words of St. John:

I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me though he were dead yet shall he live. And whosoever liveth and

believeeth in me shall never die."
(11 cap: 25, 26)

Around the tomb of Washington there are erected several monuments commemorative of the decease of relatives. I was so interested with the inscriptions upon them that I copied several portions.

As the visitor passes down the walk after reaching the tomb he turns to the left. On the left are two monuments within an iron fenced enclosure. One of these bears the following inscription:—

"To x x x x Mrs. M. E. A. Conrad
wife of Chas M. Conrad of N. O.
daughter Isaac & Eleanor G. Lewis and
Grand Niece of General Geo Washington &c"

On the other is written;—

"To * * * * Eleanor Parke Lewis
Grand daughter of Mrs. and
adopted daughter of General W.
Reared under the roof of the
father of his country this lady
was not more remarkable
for the beauty of her person
than for the superiority of her
mind."

On the first of these
monuments there was also this
additional inscription:

If the possession of every virtue
that adorns or dignifies her sex
could have warded off the stroke
of death she would have been im-
mortal, and those who mourn
her untimely end are consoled
by the reflection that those virtues
seemed better to fit her for the

abode to which her spirit has fled than for that which it has abandoned."

Evidently this space was left to be filled in afterwards with other matter relating to the visit to Mount Vernon:- but which, for want of time or inclination was never

done. I am more impressed with what is
omitted from this diary than what is inserted
in it. I recall many interesting war incidents
that are not even mentioned here.

R. Q. Shannon

Brooklyn, N. Y.
Feb 1, 1905

February Sunday,
16

"The Sunday morning Chronicle" brings us still further intelligence of our successes in the west. Donelson has been captured, and the celebrated Strong hold of Bowling Green has been evacuated by the rebels. Our brave troops are pressing fast after them as they fly towards Nashville. Buell leads the advancing columns. Victory perches on our glorious banner. Glory and Praise to the Lord.

The day is most beautiful. Am in command of Co. H, and shall remain so at least for a week to come. Charles goes home tomorrow and father will soon be out here and I think enter the Government bakery at Alexandria.

The recent intelligences inspire
us all with renewed courage.

Everything looks cheering enough.

The Union Sentiment throughout
Tennessee is manifesting itself
continually and even in Memphis
Advocates for the old flag are
beginning to be heard again.

What American heart does not
leap for joy at this glad news.

How sublime the age in which
we are now living! How grandly
this page of American history
will look! How splendidly it
will read! Our youthful imag-
ination has often pictured the
Revolutionary age and many
times have we involuntarily uttered
the wish that we might have
lived then. But how far in
advance of that age is this
one in which we live!

February

17

The "Kumbaat detail" from our Regiment have just marched out of the grounds en route for Cairo. They are under charge of Lieut. Stevens of Co. C.

Brother Charles also went to Alexandria this morning on the way to Maine. He will stop in Washington a few days. Tomorrow I hope to receive a pass and join him there. We shall try to attend the President's levee together if possible.

The "Philadelphia Inquirer" of today brings us vague intelligence of the capture of Fort Donelson. It must fall. But there will be a dreadful loss of life.

We await anxiously further news relative to western movements.

This forenoon it is raining hard. I have been cutting extracts from papers to put in my "Patent Scrap book". Am going to read a little this forenoon and write. Many letters yet remain unanswered and I must attend to them at once.

I don't think it could very well have been helped. Naturally I take great delight in correspondence. The fact is I have been so situated that letter writing during the past fortnight has been a thing almost wholly impracticable. Charles's presence has taken up my attention continually, and my quarters and companions are not such as I would select if left to my own choice.

Still these are small things to murmur against comparatively, and I will strive the harder.

February
18

Latest intelligence has come of the capture of Fort Donelson and 15,000 prisoners among them Genls Buell, Johnston and Pillow. We ran away during the night. This news reached camp last ev'g. Immediately the band were called out and we had a demonstration. The chaplain read from the "Evening Star" the above and as each fact was announced cheer after cheer went up for Grant, for Foote, for McClellan, for Old Abe, for Jackson and "all the rest." And when every one had grown hoarse with shouting it was proposed that we have three more cheers for "our side."

Having read again that our leaders in the west were intending by the last of the week to capture certain other places the Dr. proposed

that we have three cheers "for the last of the week". These were given with a will. Three more cheers and then the band plays "Yankee Doodle". Every one felt cheerful and many were the congratulations that officers showered upon their brothers. This morning we have heard nothing but firing of cannon in every direction. They will have grand times in Washington tonight. Am going to try and be there. Have sent up for a pass to General Franklin, and am hoping to get it.

It is now thought that an end has virtually been put to the war.

February.

Alexandria. 19.

7 P.M.

Have been at Washington since yesterday afternoon. Found Charlie on Pennsylvania Avenue. We did not attend the Presidents reception because he did not have any. We however spent the evening very pleasantly calling on friends and purchasing some books. Did not get to bed till this morning. Had some music before retiring in the parlor of the Central House. Quite interested in the old gentleman who helped me sing

"The star spangled banner"

and who in his youth could "sing all the popular songs"; who was personally intimate with many of the

great men who had figured at Washington, delighted in an execution or a duel, thought John Brown hung "most beautifully" professionally speaking, and would have liked to have seen him taken down and hung again and the operation repeated - would have gone a thousand miles and walked, too, to see it - Knew O. Jennings Wise, Pryor, and all that clique at Richmond - they were cold blooded and "rashly game" as he termed it.

He knew all about the duel in which Billy was killed - and had been engaged himself in several personal affairs.

Strange old man! Such sentiments are very well for Federal times - But for this age how sadly behind hand!

Today having arisen about 11 A.M., we visited several establishments on Pennsylvania Avenue, Willards and the Sanitary Commission. Finally I went to the Capitol alone, and there after admiring the beautiful paintings that have recently been added to the original collection in the Rotunda we passed on to the splendid apartments where the members of Congress were in session.

Grov was in the chair perfectly at home directly by his side that Prince of young Parliamentarians Morris. The speaker was guiding the house with masterly skill as the tide of business swept it on. Bill after bill was presented, and hardly had the gentleman from Wisconsin with feeble voice pronounced its

object before seized by the page it was placed in the speaker's hand;— then we hear the stentorian voice of the clerk as with hurried speech he names again its title and object.

While this very uninteresting business was going on suddenly up rose Mr. Crittendon of Kentucky and asks leave to interrupt the gentleman but for a moment. This was readily granted. He wanted to communicate to the House a message which he had just received from Genl. McClellan informing him of the capture of Genl. Pies and his staff. This was received with loud and long applause. What clapping of hands!

Shortly afterward Hickman of Pennsylvania introduced a resolution of Inquiry relative to a paragraph in one of the Baltimore papers which reflected on the loyalty of Mr. Vallandigham of Ohio. The latter replied at once and with considerable spirit. Then followed one of those Congressional affairs of which I have frequently read. The members left their seats filled the aisles and stood upon the floor in front of the speakers desk. The excitement grew more and more intense, and finally the sharp rap of the Speakers hammer accompanied by his not less sharp voice ordering the gentlemen to retake their seats put an end to the altercation. Finally the resolution was withdrawn.

A short time afterward Guthrie also. The Senate I did not visit.

but I stepped into the court room
 of the U.S. Supreme court. There
 all was quiet and thoughtful.
 Judge Black was at the bar
 talking to the judges in a very
 low voice. His whole tone and
 manner was thoroughly conver-
 sational. Judge Taney was all
 attention and seemed to be well
 versed in his duties as chief
 Justice. Clifford looked younger
 than any other one, and much
 more active. How interesting a
 place is this! Here the brightest
 intellects the bar has ever furnished
 have been gathered and here
 have they won their brightest
 their freshest laurels. The
 immortal Webster, Clay, Calhoun,
 Jay, Marshall, Wick and
 Chase! Before them out an
 interesting and able speaker

began to address the bar. It was
Reverdy Johnson - one of the first
lawyers in America.

Having seen this much of the
Capitol we wended our way to
Gautier where an excellent dinner
was in waiting for us. We
tried to do it full justice, and
I think we succeeded.

While there we overheard
gentlemen talking of an armistice
and a speedy termination of the
war. So soon? Well I care not
how soon it is done only that
it be done well.

Giving Charlie parting instructions
and a hearty good bye I get on
board of the omnibus. We soon
reach the boat and in three
quarters of an hour I am walking
the streets of Alexandria.

An hour afterward I set out for the camp. A drunken sentinel levels his piece at me and cocks it. I was unarmed and so had to turn back upon him. I finally got him to the Provost marshal's office and another put on in his stead entering charges against him.

The captain and major - The "Counterfeit" - "\$118." - "\$132." - The 2nd Lieut - "Right into line wheel - Left companies on the right into line - And a hundred other little incidents of varied nature.

Shall I not remember this trip to Washington?

February

Camp Franklin, Va. 20

Have been all alone most of the day, arranging my financial affairs and trying to do something on my "Patent scrap book"

This evening the boys felt exceedingly well. They sang very many of the old songs. The recent victories have accomplished everything towards inspiring and encouraging our men. Even now although the bugler long since played the "Extinguish lights" I hear sweet music coming from the staff line. Some one is singing

"Home again! Home again!"

February

115

21

Camp Franklin.

The "Baltimore Clipper" of this morning brings intelligence of the evacuation of Clarksville and that our troops are pushing rapidly on to Nashville. Stephens Vice President of the Southern Confederacy is reported to have resigned his position and advised a return of the seceded States. Everything portends a grand finale to the hopes of the rebels.

The band is discoursing some of its sweetest music as I now write. All are in the best of spirits. The war news has been powerful in its influence. Every soldier on the Potomac is ready to march at a moment's warning.

February Washington's
22nd Birthday

Camp Franklin, Va.

at 11 o'clock a.m. today there was a regimental formation and certain exercises prescribed by Genl Order No. 16 from Headquarters. I, being Adjutant pro. tem, had to read the extracts from Washington's Farewell address. It was an exceedingly pleasant task. At the same time probably similar exercises were going on at the head of hundreds of regiments throughout the country. All is rejoicing everywhere - except at the White House. There our chief Magistrate sorrow stricken at the untimely death of his little son can only in part feel the happiness which thrills the land.

But what must be the feeling throughout the South? This was to be the day of their Presidential inauguration. Jefferson Davis! what can be the feelings of this arch traitor? who has so long and so fatally resisted the government and Constitution of our fathers? but who, thank God, is soon to reap the just, the merited reward of a traitor. What a day is this for patriot loyal Americans! What a day for vile and ungrateful rebels!

This day at the capitol will be presented to congress the flags that have been recently captured in the South west by our gallant troops.

Guns are booming all around us and every little while cheers go up from neighboring camps. Hail to the stars stripes! all honor to the brave Illinoisians! This day will ever be remembered in the annals of American history.

The "Baltimore clipper" brings us still further good news. The rebels are evacuating Manassas. In Richmond there is a league of Unionists, many thousands in number, and they are looking anxiously for an advance on that city which they think can be easily captured. They are ready to take up arms for the stars

and stripes. Johnston is ready
to give up Nashville if private
property suffers no injury. Price
defeated. Things look well.
Our cause is more than
triumphant.

The 22nd Feb'y 1862, is a
gala-day!!!

March.

Camp Franklin.

8

It is a long time since I wrote anything here during which time much has transpired of interest and importance both personal and national.

But before everything else let me place the late conversion of my dearly beloved friend and brother E. W. Hall to the religion of Christ. This impresses me more than anything else.

Our troops have occupied Nashville long since and tonight good news come from Butler.

March

10

Camp Franklin, Pa.

500 A.M.

Jimmie has come and woke me up saying that we are to move. Get up and go to Major's tent. He says that orders are to move this morning "at 9 o'clock, with two days rations in our haversacks."

Gen. Slocum was at our dress Parade yesterday and he also visited the other regiments.

I saw him with his staff looking at the 27th N.Y. as they drilled. Where are we going? Col. Geary's success at Leesburg is significant in this connection. Either to join him at that place by rail or get in between the enemy and Manassas on that side.

Have been writing letters to L. and bro. Charles.

Lieut. B. got off a fine thing. Excited and earnest he jumps up and rapidly dresses himself. "Now," says he, "let us see - where shall I go to find out whether we are going to move or not." Rushes out the tent and pretty soon I hear him talking the Captain - "Captain, Captain, why ain't you ^{set} up? going to move at 7 o'clock this morning?" Pretty soon Geo is back again - "Now," says he, "Where shall I go to find out?" I laugh heartily at him. and off he goes.

100th a.m.

The column has halted for a rest on the Little River turnpike our regiment being ahead. Genl. Stocum is here with us and the men all feel splendidly.

It began to rain about five this morning & continued up to within half an hour. This has given us a pretty good soaking but our spirits remain good.

The men are all provided with light tents which they carry in their packs. This makes them heavily loaded. I carry beside my sword, a haversack, a woollen and rubber blanket and my overcoat. The line officers are to have four tents to sleep in nights.

Now we fall in again.

12 m.

Another stop and very nearly to our outer picket, too.

March 11. 1862

Fairfax Court House, Va.

We reached here yesterday afternoon about 4 o'clock. As we ascended the high hill just outside of the town and caught the first glimpse of the rebel earthworks the men broke into cheers.

Off to our right we could see other troops filing into the town and this morning I learn that Porter's Division is also here. A contraband rode into camp last evening bringing intelligence that both Centerville and Manassas were evacuated. The former may be but I don't believe the latter is.

We had a rough night of it. Jimmie carried his pack very well and stands the exposure much better than I expected he would.

Immediately after pitching our tent last evening I started out

to bathe my feet. Not a long distance from camp I found a stream of water and this morning I feel the good effects of that wash.

After breakfast this morning I started out in company with Lt. Lyon to see the town. We visited the Court House and a few other buildings. I also visited the rebel earthworks and from both places brought away souvenirs.

Major Scammon could not find a Canteen when he left camp but this morning he got one which is marked 14th. miss. Vols.

Have been talking with the contraband who came in last evening. He is very intelligent and replies promptly to all questions. While conversing with him 18 other contrabands passed up the road

Kearny is ahead with his brigade. Mclellan just rode by with his staff. Official report is said to have come this morning from McDowell who is at Manassas of the evacuation of that place by the enemy.

March 12th. 1862

We still remain at Fairfax Court House. The evacuation of Manassas by the enemy is confirmed and our pickets, it is said now extend fifteen miles beyond. This is great news. Manassas has indeed been made a second Bowling Green as I predicted a few weeks since. Now everything is at a stand still and fears are beginning to be expressed for the safety of Burnside's Relief will undoubtedly be

sent to him at once.

The news of Genl. Curtis's victory in Arkansas has reached us and all of course feel rejoiced. Ben. McCullough is dead and without doubt Secession has received its death blow in the South West. It is all in vain that Beauregard repairs to Island No. 10. His ablest efforts cannot win ^{any substantial success} for the cause of the rebellion, so long as Grant and Sherman pierce the Centre and Curtis and Sigel turn their left wing.

This Rebellion is on its last legs. Nothing can make it prosper. Fiercely Southerners may talk of being exterminated but they like to live as well as any other people and they have too much judgement

to pour out their lives for nothing.
 x x x x x

While conversing with a young man yesterday who resides on the street where the Court House stands I learned many interesting facts concerning the rebels, their number, their purpose and their spirit.

He said that the rebels maintained and a large number firmly believed that we were going to free their negroes. And so they felt as though they were fighting for their homes and their all. These two impressions I labored to convince him were entirely wrong. And it is plain they are the cause of the stout resistance which is made against our arms.

March

Fairfax Court Hse. 12 cont'd.

Lieut. Atwood has just loaned me some ink and so I will try once more to write with the ordinary appliances.*

There is much speculation as to what is to be done with us some maintaining that we shall soon return to camp, and others that we shall push forward tomorrow.

What will really be done with us is I think extremely doubtful.

One of our company (H), picked up a roll of skin plasters in the rebel entrenchments yesterday.

This morning a flock of geese passed over us flying pretty low. It was not many

* The pencilings on the previous pages having become quite dim have been written over with ink (R.C.D.)

seconds before they were seen. Then the soldiers began to shout and pretty soon a rifle was discharged, and as the flock passed over a cavalry troop as many as a dozen shots were fired at them. But not one took effect.

Reports continue to reach us of the evacuation of Cuterville and Manassas. It hardly seems possible.

* * *

There is no doubt of it now. Hundreds of our troops have visited the old battle grounds, and returned to camp.

March

Camp Franklin, Pa. 15. 1862

Here we are back again though I am personally occupying a somewhat different position and living in a far different establishment.

Today I received a special and written notification of my appointment as aide-de-camp on Genl. Slocum's staff.

Night before last ^(13th. inst.) about half an hour after turning in I was aroused from sleep by some one calling aloud for Lieut Shannon. I made answer. The reply was "You are ordered to report yourself at head quarters immediately." Ten minutes afterward I was in presence of the general.

We questioned me a little, asked if I was present in the

battle of Bull Run - what my rank was then - if I understood the drill - and what was the quality of my hand writing.

Finally he dismissed me saying that he would send me orderly for me in the morning.

Yesterday forenoon I was sent for accordingly and I immediately began my labors in the office of General Slocum, as acting Aide-de-camp.

Last evening we received orders to march to Paget's Tavern about half way back to camp, but when the column reached that place the General ordered the cols. of the different regiments to act at their discretion about returning to ^{the old} camp or bivouac. He and his staff quartered at

the residence of Obion a famous
secessionist. And this morning
after taking breakfast we
galloped into camp amid a
drenching rain.

Here we shall probably
remain until next monday when
without doubt we shall march
to Alexandria and be taken down
the river in transports. There is
to be ^a movement toward Richmond
by water. The Merrimac must
be looked after then.

Orders have been issued to
the several regiments composing
our brigade of my appointment as
aide-de-camp. It seems to have
pleased all my friends here and
I trust it will please my
friends at home.

I have got to make a great many purchases:- A full staff suit of clothes, staff sword, overcoat, boots, cap and rubbers, gauntlets, horse, saddle and trappings. These, too, must be of the finest quality. My pay will be about one hundred and forty dollars a month, but as my brother aide-de-camp said today "the expenses will about eat up the salary." I think so the more I consider it.

March

19.

65

Had a review of our division today. McClellan and McDowell were there. The latter is to command the corps d'armee of which Franklin's division comprises a part. This was the first time I had acted as aide at review. I did not have the fullest uniform. It will however be complete when we move I think.

Another splendid victory at Pea Ridge Missouri wherein Curtis and Sigel have gathered fresh laurels.

Burnside, too, has routed the enemy at Newburn. Indeed the enemy are being defeated at every point; and the actual crushing out of this rebellion now seems inevitable.

When we leave here it will be to put the finishing stroke.

March

23

Sunday

Camp Franklin

Have been to walk this morning, and had a pleasant season of meditation. I wish that I might be in Portland today and attend divine service there. If Edward and Lizzie and I could only attend together would it not be pleasant? I am going to have as pleasant a time as can be reading my testament and reflection. I fear that I too poorly attend to my religious duties. I do not want to leave the army worse than when I entered it. This may be unless I am very careful.

"My soul be on thy guard

Ten thousand foes arise

The hosts of sin are pressing hard

To draw thee from the skies."

March

25

67

Review of the 1st Corps d'armee took place today. Genl. Stocum was absent. Col. Badlett took command of Brigade. Russell L.T.D. of London Times notoriety was there. Criticized McClellan although he did not review the troops.

Got an excellent letter from Lizzie this morning, containing another from Mrs. E. P. Shailer. They are pleased with my promotion. Lizzie is going to surprise me with something in the Transcript. Good.

Got a fine letter from Edward this evening, too.

March.

26..

Camp Franklin.

They have had a battle at Winchester and we have gained another victory. Shields is the hero. He still remains here and undoubtedly shall continue to remain until some new event occurs.

I hardly know whether we are destined to go down the river. The whole thing looks strangely to me. We shall see however in a few days.

Leiries transcript reached me this morning with a very pretty piece in it by "Isa O. Hale." Good I am pleased. I was not mistaken in Leiries capabilities. But here is so much beyond my expectations. She is gaining laurels at home while I reap an occasional one abroad. Good, say I once more. Yes, and better still, It is good.

Of late I have been making very many purchases. Today I bought a horse. It will be a very costly establishment for me indeed. But the experience is going to ^{be} fine.

* * * *

Have been studying of late McDougall on the "Theory of war" and enjoyed it exceedingly.

p.m.

This evening I have been writing to Lillie. Would that I could be with her!

* * * *

"Passez a moi ma chère amie,"

March,

27th.

Had a grand review today of King and Franklin's divisions of the first corps d'armée. Our division carried off the palm.

The 2nd. Brigade (ours) was the best and the old Maine 5th, "the renowned of the world" was acknowledged by every one present to be the finest appearing and best marching regiment on the field.

Lord Lyons and suite were present and witnessed the review. Many other distinguished foreigners attended them.

McClellan did not review but with a portion of his staff he rode behind. As he passed by our brigade the men began to cheer and each regiment took it up one after another, "Gods" looked exceedingly pleased.

I did a very ungallant thing
by "charging on a column" of ladies.
But it was a great mistake.

After the review we all rode to
Alexandria and did not return
until about seven. Immediately
took tea and then went up
to the concert at Genl. Newton's.
A great time. Shall always
remember it. Waldron is a queer
fellow. Cupid in his roundabout
declining the proffered stool it
was graciously occupied by the
gallant Purdy. Miss Dean and
Miss Chehoe, and several gentlemen
furnished the singing and altogether
the entertainment was very
acceptable. Shall I ever forget
that inimitable rendering of
"Old Times"?

"Old Grimes is dead, that good old man
 Heaven shall see him more
 He used to wear a cold gray coat
 Allbuttoned down before."

"S-i-n-g"

The finance committee reported
 the collection of \$27.25 which
 amount was duly handed to
 the ladies.

The music was "orrid" and
 yet quite acceptable for one who
 had heard nothing of the sort
 before for nine months.

Got to bed about midnight
 after reading five good letters from
 home -

What would I give to hear him sing?

March

73

28.

We had no brigade drill because Kearney would not let us have the ground. He is a brave and generous fellow Schiick. Remember him at Fairfax Court House and the little scene in the street when an orderly reported himself with a deserter from the rebels. It was exceedingly interesting.

Still the loss of a brigade drill which the General felt much at first was more than compensated for by the drill afterward of a regiment in connection with a battery of artillery. The drill was repeated again this afternoon - and it has set them all to thinking.

Genl. Barry attended us this morning. Capt. Arnold this afternoon.

An old letter from father & mother
reached me today.

March,

30,

Sunday.

Camp Franklin.

Rainy day and so very uncomfortable. Chaplain Adams has been to tell me that there will be a communion service at the 16th. N.Y. this afternoon and invites me. Shall I attend? I have not sat at the table of the Lord since the few days previous to my "leaving for the wars." I should be overjoyed to attend the service with the church. But

Those fit to sit at the table
are only those who have believed
and been baptized

Have these fulfilled the requirements,
Dutch Reformed, Presbyterian, Free
Will Baptists, Orthodox &c.

I shall not attend the service.

I can attend no service today; so I am
 spending the time in thought on the past - what
 I have done - what left undone - in what
 points I fail - where I may improve - and
 so be of the greatest possible service to
 my country and the world.

One thing I may ever rely
 upon and that is this. I must have
 the strength that comes from on high.
 Or else I shall utterly fail.

- April -

2.

Yesterday afternoon I set out for Washington on business - and returned this evening.

on the way I fell in with Capt. Hennessy of Patterson N. Jersey. and found that he was a brother Christian - and that his pastor was Dr. Babcock who used to preach to us in the William st. Baptist Church. New Bedford, and who was afterward President of Waterville College. I had a very pleasant conversation with him indeed and on the strength of ^{their} mutual acquaintance ^{with} and esteem for Dr. Babcock we have resolved to correspond. He goes home on a furlough.

* * *

April

77

I continued.

Last night I stopped at the central house and went to bed with the gas burning; woke up this morning and put it out.

Called on Major Rochester and he paid me my month's salary to April 1. 1862.

Called at Brady's and had the negative taken of myself for college album pictures, 40 costing me \$16.00. Could not take my vignette because it was too dark.

Rode out to the Maine Cavalry and saw Capt. Cowan who did not know me.

Returned home by the boat toward the latter part of the afternoon. Purchased a horrid dish of oysters for dinner.

April

3

Camp Franklin.

p.m.

The other members of the staff seem to be quite all away. I believe I am entirely alone here at head quarters. The weather is delightful and makes one feel languid - too much so. I like the sharp strong weather we generally have at the north, rather than these mild and genial days at the "Sunny south."

This forenoon I purchased an album and fifteen pictures for Lizzie - a present.

April
14th

79

This morning I was aroused from sleep by Lt. Uead who surprised me by saying that orders had come for us to march and that the destination of our army corps had been changed. I was soon in the office and at work writing orders. An hour afterward I retired in again and was soon asleep. At seven I got up.

At ten o'clock the brigade was formed. I sent home a basket of clothing by express, and in my carpet bag I put all that I am to carry except what will be on my person, my blankets, and overcoat. At eleven we were on the march for Alexandria there to take the cars. The march was hot and dusty.

* * * *

April
14" Continued.

Manassas

Loading the trains we found to be no small job. It took a long time - But we got hungry soon, and it was decided to pay Mrs. Gatt's a visit. Accordingly we walked over to that venerable place and took dinner. A little while after General Franklin with one of his staff arrived and we all took dinner together. For the first time in my life I dined with two generals.

About two o'clock we got off. It was after dark before we reached Manassas, and we "went to bed" almost "supperless".

April

81

5.

Manassas.

I write this within five miles of the battlefield of First Bull Run. As we rode by the spot where our arms suffered that fatal reverse my heart was moved.

This morning it rained quite hard, and it seemed very uncomfortable. But Poe gave us an excellent breakfast.

This noon our horses came up. Mine looked gaunt enough, though in pretty good condition. This afternoon it was determined to send out a picket force, and { Lt. Wood, myself and a guide who was formerly in the Rebel army, went out to reconnoitre.

We rode about six miles. The guide showed us the place to which the Prince William Cavalry pursued him last evening. I

obtained information from him
sufficient to make a useful
map of this section of the country.

Coming in this evening I found
a man here by the name of Gillespie
a Union Refugee, who had escaped
from the rebels and found his
way to our lines. He was formerly
a Professor in St. Pauls College and
a graduate at University of Virginia.
He talks very intelligibly and seems
true to the cause.

Fresh troops continue to arrive.

April

Manassas.

6

Last night an orderly leading Col. Murphy's horses was shot about four miles from our camp & today a squad of men went in search of the body as he was a good soldier and had been in the service 16 years.

Genl. Franklin and staff called upon us about an hour since. We shall march tomorrow morning at seven o'clock toward Bristol and Charlestown. Today I am of the impression that the enemy do not intend making a stand in Virginia. Dr. Gillespie our Refugee friend says that parties of Unionists have fled to the mountains to avoid conscription and that they are anxious to join Banks army.

Genl. Hook in his dispatch, this mornings paper, says that he does not think we will find an

enemy to contend with in Virginia.
7 p.m. - This evening I returned from
a long ride. Immediately after
dinner the General started out with
his staff on a reconnoitering expedition.
Our object was to find the best road
leading to Bristol which place we
visited.

After returning to camp I
started out alone to visit Bull
Run. Having reached Manassas
Junction I called at a house and
inquired the way to the battle field
The negro showed me and explained
the situation. I took down a sketch
of it and then rode off with three
of the Maine Cavalry. We however
did not succeed through mistaking
the road, and so had to return. I
took the Cavalry with me because I
did not expect to get back before
tonight and it is very dangerous

travelling through these woods after
dark.

April 8.

Catlett's station.

We marched out of
our encampment yesterday morning
at 7 o'clock. We made a road of
our own as we went along, and
the pioneers had considerable
work to do in filling up the ditches.
We passed through Brest, ^{at} not
far from nine o'clock a.m., where
we made a short halt. General
S. and staff called at Gen. Newton's
head quarters and we had a
fine time over the state of things.
Genl. Newton was very indignant

at the arrangement which had recently been made putting us under McDowell. Waldron after listening a long time to the tirade against our leaders turned the conversation suddenly by one of his inimitable remarks - "No matter", said he, "the play goes on just the same. That's our consolation" - This brought on the laugh. "Colonel", says he, "have you brought your fishing tackle?" "Our song has changed"
"O we're ^{going} a fishing".
instead of
Owe're going down to Richmond."

* * * *

About one o'clock p.m. we made over second halt and lunched in the woods. At half past two p.m. we reached batlett's station and immediately set about finding a place for head quarters and

deciding upon camp grounds.

Genl. Kearny came here yesterday and seems to have monopolized everything in the shape of building and shelter. After long searching however we found a store which was at once made head quarters for Genl and staff. We did not make much ceremony but bunked down at once. I think I slept three or four hours before the rest turned in and when I woke up Head and Rodgers were discussing the merits and utility of 12 foot drivers on the rail road. They were just turning in. And so I rolled over and tried it again. Five of us slept on the counter.

During the night Head fell off the counter and woke us all up by the noise. John Manassas too, came about midnight without

the cow telling a most pitiful story about "hones and horse pistols and his comb and dollar and half."

This morning Joe gave us an excellent breakfast, but it still rains and so it is quite uncomfortable. We have tried to sing a little but it does not seem to be "appropos".

List of casualties to the staff of Genl. Slocum during the past 36 hours

1. Dr. Burr's horse broke his leg and so had to be shot.
2. John Manassas lost the cow.
3. Lieut Wead's man Jones with his best horse not yet heard from.
4. The most unfortunate circumstance of being thrown under the temporary command of Kearney.

April 8 continued
Cattlett's Station. Va.

Great life this, most surely.

9.

We are still at the same old place in the grocery store eating Doc's meals as he prepares them, now of mutton and now of horse intermingled with the usual supply of potatoes, bread and coffee. The rain continues to drizzle down making life out doors peculiarly disagreeable. As to business we do simply nothing. Reading, playing checkers, joking, singing, flute playing and violin playing seems to be about everything ^{we} do. As I now write Capt. Rodgers sits leaning back in his chair playing

that most beautiful air;—

"When the swallow's homeward fly".

We try to accompany him with our voices.

The General is reading with much interest Belver Lytton's "Strange story". We hardly know what to do with ourselves, but all hope that the storm will soon cease and old sol will once more delight us with his presence.

Now the party begin to play and sing "Old Grimes", using both flute and violin. Yesterday we had this venerable piece set to improvised verses composed by Dr. Burr and Col. Howland. No important transaction of the past two days was omitted but all were fully considered.

Today they brought me a letter and it was a decided relief to me from this oppressive ennui. Bureau to write letters and then await replies. But this has already been done days ago and none have replied except L who is always prompt. Still I shall try it again.

News. We have some that is pretty good. The enemy have retreated from before us and are doubtless making their way to Richmond. They have also fallen back from Fredericksburg. McClellan has advanced upon Yorktown and was expecting three days since to capture the place after a short siege. Doubtful news has also reached us of the evacuation of Island No. 10.

April
13 Sunday

Alexandria. Va.

Here we are once more back again within a stones throw of our first encampment in Virginia. Took dinner in the room below on the tenth day of July last. Now to explain. Night before last orders came for us to march back to Alexandria, surprising and pleasing us at the same time. Three regiments went by rail. The Maine 5th. however had to march the entire distance forty miles which was accomplished in a day and a half. The General and staff accompanied them on horse back. We made Fairfax Court House our head quarters for last evening. This morning General Newton and staff rode with us to Alexandria.

So we go down the river after all. And shall we have a part in the engagement at Yorktown?

The great battle at Corinth has at last been fought, lasting two days. We were whipped the first day. On the second we whipped them.

14.

Genl. Franklin has gone down the river to make full arrangements for our departure.

15.

Very warm here. Troops constantly assembling & we shall probably sail down the Potomac in a few days.

April

Alexandria. 16

Not gone yet. But shall go tomorrow. This afternoon visited Washington. Went by the way of Long Bridge - found one of the piers down and so had to leave my horse behind and be ferried over.

Brady had my college album pictures all completed. Made a package of them at once, and sent by Adams's Express directed to my friend P.H. Coffin.

Also called at Hicks' and got my sergeant's suit and old hat - paid the \$3.75 that I owed him and sent it to P.H.C.

Lost my way going to Long bridge, but in spite of discouragements found some one to ferry me over.

Got off with my horse about nine o'clock p.m. and was soon at head quarters. Found the staff full of work.

17"

We did not get off till three o'clock p.m. sailed a short time and anchored a few miles below the city with the Capitol in sight.

The General and staff take quarters on board the Spaulding an ocean steamer that runs between Baltimore and Boston. Among the transports noticed the Daniel Webster and Schs Dwight from Biddeford.

April

1862

Sailing down } 18.
the Potomac }

We are having a most pleasant trip. It is warm and at the same time breezy. As we passed fort Washington the garrison cheered us lustily and their band played.

+ + +

Now we are off Matthias Point and moving slowly over the shoal places. It grows cloudy and looks like rain. It sprinkles. We shall have something of a storm tonight. We have passed the rebel batteries and the wonder to all is that the enemy should ever have deserted them.

1862

April

97

19th

Ancored at
the mouth of
York river.

Two of our schooners in
tow broke loose last night
in the storm. We had a
most pleasant sail through the
Chesapeake. Now we are waiting
for the rest of the fleet to come
up. We may debark this p.m.
Hope so; for tomorrow is Sunday
and I want to see us encamped
if possible.

April

1862

Offloquosin River.

22.

At 6 A.M. this morning I left the ship on board of the life boat to obtain a tug or steamer to use during the day in bringing the rations to land to be cooked. I obtained three boats. The first went to Old Point Comfort the second ran aground and the third succeeded in reaching the ship.

The also got off our horses who by this time must be feeling stiff and sore. They will have an opportunity to stretch themselves and lay down which they so much need.

This kind of life is getting to be extremely monotonous. The men can do but little in the way of bodily exercise and they have to pass the time by singing,

joking, reading, writing, playing games, conversing, and drinking.

I can now plainly see how it is that men may become indolent and inactive in their ways from long service in the army. I appreciate the fact. Indulgence in the matter of liquor is a custom as general among those with whom I am forced to associate as taking dinner or supper. I have seen more drinking in a week's time while I have been a soldier than I was previously accustomed to see during a whole year. And so it is with card playing and gambling and profanity. It is not surprising that I am fast getting inclined to pass these vices by and abhor them less. Yet I must be very careful lest betrayed into the same

indulgence. Thank God, I can
 still say that the first glass of
 liquor has yet to pass my lips.
 In such a course my safety lies.
 Yet there are other vices other sins.
 And let me avoid them, too.

* * * *

We have some interesting
 conversations together among the
 staff officers. Last evening the General
 told us something of the proposed
 plan in which our division is
 to have chief part. We shall be
 accompanied by gunboats under
 command of Captain Rodgers. I
 was ~~him~~ on board of the mystic,
 Genl. Franklin's head quarters, a
 few days since and listened
 to his explanation of adsharkation
 under fire. We shall probably have
 to try it soon. This the General
 says. There will be two divisions

under the command of Genl. Franklin
and we shall operate against Glou-
cester. The expedition will be
successful and make Genl. Franklin
a Maj. General probably. He is able.

* * * *

23.

I have been reading "The
Partisan Reader" a work that
has been laying about our cabin
quarters. It professes to have been
written a dozen or more years
since and is curiously ~~prophetic~~
It is nothing more than a compilation
of the arguments used by "States
Rights men" and a defense for
forcibly opposing the U. S. Government
- an apology for disunion. It is shameful.
I presume or it would not be
allowed publication. The writer is

evidently a full blooded South Carolinian.

I have been reading some very interesting fiction, too. Henry Arkell is splendid and to my best liking. Student life - its jealousies, rivalries, honors, generous actions and mean ones, also, are portrayed in fine terms. The chief actor is my favorite as well as the Dean's and "all the rest." If ever I shall be permitted to resume my studies again may it be with such a noble and Christian spirit.

x x x x

They say that we are going to steam down to Fortress Murre today for pleasure. It is only a two hours sail.

April

24th

We had a splendid trip yesterday afternoon returning in the night.

After sailing not quite two hours we reached the Steamboat Landing at Fortress Monroe. Any one who had studied the maps would have recognized the place at once. On the left about half way to Sewalls Point - so it looked - were the Rip Raps with splendid fortifications going up. Right opposite across the waters could be plainly seen the Rebel earth works on Sewalls Point. Further to the right and two hundred yards from us lay the Monitor - that thing of power and wonder - on duty watching for the Merrimac. Still farther to the right lay the Draugatuck with her costly and steel pointed

shot. Right before us were the Hampton Roads in which occurred the great naval Engagement a few weeks since.

Our main purpose in visiting the Fortress was to obtain a new supply of provisions, have the ship cleaned and take in coal if necessary. Genl. Elocum therefore called upon Genl. Wool, so soon as the wharf was reached, and asked permission to land his troops. This he peremptorily refused and so the Genl. concluded to make a short stop. The officers were allowed to visit the fort with this understanding that they should return within an hour.

So we all started off. I in company with the chaplain of the 46th. Pennsylvania. Just as we approached the entrance to the fortress we noticed a cavalcade riding out, and at the head of it we

saw Maj. Genl. Wood. Behind him
also rode Brig. Genl. Mansfield. They
politely answered to our salutes.

A few minutes walk and we
were within the celebrated fortress
more like a garden with its trees
in blossom and its grounds carpeted
in green than a massive work
bristling with cannon and fully
supplied with all the furniture
of war. It is much more extensive
than I had supposed, and some of
the residences are truly beautiful.
As we hurriedly passed around its
walls I plucked some clove leaves
and shrubbery. Also an apple blossom.
I could not suppress my passionate
taste for green holders, etc.; and so
I had to bring away a few sticks
with me.

Before leaving the Forties
we ran down toward the Monitor

and gave them three cheers. At that moment we were in excellent range of the Swallow's Point Battery. As we passed the Vanderbilt we gave them three cheers, too, in honor of the part she is expected to take in extinguishing the Monitor's rival. Three cheers, too, for the Minnesota, and all the gunboats that we pass. The blue jackets give us a specimen of their gallant cheering in return. The French frigate we notice also, but they do not reply. The officers simply raise their caps.

And so on we go the noble steamer quivering beneath us from the force of its ponderous and swiftly moving engines, the bands playing national airs, and our men sending up enthusiastic hurrahs.

All hours sail toward Ship Point and we anchor in the bay.

April

25.

1 P.M.

The General has just returned from a short call and says Gen. Franklin and Gen. Newton are to dine with us. I anticipate a pleasant event.

This morning I received a letter from Edward and a copy of *Lion's Advocate*.— both all the more welcome because it is so long since I have received any such thing.

—later—

Genl's. Franklin and Newton are now here and we are having an interesting conversation.

For dinner we have a banquet. Genl. Kearney would call it "regal," and speak of it as an instance of "oriental magnificence."

April.

1862

On board ship
A.R. Spaulding
in Cheeseman Creek

28

Here we are, still afloat. Almost two weeks since we embarked at Alexandria and no active operations yet. Nevertheless I am enjoying myself pretty well. Capt. Rodgers often repeats the saying of the Irishman: "If this be War, then may we never have Peace."

The General accompanied by a few officers rode up to Yorktown today and had a look at the lines. I was "staff officer of the day" today and reported to division headquarters at 10 A.M. and 5 P.M. Nothing for me in the mail.

Report tonight says that New Orleans has been captured by our troops. Glorious if true.

1862

April

109

29th

Onboard Repauding.

A most beautiful day. Have been studying "Army Officer's Pocket Companion" and learned considerable, I trust.

There is some firing in the direction of Yorktown this morning.

Evening-

News reach us from Gen. McClellan's headquarters of the fall of New Orleans. So we are all jubilant tonight.

Halleck is superintending affairs in person at Pittsburg Landing. Mitchell is yet persevering in his efforts and will meet the enemy yet. The Rebellion is truly on its last legs.

*

*

*

May

1862.

Fortress Munroe.

1

This morning we sailed from Cheeseman Creek where we have been quickly anchored since the 24th, and reached here about 11 a.m. The main object of the trip is to get water but we are going to make it as pleasant an excursion as possible. Col. Howland and his lady accompany us.

Ship Point.

2.

We returned from Fortress Munroe this morning. Yesterday so far as sight seeing goes was the pleasiest and most interesting May day that I ever passed. We visited the Fortress were introduced to Genl. Hook a. a. G. & examined the water battery. This is a most formidable structure and it fills one with awe to contemplate it. I was reminded of the collection

of statuary that would be seen by entering the halls of some old English castle - tall knights encased in their steel armors standing in long rows up and down the hall motionless, grim and silent. It is surely a sight worth seeing. For the first time I understood the meaning of casemate.

Passing round this battery at the right we come in sight of the celebrated Union and Lincoln guns that are mounted very near the water's edge. These are perfectly astounding. No idea can be formed of them without seeing. Weighing 50,000 lbs and throwing a ball that weighs 432 lbs these twin monsters stand alone and beyond everything we have. They may soon be excelled, and it would not surprise us if they were; for the science of

projectiles is making rapid strides.

Returning to the Fortress I picked a few buttercups and wander off to the entrance gate. Twenty minutes afterward I was on board of the Spaulding enjoying the felicity of a bath. Col. Howland's candy had given me a severe head ache. A little sleep however prepared me for dinner, when it was decided how to spend the afternoon.

"How many can your sail-boat carry" said I to the 1st. mate of the S. R. Spaulding after dinner. "Oh, a dozen" was his reply. Fifteen minutes afterward and our little party were tossing over the waves toward that now-all-engaging-wonder of the world - The Monitor. The curiosity of every one was aroused. We were going to visit the Monitor. And to us that was pleasure enough to cancel a life-time of discomforts.

We were not long in reaching her
 iron sides. The officers gave us a
 hearty welcome and seemed to take
 the highest pleasure in explaining.
 Our attention was first called to the
 turret, & the eight plates of thickness a
 section of which could be most
 plainly seen at the port holes.
 We observed the effect of the shot which
 she received in her encounter with
 the Merrimac. There was a dent
 made by a hundred pound shot
 at the distance of five yards. Can
 it be possible? Here we see the
 effect of a ricochet shot that tore up
 the edge of the plates. Here is another
 partly below water line. That is the
 Pilot House and those are the two
 holes for sight. So it was there that
 Quirk Norden received the injury to
 his eyes, that came near depriving us of
 one of our most valuable officers.

Imagine a low square box made of eight inch joice and these joice solid iron and there you may get an idea of the massive weight and strength of the Pilot house. Since the fight with the Merrimac they have made it even stronger by means of an iron plated support that extends all around.

The Turret and Pilot House are all that attract ones attention above deck, if we except the little insignificant smoke stack and so having seen these we follow the officer below. A descent of several steps, and we are in the midst of the ship's crew some sitting unengaged, others sewing or reading - but all very quiet. Passing to the left through this group we enter the Turret, by ascending another flight of steps.

The engineer first calls our attention to the revolving of the Turret.

He pushes a lever forward pretty much as an engineer does on board of one of our locomotives, and immediately a low continual rumbling begins. We are unconscious of motion - cannot ~~realize~~ it till, as directed, we sight along one of the splendid hundred pounders through the port hole and then we "see it." The whole horizon is swept entirely around and every object passes swiftly before us. The officer explained the manner of working the guns. So soon as one was discharged the Turret was made to revolve away from the enemy and so the gunners were unexposed in loading.

I never saw more splendid guns than these hundred pounders. While in the Turret I spoke with the seaman on duty there and he gave me a piece of the timber of the monitor for a souvenir. Also one

of the caps used in discharging the pieces. I am preserving them carefully as relics of the war.

Passing from the Turret below again, the officer carries us into the cabin, which we find to be most splendidly furnished. From there we go into the Pilot House and see where the Helmsman has to stand. Beneath the Pilot House are arrangements for raising the anchor.

Leaving the Monitor we visited the Galena where Capt. Rodgers treated us very kindly, showing us everything of interest.

Next we visited the Stevens battery on the Dracutuck and was very politely shown everything of interest about her.

1862

May
~~April~~
3"

117

Ship Point,

The order is changed and now we go to the front before Yorktown, and about the center of the line.

Gen. Franklin, I think, will have command of more troops than simply his own Division. Some think he will have charge of the reserve force. We shall have some entrenching to do. Slocum is now the ranking Brigadier in our division, and may yet become a divisional commander.

We expect to march tomorrow, and I look forward to the meeting of my soldier friends with great pleasure.

Beauregard has fallen back to Memphis. Fort Macon has capitulated, and New Orleans is ours. Good news enough for this week.

May
~~April~~

4 Sunday

1862

Ship Point.

This morning as I was quietly reading the Bible, Lieut. W. my brother aide comes rushing in with the explanation; "Yorktown has been evacuated and our division reembarks at once."

5th

All was hurry and confusion throughout all of yesterday. At night we ran out into the bay and this morning early we sailed for Yorktown. Before sitting down to breakfast we were anchored beneath the frowning but deserted batteries of the rebels. on the one side Gloucester, on the other Yorktown.

The severe storm could not prevent us from desiring to

visit these celebrated fortifications,
and many did so. I went in
company with Colo. Jackson & Heath.
The enemy seem to have left in a
great hurry abandoning immense
quantities of ordnance stores. We
had to move around very carefully
to avoid the torpedoes. Col. Jackson
stepped about very lightly. Guards
were stationed throughout the
town to prevent persons from going
where it was suspected they were.
I picked a few leaves and brought
them away with me for souvenirs.

In the evening the General
sends me for a Lug to bring
off 10 bales of hay.

May
~~April~~

1862

Yorktown, Va.

6

This morning we hear conflicting rumors of the engagement of yesterday, McClellan commanded in person. Kearney is said not to have handled his division with much skill, and on the whole the battle was a drawn one. I have no doubt the enemy will magnify it into a "repulse of the enemy" and appear much elated. But as sure as the sun shines Richmond must fall. Our division steams up to West Point day where we shall land and entrench ourselves. Thus we begin the investment of the rebel capital. Meanwhile McDowell is safe and will hurry up to join us in the grand strike. Banks is coming down and will join us.

The steamers that have come up to serve as hospitals are fast filling up. I should not be surprised if we had a thousand wounded.

A week since the Rebel congress were beginning to leave the capital in terror. The papers ridiculed them for cowardice. But when news came of the evacuation of Yorktown it must have startled the inhabitants. Many suppose that they are beginning to leave Richmond now, and that the opposition yesterday at Williamsburg was only to gain time. This may be true. Some predict that we shall be in Richmond by a week's time.

Near to

West Point, Va.

~~May~~
~~April~~
8

1862

He reached here night before last and commenced debarkation at once. The enemy appeared in the woods while this was going on and immediately our gun boats opened upon them.

So soon as a few companies had been landed they were deployed as skirmishers. Two prisoners were brought in just after dark. Some firing also was heard, and we lost an officer killed. These prisoners were carried to Genl. Franklin for examination and afterward confined on board of the Spaulding. Some contrabands were brought in reporting that a large force of the enemy was near by. So the troops were

hurried off as rapidly as possible, Genl. Newton's first, then Elocum's and then Col. Taylor's. It was late in the night when all got off. The batteries were got off just at day break.

We were in no condition to push forward at once. So parties were sent out to block up the approaches to our position. Toward morning Report came that the enemy were removing these obstructions. This looked like an attack on us. So we began to redouble our efforts to be ready for them. Genl. Franklin hurried ashore to consult with Elocum and Newton. He expected the attack would commence about four o'clock in the morning but that time passed and still no disturbance excepting a few random picket shots.

So soon as it was fully day break I laid down to sleep, and awoke at about half after nine, I should judge.

A little while after I was standing in my tent when I heard a few discharges of musketry - then a few more - and finally it became a continuous dropping fire, lasting for perhaps three minutes. Then it ceased entirely. The General was soon aroused. We thought it to be a general attack on our pickets.

Pretty soon it commenced again along our entire line, when the General, being in command, ordered the disposition of our troops for battle. This made lively work for us on the staff.

About quarter past ten the ball opened. The regiments

in advance gradually moved up to support the skirmishing line and soon were in the woods. Our batteries were posted with Platt's on the right, Porter's in the center, and Hessemer's on the left. We had a telegraph of sentinels running from the main hospital to the front, and over it came every little while the expressions: - "our pickets retreating" - "The enemy advancing" - "heavy volleys at close action" - &c. &c.

The fight continued until about two when the enemy had approached much nearer. Porter's battery was ordered to throw shell into the woods. The enemy replied with their artillery, firing some shot at the gun boats. They responded at once sending

their 9 inch and 11 inch shells shrieking through the air. The firing of the musketry though continued grew fainter and fainter until it entirely ceased to be heard. The enemy were falling back.)

It was now about three o'clock p.m., and the wounded were being rapidly brought in. Spencer's battery a short time after were ordered to shell the woods on our left and that ended the day's work. We cannot estimate accurately of course as to the number lost but some say 100, others 200, and some even more.

Simmie behaved very well, but says that he was in a hot place several times.

1862

May

9

127

Near West Point.

This is a very warm day indeed and we are preparing to move, as fast as possible. We have no transportation yet, and this is what puts us back.

We have a large number of troops here just now. Genl. Porter's division has come up. But although he ranks Genl. Franklin, he will not take command of only his own division and the regulars. Thus Genl. Franklin will have two divisions placing I suppose Genl. Stocum in command of one.

They say the woods are very dense along the way that we shall have to take. Wead has gone out to examine bridges that will probably have to be rebuilt.

I learn that Kearneys A.A.G.

and one of his a.d.c.'s fell at Williamsburg. I knew both of them by sight, Wilson and Barnard were their names. Such is war

Capt. Montgomery, a.a.g. of Newton's staff had a narrow escape. So did Gen. Franklin's a.d.c. Baker in our fight of the 7th. My position is quite as exposed as any and in the general engagement that will come off probably at Bottom bridge there will be no difference.

This is the anniversary day of my baptism. Let me celebrate it by earnest prayer and meditation.

Shall I ever forget the examination of the Negro brought into camp and suspected of being a spy? Especially Lt. Col's mode of questioning.

1862

May

129

10

Bethany.

Yesterday I was placed in charge of the head quarters baggage and arrived at this place with it about four o'clock p.m. The roads were beautiful and the country is the very finest that I ever saw in Virginia. I am writing this in the large country house of Mr. R. S. Lacy who is undoubtedly in Richmond or further to the South. It is an old residence - probably one hundred and fifty years. The rooms are large and airy.

We have our head quarters established in the front yard, Genl. Franklin occupying the house.

May

1862

11th

The change quarters today
pushing our encampments several
miles beyond Eltham.

An interesting incident occurred.
McClellan came up and visited
our division - his magnificent
reception - my participation in it -
Prince de Joinville and Count de Paris -
The Duc de Chartres - The interview
between the field officers of our Division
and McClellan - Said the latter - "Oh
I want to carry all those boys back
with me to the North".

The little Virginian boy and
his delightful conversation, with McClellan.

Soufolk taken and the
Merrimac blown up -
The troops are boiling over with enthu-
siasm, and eager to push on.

1862

May

12th

131

Visited Mrs. Jennings today and heard her testimony in favor of the Union; also her experience in trying to maintain our cause. Col. Simpson of the N. Y. 4th accom-
panied me. Some one has called him "Old Havelock."

13

We moved this morning at "sharp" four o'clock and reached Cumberland this ~~morning~~ noon.

The Negro women by the road side dancing and singing from excessive joy at our arrival -
The alarm - Encampment in a plowed field - Tents do not come till late in the evening -
The General furious.

Trip with Purdy and the Union Refugee found where I was lost.

132

May

1862

14th

Cumberland,

Rainy today - Kept my horse saddled all day, and performed duty alone, head being sick - Our camp is pitched in a plowed field, a most wretched spot.

15

Moved this morning at four o'clock. Took charge of the head quarters baggage. Roads very heavy - Met Harlan Cobb with his engineer comrades pushing on Capt Quane's train. Did a great deal of work before night and got sick thereby. Slept in a negro hut with a dozen others and suffered horribly before morning - I have found something else that may be put among the "horrors of war."

Horrible view

1862

May

133

16

White House Point.

Sick today - A species of the
Scrofula troubling me again -
very uncomfortable - Looks like
poison. Am anxious about it.

17.

Don't move today, although
the order was for us to be in
readiness to move - at noon -
My sickness increasing today -

18. Sunday.

Attended a very interesting
service today at Mr. Colts the 9th Co.
Was exceedingly pleased thereby -
Am better today.

Attended service at 5th Me. this p.m.
Carthagenum dolendum esse.

Hagerwell, Va

We reached here yesterday noon and pitched our camp amidst a drizzling rain. However Poe gave us an excellent dinner a short time after. Capt. Arnold took dinner with us and gave us a brief account of his explorations through Oregon.

Went to bed last evening with a severe headache. Better this morning. Dr. Bland furnishes me with a syringe and Eugene helps me in trying to regain muscular power.

We leave this place at 3 P.M. today. It is almost that now.

* * * *

General Hunter's proclamation is disturbing the body politic.

At this house where I stopped. I find
a copy of Herodotus translated by
Cary. also a brush broom which
I have been needing somech lately
and a chair, which I purchase of
the negro in charge.

Today I send letters north.

23

I hardly know where we are
now other than it is a pleasant
spot somewhere in the woods on
the road to New Bridge. The negroes
and country people report us distant
about seven miles from Richmond.
We reached here two days since after
a most tedious march. We sent out
a reconnoitring party yesterday and
obtained most important information
concerning the enemy, and their probable

force on the other side of the Chickahominy. There are various opinions held, some thinking the enemy to be in large numbers, and some not.

But the natural question is constantly being asked, where are the enemy? It is certainly surprising that we are permitted to approach so near to Richmond unmolested. If the enemy intend to defend the line of the Chickahominy why have two whole corps of the army been allowed to cross at Bottom's Bridge? There must be at least 50,000 of our troops on the other side of the Chickahominy today.

Two days since and we were much disturbed about our right, fearing lest the enemy should attack us in that quarter and from the rear. But Capt. Arnold says we are all right now. Franklin and Porter have their corps in position and in his language "Nothing can whip us now."

1862

May
25th

Sunday.

137

7 miles from
Richmond.

We move our divisions up two miles nearer today. The enemy are found to be close in and about Richmond. Still the left of our army has already crossed the Chickahominy, and has moved up five miles from the bridge toward the city. Are they going to let us get close under the walls before any resistance is offered? Or what are they going to do?

26

We are encamped in a very pleasant spot and are enjoying ourselves splendidly. The enemy threw a few shells among our camps last evening, no doubt occasioned by some of our men showing themselves imprudently at the river's bank.

May

27.

Still encamped in the same place. Have been busily engaged in arranging details of the coming fight which it is expected will come off within a few days.

Heavy firing of both musketry and Cavalry has been distinctly heard all day in the direction of the railroads. This evening report comes to us that the enemy have been repulsed with great slaughter by Genl. Porter at both Hanover C. H. and Hanover Junction. He has taken it is said nearly a thousand prisoners, and every hour the number is increasing.

This is good news and cheers the hearts of us all.

May.

139

28

(At 3 o'clock this morning I was aroused out of a very deep sleep by Capt. Rodgers ^{a.a.g.} saying that the General was going to Mechanicsville and that his aides-de-camp were to accompany him. However we did not get off till nearly day break, reaching Mechanicsville about six o'clock).

After taking some breakfast at Col. Howland's head quarters we rode out to examine the positions. Our batteries posted so as to command the Turnpike were visited first and then the picquets. I went out and brought in the officer commanding the Cavalry videttes.

About ten o'clock the General sent me with a scout to examine Meadow bridge and post a vidette to carefully watch it. I did so returning just before dinner.

May.

After dinner we were very quietly chatting among ourselves when the Major commanding Cavalry and his Adjutant came galloping up and exclaiming that the enemy had appeared and were about to cross the bridge in force. This of course startled us all. But it proved to be only a stampede of the worst sort in which I played a very prominent part.)

29.

Today Genl. Slocum went out in company with a force of Cavalry and examined Meadow bridge.

This evening it is to be burnt. Today we have had poetry and I have struck a vein with Wilson, who is a good fellow.

1862

May

141

30

Mechanicsville,

A terrible rain storm has come on this afternoon and almost drowned us all. At any rate we were cleared out of the tent and our blankets soaked. The thunder was terrific.

Since living here on the outposts we have enjoyed ourselves wonderfully. We live splendidly, as Capt. Hopkins says "on the fat of the land". We have had strawberries at almost every meal, and for vegetables lettuce, green peas, onions, and potatoes.

We go back to our old headquarters this evening.

May.
31..

1862)

They are now back again at our headquarters. About one o'clock this afternoon heavy firing of artillery commenced; this followed by volleys of musketry just across the Chickahominy and a little to the left of our position. The firing continued for some time until orders came that the division had been got under arms. Genl. Slocum, immediately after dinner rode to Mechanicsville. In his absence Genl. Newton assumed command of the division.

It is now six o'clock and still the firing goes on. Report has just come in that the enemy are moving to the left to reinforce. Now the firing is very sharp.

1862

June.

143

Chickahominy.

Three divisions of our army engaged the enemy yesterday on the left - or rather three corps - Sumner's, Keyes, and Heintzelman - At first we were driven back; but finally Kearney with his division pressed the enemy back again, leaving us in possession of the field.

One of Genl. Johnston's aids was captured by our troops and carried to Meffellau's head quarters. We have not yet heard the facts in detail.

Genl. Meffellau however telegraphs from the other side of the Chickahominy that we have routed the enemy at every point and gained a great victory.)

* * *

144

June

1862

Chickahominy.

2)

Evening.

At Mechanicsville
again today. Pretty tired. Been
extremely warm all day. This
evening we have had a gay
and lively conversation on almost
every subject, embracing Geology,
Astronomy, Shakespeare, Reading
of the same, theatrical blunders,
the opera, Montreal and funny
experiences there &c, &c.

* * * *

Have tried to write a letter
this evening. But have not succeeded
very well. Am tired all out.
We are daily expecting a general
engagement on the other side of
the Chickahominy.

Corinth has been evacuated.

1862

June

1145

3

{ Near New Bridge
across Chickahominy

Capt. Hopkins has just presented me with a beautiful large ink stand & a ruler with penholder and pens - as gifts from the Q. M. Department of Uncle Sam; and I immediately retire to my tent, bent on fully enjoying the felicity of a quiet scribble.

Have been reading over also the unanswered letters that have been slowly accumulating during the past exciting month. Am going to try and answer them - As I now write loud cheers go up from the troops as they hear the gallant words of Meffellau in his last printed order.

146

June
5

1862

Near Newbridge
North Side of the
Chickahominy

The Prince de Sominville
is a poet - Said he when our
army was encamped at Sunnyside
Station - "On this side Peace, on that
War -" referring to the different
views he obtained from the hill
where head quarters were established.
On one side the cattle in herds
were scattered through the broad
green fields - on another nothing but
tents and soldiers and bayonets and
cannon and horses could be seen.
the one a beautiful view of Peace
the other a lifelike picture of War.

This evening we have
received glorious news from the
South West, and our men in

their camps are cheering loudly over it

Halleck is reported as having taken 13,000 prisoners, 15,000 stand of arms 100 cars and 23 locomotives. If this be true, then Beauregard's force is probably dispersed and we have an unobstructed road to the gulf. Their army before Richmond will be disheartened while ours will be to an equal degree encouraged. Under the circumstances I should not be surprised if the city was evacuated without another battle. Everything portends such a result.

(Contrabands) still continue to arrive in flocks many of whom tell interesting experiences. Some however are surprising examples of mendacity. One had seen all the well known rebel generals in

Richmond), including new Genl. Washington -

Another very intelligent negro told a story that wonderfully confirmed previous true reports gained from other sources. No cross-examining could disturb him.

I have today hired one of them for a servant, and he proves to be a very faithful boy.)

8.

(We are still in the same position as before and not likely to move for a long time. The battle of Fair Oaks daily becomes larger and larger as we glean further details. Our list of killed, wounded and missing will run up to 7000; while that of the enemy

must be very much larger. This proves to be one of the very hardest fought battles of the war thus far)

* * * *

For several days past I have been unwell. Have therefore accomplished but little in the way of writing here or elsewhere.

(This afternoon I accompanied Chaplain Miller of the N. Y. 16th to the burial of one of the teamsters of our division. It was a most impressive scene.

We had to wait an hour for the grave diggers to perform their task so hard was the soil. Then they brought the uncoffined remains from a tent near by and laid them gently in the grave. By this time a small party of teamsters had collected around and seemed deeply interested in these last sad offices

that were being paid to their departed brother.

Of all services of the army that of teamster is perhaps the worst in its effects upon the character and disposition. Teamsters are hated and despised and cursed. They are the most offensive looking men, go in rags and tatters, with unshaven faces, dirty, and their talk seems one continual string of oath & invective. No doubt their peculiar duties go a great way in making them thus. And so we should make allowance

But notwithstanding as a class the teamsters are so brutal and ugly to all appearances, they have hearts that can be touched. I was fully convinced of this today.

Having lowered the body into the grave and the grave diggers having

taken their positions on either hand the minister
 began the services by reading appropriate
 passages of Scripture. As he read "Earth
 to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust" the
 heavy sound of falling earth was thrice
 heard in the grave. The reading ended,
 the chaplain knelt in prayer. And the
 whole party as if moved by one fervent
 impulse fell on their knees with him.
 To me this was a remarkable scene.
 There was an old man with long and
 matted hair, his hands clenched, weeping
 as he thinks perhaps of other times more
 peaceful and more Christian. Another
 with eyes closed and face raised toward
 Heaven in entreaty, maybe. And here
 are two little boys scarce a dozen years old
 fair haired innocent looking kneeling with
 us, too. A kind mother taught them
 this. (They were Ambulance drivers)

152

June

1862

10th

near New bridge
Chickatoming

It has been terribly stormy all day, and so I have spent the chief part of the time in my tent. Have written a letter to Parker Sears, who lives in Monson.

Am studying Acts. Oh that I could devote more of my time to the study of God's word!

Here is a splendid text-

"He ought to obey God
rather than man."

Because He is

1. Our creator
2. our supporter
3. our saviour

1862

June

153

Near New bridge }
Chickahominy }

11..

Am unwell - Dr. Burr says
my complaint is bilious and has
given me a powder to take before
going to bed tonight.

Good news reach us today.
Memphis has fallen and now the
Mississippi is open to us throughout
its entire length. Mobile & Charleston
are also strongly menaced by our
gun boats. Paid fifteen cents for a
newspaper.

We remain in the same
attitude here as before excepting
that there was a little artillery
practice this evening.

* * * *

1864

June.

14th.

1862

Newbridge }
Chickahominy }

It is hot enough for the world to crack and, right along through this section, too. I cannot help thinking of those warm passages in Coleridge's "Ancient Mariner" - "Thou couldst repeat them to me glibly were he here."

*

*

*

The enemy attempted an attack on our right yesterday, stampeding Philip St. Geo. Cooke. McClellan has gone to the other side of the river.

Am not well by any means today. This climate is debilitating.

1862

June

16th

155

Near New Bridge
Chickasawing

Have been writing letters and
preparing cases for General Order No. 12.
from the Court martial now sitting. Also
getting up a table for writing with
the aid of Humphrey's mechanical skill.

27th

We are now across the river
and encamped within a mile of
Fair Oaks Station.

Today went out exploring
the ground. While passing up the
rail road our picquets were attacked
and the firing for a time was quite
warm, on the left.

This evening have been busy
preparing maps.

June.

1862

23rd.

Coutenay's House.

We are having today a hot sultry day. Hardly a breath of air seems stirring. How uncomfortable it is! General Court Martial sitting again of which Col. Jackson is the President.

Many foretold last week an engagement for today. But they must be greatly mistaken. Everything is quiet as a lamb.

Jimmie came over last evening to see me and we had a grand talk about home, the burning of Central block and the supreme importance of father's bass viol. We have already had two grand laughs over that affair.

Best love,

1862

June
23 Continued

157

If ever I shall remember
Court martials or rather courts
martial I shall think of the
case of Capt. Gibson of the N.Y. 16th
That is certainly the strongest
case I know of on record. He is being
tried today.

Within the past ten minutes
strange rumors have been afloat about
our head quarters concerning the
enemy's evacuation of this position &c.
Just now, too, there is heavy firing on
our left. It must be in front of
Hooker -

Have been writing letters most
of the time today.

158

June

1862

24

Coutenij's House.

Last night we had another severe thunder storm. The lightning was terrific, and the rain came down in floods.

25

Our lines in front of Hooker were advanced a thousand yards today. The fighting was pretty severe. About nine o'clock in the evening the firing was sharp along our lines. All got under arms at once: but we were not called out.

26.

Has started out this morning by heavy firing and the first impression was that the enemy were attempting to regain the ground

lost yesterday

P.m.

Accompanied generals
Newton and Slocum to the front
this afternoon. This evening a
work is to be thrown up in the
wheat field. Heavy firing in the
vicinity of Mechanicsville
later.

Have been spending
a larger part of the evening at
the work. It goes brashly on.

27th.

There was a resumption of
the firing early this morning over
the river. We go to support Genl.
Porter starting at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ a.m. that
is in about half an hour. We
shall probably see some fighting before

the day is over.

midnight.

We have returned to our old head quarters at Courtenay's house after fighting a bloody battle across the Chickahominy.

Then we started out this morning at 5½ o'clock we marched to Duane's bridge and partially crossed it - that is our batteries got over and Newton's brigade. Then we were ordered to recross, and suddenly found out that there had been a misunderstanding or misinterpretation of the order.

Bartlett's brigade remained near the bridge after recrossing it and the Col. was ordered to make preparations for its destruction. The other two brigades returned to the old camp. Upton's battery was reported to

Genl. Smith's works on the hill where they might be in readiness to shell the Enemy.

My horse not being in condition to work I returned to head quarters to get him feed. Had not been there more than fifteen minutes before the Enemy commenced shelling our camp. The shot flew over and around our head quarters killing and wounding several. My man Humphrey ran away to the woods in a complete fright, leaving me to saddle the horse myself.

Soon joined the genl, and assisted in getting the troops under cover.

About 20 K. I. P. M. we received orders to move to the

support of Fitz Porter by the way of Woodbury's bridge and even after the whole division was on the way. At this time Genl. Porter was warmly engaged in the vicinity of Dr. Gainer's house.

Having crossed the bridge Genl. Newton who led the column was at once hurried to the front supporting Upton's battery (2nd Artillery regular) on the right of the line. Genl. Taylor went in on the left. Also Col. Bartlett who after ascending the hill nearly to the crest moved to the extreme right, under a severe cross fire of the enemy.

So soon as our division engaged the enemy, Porter's troops at once fell back in the greatest disorder, not pretending to form a reserve line at all. The

Pennsylvania reserves I specially noticed.

Genl. Butterfield held the extreme left of the line resting on the Chickahominy.

The action continued very warm for over an hour when there was a general lull. We had evidently repulsed them. Suddenly the fire broke out again on our left & soon become terrific pressing back Genl. Butterfield whose brigade finally separated and passed hurriedly across the bridge close by (Duane's). On the right all was quiet. But it was painfully & plainly evident that either the foe must be met or our troops must all fall back. So as great a fire as possible was concentrated

on the enemy's right. Battery after battery was hurried into position Meagher's brigade came up and every available force was employed to check the foe. The work was successful. The firing soon died away and now it was almost dark.

The next work was to get over the river our wounded and the hosts of stragglers and the batteries out of ammunition and the exhausted troops of Porter who had now been fighting for nearly two days without any cessation. Amid so much of excitement this was no small job.

Our division meanwhile left its position on the battlefield and did not retire until nearly midnight. Then it recrossed the river and returned to their

old camps, in perfect order.

Our loss during the afternoon in our division of 12,000 was not far from 4,000. the loss of officers being unusually large. 6 Cols were either killed wounded or captured 2 high Cols. killed. 2 Majors killed &c. &c.

It is considered one of the bloodiest battles of the war.

I was uninjured. Two of Genl. Newton's Staff were severely wounded and one taken prisoner. The command of the 5th. Maine now devolves on Capt. Edwards. My horse cannot stand many more such tests, much ^{less} ~~more~~ myself.

166

June
28th

1862

We were hoping to get a little respite today but there seems to have been none in store for us. A portion of our division has been busily engaged in slashing the woods in front and the rest has gone up to Smith's works.

10K. 1. P.M.

About noon today Col. Alexander rode up to our head quarters and informed Genl. Slocum ^{that he} was about to commence shelling the enemy and that we had better move back as their replies would probably fall near by.

We at once retired to the woods in the rear and selected a new camp for

head quarters and had our
tents pitched, meanwhile the
shelling going on very briskly.
Toward the middle of the
afternoon, however, it ceased,
and we managed to get a
little sleep and eat supper.

After supper orders came
for the division ^{to be ready} to move at a
moment's notice, and to have
everything destroyed which could
not be carried. The ammunition
trains were to push ahead first
by the way of Savage Station.

It was midnight before
the troops began their march, and
then the whole division was forced
to halt till morning below
McKee's head quarters.

No sleep yet - no sleep yet.

June
29th

Sunday

About an hour after sunrise the march was resumed, and at about 900 a.m. we reached Savage Station which was the chief medical depot of the army. Here we found McClellan and his staff, innumerable hospital tents with their innumerable sick and among them many of my friends. There was Lt. Col. Marsh with his severe wound through the neck and who recognised me at once. Col. Pratt. Capt. Stevens, Lieut. Atwood and Lt. Lemont. S & A. besought me to get an ambulance for them and after much difficulty, I succeeded.

What horrid wounds!
What bloody sights!

1862

June

169

29th. Conto.

Rumor was that the enemy were on our heels and that our departure must be hastened. So Ambulances were hurried off. Stores that could not be transported were destroyed, and the troops got into position on the surrounding hills for defense. Gradually the vast plain was cleared and the various columns of troops moved forward. The baggage trains were unaccountably long, and the halbling of teams was indescribable. The halts were so long and frequent that I was ready to despair of our ever getting through.

Having seen our division off I pushed on to the head of

the column in search of the General whom I found busily at work clearing the roads and directing the trains.

We halted for a short rest I know not where but it was at a house where were the temporary head quarters of Genl. McClellan. Here we had a little sleep from which we were soon aroused by the cry of "Division under arms." The troops were hurried into position and batteries planted and the trains moved on. But this proved to be only a stampede.

About Sundown we reached Genl. Peck's head quarters. His troops we at once relieved. Here I met Maj. Robie who begged me to let him have a little of my claret.

Here we met Genl. McCallan again and his staff - my lemons were of great service in amusing the thirst of several wounded ones among whom I noticed a little drummer boy. What groans from the poor sick and wounded!

We laid down to sleep early but did not sleep long, for the constant interruptions. The General was so fatigued that he dropped to sleep at once and could not even be aroused when Col. Torbet came to learn what bridge he was to destroy. Then the General would talk incoherently about Bottom's bridge. The O's supper of beef soup in can and hard bread was excellent and was devoured voraciously.

The revolutionary period may have been the time that tried men's souls; but this is a time that tries men's bodies, and especially their stomachs. We get nothing to eat save a few hard bread which the men brought along; and the poor horses eat what they can pick up of themselves. At Savage's station after allowing my horse to eat all he wanted I filled my saddle bags with corn. I realize the need of it now.

This morning we had some coffee and hard bread for our breakfasts. McClellan's staff and Franklin's with us. It was the first time I breakfasted with the Orleans Princes. Poinville too.

1862

June

173

30 Conto

About 11 O'Clock we rode out with Genl. Franklin to examine our position and Genl. Heintzleman afterward joined us. A battle was in anticipation and really seemed inevitable. Our division was posted in support of the batteries Taylor being on the right and Newton in the center. Our division was to have for its work the holding of the line on the right of the road. Smith's division was to the right of us.

About 1 O'Clock P.M. the battle opened with firing of Artillery on the right. Then there was random picket firing on our left and in front of Hooker as I afterward learned.

Our troops were ordered to hug the ground and a small scouting party sent ahead to

feel the enemy. This soon returned
 announcing that the enemy's line
 was issuing from the woods
 into the plain before us. Capt.
 Platt was at once ordered to
 open fire with all his batteries
 and "comb out the woods" to
 use his own very expressive
 language. The firing on our
 part was terrific. The enemy
 at first replied briskly sending
 shot and shell around us. But
 they soon stopped. Our fire however
 kept on uninterruptedly for half
 an hour. No one could live in front
 of it and soon we had the satis-
 faction of learning that the enemy
 had passed to the left, and across
 the road.

The firing of our batteries
 now became slower and slower
 finally ceasing entirely.

About four o'clock the engagement was proceeding warmly on our left and somewhat to our rear. News came that Genls. Robinson and Perry had just charged the enemy and repulsed them. Our men gave hearty cheers.

Afterward intelligence came that the enemy were pressing us back on the left. The general sent me to Genl. Heintzelman to ask permission to attempt a flank movement and thus relieve Kearney & Hooker - "By all means" - "By all means" says the veteran soldier. The Jersey brigade and Bartlett's were ordered to undertake this the former being put under charge of Kearney himself. How Sturges' eye glistened when I told him.

But they were not needed. Sedgwick was ahead of us and engaged the enemy before we

reached the scene of action.

A little after dark the firing ceased along our lines and now we expected every half hour to receive orders to retire; but none came. Lieut. H. was sent to McClellan for instructions. The General himself rode to Heintzelman. Still no orders to move.

However about midnight they came, and soon ^{after} the division was on the march.

I did nothing but cling on to my horse and almost vainly try to keep from sleeping—

1862

July

177

Malvern Hill.

Near City Point

After marching all night we reached this point early in the forenoon of today. Hunting about for the general I at last found him sleeping soundly on the side of a bank. What a scene was that the whole army seemed concentrating on that hill side, and such confusion.

Toward noon our division received orders to move its camp. In the afternoon made new dispositions for battle, and remained in position till after dark.

Genl. McClellan was with us. Said he looking at his watch, - "6.00!" and then patting Genl. Slocum on the back: - "Slocum it's all right!"

About midnight we

178

July

were ordered to retire further down the river to a place called Harrison Landing - Had layed down to sleep by the side of Mr. Colt for the night and was aroused suddenly by hearing some one speak in hurried tones of our moving - I was soon up and for a miracle found my horse and saddled him.

Went into head quarters just as they had finished the discussion. The end of it was that "we were all up" - "no escape for the Army of the Potomac" - I was thunderstruck and yet forced to accept it as true coming from such a high source. Went to Valise and destroyed some private letters and put my diary in my pocket -

Marched all night and reached the Landing about dawn - began to rain - went to the new

of a large beam where I got both shelter and sleep.

Toward noon had something to eat at Col. Matheson's expense, and in afternoon our tents came and were put up.

After eating some of "Poe's" supper turned into sleep and knew nothing more till late on the morning of the

Sud

When after breakfast the General ordered us out having received news that the enemy were close at hand. At the same time we heard firing.

The enemy actually threw ^{shot} cannon into our camp and while we were riding through noticed two that struck very near us.

Troops occupied the whole day in
marching out to new camps.

Head Quarters established.

3d.

Trying to rest and sleep.

4th.

Gala-day in spite of the
severe work we have been doing
lately. Salutes firing and bands playing
all the time.

5th.

Resting -

6th.

Ditto.

July

7th

Resting some more

8th.

Busy making out reports.

9th.

Busy writing.

12th.

Have been quite unwell for the past few days - Sleep but little nights. Bad news come to me from home. Disturbed about my duty - Hardly know what to do - Should be loth to resign my present position.

Have been writing the maine friends about my getting a field position in some one of the new regiments.

Fear I shall be unable to get a leave of absence next month as I had been hoping to.

182

July
12

1862

The papers are continuing to laud
McClellan for his last splendid
military achievement while officers
here consider it nothing less than a
signal reverse. Barry & Marey say we
did not lose a gun and the truth is
we lost 40.

The Orleans Princes have gone north
with Prince de Joinville about to sail
for England. It looks as though
McClellan's friends were leaving him.
Pope is the rising man.

I believe the C.S. will be
recognized soon - and then perhaps
armed mediation. Where will all
this end?

1862

July

183

16

Harrison Landing

Can't understand why no letters reach me from Maine - Am much troubled about it. Have written this morning to Mr. Coffin, Col. Durnell and Col. Jackson. - Saw Mr. Leonard yesterday, and he promised to mention me to the Governor.

17.

Nothing from home yet. This morning sent another letter to Mr. Coffin with one enclosed for Mr. Drummond.

Last night severe thunder storm - Hot today -

184

July

1862

17

Popé's address is Singusting
Line, Soldiers are not to talk
and trouble themselves about
lines of supply and strong positions.
but these are very good things for
the General to think of.

Military men already laugh
at him - France had her Caenot
but Napoleon had to replace him
before Toulon was captured.

We are still annoyed by
the enemy's batteries down the
river and will continue to be of
fear. The gunboats act as convoys.

1862

July

185

17

I see that some of the Governors are going to appoint as field officers in the new regiments men who have been serving actively in the field - This is right. In such a way experienced men will have command.

Not a word yet from home or from any one even - What am I to think? Are the mails suppressed or what does this really mean -

The N.Y. papers come regularly each day - This morning I read yesterday's and yet no letter can reach me from Maine -

Today have been engaged in writing recommendations for a couple of boys in Co. H, and writing

186

July
18

1862

a letter to Mr. H. W. Richardson
Tutor of Waterville Coll. about Lieut.
Col. Heath, who was one of his warm
friends both in college and out

Am now going to take a side.

19

Last night I received a letter
from Father and Charles containing
very bad news - namely that mother
was quite sick. I spoke of it to the
General this morning and he expressed
his sorrow adding it was a bad time
to receive such news now.

This morning passed an
unusually pleasant season in prayer
and meditation on divine truth

1862

July
20 Sunday

187

This is the Bull Run Sunday - Counting the sabbaths and a year ago today we were having a hot time - my position has changed some since then.

x x x x x

Genl. Stocum's letter to Stanton about Fitz John's Generalship on the 27th ult is strong and scathing. Wend (think) the General will be challenged for it, whereat the Genl. declares he will accept although he don't believe in such things. He evidently feels the loss of his 2000 - And I don't blame him.

— " —

Yesterday sent off four letters to different persons - Today have written Charles.

188

July

1862

I learn that the people of Maine are beginning to wake up to the importance of the crisis. Sometimes it has seemed to us as though they were not much interested in the success of our troops, as though it made little difference to them whether our small but courageous band all perished in the trenches before Richmond, or victoriously won the city. Orators trumpet-tongued and eloquent ascend the rostrum and boastfully assure the people that their resources are more than adequate to the small task of suppressing this cruel rebellion - that their foe is weak in numbers in resources and in courage, and that ere many months have elapsed the rebellion will be forever crushed. The people go away puffed up with pride and conceit. Full of confidence they resume their customary avocations, gracefully receiving

1862

July

189

the apologetic explanations of their incompetent leaders whenever the Army unfortunately meets with a reverse. Nothing but an overwhelming defeat it seems to me can ever wake up our people fully to the importance of the present crisis

Oh my deluded country men! Would that you could realize the degree of sacrifice that is being endured daily by your implacable, wicked though energetic foe. See with what fierce desperation and wild enthusiasm they all bend themselves to the task of driving you back. Would that you might copy them in these respects.

When will all this end? When will activity give place to vigor - and a spiritless indecisive course to one of energy and decision?

188

July

1862

21

Harrison Landing.

At last have received something from Chum about war matters — two papers last night, Advertisers, and a letter this morning — Drummond is doing everything he can for me — Chum is active — my classmates are waking up to the subject.

This afternoon have answered Chum's note — This forenoon went out foraging — got five hens for 50¢. Three quarts blackberries for 15¢.

Pope has got to Gordonsville Today's Herald published some of his orders — a little better style than the first one — Rebels profess to fear him —

1862

July

189

23

Harrison Landing.

Received letters last evening from
Mr. Coffin and Charles M. Harris - This morning
I have written answers to them and they will
go today -

300,000 troops are in mas judicio
inadequate to quell this rebellion; even
when you have placed them with the
actual force already in the field we
shall have an army smaller in numbers
than the one which our implacable
and energetic foe will be enabled
by his conscriptions to bring against
us. That man who proposed the
raising of a millions armed men was
not wild but wise and understood
the demands of the crisis.

Where is the sublime statesman
ship for such a time as this?

190

July

1862

23

Harrison Landing.

It's currently reported now that Pope's command has not reached Gordonsville. If this be true what a gross imposition has been practiced on the people.

Wrote copy of General's letter for the N.Y. Tribune today - Subject the duty of having these old regiments filled up with recruits - a good sensible letter. His other letters have been excellent.

Received a good letter from Rev. Wm. H. Shailey, this evening. Shall answer it tomorrow.

My prospects for a promotion are not so good as they might be. So it seems - Very well - Like Micawber for the time being I will consider myself laboring under a combination of circumstances over which - unfor-

1862

July

cont'd

191

23

timately I have no control. And yet I shall try to wait with patience as that distinguished individual was always known to do in his eventful career, cherishing the fond but flattering assurance that my condition might "amid the crash of matter and the crush of worlds" be much worse and always endeavoring to maintain that calm and peaceful frame of mind which would be most likely to propitiate the kind favors of a gracious Providence who I am sure will protect, comfort, and shield me until something really turns up.

192

July

1862

Harrison Landing.

24

Today was appointed
by the General Inspector of some Forage
Capes in the 1st. Brigade.

Attended to the business at
(P.M.)

No letter tonight.

25.

I should like to be a Quarter
Master in the U. S. Army. I like to
work on accounts - especially where
the system is so perfect as in the
Quarter Master and Commissary
departments.

1862

July

193

24

Sunday

Harrison Landing.

Today Genl. Slocum received notification that by the sickness of Maj. Genl. Franklin he is placed temporarily in command of the Corps.

Last evening received a letter from father and today I forward him my reply. Strange that I don't receive letters from the rest of my friends.

Am going to try and get a leave of absence now.

194

July
28th

1862

Harrison Landing.

Last evening I received
two communications from home
one from Uncle Samuel and one
from Mr. Coffin.

Am spending my time very
pleasantly in reading and studying
"De Hart's military Law". It is an
excellent work on the subject of
military jurisprudence and quite
indispensable to one who would
know the customs and practices
of our military courts.

Have also been studying a
very popular work on "military",
in which I find an excellent
account of the battle of Waterloo.

1862

July

195

30

Harrison Landing

This morning before breakfast
I went out to the pickets for corn.
Toward noon I received intelligence
that six rebel vessels were sent down
the river to attack us and that a
combined movement against us was
anticipated. Informed Col. Matheon -
Corps officer of the day. Rode two
hours before finding him -

p.m.

No demonstration yet.
Letter from L. lost night -

Stewardant and Guindon went
home on leaves of absence this
morning -

194

July
30

cont'd

1862

Harrison Landing

Am studying the battle of Waterloo. Have copied three maps showing the plan of the battle - the movements during the previous few days and the position of forces at first and last attacks. Am also looking up Dominic's ~~commentary~~ comments in his last work scattered all along through it, on this great battle.

Would like to read his work on Waterloo exclusively. Perhaps there is one somewhere.

Have copied from the Army register names of officers appointed from Maine - Grover, Howe, Keyes, Williams and Prince are all Generals in Volunteer Service.

1862

July

31

195

Hancock Landing

Last evening the Genl; Capt. Rodgers, Lt. Wood and myself had an interesting conversation in the course of which he spoke of going home when Franklin returned, and taking W. & myself with him - Very good! We talked about School-keeping and our varied Experiences in that service -

Are going to be caterers for the mess while Capt. Sturdevant is gone. - commencing today.

Invited Mr. Tracy to make a stop with us, and I expect him to dinner today.

196

August.

1862

Harrison's Landing. 4.

Gen. Slocum has
been appointed by the President
a Major Gen. of Volunteers.

The stringent order of Halleck
I am afraid will keep me from
making my anticipated visit home.
We shall see though. Am getting
along pretty well.

Have been studying De Haas
lately, and the General has promised
to give me a chance at the courts
soon.

Sends and receive letters daily.

1862

August.

197

5

Harrison's Landing

Grand Celebration this afternoon
and evening at our head quarters
over the promotion of Gen. Slocum.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ a hog-head of liquor used up.
Such is military custom. Will
it ever be changed?

6

Our Arbor in front of the
tents is beautiful

7

N. J. prisoners returned
from Richmond - President
calls for a draft of 300,000
more troops.

Letter from home

198

August

1862

Harrison's Landing. 8

Have been writing letters
this morning - Gen. Franklin has
returned - Vigorous prosecution of
the war the order of the day

13th.

For the past few days I have
been acting Ordnance officer of the
Division and very busy.

Today I was to graduate
with my class at Waterville.
But they will have to go through
with it without me now. No
matter, God permitting, I will one
of these days resume my studies
again.

1862

August

199

13

Harrison's Landing,

Col. Simpson and other officers returned from Richmond today. He is looking rough. The story of their capture is quite interesting. He is Major of Topog. Eng. in reg. serv. & entering it in 1832.

The Army is on the eve of a movement, but in what direction it is doubtful. Everything that is likely to be an embarrassment has been placed on shipboard. Siege trains, reserve Artillery, ammunition, Quarter master and commissary stores together with all the sick of the Army have embarked, or rather embarked.

Pope has had a fight and held his ground in the vicinity of Culpepper.

August

1862

13

Harrison's Landing

Wrote L. today. Must be great disappointment to her, because she could not go to Commencement Exercises and real sorry. But such is Testing

15

Last evening the grand movement commenced. Trains have been going continually ever since. Porter's Corps goes straight to Fort Mifflin. Heintzelman, Keyes & Sumner take position on the left with Beaumont, Averhill and horse batteries to cover the movement. Franklin follows Porter.

August

201

15

Harrison's Landing

5 P.M.

Not off yet. We struck tents this morning and have been waiting all day for a start.

I have been reading David Copperfield. What a contemptable person Urias was. Yet the character is true to life. Agnes is charming. Dora a doll, a plump thing.

Now if the rebels push all their force up to Gordonsville, they can whip Pope. Will they pursue us? It is too late now for much fighting today.

Am in excellent health

August

1862

Harrison's Landing. 16

We are not off yet.
And troops are still pushing on.
The programme has been changed.
We are now the rear guard which
we might have known before, if
we had thought. Strange that there
has been no fighting yet. What
does it mean. Yesterday we heard
an occasional shot. Am a little
troubled about matters. Still I
shall hope and trust that everything
is well.

Last evening I passed an
almost wholly sleepless night. It
was unusually cold, and my
hands are covered with marks of
muskitoe bites. Had nothing but my
overcoat for protection from the cold.
Was so uncomfortable that I could

not lay quiet, but had to walk
around.

There are no rations for us.
This morning Humphrey made us
some coffee and Joe found some
potatoes which he fried. Altogether
breakfast quite passable. What
shall we do for our next meal?
No sleep again for us for some time.

It will be strange indeed if
there is no fighting today.

No forage for our horses.

August
17

The corps began the march yesterday late in the afternoon. We reached Charles City, C. H. after dark. Gen. Slocum, Rodgers, & myself occupied a room in one of the buildings. The rest of the staff elsewhere.

R. woke me up in the middle of the night to carry orders. Off at 4½ this morning. hard march - crossed Chickahominy late in the afternoon on the longest and finest Ponton bridge ever constructed in America. Length 2200 feet, number of pontons 98. Encamped for the night near the bridge.

August.
18

Started at 4½ AM.
March pleasant. Entry into the
Ancient town of Williamsburg
striking & romantic. Passed through
rebel works and over the late
battlefield encamping just beyond.
Hard time finding headquarters
of Artillery.

The woman secessionist.

19

March difficult & arduous.
In charge of caissons to prevent
straggling. The passionate nature
of Gen. S. Encampment within
the rebel lines at Yorktown.
G. & S. returned.

August
20th.

Started early for Warwick
C. H. Reached there at lunching
time. Obtained some old paper
curiosities from the registry.
Encamped two miles beyond.

21st

Started early and reached
Newport News about middle of
the afternoon following in rear
with lancers - Whole distance
from Harrison Landing 71
miles -

22nd.

Awaiting orders.

August
23.

207

Troops partly embarked last night. Gen. & staff took passage on board of the Monmouth.

Sailed until 10 o'clock P.M. when we anchored in the Chesapeake 20 miles from its mouth.

24th Sunday.

Got under way early and arrived at Aquia Creek about half past ten a.m. Ordered to go on to Alexandria which we did arriving there at about one o'clock p.m.

Everything quiet & Sabbath-like.

x

x

x

x

August
25th

Alexandria

We are encamped just below ~~Fort~~ Ellsworth and very near old "Camp Vernon". All the Staff have gone either to Alexandria or Washington excepting Capt. Hopkins and myself. I have been chiefly occupied in signing passes for Washington and rearranging my affairs for the approaching campaign. We shall be pushed right on to Manassas without doubt.

(Gen. Taylor's Brigade put on flat cars and sent out to Manassas and came suddenly upon the enemy, were routed and driven back & Gen. Taylor mortally wounded)
I was then sent to find Col. Torbert and pitch him in command of the Jersey Brigade.
"I'm not sick any more—"

1862

August

209

29

Amandale,

We reached here yesterday,
and went into position on the
left of Gen. Smith.

30

Renewed the march today.
Just as we passed Fairfax C. H.
the general sent me forward to obtain
all information possible relative to
the fighting of yesterday the events
of today and our present line of battle.
Could learn nothing of Gen. Butterfield
who with other portions of Gen. Porter's
corps arrived at Centerville about the
same time as myself. Went to
Pope's head quarters. No one there.
Afterwards saw Gen. Griffin, who could

tell me nothing. Then rode up Warrenton Pike to see for myself. Met Gen. Sturges and talked with one of his aids but learned nothing.

After passing Cub Run met a gentleman who was serving as an engineer on Gen. McDowell's staff, and who told me much that was interesting.

Rode back to Centerville and there saw 350 Rebel prisoners near Pope's head quarters, good looking men but poorly clothed. Shortly after met the division coming up. The orders were for us to push on up the Warrenton Pike. The march was accordingly continued until we arrived a mile beyond Cub Run. There our division halted for a rest.

Gen. Slocum and a few others,

among them myself, went into a door yard near by and sat down. We had not been there five minutes before our attention was drawn to a large open space of country on the left of our position across which troops seemed to be moving, not in order but confused and straggling like. The more carefully we observed the more it looked like a general falling back of our troops. And sure enough it was. Our left had been turned. In half an hour our army was pouring down the Wauventon Pike. Batty D went into position on the left of the Pike supported by our Infantry. The stream poured by for over an hour and then we fell back in order to Centerville.

Wolcotts battery and the Cav. Brig. remained on the further side of Cent

2/12

Ran all night. Gen. S. & staff retired to Centerville with the remainder of the division. Tried to sleep but couldn't. Too wet, too hungry, too tired.

3/5th

This morning woke early and enjoyed a fine cup of coffee made by our orderlies, fine fellows from the 2nd Regular Cavalry. It began to rain and because Gen. Newton lost my poncha I got wet through. No matter. Soon mounted and rode to the front with Gen. Locum. Passed beyond Cub Run to the battery that had been in position all night, and made arrangements to retire to Centerville. After the battery and support had crossed the Run, I

superintended the destruction of the bridge.

We went into position on the crest of the hill just this side. While there I observed the skirmishing of our Cavalry pickets as they advanced and it was a beautiful sight. The enemy retired and I could distinctly see them as they passed across the road on the top of the opposite hill. Soon they posted a gun on the pike and sent a few shells at us. Battery was got into position and replied.

Meanwhile we retired to Centerville and the 2nd. Brigade took up position on the left of the work occupied by the troops of Gen. Newton.

Visited Gen. Pope's head quarters. Saw, beside him, Meintzleman and Sumner.

Joe got us some bread, ham, and coffee.

Opinion is general that the enemy have gone round our right flank, and that it is utter folly for us to remain here.

Rodgers is sick and has gone to Washington. I am trying to serve for him. Quinton and I are the only ones left with the General.

September close at hand,
Appear of strife finds us further than
we ever were before from the settlement
of this question.

1862

September

215

1

Centerville Heights.

Communication between here and Alexandria is probably cut off. Last eve's trains were turned back from Fairfax C.H. by the enemy's guns probably placed in the road to Vienna so as to command Little River Turnpike running through the town.

A council of war was held and Pope determined to fight the enemy. If we move against the foe posted in our rear we shall have to fight them on ground such as they may choose to select for us. Whereas had we moved toward the Capitol thirty six hours ago we might have selected our own position.

Many think our cause is lost; but I am still hopeful. Two of the large parties of civilians from Washington to attend to the sick are stopping with

us. One of these I recognized as Mr. French former editor of the Biddeford Journal. They have just gone out with a flag of truce to the battle-field to see to the wounded and the dead.

Mr. Cornwell of the Register's office at the Treasury Department is making himself generally useful in obtaining stuffs for us from the Sanitary Commission.

The day is most beautiful. Not a gun fired yet. The enemy are probably pushing their way unopposed towards Edward's Ferry and Williamsport with the intention of crossing into Maryland.

1 3/4 O.K. P.M. Ordered to get under arms.

8 O.K. P.M. Ordered to move following Gen. Smith's division, which is now in the road.

Generals Kearney ^{and} Stevens killed this evening-

Order of March

1. Col. Jackson 2nd. Brig.

2. Artillery

1. Batty D.

2. 1st Maryland

3. Porter's

3. Gen. Newton 3rd. Brig.

N.

Arrived to within one mile of Fairfax C. H. early this morning, and took position ordered by Gen. Franklin.

Our march last night was terrific. How shall I forget those scenes, - the bivouac fire around which we rested.

— " —

40K P.m. Ordered to return to Alexandria and report to Gen. McClellan for duty. Never was an order received with more gladness or obeyed with more alacrity. Platt was delighted and Williston fairly danced.

Began the march at once Artillery leading off.

What a race we had back to Alexandria. The Gen. was determined to break down my horse, but at the same time ^{was} forced to acknowledge his superior mettle. What John Gilpin rides the poor Sergeant had! And then the little scene with Gen. about our horses.

No time for supper this time as you love me Capt.

3.

Ordered to encamp in the vicinity of Seminary and did so.

Rodgers has come back.

We now occupy the old head quarters of Gen Kearney, who is now dead, and perhaps the last day of his life was the proudest. When, with a few orderlies, he rode along Centerville Heights on the last afternoon he ever saw, what a splendid oration he received from the troops without regard to Division or Corps. They rushed from all sides and greeted him with the wildest hurrahs.

Three hours after he had ridden boldly to his death

September
6

1862

Moved whole division across the river by the way of Long bridge and encamped for the night on Georgetown Heights on the road to Poolesville.

Our march was exceedingly interesting. It was about dusk when we passed through "Camp Franklin". Just before we reached Fort Albany we heard singing. Could see only bright camp lights beyond. The music was suggestive and to my soul inspiring.

"Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost."

It was a prayer meeting just breaking up.

— " —

When we crossed long bridge it was nearly eight o'clock. Our line of march

was straight up through the city, by Willard's Hotel and Gen. McClellan's residence. It was one of the most exciting events of the season to us. Over a year had passed since the troops entered the city, and now after experiencing the trials of a severe campaign they had returned once more to tread its streets.

Column was formed and once again I beheld that splendid movement & those well dressed lines which reminded me of the time when reviews and parades were in vogue. The people in crowds lined the sidewalks and generously cheered as our brave boys bearing their riddled colors moved by.

As each regiment passed the residence of the Commander in chief hurrahs were given for McClellan.

September.

1862

1/ Contd.)

I put the division into camp and then laid down to sleep with Wilson.

7 Sunday,

Stretching sabbath every way to me. Where am I? My poor sick starving soul!

Ordered to move about 4 O'Clock. Reached Rabbit's town in the course of the evening and encamped for the night.

8th

Moved on to Rockville starting at 7 O'Clock and stopped for dinner just beyond that town. Obtained rough map of the Country at the Telegraph office. Started again at

1862

September
8 contd.

223

6 A.P.m. and went three miles going into camp on the right of Gen. Smith's Division in line of battle.

9.

Moved at 9 A.M. Passed through Darnestown and encamped about a mile and a half beyond that place in position, our Division being on the right of Smith. The 121st N.Y.V. Col. Branchot was today assigned to Gen. Slocum and attached to the 2nd Brigade. Sent letters this morning to Portland and Biddeford.

10.

Arrived at Barnesville after a long and tedious march, and went into position fronting Sugar Loaf Mountain.

September.
12.

1862.

Ordered to move this morning on the Urbana road. Passed that place and encamped within a mile of the Monocacy bridge.

Before we arrived there we heard that the enemy were drawn up in line of battle only a short distance off, and ready to receive us. Concluded that we would ride to the bridge any way, and Gen. Slocum declared that he would "water his horse in the Monocacy.")

We all reached the Monocacy without any startling event. The General expressed a desire to know what name was given to the little collection of houses on the opposite bank, and volunteered to ride across and see. So taking three orderlies I started over the bridge. I found the place was Mill Seat and

that Buckeystown was a little further on.

Concluded to ride to that place. Did so, and at the corner of one of the houses I found a collection of citizens standing by themselves. Upon inquiry with them about the rebels one said - "a Confederate fired upon your men not half an hour since from the very spot where you now stand."

Little startled at this I asked "where are the Confederate pickets now?" "Just over to that house" said he "pointing to a building perhaps 200 yards to my right rear. Immediately sent an orderly, at the fork of the roads to give the signal if an enemy approached and went on with my questions. But I did not stop long. I was soon on my way home.

I shall not soon forget the party

of negroes who cheered us and welcomed us so heartily as we rode along. The scene reminded me of another of the same kind as we rode into Cumberland on the Pamunkey. The negroes then received us with singing and dancing.

13th

A good deal of firing this morning.
Our Division marches at 9 A.M.

Arrived at Carroll's Manor and encamped for the night. McClellan is at the liberated city of Frederick.

We shall have fighting soon.

